

334:058

ICA 02644

WORLD OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION 1995-96



WORLD OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION



ANNUAL REPORT 1995-96 VOL 89 No. 3



REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION



INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

ANNUAL REPORT 1995-1996

Review of International Co-operation

Volume 89 N°3/1996

Editor: Mary Treacy

CONTENTS

<i>ICA's President Review of 1995-1996</i>	1
<i>Director-General's Report</i>	4
<i>ICA Board</i>	8
 ICA Secretariat Activity Reports	
<i>Membership</i>	13
<i>Personnel</i>	14
<i>Communications</i>	15
<i>ICA and the United Nations</i>	22
<i>Development</i>	27
<i>European Region</i>	30
<i>Asia and Pacific</i>	35
<i>West Africa</i>	37
<i>East, Central and Southern Africa</i>	42
<i>The Americas</i>	45
 Reports of the Specialised Bodies	
<i>Agriculture</i>	49
<i>Banking</i>	51
<i>Consumer</i>	53
<i>Fisheries</i>	56
<i>Housing</i>	58
<i>Insurance</i>	60
<i>Tourism</i>	65
<i>Trade</i>	67
<i>Workers</i>	70
<i>Communications</i>	73
<i>HRD</i>	76
<i>Research</i>	78
<i>Women</i>	82
<i>Interim Report of the Auditors</i>	86
<i>Auditors' Report Year ended December 31, 1995</i>	87

ICA PRESIDENT'S REVIEW OF 1995/96



1995/96 - A Year of Transition

ICA CENTENNIAL

1995 will, of course, be remembered as the Centennial Year when 1,300 delegates from 90 countries came together to demonstrate how a truly global social movement has grown from the initiatives of European Co-operators in the latter half of the last century. In 1996, Manchester - host of the Centennial Congress - suffered major bomb damage. The support of Co-operative friends and colleagues from all over the world has been appreciated by Britain's Co-operative institutions, some of whose buildings were directly in the firing line and suffered collateral damage and disruption. But for Co-operators, the lasting tribute to the City of Manchester will forever be the Statement on the Co-operative Identity which renewed and reinforced Co-operative Principles for the Millennium.

REGIONAL ASSEMBLIES

The regional structure of the ICA is barely four years old. The second round of Regional Assemblies takes place in 1996, with perhaps a more self confident sense of regional identity being evident in each case. The joy of our Worldwide Movement is the colourful cultural diversity and traditions in each of the ICA's four regions. This distinctiveness combined with our universal subscription to the new principles is what makes co-operation so special on the eve of the 21st Century.

As I write this, the memories of the Asia & Pacific Assembly in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in June and of the African Assembly in Dakar, Senegal, in August are strong. Those present were buoyed up by the occasion and by the sense of regional unity. The European and Americas' Assemblies in October in Budapest, Hungary, and San Jose, Costa Rica, in

November will complete the quartet. October, 1997, will bring the global General Assembly in Tel Aviv, Israel, whose main theme will be "The Role of the Civil Society in the 21st Century".

ICA PRIORITIES

When the ICA Board met in December, 1995, in Florida, it re-affirmed ICA tasks and priorities:-

- To promote and defend Co-operative values and principles as now enunciated in the new Statement of Identity;
- To serve as a forum and network to promote joint action with the membership;
- To disseminate information about and on behalf of Co-operatives;
- To act as a catalyst for Co-operative development; and
- To represent and speak on behalf of Co-operatives to governments and to the United Nations.

FINANCE AND RULES COMMITTEE

Furthermore, the Board decided to review aspects of the rules of the Alliance adopted by the Tokyo Congress in 1992 and appointed a small group of its members to conduct such a review. I chair this group which comprises Raija Itkonen of Finland, Yehudah Paz of Israel and Etienne Pflimlin of France. We are, of course, advised by the Director General and his Deputy. Amongst our concerns, we will consider the financing of the Alliance, including the various subscription formulae, as set out in the Procedures Chapter which accompanies the published ICA rules, and also eligibility for membership of the ICA. The committee plans to submit a final report and proposed rule amendments to the Board meeting in April next year, with a view to placing proposals before the General Assembly in October, 1997.

DEVELOPMENT

At its Beijing meeting in June, the Board put the final touches to the preparations for the launch of the Trust Fund and expects to be in a position to do this at the time of its meeting in Budapest in October, 1996.

THE PLACE OF WOMEN IN THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

The ICA will continue to work more closely with the United Nations and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to progress gender issues, as all three organisations see discrimination on the grounds of sex as being fundamentally in contradiction to sustainability. There are times when the aspirations and stated policy of Co-operatives do not match with reality and this has to be said also of the representation which women have in the councils of Co-operative Movements around the world.

The ICA Board intends to invite members to encourage increased representation of women in delegations to Regional and General Assemblies and as candidates for election to regional and international bodies.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE DAY

I joined other distinguished Co-operators at the United Nations in New York in the week of International Co-operative Day to promote the cause of Co-operation. The message of the UN Secretary General is warm and clear:

"In an increasingly globalized economy neither individual citizens, nor entire communities, not even Governments of sovereign states are fully in control of processes affecting them but whose beneficial impact is by no means certain. In this environment, the Co-operative Movement and the Co-operative Sector offer a means, vital to many millions of citizens, whereby goods and services may be efficiently produced and consumed. This can be done for purposes consistent with the ethical premises of civilisation and by processes that remain within democratic control of individual citizens. Those purposes are socially and environmentally responsible and respect human dignity and the stability of communities: the central requirements of a sustainable human society."

There is no better way of ending this Report.

Graham Melmoth,
PRESIDENT

August, 1996

DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S REPORT



Following the highly-successful Centennial Congress in Manchester in September 1995, ICA's attention has focussed on the necessary changes and new priorities as it enters its second century of existence.

The Board planning session in November 1995 identified several key themes which have subsequently led to operational changes. While supporting the new regional structure, the Board was concerned that these centrifugal forces could weaken ICA as a whole if they were not counterbalanced by the maintenance of a strong Head Office. Accordingly, a number of staffing changes have been made to increase the Head Office's capacity.

The first was the hiring of an experienced co-operative manager, Mats Ahnlund, as Senior Adviser, Member Services, in recognition of the fact that ICA, like most membership organisations these days, is increasingly pushed to demonstrate what real services it offers to its membership, both present and potential. It cannot be assumed that previous activities will be sufficient to attract new members, or indeed even to maintain the existing membership.

Another top priority identified by the Board was to strengthen relationships with the 14 Specialised Bodies, which have tended to become weaker ever since the 1984 Congress decision to allow non-ICA members to be members of the Specialised Bodies. The Board now receives regular reports on each organisation from Board liaison persons, who provide a two-way flow of information. The first of what is likely to be a regular annual operational consultation meeting was held in Geneva in April, attended by 12 of the 14 Specialised Bodies. It has now been agreed that the four Specialised Committees will receive secretariat support from existing Head Office staff. And finally, the new Senior Adviser, Member Services, will be a regular focal point for relations with the ten Specialised Organisations, seeking ways to identify new services and opportunities for collaboration with them.

With development remaining a high priority of ICA and many of its members, it has now been possible to find resources to engage a full-time Development Director, beginning in 1997. The appointment of Bjorn Genberg, well-known co-operative development expert with the Swedish Co-operative Centre, to this position will strengthen the ICA's overall development programme, and not least in Africa, where the Board felt that more attention and efforts are required.

As part of ICA's efforts to diversify the functional expertise of its staff, as well as improve the balance of nationalities, we have welcomed the secondment of Mr. Won-Sik Noh from the National Agricultural Co-operative Federation of South Korea as Agricultural Co-operative Adviser. In the year of the World Food Summit, and in view of ICA's close working relationship with the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, this staff addition is particularly appropriate.

Collaboration with the International Raiffeisen Union also continues to progress. The ICA and IRU Boards are scheduled to meet for a first joint session in October, to be followed by a joint two-day seminar on co-operative banking, with special focus on Eastern and Central Europe. Held in conjunction with the ICA's European Regional Assembly, these meetings also demonstrate ICA Europe's commitment to continue the work of the Co-op Network, whose dissolution in July 1996 should not be interpreted as diminishing the importance attached to East-West collaboration in Europe.

The very positive statement of the United Nations' Secretary-General on the occasion of the second UN International Day of Co-operatives, as well as his detailed report to the General Assembly, indicate that the international image of co-operatives is steadily recovering from the set-backs experienced during the 1980s. ICA's working relationship with the Co-op Branch of the International Labour Office has rarely been better than it is today. The decision by the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Co-operatives (COPAC) to transfer its secretariat to the ICA is a further indication of the willingness of all members to seek joint solutions to current problems. The ICA's UN/NGO Director, MariaElena Chavez (appointed to this new position as part of the reorganisation of the Head Office) continues also to assist the Specialised Organisations in making representations to the UN system, as was done very effectively by ICA Housing in conjunction with Habitat II. She has also been designated as ICA's focal point for issues dealing with gender and with the environment and sustainable development.

In this year of Regional Assemblies, important developments can be noted in all regions. In Asia-Pacific, G.K. Sharma will retire in October after nine years as Regional Director, and will be succeeded by Robby Tulus of Indonesia.

The Africa Co-operative Ministers' and Leaders' Conference in Mauritius in May demonstrated the progress being made in improving legislation and policy in many African coun-

tries. The ICA Americas' Regional Conference is becoming a major event on the co-operative calendar, attracting high-level participation from co-operatives and outside speakers alike.

This year's Americas' Conference, in Costa Rica in November, will also feature the formal creation of a new ICA Specialised Organisation, the International Health Co-operative Organisation, whose rules were approved by the ICA Board in June. Working closely with the Head Office, the IHCO can be expected to play a useful role in this increasingly important sector of co-operative activity in the years ahead.

ICA's Communications Department has maintained its high output of both printed and electronic information throughout the year, the highlight being the publication of an illustrated version of Ian MacPherson's "Co-operative Principles for the 21st Century". There are indications that many ICA members are making use of the new Co-operative Identity Statement in their own education and training programmes for employees and directors.

The conclusion of Ian MacPherson's report seems equally appropriate for ICA as it progresses through this year of change and growth: "The co-operative movement is a movement of perpetual promise, a movement of becoming, not of ending. It never achieves a state of perfection; it never rests satisfied with what it has accomplished. It is a movement that is always torn between what its philosophy suggests and the contemporary world requires."

Bruce Thordarson

Regional meetings every two years are an important element of ICA's new decentralised structure. Page 7 (top) features the Second Meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia & the Pacific which took place in Malaysia in June 1996.

Page 7 (bottom) features the 5th ICA African Ministerial Co-operative Conference, held in Mauritius in May 1996, during which was presented the Progress Report on the Co-operative Development Decade.



ICA BOARD

PRESIDENT

Graham Melmoth

elected ICA President at ICA's Centennial Congress in Manchester last September, became Chief Executive Officer of the Co-operative Wholesale Society in Manchester in 1996. He is a Director of the Co-operative Bank, Unity Trust Bank and Co-operative Press and was formerly ICA Vice-President for Europe.



VICE-PRESIDENT - (EUROPE)

Lars Hillbom

born 17 February 1946, was elected ICA Vice-President for the European Region in 1995. Board member of several ICA specialised organisations, he is also Chairman for the ICA European Council. Mr. Hillbom has been Head of the Swedish Co-operative Union's International Relations Department since 1987.



VICE-PRESIDENT - (AMERICAS)

Roberto Rodrigues

Roberto Rodrigues was born in Brazil in 1942 and became Director of a sugar cane planters co-operative in 1971. In 1985 he was elected President of the Organization of the Brazilian Cooperativas (OCB) for two consecutive mandates (1985 to 1991). He founded and presided over the EXIMCOOP (1990-1993), a co-operative trading company. Elected Vice-President for the Americas in 1992, he was also Chair of the ICA's Agriculture Committee from 1992 to 1995.



VICE-PRESIDENT - (ASIA & PACIFIC)

Hakaru Toyoda

born 15 November 1926, he is Senior Adviser to the Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives as well as President of Tochigi Prefectural Economic, Credit, Mutual Insurance and Welfare Federations of the Agricultural Co-operatives. Chairman and member of different co-operative boards in Japan, he replaced Mitsugu Horiuchi, as ICA Vice-President for Asia & Pacific in 1994.





VICE-PRESIDENT - (AFRICA)

Hon. B. Wolimbwa, MP

was born on February 2 , 1939 in the Mbale District of Uganda. Since his graduation in 1969 has been a teacher, a coffee farmer, co-operative leader and a politician. A Board member of the Uganda Co-operative Bank Ltd and Chair of the Uganda Co-operative Alliance Board (UCA), he is also Chairman of the Regional Council for the ICA Regional Office for East, Central and Southern Africa.



Ivano Barberini

was born in Modena on May 18, 1939 and has worked for the Consumer Co-operative Movement since 1961. From 1979 to 1996 he was President of the National Association of Consumer Co-operatives and President of Eurocoop since 1991. He has been President of the National League of Co-operatives since 1996. He is substituting on the ICA Board for Giancarlo Pasquini, who resigned in 1996 after being elected to the Italian Senate.



Claude Béland

born in Montréal, Québec, in 1932, he has been President of the Mouvement des caisses Desjardins and a member of the Steering Committee of the International Raiffeisen Union since 1987. He is also a member of the ICA Board and President of the International Co-operative Banking Association since 1995.



Yang Deshou

is Vice-President of the Supervisory Committee of the All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives where he has worked in various capacities since 1950. He has been a member of the ICA Board since 1986 and served for the last two years as Chairman of the Executive Council of the Asia and Pacific Region.

ICA BOARD

Jens Heiser

born 30 September 1938, is Chairman of the Executive Committee of Baugenossenschaft Dennerstrasse-Selbsthilfe eG and Member of the Executive Committee of Gesamtverband der Wohnungswirtschaft (GdW), the Federation of the German Housing Industry. He is also Chairman of the Labour Unions of the Hamburg Housing Industry.



Raija Itkonen

was born in Helsinki in 1939 and began her co-op career in 1964. She is responsible for international relations of the Finnish Consumer Cooperative Association FCCA, has been a member of the ICA Women's Committee since 1978, a member of the ICA Board since 1984, and was Vice-President of the ICA from 1991 to 1993.



Ota Karen

was born in 1931 and has worked in the co-operative movement since 1952. After partition of the Czechoslovak Federation, Mr. Karen was elected President of the Co-operative Association of the Czech Republic. Since 1990, he has also been a member of the ICA Board and President of the COOP-Network. Since September, 1995, he has been the Vice-President of ICA Europe.



David O. Miller

is a Director of the Nationwide Insurance Company. He is on the boards of several other Nationwide affiliates and subsidiaries, including Farmland Insurance Company. A Director of the National Cooperative Business Association and Cooperative Business International, he has been a member the ICA Board since 1993.





Holger Hasle Nielsen

was born in Denmark in 1938 and began his career with the Co-operative Movement in 1964. He has been Secretary General of the Federation of Danish Co-ops since 1978 and has held a number of positions on various committees and boards including DANIDA and COGECA. He became a member of the ICA Board in 1993.



Yehudah Paz

was born in Brooklyn, New York, on 27 September 1931, and has lived in Israel since October 1950. Currently Director of the International Institute of the Histadrut, he is also Chairman of the ICA Global Committee on Human Resource Development.



Etienne Pflimlin

was born 16 October 1941. He has served as President of Crédit Mutuel Centre East Europe and of the Banque Fédérative du Crédit Mutuel (BFCM) since 1985 as well as President of Crédit Mutuel since 1987, Vice-President of Groupement National de la Coopération since 1991 and Vice-President of IRU (International Raiffeisen Union) since 1992. He is President of the European Regional Committee of the International Co-operative Banking Association (ICBA) and Vice-President of the European Association of Co-operative Banks.



B.S. Vishwanathan

was born in India in 1934 and has held a number of high offices in the co-operative movement at State and National levels. He became Vice-President of the Governing Council of the National Co-operative Union of India in 1974 and served as President from 1978 till 1981 and then from 1990 till the present. He is also First Chairman of the National Co-operative Bank of India. Mr. Vishwanathan is currently Vice-Chair of ICBA and CICOPA and also serves on the Board of the International Raiffeisen Union.



[Faint, illegible text block]

[Faint, illegible text block]

[Faint, illegible text block]

[Faint, illegible text block]



MEMBERSHIP



Marie-Claude Baan



Vivianne Dubini

New Member Organisations

Further to the Board meetings held in Manchester (Sept. 95), Miami (Dec. 95) and Beijing (June 96), the following co-operative organisations became members:

AFRICA

- Co-operative Bank of Kenya.

AMERICAS

- Bolivia, Cooperativa Multiactiva La Merced Ltda.
- Brazil, Associação de Orientação às Cooperativas do Nordeste (ASSOCENE)
- Brazil, Confederação Brasileira das Cooperativas de Crédito (CONFEBRAS)
- Colombia, Seguros La Equidad
- Costa Rica, Consorcio Cooperativo de Consumo Cartagines (CONSUCOOP)
- El Salvador, Federación de Asociaciones Cooperativas de Ahorro y Crédito (FEDECACES)
- Honduras, Federación de Cooperativas de Ahorro y Crédito (FACACH)
- United States, Ohio Farm Bureau
- United States, Nationwide Insurance Enterprise

ASIA AND PACIFIC

- Republic of Korea, National Forestry Co-operatives Federation
- Tonga, Tonga Co-operative Federation

During the reporting period, 5 member organisations were either dissolved, withdrawn or suspended from membership until full subscriptions arrears are paid and 5 members were expelled following non-payment of membership subscriptions for two or more consecutive years. There are presently 211 national members in 91 countries plus 6 international members.

PERSONNEL



Claes Thorselius



Vivianne Dubini

General Overview

The staffing structure of the Secretariat has undergone some changes since the 1995 General Assembly in Manchester.

As from January 1996, the Documentation Unit has become an integral part of Information & Communications and the former Membership was included in the General Administration.

The secretariat for COPAC (Committee for Promotion and Advancement of Co-operatives) in Rome was officially transferred to ICA Geneva in April 1996. This special project is carried out on a part-time basis by ME. Chavez, who is now designated as Director of UN Relations.



A new unit for Special Projects, with the specific attention to Membership Services, was introduced as from July 1996. The Senior Advisor to this unit is Mats Ahnlund, the former Director of Coop Network.

The latest addition to the staff is the arrival in August of Won-Sik Noh, who is seconded to ICA from NACF, Korea. Mr. Noh, who is an agriculture expert, is part of the same Special Project Unit.



COMMUNICATIONS



Mary Treacy



Laura Wilcox



Alina Pawlowska

Activities in 1996 were inevitably dominated by follow up to the ICA Centennial. Forward looking strategies have also been investigated during the reporting period with a view to bringing a stronger image of co-operatives into the 21st Century.

New Corporate Image

To mark the new century ICA stationery and regular publications have been redesigned, incorporating the newly adopted logo, to give the organisation a more dynamic and business-like image to herald its entry into the new millennium.

UN/ICA International Co-operative Day

The International Co-operative Day Message, entitled "Co-operatives for Sustainable Development" was sent to ICA members and other key organisations in all of the ICA official languages.

A press pack commemorating the International Co-operative Day/UN International Co-operatives was prepared and circulated to ICA members, UN organisations, regional offices, the co-op press, international media, non-governmental organisations, government ministries dealing with co-operation. The pack contained promotional materials on the ICA, fact sheets on co-operatives and the co-operative primary Day Message, the new Statement of the Co-operative Identity, background information on the ICA, and a list of co-operatives for the year 1996.

active
ter for

sheets prepared by the United Nations Department for Policy Co-ordination and Sustainable Development in collaboration with the ICA, press articles on co-operatives, publicity for new ICA publications and standards for the new ICA logo.

New Co-operative Principles

Following the Board's Directive that disseminating the Co-operative Principles should be given priority during the follow-up to Congress, efforts were taken to distribute this as widely as possible.

The one page statement on the Co-operative Identity was published by ICA in English, French, Spanish, German, Russian, Japanese, Chinese and Arabic. Danish, Portuguese, Swedish, Hungarian and Czech versions have been prepared for publications and other language versions have been requested. The translations were undertaken in collaboration with ICA member organisations; other languages can be produced if the text is provided to the Secretariat. All language versions will eventually be available on the Internet.

A text-only version of the document "Co-operative Principles for the 21st Century" (adopted at Manchester and incorporating the Statement on the Co-operative Identity, Background Paper on the Statement and the Principles of the International Co-operative Movement) and the Paper "Into the Twenty-First Century - Co-operatives Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" has been published in English, French, German and Spanish.

A special de-luxe full colour, illustrated version has been published in English and French. This contains over 150 black and white and colour photos and has illustrated sections on the history of the Co-operative Movement and of the International Co-operative Alliance, various sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, housing, worker co-ops, etc., the movement in East and Central Europe and in developing countries, and issues such as co-operative education, member relations, women and young people, international relations, co-operation between co-operatives, co-ops and the environment.

The new principles have also been made available on the Internet and this has enabled ICA to directly reach primary level co-operatives; for example ICA has received reports from local consumer coops which have downloaded the one page identity statement for distribution (at cash points).

Regular Publications

ICA NEWS

Four issues of the ICA news have been published since the ICA Congress including a special post-Congress issue.

Issue No. 2/96 was a special issue for Habitat II which, in addition to the normal circulation, was distributed at the official Habitat II conference and the NGO Forum. Issue Number 4 is currently under preparation.

The first issue of the Spanish version has just been published by ICA member INTERCOOP EDITORIA COOPERATIVA LTD in Argentina.

ICA REVIEW

Four issues of the ICA Review (including this Annual Report) have been issued since the last Congress. Issue No. 2/96 was prepared in collaboration with the Research Committee.

The Spanish issue of the Review continues to be published by ICA member organisation INTERCOOP EDITORIA COOPERATIVA LTD in Argentina.

The English edition is available on microfilm from Xerox-University Microfilms, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106, USA.

Other Publications

“The International Co-operative Alliance During War and Peace 1910 - 1950” was launched at the ICA Congress in September 1995. The book charts the ICA during the critical period of 1910 to 1950, from pre-war developments before the First World War to the cold war period after the Second World War. It shows the strains put on an international organisation struggling to remain politically neutral when its members are coming from countries which are at war and tries to shed light on the reason the ICA survived this turmoil when other international organisations did not.

Publications produced since the ICA Congress include:

- The Co-operative Agenda 21, which reflects the commitment of co-operatives from all sectors to promoting environmental and development objectives setting guidelines on what each co-operative sector can do to raise public awareness and implement environmentally sustainable activities.*
- A Thematic Guide to the ICA Congresses 1895 - 1995, a summarised history of the issues, decisions and personalities which have shaped the evolution of the ICA as the representative of the world co-operative movement.*
- A new updated publication list and flyers describing the new publications.*

Electronic Networking and the Internet

For the past two years the ICA has been incorporating the Internet into its co-operative outreach programme and has been working with the University of Wisconsin, Center for

Cooperatives to build up a Co-operative Gopher server, which is a searchable database of articles and information on co-operatives.

The Director of Communications visited the UWCC in November 1995 and after sharing the Internet projects of ICA and UWCC with representatives of the Madison-area co-operative organisations, the UWCC and ICA have worked out a more formal agreement for working together. ICA will continue to provide information from its members for inclusion in the Co-operative Gopher while UWCC will set up and maintain ICA data bases on the Gopher and provide technical assistance.

Besides ICA and its members, other organisations collaborating on this project include COPAC and its members the UN, ILO, FAO, IFAP and WOCCU.

The UWCC Co-operative Gopher can be reached at <gopher://wiscinfo.wisc.edu:70/11/.info-source/coop>. The information is also available through the web sites maintained by ICA (<http://www.coop.org>) and UWCC (<http://www.wisc.edu/uwcc>).

In February 1996, the Electronic Networking Project was expanded with the setting-up in Geneva of a new International Web Site which gives quick and easy access to a wide variety of information on the ICA and on the history and present activities of co-operatives world-wide, including bibliographies of famous co-operators throughout the ages, information about the movements in various countries, issues of importance to co-operators, co-operative publications, newsletters, books, etc. with hypertext links to other co-operative sites, international organisations and business information of relevance to co-operatives.

The English part of the site alone holds close to 100 ICA web pages with links to over 300 other web sites and to over 50 subject folders on the ICA/UWCC Co-operative Gopher.

French and Spanish pages have been set up and the German pages will be operational by the end of October 1996.

Member Service & Meeting Participation

During the reporting period the department continued to provide publications, promotional literature, press packs, articles and photos to member organisations, students of co-operation, co-operative researchers, international organisations, the media and interested public. This included a considerable number of requests for information via fax, telephone, ordinary mail, and E-mail, including requests from visitors to the ICA Web Site. Topics range from simple enquiries about the ICA, its forthcoming meetings and other activities, queries about our membership or on how to become a member and requests for historic and other facts on the ICA or the co-operative movement to more in-depth studies on precise subjects.

Making information available in electronic format has facilitated this task considerably, although, as expected, it has also generated a great deal of additional interest in the subject of co-operation as well as in the organisation itself.

The ICA Library and Archives have continued to attract interest among researchers in the social sciences. During the past year the Documentalist has continued to give assistance to visitors to the ICA including in-depth research for two of our most recent volumes: The ICA in War and Peace and The Thematic Guide to ICA Congresses. She has also given extensive assistance to students preparing two doctoral thesis on ICA history and organisational aspects which are being prepared at the University de Deusto in Spain, and three major research projects on statistics, co-op biography, historical figures in co-operation are currently in process. Students doing undergraduate studies or researchers looking for particular references are frequent visitors to the library.

The department continues to provide support and services to ICA's Specialised Bodies including stationery, visiting cards etc. to ICA Officials and information sheets in English, French, German and Spanish. Simple Web Pages have also been created for each of the Specialised Bodies in English, French, German and Spanish. The department continues to publicise the various activities of the committees and our member organisations through the ICA News, Review, Press Packs, and through the ICA Web Site and the ICA/UWCC Co-operative Gopher.

Data Banks

Since the beginning of 1995 the collection of statistics has been decentralised to ICAROAP where a full-time staff member was hired to prepare statistical reports. From 1995 to June 1996, K.L. Nalwaya was in charge of statistics and since July 1996, Ram Prakash, Technical Officer, is in charge of processing data. All statistical information incoming to Headquarters is copied to New Delhi. Preliminary results of a membership survey will be available in Spring 1997. The usual statistics page will be sent out with the next issue of the Review of International Co-operation.

The collection of statistics is an on-going activity of all ICA Regional Offices.

In May 1996, ICAROECOSA published statistical tables for country members, namely: Botswana, Kenya, Mauritius, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, as well for South Africa.

In August 1996, ICA ROWA released a report on the West African Regional Co-operative Data Bank comprising statistics for Burkina Faso, Cape-Verde, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal.

ICA Europe will start a survey of membership beginning in 1997. This will be an important contribution to the statistical programme since European region is the largest and most diversified in terms of member organisations.

The Communication Department has contacted ICA member organisation OCA which is running an excellent statistical project on co-operatives in Latin America in order to exchange data and invite this organisation to include this data on the Co-operative Gopher.

Future Directions

PUBLICATIONS

The ICA has commissioned a book on the international co-operative movement to be written by Johnston Birchall, lecturer in Social Policy at Brunel University (UK), which will be published by Manchester University Press. Mr. Birchall is the author of "The People's Business", a volume on the history of the British Co-operative Movement, which was presented as a gift to all delegates to the ICA Centennial Congress.

The Communications Department will continue its collaboration with the ICA Research Committee in order to more widely publish the work of co-op researchers and to optimise resources.

The Communications Department would also like to publish a series of reports on Co-operatives in the Middle East countries as there is a need for more information from this region if funding can be found.

New promotional material in all of the ICA languages and a new promotional video will be produced in the near future.

Reaching a Wider Audience

MORE LANGUAGES

In 1997 the present programme will be extended to publish three versions of the ICA News - in English, French and Spanish.

EXPLOITING THE POWER OF THE INTERNET

The Internet allows direct and immediate communication with the public, unfiltered by and bypassing the news media. The Internet, especially the World Wide Web, will multiply the effectiveness of communications work, making publications, case studies, promotional materials available to journalists and the public world-wide simultaneously. The Web could greatly multiply the effectiveness of advocacy work, enabling the ICA to draw support and move large numbers of people to action.

A top priority for the ICA, therefore, is to further develop the ICA International Co-operative Web Site, taking full advantage of the Web's ability to display video, photos, graphics and audio, but also ensuring that people with slower computers can easily access large amounts of text which will be made available on the site through the ICA/UWCC Co-operative Gopher. The ICA will also continue its successful collaboration with the University of Wisconsin in developing the Co-operative Gopher site.

The University of Saskatchewan, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives and the ICA Communications Department are planning a new project collaborating on developing the multi-media potential of the Internet .

Informal on-line discussions have also been held with the University of Quebec, the University of Moncton and Saskatchewan University Centre for the Study of Co-operatives on developing the on-line information in French. The Canadian centre for Development of Information Highways in French has expressed an interest to set up a French Web Site on ICA statistics - archival and current data and external financing may be secured for this new project scheduled to begin in 1997.

SPONSORED TELEVISION

Television is now the main source of information world-wide.

Over the next four years the ICA will develop strategies for taking advantage of this important communication media. During 1996 the Communications department has been investigating possibilities and negotiating with various organisations. One of the new projects which the ICA Communications Department will be working on in the next four years will be a targeted International Television Strategy in co-operation with World Television, a specialist independent new agency providing news and current affairs programming to broadcasters around the world and communications support to international organisations.

Communications Policy

Since 1987, two communications policies have been drawn up by Head Office basically dealing with Communications from this office to the regions, to member organisations, specialised bodies, and other target audiences. However the new decentralised structure of ICA, the growing independence and separation of some of the ICA's sectoral organisations and the setting up of regional structures are all factors which have dramatically changed the ICA environment and created additional challenges for effective communication.

The drafting and adoption of a Corporate Communications Policy for the whole organisation is therefore one of the main priorities for the next four years. This policy must clearly spell out parallel information channels and responsibilities required for effective two-way communication between the ICA Secretariat and its member organisations, specialised bodies, UN representatives and other partners and between the different ICA offices which make up the Secretariat.



MariaElena Chavez-P

Ongoing Activities

During the past year, the UN/Development Liaison Section has been active in ensuring that information on co-operatives, their contributions and importance to major development issues have been transmitted to the UN system. In order to accomplish this, representation and document submissions were made to the UN bodies and UN conferences including the preparatory process of the World Food Summit and the UN Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II). Collaboration with UN agencies including the FAO, ILO, United Nations, UN ECE, and WHO was also continued and strengthened. Preparation for the UN International Day of Co-operatives and contribution to the UN Secretary-General's report on co-operatives has also been a major area of work in the past year.

The UN Section also collaborated in the preparation of the UN/ICA report on health co-operatives released in an advance unedited version in May, 1996 - "Review of National Experience in Promoting and Supporting the Contribution of Co-operative to Social Development: Co-operative Enterprise in the Health and Social Care Sectors - A Global Review and Proposals for Policy Coordination".

In addition, the ICA/UN Development Liaison Officer, as the Environment Focal Point, continues to collect and disseminate information on environment and sustainable development issues. UN reports on such areas as organic production, trade and environment, clean production, etc have been provided to ICA regional offices and specialized bodies to enable them to inform their members and take action.

As Gender focal point, the UN/Development Liaison Officer has regular contact with the Global Women's Committee and provides information to that Committee as well as to the

regional offices and their gender officers. ICA was represented at the Commission on the Status of Women to monitor follow-up of the Beijing Platform for Action and inform the Commission on ICA's activities.

Other activities undertaken include working with the ICA Communications Department on the ICA/UWCC Co-operative Gopher, the use of electronic mail and internet access for the ICA Head Office.

(N.B. MariaElena Chavez-P was promoted from UN/Development Liaison Officer to Director of UN/NGO Relations on 1 July 1996).

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CO-OPERATIVES, 6 JULY 1996

The UN Section worked on a series of activities related to the International Day.

The UN Section assisted the Communications Department in the preparation of a press pack for the International Day. Specific activities undertaken include collaboration in the preparation, collection and selection of items for inclusion in the press pack, identification of recipients of materials including UN agencies and information centres, development agencies, and the media.

The UN Section collaborated with the UN Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development (UN DPCSD) to develop background information enabling the UN Secretary-General to issue a message on the Second International Day of Co-operatives. UN DPCSD was provided with updated contact addresses of governmental ministries in charge of co-operatives and ICA member organizations in order to ensure that the Secretary-General's message reached them in time for the celebration of the Day.

In addition, the UN Section collaborated closely with the UN Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development in the preparations for a Panel Discussion on the occasion of the International Day on the theme "partnership between the UN and the International Co-operative Movement" held at UN headquarters in New York on 1 July, 1996. A video presentation on the co-operative movement, a press briefing and interviews with UN television were also organized. Co-operative leaders from around the world were invited to participate in the panel discussion which enabled excellent discussions with the Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development on how practical measures to strengthen the relationship between ICA and the UN. ICA is presently following-up on the recommendations made in New York.

The UN Section assisted in making the materials for International Day available on the internet via the ICA/UWCC Co-operative Gopher and the cooperative listserver. The UN Secretary-General's message, and UN press releases were widely disseminated.

Major United Nations Meetings

HABITAT II

Information on the preparations for Habitat II have been provided on a regular basis to the ICA representative to Habitat, ICA Housing and its members. The UN Section provided assistance to ICA Housing to enable participation in Habitat II and presentation of a statement to the conference on behalf of the ICA. The UN Section ensured printed and electronic distribution of the statement.

The UN Section collaborated with ICA Housing and the ICA Communications Department in the preparation of a special ICA News for Habitat II. Copies were distributed at the official conference as well as at the NGO Forum.

WORLD FOOD SUMMIT

The UN Section, in collaboration with the ICA permanent representatives to the FAO, have ensured ICA presence at the preparatory committee meetings for the Summit and direct contacts with the WFS Secretariat in Rome.

The ICA presented a statement and circulated a report on the contribution of fisheries co-operatives to food security at the Kyoto International Conference on the Sustainable Contribution of Fisheries to Food Security in December, 1995. The UN Section collaborated with the ICA Fisheries Committee in the preparation of both these and the Fisheries Committee participated in the Conference on behalf of the ICA.

In January 1996, the ICA presented a statement to the 21st Session of the Committee on World Food Security highlighting the importance of the co-operative movement in food production and distribution. In April, 1996, at the request of the FAO Rural Development Division, the UN Section with contributions from the ICA regional offices and the International Agricultural Co-operative Organization prepared a special report on "The Role of the Co-operative in Contributing to Food Security and the World Food Summit and its Follow-up". This report will be incorporated into a larger document prepared by the FAO to be distributed as official documentation at the World Food Summit.

The UN Section continues close collaboration with the International Agricultural Co-operative Organization in all preparations for the Summit which will be held in November, 1996. In addition, it has also taken contact with other NGOs, especially the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, to find common platforms to lobby the World Food Summit.

Collaboration with UN Agencies

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)

Collaboration continues with FAO at the global and regional levels. At the global level contacts with Rural Institutions and People's Participation Service on policy issues has continued with the assistance of the ICA permanent Representatives to FAO, who keeps ICA informed on issues of particular interest including the upcoming World Food Summit.

FAO has also collaborated with the ICA Electronic Networking Project by providing information for the ICA/UWCC Co-operative Gopher.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE (ILO)

The ICA has continued to closely collaborate with the ILO on global and regional activities. ICA finalized and distributed the ILO/ICA Gender Package "Gender Issues in Co-operative Human Resource Development" in early 1996. Collaboration with the ILO Coop Branch and its programmes - CoopNet, CoopReform and INDISCO - continue at both global and regional levels.

ILO has also collaborated with the ICA Electronic Networking Project by providing information for the ICA/UWCC Co-operative Gopher.

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE (ECE)

In October, 1995, the ICA submitted a report to the ECE Agricultural Committee entitled, "Institutions and policies relating to agricultural Markets and their Impact on Trade: The role of co-operatives, new approaches" which highlighted the significance of agricultural co-operatives in regional trade in North America and Europe. The document was officially distributed as a UN ECE document. Information on the ICA European activities has also been provided to the ECE to develop future collaboration.

The ICA permanent representative to the ECE continues monitoring the activities of the ECE Committee on Human Settlements. The permanent representative has been active in assisting in the organization of ECE workshops on housing co-operatives to be held in Prague in November 1996. The Czech Union of Housing Co-operatives will co-host the meeting. It is expected that a handbook on housing co-operatives within a market economy will be published following the workshop.

UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION (UNIDO)

The permanent representative to UNIDO continues monitoring the activities of UNIDO and seeking opportunities to collaborate with ICA. UNIDO information deemed of interest to CICOPA is regularly forwarded to the Committee for their attention.

In December 1995, ICA was represented at the UNIDO Forum on Cleaner Industrial Production, where the permanent representative presented a statement on ICA and its contribution to sustainable human development.

In May 1996, the UN Section also facilitated contacts between the UNIDO secretariat and the ICA regional Office for Asia and the Pacific to investigate the possibility of undertaking a study on industrial co-operatives in Myanmar.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION (WHO)

Collaboration with the WHO Global Programme on AIDS in the development of a research project to develop and test the benefit of an approach to reduce HIV infection and sexually transmitted diseases in a fishing-trading community in Zambia continues. ICA member, the Zambia Co-operative Federation, is one of the partner organizations identified to implement the pilot project.

The ICA Development Programme is working with WHO on expanding the scope of the project to include savings and credit co-operatives.

Other Areas of Work

ELECTRONIC NETWORKING

The UN Section has closely collaborated with the Communications Department in the setting up of the ICA/UWCC Co-operative Gopher. Information on ICA/UN activities as well as from the specialized bodies has been collected for uploading to the Gopher. In addition, information on co-operatives from outside sources, including COPAC members and the UN has been sought.

Finally, the ICA's recent ISDN connection to the Internet has allowed for information to be more quickly and easily accessed. The UN Section has regularly sought information that can be of interest to ICA, its regional offices, specialized bodies and specific members. UN documentation and information on UN major conferences available on the Internet have been particularly useful in keeping up with the latest developments and has allowed rapid response.

Other Contacts

ICA continues to participate in the work of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status (CONGO) and the Fédération des Institutions Internationales Etablies à Genève (FIIG).



Claes Thorselius



Jan-Eirik Imbsen



Marie-Claude Baan



Vivianne Dubini

General Overview

The Development Programme is currently undergoing several major organisational and structural changes. At Head Office significant progress has been made in the establishment of the Development Trust, and preparations have been made for an official launching in October 1996. This will not affect its overall direction and strategy, the validity and pertinence of which have again been confirmed by ICA's membership and independent evaluations. Adjustments are of course being made to ensure relevance in a rapidly changing environment, and there is presently increased emphasis on the survival and sound economic policies of co-operatives.

A new operational system for the development programme has also been launched. The new system has been designed to provide a uniform and coherent framework for our development activities covering every aspect of the programme from the policy to the reporting level. In designing it, the various requirements of present and potential partner organisations were taken into account, for instance in terms of reporting, as well as bearing in mind its functionality as an administrative tool.

Decentralized Structure

In the regions, the Regional Offices have been preparing important regional meetings and finalising their Regional Development plans. It was first of all the year of the second Regional Assemblies after the introduction of the new ICA structure. These fora have now become functional parts of ICA's structure. The Asia/Pacific Assembly hosted by the Malaysian move-

ment was the first. An important item on the agenda was a discussion on the draft 4-year plan for the region. The regional chapters of some of ICA's Specialised Organisations also met in Kuala Lumpur.

The next region was Africa. This Assembly, which was held in Dakar, was preceded by a pan-African seminar on information, communication, education and training in co-operatives and was organised in collaboration with ICA's German partner, DSE. Another highlight of the week from the point of view of the Development Programme was the strategic planning meeting for the West African region. This report of the planning session with ICA members in the region will form the basis of the 4-year Regional Development Plan, 1997 – 2000. Together with the positive report of the recent evaluation of our programme in West Africa, this document will in turn form the basis of a new project document that will be submitted to ICA's longstanding partner in Norway, NORCOOP

Preparations are now under way for the forthcoming American Assembly in Costa Rica. A major topic on the agenda is the Regional Development Plans for the two region. A Women's Forum and an International Conference "Deglobalization: Global Challenge – Local Markets" will be organized in conjunction with the Assembly.

Another regional meeting of considerable importance was the 5th African Co-operative Ministerial Conference for East, Central and Southern Africa, held in May. Both governments and movements emphasized the importance of these meetings for a constructive dialogue, and it was resolved that these meeting will continue.

All the Regional Offices will have finalised their new Regional Development Plans by the end of this year. The plans will map out strategies and provide a platform for co-operative development into the new century. This marks the end of a long process involving ICA members in the regions. The participatory aspect is essential to ensure the relevance of the plans, i.e. that they reflect the concerns, needs and aspirations of ICA members. This presupposes the active participation of member organizations in needs assessment and the setting of priorities.

A priority of the ICA is the promotion of co-operative development in Africa. In June, ICA therefore met with representatives of co-operative movements from anglophone Africa and co-operative promotion organisations to discuss "Co-operative Development and Adjustment in Anglophone Africa". This international conference, which was organised jointly by the DSE, ILO and ICA, provided a forum for discussion on the effects and consequences of adjustment policies on co-operative development, and it is hoped that it will support a reorientation of co-operative organisations in the changing environment. The results of the conference were presented at the African Regional Assembly in Senegal in August.

Co-operative Ventures

Joint ventures with partners are being actively pursued. Recognising that the ICA is certainly not the only actor on the international co-operative stage, it is important to forge "strategic

alliances”, or constructive working relationships, with other organisations whose aims are similar in terms of co-operative development. Such co-operation will ensure better programme impact, improved cost effectiveness, and will benefit from economics of scale.

In the area of HRD, for instance, ICA is represented in resource groups involved in the development and implementation of programmes that are being run by its partners. ICA’s participation in the consultative group established by the ILO to oversee their Coopnet and Coopreform programmes, and in SCC’s resource group which is involved in the development and launching of the organisation’s new Co-operative Leadership Development Programme, serves to facilitate the coordination of related activities in this area.

EUROPEAN REGION



Arsenio Invernizzi



Gabriella Sozánski

1995 Regional Assembly

At the Centennial Congress of the ICA the European Region held a Special Regional Assembly on 19 September, 1995, in Manchester and approved the priorities and a work programme for 1996-97.

Three other major issues figured on the agenda of the Assembly:

- *The new Rules and Standing Orders of the European Region were discussed and adopted.*
- *As Graham Melmoth resigned as Chairman and, in compliance with the new Rules, another Chairman had to be nominated, elections took place at the Special Regional Assembly. Lars Hillbom was elected Chairman, Raija Itkonen second Vice-Chairman and Dr. Hans-Detlef Wülker member of the Council. In place of Javier Sanz, Juan Luis Arrieta was co-opted to the Council. The Council consists of 13 members.*
- *The Regional Assembly also adopted a motion on Gender Equality in Co-operatives which was submitted to and adopted by the General Assembly the day after.*

During this year the European Region held one Council meeting (March 1996 in Stockholm), five Presidium meetings (November 1995 in Prague, February 1996 in Helsinki, March in Stockholm, June in Beijing, September in Geneva) and has prepared the Regional Assembly and European Council meeting to take place in Budapest in October 1996.

Since September 1995, ICA Europe's attention has been focussed on the implementation of four priorities:

Strengthening of Co-operatives in Eastern and Central Europe

One of the main priorities for ICA Europe has been to co-ordinate development activities with particular attention to Central and East European co-operative movements, and included:

- Assistance to co-operative movements - on their request - in their dialogue with government agencies with the aim of improving the image of co-operatives and co-operative legislation. This has been one of the main objectives of the visits of the Chairman to several countries of Europe, which are enumerated later.
- Definition of priority themes for sub-regional co-operation of interest to one or several co-operative movements and organisation of a seminar; as the financial aspects of co-operation have been identified as a topic of great interest to the region, a seminar will be arranged prior to the Regional Assembly by the International Raiffeisen Union (IRU) in collaboration with ICA. 25 Central and Eastern European representatives have been invited to participate in the Seminar.
- Collaboration with Co-op Network for defining the further steps to integrate its activities within the framework of ICA Europe.

Several reports analysing the activities of the Co-op Network and thorough discussions of the subject led to the following decision of the European Council members and the Board of the Co-op Network:

- The Co-op Network should cease to exist as an organisation.
- The activities of the Co-op Network should end by 1 July, 1996. Its books should be closed no later than that date so that no financial obligations remain, and any remaining positive balance on the current account should be transferred to ICA.
- ICA Europe should take initiatives in the future to increase support for co-operative development in Central and Eastern Europe, through projects and by other means, on the clear understanding that this is done with the agreement of, and never in competition with, its members.
- ICA Europe should not take responsibility for any currently-functioning Network projects, which should be transferred to Co-op Network Scandinavia, along with the remaining project funds, if they are not terminated before 1 July, 1996. However, ICA Europe should assess the possibility of implementing the pending projects which have been submitted for funding by Co-op Network, with decisions made on a case-by-case basis.

- *The ICA European Council should take responsibility for those policy functions presently performed by the Co-op Network Board.*

As assistance to Central and Eastern Europe remains one of the main priorities of ICA Europe it was decided to set up a Working Group with the aim of designing a strategy for the assistance of co-operative movements in Central and Eastern Europe. A questionnaire was sent out to all members as a first step to survey the ongoing projects and to identify the needs. The Working Group will submit a report to the next European Council meeting in October.

Code of Practice, Governing Methods and Management Control Systems

As a follow-up to the recommendations adopted at the seminar on "Corporate governance and management control systems" held in St. Petersburg, in July 1995 this priority has been selected as the main topic for the Regional Assembly. As background document, a summary prepared by Reimer Volkers and Moira Lees was circulated. Speakers will address the topic from different aspects (sectoral, regional etc.) which will then facilitate the formulation of guidelines to be applied in the co-operative movements of the European members.

Sustainable Human Development (SHD)

Within this large concept, ICA Europe focussed this year on two areas:

- *Environment and*
- *North/South co-operation*

ICA Europe continued supporting the ICA global action on SHD through the following activities:

- *Co-op Network, Koopi and ICA Europe organised a seminar on "Co-operatives for a better Baltic Sea environment" in Visby, Sweden in May 1996 where a proclamation was adopted. The most urgent need seemed to be better information to member organisations and lobbying on their behalf with development partners;*
- *Participated in elaborating the conditions for setting up the Development Trust Fund and seeing how the European co-operative movements can contribute to and benefit from the Fund, particularly with regard to development programmes for Central and Eastern Europe;*
- *Assisted in preparing the Conference on "Co-operative Enterprises and Economy of Employee Shareholders" in Imola, Italy, on 22-23 October.*

Co-operative Image in Europe: Improving Information and Communication

Improving the image of co-operatives through creating awareness of the role of co-operatives in economic and social development has been a priority for ICA Europe since 1994. It is closely linked to the activities of the ICA's Communications Department, including a contribution to the implementation of the ICA electronic networking project.

In order to facilitate a better policy dialogue with the European authorities and to provide more efficient services to members, ICA Europe decided to improve its information base on the movements of the region.

Therefore, ICA Europe responded to a call for proposals of DG XXIII of the European Union last November. A project on the collection of co-operative statistical data was elaborated and submitted to the European Commission for co-financing and was deemed to be eligible for support. Due to the number of eligible proposals received by the European Commission, the decision on the extent of co-financing is still pending.

In addition to the above four priorities, other regional activities covered the following areas:

MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION

Five applications have been received, namely from Austria, Bosnia–Herzegovina, Malta, Poland and Spain. The information on some of the organisations is, however, not complete yet or the duly completed application forms have not yet been received. Thus, the European Council will be able to submit only one to the next ICA Board meeting, that of the Apex Organisation of Maltese Co-operatives.

ICA EUROPE WORK PROGRAMME CO-FINANCED BY DG XXIII

By organising an Insurance Seminar on "Cross-border co-operation" in collaboration with ACME, the last action of the 1994-95 Work Programme was finished. ICA Europe submitted a final technical and financial report to DG XXIII on the programme which started in May 1994. The report has been reviewed and approved by the Commission and thus, this programme successfully closed.

COLLABORATION WITH THE EUROPEAN SECTORAL ASSOCIATIONS

Collaboration with the sectoral associations was one of the agenda items at the European Council meeting in Stockholm. This question is closely linked to the overall role ICA Europe is expected to play vis-à-vis the European Commission. After having signed an agreement with COGECA last year, an agreement on collaboration was signed with Eurocoop at the Stockholm meeting. Proposed agreements with CECOP and ACME will be discussed at the Council meeting in Budapest, on 29 October, 1996.

Meetings with Member Organisations

The Chairman and the Secretariat have made a number of visits to member organisations and participated in co-operative events in the following countries: Belgium (Febecoop, European Commission, sectoral associations), Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

The objective of these visits has been to discuss with the European Council members and leaders of other European member organisations the work priorities of ICA Europe, to get a better picture about the development and perspectives of the given movements, their concerns as well as their needs for assistance.

European Secretariat

In 1996 the Secretariat continued to work within the Head Office and was run by two staff persons, a Secretary of the European Council and a full-time Programme Officer.

Currently, the European Region counts 92 national organisations from 35 countries and 2 international organisations as members.



G. K. Sharma
Regional Director



Robby Tulus
Regional Director from 1 October 1996

The Asia-Pacific region accounts for two-thirds of the ICA global individual membership. The mission of the ICA in the Asia-Pacific Region is to propagate Co-operative Values and Principles, promote and unite co-operative movements through its members and act as a spokesman on behalf of the co-operatives in the Region at various levels.

Priority Areas

Its priorities are :

- *To influence governments to ensure that co-operative legislation and policies are in uniformity with the Co-operative Values and Principles;*
- *To assist Co-operatives in the region to become member-oriented and member accountable;*
- *To organise courses designed to make co-operative management become professionally competent to face the challenge of the market economy;*
- *To increase participation of women and youth; and to become increasingly involved in sustainable development.*

The co-operatives in the region are facing many challenges, due to the adoption of the market economy in most of the developing countries in the region and the globalisation of the economy. ICA ROAP has to face these new challenges at a time when development resources from its partners are being reduced and therefore it has been necessary to re-

orient its development strategy. To deal with this situation, the Regional Assembly at its meeting held in New Delhi in January 1995 appointed an Advisory Committee on the "Direction of the ICA ROAP Towards the 21st Century". The Committee made various recommendations with regard to the future priorities of the ROAP and recommended an additional contribution of 10% annual subscription to the ROAP from the ICA members within the region, coupled with an increase in financial support from the HO. The Committee also recommended the appointment of a small advisory group for the ROAP. The Executive Council, and Regional Assembly approved the recommendations of the Advisory Committee. The Regional Assembly also decided to enrol associate members from such national level co-operative federations which are financially weak, particularly from countries which are not members of the ICA as also parastatal bodies as observers. The Regional Assembly further agreed to proposals to establish sub-committees on Housing and Women.

Future Activities

Preparations have begun for the Co-operative Ministers' Conference expected to be held in Thailand in March 1997. A Critical Study on Co-operative Legislation and Competitive Strength in the ASEAN countries will also be part of the agenda. A preparatory meeting will be held in Myanmar during October/November 1996. Other important activities for the coming year include Regional Meeting on Gender Integration in September 1996 in Bangkok; Regional Medical/Health Co-operative Seminar in Bombay in November 1996, Regional Campus Co-op Youth Seminar in Singapore in November 1996; Seminar on Leadership Development in Manila and Workshop on Curriculum Development in Dhaka in December 1996; the 11th ICA/Japan Training Course for Strengthening Management of Agricultural Co-operatives in Asia, the 6th ICA/Japan Training Course for Women Leaders of Agricultural Co-operatives. The Asian Regional Conference of Top Level Women Farm Leaders in Agricultural Co-operatives will also be held during October/November 1996.

Staff Changes

During the year, Pradit Machima, Consumer Co-operative Development Adviser, and Malte Jonsson, Senior Development Adviser, completed their assignments and returned to their respective countries. The consumer work will be handled by the HRD Adviser and Coordination and Planning work by the RD. K.L. Nalwaya also returned to NCUI after completion of his one-year assignment with the ICA Head Office.

In pursuance of the policy to decentralise the work in Geneva, P. Nair was assigned in April on a part-time basis to prepare information for the ICA/UWCC Co-operative Gopher. He also continued his former work assisting the HRD and Gender projects. In July, Ram Prakash was assigned to the Membership Department.

After nine years as Regional Director, G.K. Sharma reached retirement age and will be succeeded on 1 October, 1996, by Robby Tulus of Indonesia. Mr. Sharma will continue to provide advisory services to ICA.



*Ada Souleymane Kibora
Regional Director*

West Africa continues to experience and to suffer the effects of the economic crisis, structural adjustment programmes, economic liberalisation and the partial or total withdrawal of the State from many sectors. Despite the pronouncements and publication of data with optimistic macro-economic parameters and aggregates, the answer to the fundamental question of the positive impact of all these measures on the day-to-day life and the overall human and sustainable development of the average African and the underprivileged masses remains unsatisfactory.

This situation also applies to co-operatives which, despite or because of the economic liberalisation and withdrawal of the State, continue to experience the same problems with funding, management, marketing and members' participation.

Emergence of Viable Apex Co-operative Organisations

The programme consists of carrying out monographic and analytical studies in a co-operative sector where the need is felt and where there is a potential for institutional organisation as well as a favourable environment.

BENIN

ROWA assisted in the emergence of an Artisanal Producers and Service Co-operative Federation (FECOPAS) in Benin. FECOPAS brings together some thirty co-operatives.

BURKINA FASO

At the request of the Agricultural and Vegetable Farmers Co-operative Union of Burkina (UCOBAM), ROWA provided assistance for the emergence of a national structure bringing together, based on free membership, various rural organisations from the country.

Consolidation of Co-operative Apex Organisations

This programme is aimed at providing support to the institutional consolidation and autonomy of already existing Unions and Federations through the retraining and development of their human resources. The final beneficiaries of this programme are the co-operatives affiliated to the Unions and Federations as well as the individual members, those of the elected organs and the employees of these organisations.

UNION NATIONALE DES CO-OPERATIVES AGRICOLES DU SENEGAL (UNCAS)

At the end of November 1994, eight village sections in the region of Diourbel received ROWA support for the training of 90 functional literacy instructors. Next, it was the duty of these instructors to share their skills by training management committees and/or holding literacy classes in their respective village sections. In 1995, ROWA agreed to fund the follow-up to the project for the Thially village section. Thus there was: i) functional literacy training for the management committee and the health unit, and the establishment of a savings and credit fund for the members; ii) functional literacy training for the management committee and a 79-member savings and credit fund; iii) the opening of a functional literacy class to provide 12 or 13 days of courses per month.

UNION DE DIBOUA - COTE D'IVOIRE

The activities carried out for this Union involved the organisation of several training sessions spread over a period of eight months for the following target-public and in the following areas: i) cash management for the cashier and accountants of the affiliated co-operatives; ii) inventory management for 15 storekeepers; iii) training of the Director of the Union in management using the computer; iv) audit and internal control techniques and procedures for 15 auditors; v) co-operative organisation and management for 20 Management Committee members.

SOCIETE DES CO-OPERATIVES AGRICOLES D'AGBOVILLE (SCAGBO) - COTE D'IVOIRE

This Union of pre-co-operative groups was able to undertake, with assistance from ROWA, the following activities: i) training of the Director in marketing techniques; ii) retraining of the cashier in cash management and word-processing; iii) training of 13 Management

Committee members in financial statement preparation techniques; iv) training in co-operative management and organisation for 20 co-operators and employees.

COLLECTIF DES CLINIQUES CO-OPERATIVES DE SANTE DU BENIN

This form of co-operative, which is an innovation in West Africa, requested and obtained support from ROWA to organise training sessions in: i) accounting for 10 treasurers of Co-operative Clinics affiliated to the Group; ii) co-operative organisation and financial management for the Management Committee members.

ASSOCIATION DES CO-OPERATIVES POUR LE DEVELOPEMENT RURAL (ACOODER), BENIN

At the request of ACOODER, ROWA supported a multi-phase human resource development programme: i) the training of 20 literacy instructors, including 10 women in charge of the functional literacy training of members; ii) the functional literacy training of 500 members in 20 literacy training centres in reading, writing, and basic arithmetic; iii) training in the organisation and management of co-operatives for 20 learners.

FEDERATION NATIONALE DES CO-OPERATIVES DE CONSOMMATION (FENACOOOP) - CAPE VERDE

In order to improve book-keeping methods in its unions and primary co-operatives, FENACOOOP submitted a project document to ROWA for book-keeping training sessions. In 1995, ROWA funded sessions in the islands of Maio and San Antao. These sessions brought together 27 employees of the member consumer co-operatives and Unions of FENACOOOP.

Creating an Enabling Environment for Co-operative Development

Contribution to improving the environment of co-operatives was made through studies of co-operative legislation, and through support to deliberations on, and the drawing up of new co-operative policies in certain countries in the sub-region. Thus, in 1995, studies and local, regional and national meetings were organised in Guinea-Conakry and Côte d'Ivoire.

IN GUINEA-CONAKRY

ROWA, at the request of the FAO, led a consultative mission whose objectives were: i) the evaluation of a support project for rural organisations; ii) the planning and organisation of analytical studies and a national seminar on co-operative policy; iii) the co-ordination of a study on co-operative legislation and the drawing up of a draft law.

IN COTE D'IVOIRE

ROWA contributed to the funding of activities that led to the amendment of the co-operative legislation. The participatory approach adopted was as follows: i) data collection and consultation with co-operators at the basic level; ii) the organisation of five regional seminars to compile and analyse the information and data collected during the preceding phase; iii) the drawing up of an initial draft legal document based on the results of the first two phases; iv) the organisation of a national seminar to present and discuss the results of the regional seminars and to analyse and amend the draft legal document. A draft law has been submitted to the Government for review

IN GUINEA-CONAKRY AND MALI

Analytical studies were conducted, followed by national seminars. New policies are being drawn up in these two countries with the help of the studies undertaken or sponsored by ROWA.

Integration and Enhancement of the Participation of Women in Co-operatives

The aim of the project is to support and promote the participation and integration of women in the co-operative development process, through funding for training (management, organisation of co-operatives) and the establishment of income-generating activities (micro-investments, savings, loan guarantee funds).

FENACOOOP - CAPE VERDE

ICA/ROWA and FENACOOOP undertook in 1995 to retrain and give further training to 30 women members of consumer co-operatives. They were thus able to deepen their knowledge and to acquire new tools of analysis, organisation and management to make them more apt to fulfill their functions in the consumer co-operatives affiliated to FENACOOOP

UNCAS - SENEGAL

In 1995, following the training of rural volunteers in 1993 and the training of literacy instructors in 1994, UNCAS sought the support of ROWA for the training of 10 women supervisors for the Regional Union of Co-operatives of Diourbel (URCAD). They were to be supervised by the team of rural volunteers operating in the region. These women supervisors were chosen from among women with basic formal education (Ordinary-Level or less) in the village sections; their mission is to serve as intermediaries between the women's groupings and partners and to train women in the initiation and management of income-generating activities.

FECECAM-BENIN

After a year and a half of operations, in October 1995, ICA/ROWA received and analysed the follow-up report of the project entitled «Very Small Credit to Women » (TPCF) whose objectives were: i) to help women living in modest conditions in villages where funds of the FECECAM network are established to undertake or improve income-generating activities with loans; most of the women opted for individual petty trade and ii) to encourage and motivate women to become members of the Local Funds for Mutual Agricultural Loans (CLCAM). An evaluation of the project was made in February 1996 by independent consultants.

After a sensitisation campaign, this new product was introduced in the market in September 1994 in the form of a small credit fund allocated to five local funds. FECECAM's projections were to integrate 1,200 members a year. At the end of a year and a half, the TPCF was so successful that FECECAM was obliged, due to pressure from the women, to put 10% of the outstanding credits of each CLCAM at the disposal of the TPCF. This operation also made it possible to see the importance of the preliminary training necessary for the good management of the loans by the women.

REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS

In October 1994, ICA/ROWA and the FAO organised a Regional Bilingual Workshop in Abidjan on the Integration of Women in Agricultural Co-operatives in West Africa. Following this seminar, ROWA funded national studies on women. Four national consultants carried out a study aimed at validating the conclusions and recommendations of the seminar in the following countries: Benin, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal. After their reports had been submitted, a restricted meeting was held in Abidjan in June 1995 to draw up ROWA's Regional Action Plan and a specific plan for each member organisation that are immediately applicable in order to improve and enhance the participation of women in the co-operative movement. This specific action plan will form an integral part of ICA/ROWA's next four-year development plan for 1997 to 2000.



*Vincent Lubasi
Regional Director*

ROECSA Activities

The Regional Office carried out the following activities to ensure that interests of co-operators are promoted and protected to strengthen the value of the Office as a network. The activities included the following:

- *Attendance and participation at Annual General Meetings of member organisations and their affiliates. The Office gets to learn about the central concerns of its members first hand. It is also an opportunity for the Office to explain its work to a wider audience of key decision makers.*
- *Active contact and collaboration with development partners and agencies relevant to the objectives of co-operation. Strong ties were maintained with the Swedish Co-operative Centre (SCC), Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA), Rabobank Foundation of Holland, The Royal Norwegian Society for Development and UN agencies such as the ILO and FAO.*
- *Guidance and advice in building up of national co-operative structures.*
- *Organising and running fora to bring together governments and co-operatives in a process of dialogue and mutual benefit.*
- *HRD activities including seminars, workshops, networking and on-the-job-attachments for leaders and employees, and*
- *Studies and consultancies as part of technical services. The 5th African Ministerial Co-operative Conference*

After the 36th Regional Council meeting a Conference was held in Mauritius from the 22nd to the 25th of May, 1996, for Ministers responsible for Co-operative Development and Co-operative Leaders. Over one hundred delegates from Botswana, Kenya, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe attended the Conference. It was agreed that the coming of liberalisation did not remove the need for partnership between co-operatives and the state.

Earlier, in March 1996, Commissioners of Co-operatives and Chief Executive Officers of member organisations had met in Lusaka, Zambia, to review progress made in the 1985/95 Regional Co-operative Development Decade. The report of the meeting formed the main basis for the work of the Ministerial Conference.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN CO-OPERATIVE INITIATIVE

The National Co-operative Association of South Africa (NCASA) was formed on 14th June, 1996. This came after two years of intense and extensive negotiations in which the Regional Office played a key role. In this initiative the Regional Office was supported by CCA.

A key step towards the establishment of NCASA was the South African Co-operative Forum which was held on 22 - 26 October, 1995. At the forum presentations were made about different co-operative sectors in the country.

THE REGIONAL OFFICE STRATEGIC PLAN

The Regional Office Strategic Plan for the five years 1995-2000 has been finalised. The process involved member organisations, Regional Council, ICA Head Office and partners.

STUDY ON THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE UGANDA CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

This study was carried out during February 1996 at the request of the Uganda Co-operative Alliance. The main objective was to propose a restructuring of the co-operative movement in Uganda so as to make it genuinely member-driven, competitive, independent and sustainable.

ANNUAL PLANNING AND CONSULTATION MEETINGS

Annual Planning Meetings with the Head Office and Partner representatives were held in Nairobi, Cape Town and recently in Mauritius. The last meeting agreed on the Regional Office work plans and budgets for July 1995 to December 1996 as well as for the 1997 calendar year.

DATA BANK AND INFORMATION

The Office collects data on co-operatives in the region. The data is useful in helping monitor their development and also in deciding on any intervention indicated, including representation.

CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE DEVELOPMENT

The Regional Office, in collaboration with ICMIF, aims at assisting in the formation of co-operative insurance organisations where they do not exist. Where they already exist, they are helped to improve their efficiency and effectiveness through business and strategic plans.

The provisional Botswana Co-operative Insurance Society is now registered and called Insurance Broking Co-operative Society. The Regional Office helped to set up the Mauritius Co-operative Insurance Agency. In West Africa a consultancy was carried out for the Ghana Allied Workers Co-operative Insurance (GAWCIL)

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The Regional Office emphasises HRD as a core activity. It is also recognised as a service activity that underlines all ICA work. Organisationally, HRD activities are carried out within every project. At the same time, there are some HRD activities which are planned and implemented specifically.

The Office organised a seminar on business re-engineering to equip member organisation Chief Executive Officers with some of the latest business skills in managing change. The theme of the seminar was "Coop 2000 - Transforming your Organisations for a Better Future".

CO-OPERATIVE BANKING

The Banking, Savings and Credit Project was evaluated in November/December, 1995. The team visited Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia. The evaluation was very positive and the mission recommended that the project continue and be transformed into a permanent unit of the Office. Despite the recommendation, the project supported by the Rabobank Foundation ended on 30th June, 1996.

The Office gave priority to the development of co-operative banking in Tanzania so that the experience gained could be used elsewhere in the region. A local co-operative bank for Kilimanjaro region has been registered and was recently opened by the President of Tanzania, Mr. Benjamin William Mkapa. In Zambia, the Office has been facilitating re-structuring of the Co-operative Finance sector, especially after the Co-operative Bank closed after a "run" on the Bank in December, 1995.

TRADE FACILITATION

Recognising the importance of trade to its members the Office has disseminated trade information it gathers. In 1995 it linked maize marketing co-operatives in Tanzania to markets in Zambia and South Africa. As result more than 100,000 tons were traded. The Office has also designed an export+import information package to help in identifying availability and demand for products.



*Juan Diego Pacheco
Regional Director*

ROAM Activities

During the last year and following the mandate of the members of the region, the Regional Office of ICA for the Americas promoted the repositioning of the co-operative model in the new economic, political, social and commercial environment. At the same time, it provided support to its members in areas like diffusion and defense of the co-operative identity, the promotion of co-operative trade and business, and human resource development.

CO-OP IDENTITY

In the area of co-operative identity, it achieved its purpose of promoting the diffusion of the declaration of the co-operative identity adopted in Manchester as well as the documents related to it. It also distributed over 50,000 commemorative editions, popular and pocket books as well as their corresponding diskettes throughout the entire continent. At the same time, information from co-operative web sites, and pages in hundreds of magazines have complemented this task at the continental level. The ICA's President for the Americas, Dr. Roberto Rodrigues, has personally assumed the official presentation of the declaration before governments and official authorities. The declaration was well received in all forums, but it is only now that the analysis and discussion process is beginning at the sectorial and subregional level, so that the declaration will have a larger and better impact on the goals and daily activities of the co-operative enterprises of the Americas.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership has shown a 25% growth during 1995. This confirms the growing interest of the co-operative organizations in coming closer at a continental and global level. At the same time, it confirms the response that ICA has provided to this expectation. All the regional members received direct attention from ROAM which brings permanent information, coordinates intersectorial relationships and promotes projects and activities with the intention of making evident the direct benefits of being an ICA member.

HRD PROGRAMME

The human resource development programme has concentrated its efforts in the elaboration of a continental strategy for human resource development within co-operative enterprises. Based on the research and consultation processes, the Continental Meeting of Human Resource Development strategy in Co-operatives (Lima, July, 1996) identified five main components for ICA work within this field: information networks, support of the formulation of resource development, plans in an entrepreneurial and economic co-operative level, research, gender, and work with young people. The electronic network that has been developing since March has proved to be very interesting and registers new members each day, (<http://www.rep.net.pe/aci>). The ICA ROAM Web pages depict new activities as well as inviting people to participate in the different forums that take place throughout the year.

GENDER PROGRAMME

Gender work has been reoriented to create new products and materials that support the existing groups and networks. The self-esteem tapes, the sexicoop game and reports on the situation of co-operative women in various countries and regions in the continent have been in great demand and acknowledged for their value. In November 1996, at the same time as the Annual Regional Conference, ICA ROAM is organising a Continental Forum of Women Co-operators. It has also begun to explore the feasibility of creating networks for women groups in the Andean Pact and Mercosur based on the experience developed in Central America and the Caribbean.

With the purpose of supporting its members, ROAM has developed a group of six manuals that, given its format and contents, allows the easy access of different topics related with HRD. This material is now available in Spanish and has obtained a positive evaluation and an increasing demand.

CO-OPERATIVE BUSINESS AND TRADE

In the area of Co-operative Businesses and Trade, the regional conference "Strategic Alliances" was held in Miami, December 1995. With the attendance of more than 800 managers and leaders of the Americas, it established the importance of taking advantage of co-operatives' own growth potential. It also worked to better consolidate technological, financial and personnel exchanges in the corresponding markets through strategic alli-

ances. The information held in the publications "Doing Business" permitted 56 round table negotiations towards improving contact among the participants.

As a result of the different activities in the business area and the diverse consultation processes that took place, it is evident that ROAM needs to consolidate a sectorial approach to ICA's work in the region. The identification and articulation among co-operatives, leaders and support organizations according to each sector is now the priority in the work of the region.

Nowadays, the insurance sector is working under Mr. Julio Enrique Medrano from Seguros la Equidad, Colombia. It is a model for the development of other sectors. The banking sector works with committees from north and south of the American continent.

The agricultural committee is beginning under the leadership of Mr. Dejandir Dalpasquale of OCB-. Work will begin in the health sector under the leadership of Mr. Edmundo Castilho from UNIMED .

The business guides regarding the Latin American co-operatives are being distributed in English, French and Spanish and they can be seen on ICA's Web site.

Sponsors

ROAM activities take place thanks to the close technical and financial help of the Swedish Co-operative Center (SCC), Desjardin International Development (DID), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA).

Regional Conference

In November 1996, ROAM is organising a regional conference on "Deglobalization: Global Challenge, Local Markets", to define strategies in terms of how co-operative enterprises can benefit from globalization conditions to consolidate their businesses at a local level. The Continental Forum of "How Many Are We in the Americas" will take place right before this activity and it is organized by the gender program.

1996-2000 Strategic Plan

The 1996-2000 Strategic Plan is already prepared and it should be adopted by the Second Regional Assembly of the Americas next November. This should provide the definition and necessary goals for the work of the ICA in the Americas during that period.

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL ORGANISATION



Mario Dumais

Executive Committee

President: *Mario Dumais (Canada)*

Secretary: *Gordon Pugh (Canada)*

Vice-Presidents: *Africa: Mohamed Idris (Egypt), Europe: Jan Fenci (Czech Republic), Asia Pacific: Churl-Hee Won (Korea), Americas: Dejandir Dalpasquale (Brazil)*

Members: *Brij Bhadu (India), Villam Bosiak (Slovakia), Mario Campi (Italy), Costain Chilala (Zambia), Horvath Gabor (Hungary), Jacques Gaudinat (Belgium), Ron Gollehon (United States), Nai-Soo Lee (Korea), Cyril Moraveik (Slovak Republic), Holger Hasle Nielsen (Denmark), Yasumasa Tani (Japan), Ole Waehre (Norway)*

Membership

There are forty organisations, from thirty-four countries, which are members of the International Co-operative Agricultural Organisation. Of these, there are fifteen organisations from Fourteen European countries; ten organisations from the Asia Pacific Region and five organisations from four countries in the Americas region.

Meetings

The Executive Committee and the General Assembly of the Organisation met on two occasions in 1995-6. The first at Manchester, in the United Kingdom, on the occasion of the ICA's Centenary Congress and at Versailles, France during the Fiftieth Anniversary Assembly of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers. In Manchester, the Executive Committee met on 17 September, 1995. During this meeting, the President of the Organisation, Roberto Rodrigues, announced that he would no longer be able to hold this position. He reviewed the activities of the Committee over the term of his presidency.

At this meeting the Committee also reviewed the financial situation of the Organisation and was informed of an Agreement (signed on 21 April, 1995 in Sao Paulo) which had been undertaken with COGECA. Under this Agreement COGECA is the European Agricultural Co-operative organisation for the ICA and is now responsible for issues in that area.

The Committee also heard a presentation by Mr. Murilo Flores, Secretary of Rural Development of the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture regarding sustainable development, co-operatives and the environment.

The General Assembly of the Organisation was held on 18 September. Participants were briefed on the results of a study of the global profile of co-operatives. Professor Daniel Côte of l'Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales de Montréal, Canada, made this presentation. The results of this study are summarized in the Review of the International Co-operative Alliance (number 1, volume 89).

The General Assembly also heard a presentation from Professor Sigismundo Bialoskorski Neto of the University of Sao Paulo regarding international trade amongst co-operatives. It was at the General Assembly that the Agricultural Committee executives were elected.

The Executive Committee next met on 18 April, 1996 in Versailles. The discussion focused on the future work of the Organisation, in particular on the joint meeting, held the following day, of the International Co-operative Agricultural Organisation and the Standing Committee of Agricultural Co-operatives of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP). Also discussed was the participation of the ICAO in the World Food Summit to be held in Rome in November 1996 as well as a proposal to hold a seminar on the role of co-operatives in the production and distribution of agricultural inputs.

On 19 April 1996, the joint meeting of the ICAO and the IFAP's Committee on Co-operatives was held. It was co-chaired by Mario Dumais and Martin Nielsen of Denmark. The meeting was led off by a presentation on co-operation in French Agriculture. This was followed by a presentation of the conclusions of a study on Co-operation in the year 2010 by the Federation of Danish Co-operatives. There were also presentations on the "new order" co-operatives in Canada, Brazil, Japan and South Africa. The session was completed by presentations on the recruitment of young people into co-operatives, management training and future co-operation between IFAP and ICA. The initiative to hold a joint meeting of the two groups was clearly appreciated.

The ICAO will hold a General Assembly in Rome in November 1996, in conjunction with the World Food Summit organized by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE BANKING ASSOCIATION (ICBA)



Claude Béland



Ghislain Paradis

Executive Committee

- President:** *Claude Béland (Québec, Canada)*
- Secretary:** *Ghislain Paradis (Québec, Canada)*
- Vice-Presidents:** *E.H. Boohene (Ghana); E.K. Mureithi (Kenya); J.A. Niño (Panama); E. Pflimlin (France); B.S. Vishwanathan (India); El Haloui (Morocco)*
- Members:** *M. Cardozo (Uruguay); J.-C. Detilleux (France); E. Laskiewicz (Poland); T.O. Olupitan (Nigeria); C. Snyder (USA)*
- Associate:** *C. Baker (WOCCU)*

Our membership brings together representatives of co-operative banks and financial institutions worldwide, including the International Raiffeisen Union, the co-operative banks of the European Union, and the World Council of Credit Unions. The Association is, therefore, a true global and democratically-elected specialised organisation of the ICA, representing the views of co-operative financial institutions all over the world.

During the year, Claude Béland, President of the Mouvement des Caisses Desjardins (Québec, Canada), was elected President of the ICBA in replacement of Terry Thomas (UK); Jacobo Laks (Argentina) deceased; D. Boureitchenko (Russia), I. Blinov (Russia) and H. Mufalo (Zambia) have ceased working for the organisation they were representing.

Meetings

A Central Executive Committee meeting was held in April, in Casablanca, Morocco. It was hosted by the Banque Centrale Populaire du Maroc. Mr. C. Béland, the new President, has expressed his objectives for the next three years: seeking to bring co-operative forces together; fostering the promotion and spread of co-operative thought; providing active representation to benefit members vis-à-vis governmental and other authorities.

Claude Béland, accompanied by the ICBA Secretary, Ghislain Paradis, went to China and Vietnam in June. They attended the ICA Board Meeting in Beijing and had meetings with executives of the Bank of Agriculture of China. Afterwards they went to Vietnam where they met authorities of the State Bank of Vietnam. On that occasion the discussions were particularly centered on the development of saving and credits co-operatives in that country.

The seventh edition of the ICBA Journal was issued and delivered. Extra copies are available if required.

We have sent a questionnaire on ICBA status and orientation to more than eighty current or potential members, in English, French or Spanish. The survey results will be made available on the occasion of the Plenary Session which will take place in Budapest, Hungary, on October 25.

An invitation has been extended to all co-operators to attend this important meeting. The theme is "Co-operative Banks in the year 2000 as leaders in building a more equitable society: Keys to success".

Speakers from the Americas, Africa, Asia and Europe will be invited to share their views on this topic.

Other Events

The President, Mr. Béland, has been invited to make a presentation on the occasion of the Fourth Latin America Financial Convention, which took place on October 2 to 4, in Panama.

The President, Mr. Béland, will also be present at the ICA Americas "96 Regional Conference", to take place in Costa Rica in November. The topic is "Deglobalisation. Global Challenge - Local Markets".



Giuseppe Fabretti



Antonella Belfiori

Executive Committee

Chairman: *Giuseppe Fabretti (Italy)*

Vice-Chairman: *Masao Ohya (Japan)*

Secretary: *Antonella Belfiori (Italy)*

Members: *Manfred Dabrunz (Germany); Lars Hillbom (Sweden); Patrice Jolivet (France); Peter Szilagyi (Hungary); Lloyd Wilkinson (United Kingdom).*

Founded in 1969, as ICA Consumer Committee — Comité des consommateurs de l'ACI, referred to also as ICA Committee for Consumer Co-operatives — Comité de l'ACi pour les co-opératives des consommateurs. A specialized body of International Co-operative Alliance.

Aims to initiate discussion on the crucial problems of the co-operative consumer policy; communicate information both to ICA members and to organisations outside the co-operative movement; give advice on consumer matters to new consumer co-operatives; co-operate with other ICA specialized bodies; represent co-operative consumer interests to other international co-operative or non co-operative organisations; collaborate with governmental and non-governmental agencies for consumer affairs; publish information on matters of interest to consumers, such as consumer protection, through the press and other media.

Membership

The ICA International Consumer Co-operatives Organisation is made up of member organisations from the following countries: Ghana, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, Australia.

Secretariat

c/o ANCC, Via Panaro, 14, Rome, Italy, Fax.: 0039-6-86320033

Finances

The ICCO is financed by an annual subscription based on the financial activity of its members. Since 1992, the minimum and maximum annual subscription rates have been maintained at CHF 500 and 2000 respectively.

NGO Relations

European Community of Consumer Co-operatives (EUROCO-OP), Consumers International (IOCU).

Meetings

The following meetings were held from September 1995 to September 1996:

Executive Committee: *September (Manchester)*

Plenary Session: *September (Manchester)*

Executive Committee: *March (Hamburg)*

Activities

CO-OPERATIVE AGENDA 21 - CONSUMER SECTOR

Both the ICA and its associates committed themselves to environmental policies at the Tokyo Congress in 1992 and at the Rio Summit. ICCO members have collaborated in the final drawing up of the Co-operative Agenda 21 - Consumer Sector, which is being presented to the ICA Secretariat, stressing especially two points: the promotion of consumption and production patterns limiting the excessive use of natural resources; the development of an awareness linking lifestyle to consumption patterns that respect the environment.

CONSUMER-CO-OPERATIVE GUIDELINES

As part of the review of Co-operative Principles which culminated in September 1995 with the adoption of new Co-operative Principles, the ICCO drew up the Consumer Co-operative Guidelines which were submitted to the ICA Secretariat in Geneva.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

ICCO is currently working at two other important themes: co-operation policy in developing countries and co-operative training.

INTERNATIONAL CONSUMER DAY

Each year ICCO publishes a message on the occasion of the International Consumer Day, which is celebrated on 15 March. The 1995 message celebrated the Consumer Co-operative Guidelines of the consumer sector while the 1996 message celebrated the fair and solidarity trade with the countries in the southern part of the world.

PUBLICATIONS

Considering the importance and the up-to-dateness of the topics discussed during the Plenary Session in Prague on October 25th, the Secretariat has deemed appropriate to publish the Proceedings of the meeting where the up-dating of the Project on Participatory Democracy was presented together with other issues.

EXHIBITION (ICCO'S STAND)

During the ICA Centennial Congress in Manchester, held in September 1995, ICCO's Secretariat organised the exhibition stand. Each participating consumer organisation had a panel showing, through photographs and brief descriptions, initiatives undertaken to celebrate the 150th Rochdale anniversary.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE FISHERIES ORGANISATION



Shoji Uemura



Masaaki Sato

Executive Committee

- Chairman:** *Shoji Uemura (Japan)*
- Vice-Chairman:** *Maurice Benoish (France); Park Jong Sik (Rep. of Korea); Subhash Chandra (India); Dr. Antal Csoma (Hungary)*
- Members:** *Benedikt Sveinsson (Iceland); Chalerm Rojanapradit (Thailand); Shahabudin Shafie (Malaysia)*
- Secretary:** *Masaaki Sato (Japan)*

Membership

In 1996, there are 27 member organisations from 23 countries

Meetings

The International Co-operative Fisheries Organisation (better known as ICA Fisheries Committee) organized its plenary meeting of 1995 and 1996 as follows:

- *The 1995 Plenary meeting in Manchester, on 18 September 1995, was attended by 10 co-operators from 10 member organisations in 9 countries. It was*

preceded by an Executive Meeting held in the morning of the same day. A one-day post-conference study tour was also arranged by the host organisation (Co-operative Union) of UK, when participants had the opportunity to visit Grinsby (fishing port).

Plenary Meeting of 1996 at Board Room of ANGKASA (National Co-operative Organisation of Malaysia), Petaling Jaya, Malaysia on 11 June, 1996. It was attended by 15 co-operators from 8 member organisations of 7 countries. Prior to the Plenary Meeting, the Executive Meeting was held in the morning of the same day. A one-day post conference study tour was also arranged by the host organisation (ANGKASA) of Malaysia, when participants had the opportunity to visit Koperasi Herr Meng on P. Ketan (Herr Meng Fishermen's Co-operative on the Crab Island).

Activities

EDUCATION AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES

One of the main activities of the Committee is to organize seminars/workshops on fisheries co-operatives in developing countries.

In 1995, the Committee organized a seminar on leadership development in the fisheries co-operative sector in Goa, India, in November 1995.

In 1996, the Committee organised a seminar on leadership development in the fisheries co-operative sector in Nha Trang, Vietnam, in April 1996.

Further, a seminar on fisheries co-operatives is planned in Budapest, Hungary, in September, 1996. Another seminar is planned in Cirebon, Indonesia, in April 1997.

All these seminars/workshops have been contributed to ICA from the Government of Japan under its Official Development Aid Programme (ODA).

Publications

In the year under review, the Committee published the Fishermen's Co-operative Bulletin No.18 on the 'Janasavia Movement' of Sri Lanka.

Future Directions

At the plenary meeting of the Committee held in Malaysia in June, 1996, it was agreed that consideration be given to planning of the Second International Conference on Fishermen's Co-operatives. However, the conclusion among the participants on this agenda was that it was still at a premature stage. Thus, this agenda will be discussed again in Tel Aviv, Israel, in October 1997, when the Committee meets again.



Rolf Trodin



Jens Heiser



Ivar O. Hansen

Executive Committee

- Chairman:** *Rolf Trodin (Sweden)*
Vice-Chairman: *Jens Heiser (Germany)*
Secretary: *Ivar O. Hansen (Norway)*

Meetings

At our meeting in Manchester in September 1995, in connection with the ICA Congress, we drafted a position paper for Housing Co-operatives based on the ICA paper on Co-operative identity. We also decided to continue with building a regional structure. We received a report from the region of the Americas and decided to start a sub-committee for the regions of Europe and Asia and the Pacific. We appointed a working group for the preparation of Habitat II.

In December of 1955 we had a seminar in Miami in connection with ICA's Region of the Americas. We met with about 40 people from organisations in Central and Latin America interested in housing. Some of them have applied for membership, others for more information.

In March and April the President took part in seminars in Malaysia, Indonesia and Sri Lanka to prepare for the Asian region of Housing.

In April 1996, we had a board meeting in Prague where we discussed the preparations for Habitat and the work and priorities for our regions. We also had a meeting with the Czech press.

In April the President had a meeting with the ICA secretariat, together with other representatives from specialised bodies.

In June 1996 we had meetings and seminars in Istanbul during the Habitat II conference. We had a board meeting and a General Assembly, one seminar together with our Turkish members about the situation in Turkey and one seminar in the NGO forum with speakers from Sweden, Uruguay, Germany, Indonesia, Canada, Kenya, Norway and Zambia. Four different cases of cooperation between an organisation in a developing country and one organisation in a developed country were presented. In the NGO forum we had a photo exhibition presenting cooperatives from all parts of the world. Our Turkish and American members had their own exhibitions close to ours. We also drafted a position paper to be presented as the "ICA Statement" to the plenary meeting of Habitat II.

At our board meeting we got a report from the President of the American Region, Mike Doyle, and we elected Mr. Khurana from the Indian organisation as president of the Asia Region and Mr. Hachman from the German organisation as president of the European region.

Training and Education

The priority of the Asian region is training and education and they want to set up a training centre financed through special fees for member organisations from that region.

European Priorities

The priorities of the European region are to promote the organisation in former communist countries in East and Central Europe, and to develop closer collaboration with CECODHAS which is a lobby organisation for cooperative and social housing within the European Union.

In October we will have our next board meeting. It will take place in Budapest in connection with the ICA European meeting. We will also have a housing tour and a seminar.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE AND MUTUAL INSURANCE FEDERATION (ICMIF)



Tan Kin Lian



Hans Dahlberg

Executive Committee

Chairman: Tan Kin Lian (Singapore)

Vice-Chairmen: Enea Mazzoli (Italy); Koichiro Koeda (Japan); Richard McFerson (USA)

Chief Executive : Hans Dahlberg (Sweden)

Members: Alfredo Gonzalez Moledo (Argentina); Siegfried Sellitsch (Austria); Terry Squire (Canada); Peter von Harder (Germany); Lakshmanan Meyyappan (Malaysia); Håkan Tidlund (Sweden); Alan Sneddon (United Kingdom), Jacques Forest, Chairman, ACME; Julio Enrique Medrano León, Chairman, AAC/MIS; Vacant, Chairman, AFRA

Membership and Regional Associations

15 organisations from 14 countries have joined ICMIF over the past year. The number of small and developing members continues to grow. For a better balance ICMIF considers it vital that the number of medium-to-large members increases also. In approaching such prospective members ICMIF needs to demonstrate its professional capacity. To this end, ICMIF has produced a video and is revising its marketing literature.

An increase in the membership base and therefore in the resources available to ICMIF is the key to improving services to members. ICMIF will work much more closely with its regional associations to identify prospects and to make presentations and follow-ups.

ICMIF was conceived as a Federation with separate and closely linked regional associations. The SRG report foresaw that, with stronger and more active regional associations, "a possible longer-term goal" might be to move toward the overall structure of "a Federation of regional associations (pyramid)." That goal now seems more remote than before.

Though the regional association in Asia (AOA) has indeed become more active and the ones in the Americas and Europe continue to meet their members' needs, the newly established AFRA has no active members free of their own struggle for survival. We now need to address issues emerging from the evolving inter-relationships of the regional associations and ICMIF - in particular, the duplication and rationalisation of services against the backdrop of dual membership.

In some purposes and issues - such as contact with the European Union - it is more effective to have representation at the regional level. That is why members must belong to a regional association as well as the Federation.

The rationale is that members collectively should identify and set out priorities in each region, and each regional association should work together with the ICMIF secretariat to relate the regional priorities closely to the objectives of ICMIF as a whole.

Member Networks

Exchange of experience at specially organized seminars is a valued service ICMIF provides its members. An example is the investment network for members interested in international markets. The third workshop of this network was held in New York in April 1996, at which 27 participants from 13 member organisations heard the latest World Economic Outlook presented by an official of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). In addition to macroeconomic trends and developments in financial markets, the workshop discussed members' investment strategies and a special study on volatility and returns.

The reinsurance network, MORO, is a well-established and successful gathering. ICMIF is now establishing a new network of IT managers who will hold their first meeting in Singapore in September 1996.

Preparations are also underway for the 1997 ICMIF Conference to be held in Puerto Rico 24-27 October.

Annual Report to ICA

The third annual report of ICMIF to the ICA accounts for a most eventful year. Members assembled in Manchester, UK, in September for a conference that had historical significance. As a result of the decision taken three years earlier at the Tokyo confer-

ence in 1992, ICMIF is in the unusual, and possibly enviable, position of being a very young organisation which came into being with 70 years of experience already behind it. The Manchester conference was the first meeting of members in the new organisation and gave them the first opportunity together to look back, take stock of the achievements and have a presentation of the future plans.

The origin of the Federation's renewal was the strategic review group (SRG) report that focused on 10 core functions for the new ICMIF. It is satisfying to note that substantial progress has been made on building a stronger organisation with effective services in each function envisaged in 1992. Here are developments of note over the past year.

Development

One member's affiliation with ICMIF has proved to be life-sustaining. As the financially strapped CIS Kenya continued to receive substantial technical support and management advice, the ICMIF board made a historic decision to provide capital support as several members came forward with large contributions. Our capital support facility Allnations was used in channelling the funds.

The financial strength of Allnations Inc. is important in enabling the Federation to take additional steps, to assist other members in need. The decision of the annual shareholders' meeting to have up to 20,000 more common shares issued will provide a potential USD 5 million in capital. As more members help ICMIF achieve a broader spread in shareholding of Allnations, a better-capitalized Allnations could also be used to assist developed members in need of capital for growth.

Case studies of ICMIF projects in some 15 countries were presented at the 1995 ICMIF conference in a developing forum examining prospects and challenges in changing markets.

The need to pass on technology and management assistance to developing companies is increasing, and ICMIF is undertaking a special project to look at ways of raising funds for development from external sources.

Also in growing demand are human resources for delivering technical assistance. Two new regional advisers were named - one by Unipol, Italy, for Eastern and Central Europe and the other by Zenkyoren, Japan, for Asia-Pacific.

The regional association in Asia formally took development on as a core function with the establishment of a dedicated subcommittee. It is focusing initial efforts on involving more and more member organisations in development work - a priority for ICMIF as a whole.

Reinsurance

Reinsurance markets underwent perceptible softening over the past year. A significant trend in European markets was the move towards consolidation and a smaller number of well-capitalized reinsurers.

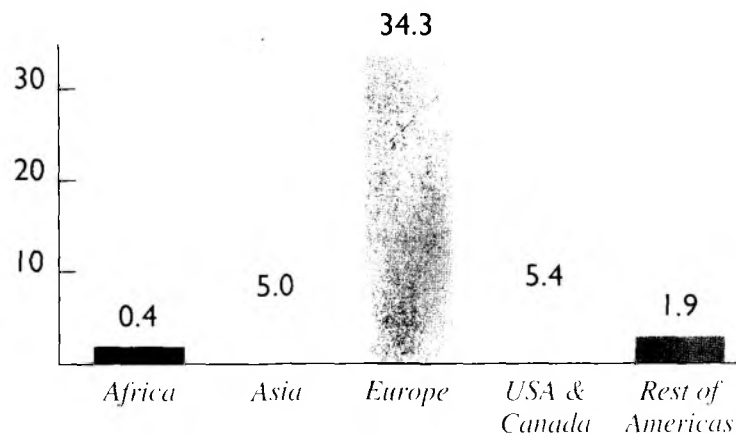
For ICMIF members, there was an increase in the volume of reinsurance premiums exchanges and number of contracts placed with fellow-members.

The ICMIF board of directors approved the formation of a company, ICMIF Reinsurance Services Limited, to assist with the work of reinsurance services at the secretariat. This new company will facilitate relationships with professional reinsurers when ICMIF is obliged to seek external capacity for the placement of members' reinsurance business.

Following the production of the reinsurance manual at the end of 1994, the first regional reinsurance seminar was conducted in Africa in August 1995. Hosted by Uganda Co-operative Insurance Limited, it attracted 13 participants from five countries. Its objectives were to give participants a foundation in the key principles of reinsurance and an understanding of the technical aspects of reinsurance accounting. A similar seminar is planned for 1996 in Eastern and Central Europe.

The biennial Meeting of Reinsurance Officials (MORO), which enables reinsurance managers of our members to meet and discuss matters of common interest, was held in May 1996, in San José, Costa Rica. For the first time, a specifically commissioned reinsurance business simulation was the centrepiece of the week-long event.

The event was such a success that members requested that the simulation be used as a training tool at their offices and at convenient venues in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas for reinsurance underwriters and technicians of members in the regions.



Estimated Premiums exchanged in £ Millions

Communications

Communication is at the heart of everything the Federation does. The most visible and notable vehicle is our newsletter ICMIF Network published in four languages. It was recognised at the 1995 Conference for its quality, relevance and timeliness.

A part of the SRG vision was to widen day-to-day communication and interaction with members beyond English. Towards that end the ICMIF secretariat has made great strides, with at least one staff member able to speak and write each of nine other languages: Danish, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian, Spanish, Swedish and Urdu.

ICMIF now has its own site on the Internet. The purpose is to reach, and be reached by, members across time zones at the touch of a few buttons.

Intelligence

Guiding and enriching our shared intelligence is a vital core function. It involves gathering information about our members, their business and market, and their knowledge and experience, and setting up a database to make the information available to members - information which as compiled cannot be obtained elsewhere.

The project has three basic fields and phases: member information, collaborative research, and market information.

Tasks completed in the member information and collaborative research phases and presented at the 1995 Conference in Manchester included ICMIF Member Directory, and collaborative research on Marketing and Distribution Channels and The Future of Motor Insurance.

With the Member Directory serving as a clearinghouse of information of a non-confidential nature, an in-depth analysis of ICMIF members has begun as the second step. A supplementary questionnaire is being used to identify the key management challenges of 1996-2000. One result aimed at is to see how ICMIF can help members meet these challenges.

Collaborative research on marketing and distribution channels is continuing, with the focus on direct selling. New projects in 1996 are health care as tailor-made insurance to fill the gaps of social security, social activity of co-operatives, customer satisfaction, and environmental and ethical issues.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE AND ASSOCIATIVE TOURISM ORGANISATION (TICA)



Michael Grindrod



Connie Beswick

Executive Committee

- Chairman:*** Michael Grindrod (UK)
Vice-Chairman: Maurizio Davolio (Italy)
Secretary: Connie Beswick (UK)
Members: Ole Andresen (Denmark); André Guignand (France)

The TICA annual Commercial Workshop and General Assembly were held in Manchester in conjunction with the Centennial Congress of the ICA in September 1995.

TICA also organised a public seminar under the title "Is there a specific role for Co-operative and Associated Organisations in the Travel & Tourism Industry of the Third Millennium?" This was well attended, and was addressed by Tony Bennett, Managing Director, Going Places (one of the U.K.'s biggest Travel Retailers); Willie Tucker, Chief General Manager, Central Midlands Co-op, U.K.; Ole Andresen, Managing Director, Dansk Folke-Ferie; Raymond Stelandre, Secretary General, Bureau International du Tourisme Social (BITS).

In the lively discussion which followed, not only was the question posed in the title of the Seminar answered in the affirmative, but there was a positive sense that Co-operative involvement in the development of the world's biggest industry was vital to ensure that environmental, ecological and social considerations were given proper attention, and that the benefits of Tourism were made available to all ages and classes.

Unfortunately, this positive enthusiasm is not, as has been noted in previous reports, reflected in the active participation of Co-operative organisations in TICA. Our membership has been falling progressively over several years.

TICA's Executive believe that the decline stems directly from the European bias which has historically reflected the Associations membership. Developments in Eastern Europe have led to the demise of many Co-operative members. At the same time, members in Western Europe have developed their businesses to a stage where they have little need for the assistance and commercial networking which TICA was set up to provide. Today, the growth of new Co-operative Travel & Tourism organisations is essentially - and dramatically - in Central and South America, the Pacific rim, Africa, India, and the Middle East. Workshops and General Meetings held in Europe are normally not a commercial option for such organisations, and they need more support than can be provided by a part-time Secretariat.

The Executive has therefore decided that TICA should move into closer association with the Bureau International du Tourisme Social (BITS). This organisation offers not only a full time Secretariat, but has a far more broadly based International membership and objectives which are almost identical with those of TICA. Based in Brussels, it already has an established regional organisation in the Americas and plans exist for the establishment of other regions.

TICA will therefore hold its 1996 General Assembly and Workshop in association with BITS in Montreal on 9-12 September. At the General Assembly, the Executive will recommend steps to establish a formal association with BITS which, if carried, will lead to a common Secretariat as quickly as possible thereafter. TICA will not lose its constitutional identity, but we believe that the move will lead to a far more effective service being provided to Co-operative Travel & Tourism organisations in terms of both costs and practical assistance.



Steinar Sivertsen



Ole Dueholm

Executive Committee

Chairman: *Steinar Sivertsen (Norway)*

Vice-Chairmen: *John B. Owen (UK); Vincenzo Tassinari (Italy)*

Executive Officer: *Ole Dueholm*

Members: *Silvester Adamca (Slovakia); Lars Hillbom (Sweden); Laszio Muranyi (Hungary); Aarno Mantynen (Finland); Akira Uchitate (Japan); Mordechai Weisbrod (Israel).*

Membership

Inter-Coop is an association of co-operative federal organisations in East and West Europe, Israel and Japan. As of August 1996, 12 co-op central organisations from 11 countries are members of Inter-Coop.

Together with their 2,200 affiliated co-operative retail societies, the retail organisations of Inter-Coop members make up an economic force as a trading group which exerts a significant influence on national and international markets. In 1995, members of Inter-Coop recorded retail sales exceeding 56 billion ECU in more than 22,000 retail outlets.

Exchange of Know-how and Information

The aim of Inter-Coop is to promote the exchange of know-how and information between its member organisations, especially on subjects related to retail trade.

The exchange of know-how and information takes place in a number of working groups, of which some are permanent, while others are set up on an ad hoc basis to deal with specific issues. In addition, Inter-Coop co-ordinates an education programme for senior managers from member organisations and issues two information letters 'Inter-Coop Information' and 'Inter-Coop Newsletter'.

Permanent Working Groups

Two permanent working groups are directly retail-related, viz. the Discount Stores Group and the Co-op Retailers' Group, the latter dealing with issues in store types other than discount stores, i.e. supermarkets, superstores, and hypermarkets. The Co-op Retailers' Group is a new group formed in 1996 on the basis of two former working groups for 'supermarkets' and 'hypermarkets and superstores'.

Another permanent working group for Logistics is made up of logistics managers from a number of Inter-Coop member organisations. Following the issue of a comprehensive document 'Goods Movement in Supply Chain Management', which describes an ideal model for goods movement, the Group is now exchanging know-how and considering collaboration possibilities with regard to computer-assisted ordering systems.

A permanent working group for 'Green Issues & Ethics' was established in 1996 at the initiative of the Inter-Coop Board to facilitate discussions among member organisations on the way in which retailers may and do respond to consumer behaviour related to environment protection and ethical questions.

The working group 'Food Laboratories' no longer functions within the framework of Inter-Coop as such, but the Inter-Coop Secretariat continues to provide administrative support for what is now a voluntary network for laboratory and quality assurance managers.

Ad-Hoc Working Groups

Ad hoc working groups are established from time to time to deal with topics, which are not related to a specific store type. Thus, in 1994 an ad hoc meeting treated 'Environment Protection Efforts' on the part of Inter-Coop members. This meeting resulted in the establishment of the permanent working group for green issues and ethics mentioned above. In 1995, a working group discussed 'Security Issues' with particular emphasis on electronic alarm systems. This meeting resulted in a requirement specification for alarm systems.

tems and tags, which Inter-Coop has submitted to the European authorities with the suggestion that alarm system requirements should be harmonised in the interest of both retailers and consumers.

Strategic Issues in Co-op Retailing is the title of the Inter-Coop education programme for senior managers. It is a series of seminars and cases in three modules and three different countries, which takes delegates through a number of cases and disciplines relating to retailing, logistics, strategic planning and marketing.

Inter-Coop Structure

1995 was the first full year of Inter-Coop operations under its new structure, i.e. formally independent of N.A.F. international and Intergroup, which are responsible for the international co-ordination of food and non-food purchases respectively.

The practical collaboration, i.e. the sharing of office space and facilities with the two organisations mentioned continues to function well.

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION OF INDUSTRIAL,
ARTISANAL AND SERVICE PRODUCERS'
COOPERATIVES (CICOPA)**



Yves Régis



Martine Cabanis

Executive Committee

Chairman: *Yves Régis (France)*

Secretary: *Martine Cabanis (France)*

Vice-Chairmen: *B. S. Vishwanathan - N.C.U.I. (India); Mohamed Sebayi (Egypt);
Marian Rybar - S.Z.V.D. (Slovakia); A. Scalvini (Italy - Cecop)*

Members: *Yuzo Nagato (Japan); Istvan Szabo (Hungary); Dimitru Danga (Ro
mania); Agus Sudono (Indonesia); Mrs Prasad (India); Vivian Woodell
and Martin Meteyard (UK); Alverino (Uruguay); Kibora (Africa).*

Membership

*CICOPA has 72 member organisations from 52 countries (Europe : 15, Africa : 15,
America : 13, Asia : 9).*

Publication

CICOPA Newsletter, twice a year.

Statutory Meetings

Every two years a Plenary meeting is held (usually to coincide with the ICA Board meeting) with two Executive meetings held each year. The last plenary meeting took place in Manchester in September 1995.

The most recent Executive Committees were held in Manchester (Great Britain), 17 September 1995 and Miami (December, 1995) with another meeting scheduled in Budapest (October 1996).

Regional Organisations

Cecop : CICOPA-Europe, located in Brussels, is the strongest Regional organisation with a significant budget. CICOPA America Latina is temporarily located in Cono Sur. CICOPA Asia and CICOPA Africa are in the planning stages.

ETHICAL AND DOCTRINAL PROGRAMMES:

- a) *A conference will be held in Imola (Italy) on 22-23 October 1996 on the following theme:*

Workers' participation in financing their own enterprise (a possible way towards genuine producers' co-operatives). Experience from United States (ESOP), China (Shareholding Co-operatives), Spain (S.A.L.), and of course from different co-operative movements in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America.

- b) *Recently CICOPA initiated a survey on environmentally-friendly Production among its members (exchange of experiences; good first results; co-operative championships on this issue).*
- c) *It is expected that a new CICOPA world conference will be organised in the year 2,000 (possibly in Shanghai).*

CICOPA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES :

- a) *CICOPA promotes the development of Producers' Co-operatives in countries where it is possible to get technical support from one of the ICA Regional Offices, with the local Apex Co-operative Organisations' approval and where public co-financing is available.*
- b) *Its main aim is the creation of producers' co-operative Unions (where they do not already exist) and of a permanent advisory service for co-operative management, marketing and financial matters. The Committee is convinced that no*

lasting developement can be realised by isolated enterprises. This is happen ing with the growing financial participation of the beneficiary co-operatives them selves, at first as partners in the action and then taking full responsability and ensuring the service goes on after CICOPA financial support stops.

PRESENT PROGRAMMES :

- a) *In India: both in Bangalore (Karnataka) and Delhi (Rajasthan and Madhya - Pradesh).*
- b) *In China a programme will be organised with the Gung Ho organisation and the All China Industrial and Handicraft Co-operative Federation in Shanghai Hebei.*
- c) *In West Africa: Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast and soon Benin and Senegal.*
- d) *Latin America: Cono Sur, Uruguay, Paraguay, Argentina and soon Chile and Brazil.*
- e) *Central America: Costa Rica, Salvador, Honduras.*
- f) *Eastern Europe: mainly the Republic of Russia (Implantation of new Russian Law upon Industrial Producers' co-operatives).*

We are saddened to have to inform readers of the death of our friend and colleague, Yves Régis, President of CICOPA, who passed away on the 9th of September 1996. He will be greatly missed by all those who knew him. His unlimited energy and dedication to the Co-operative Movement was recognised and appreciated worldwide.

ICA Secretariat

ICA COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (ICACC)



Poul Dines



Iain Williamson



Mary Treacy

Executive Committee

Chairman: Paul Dines (Denmark)

Vice-Chairman: Iain Williamson (UK)

Secretary: Mary Treacy (ICA)

Members: Kamal Hamdy Aboul Kheir (Egypt); Tony Luscombe (UK); Zahid Qureshi (ICMIF); Denis Tzarevcan (France).

Membership

Membership in 1996 showed one new member from the Republic of Korea, which brings the total to 15 members from 14 organisations in 9 countries.

Meetings and Activities

An Executive Committee was held in Blackpool on 16 September 1995, prior to the ICA Congress at the same time as a Study Tour for the participants of the Journalist Workshop. This was followed by a Communications Open Forum/Seminar on Sunday 17 September. In addition to a special session on Co-operative Principles and how they can promote co-operative business which was introduced by Chris Smith of the Co-operative

bank, the Seminar featured the use of the Internet for spreading the co-operative message. Presenters of this theme included Allan Foster, Head of Information at Keele University, Mercy Wambui of EcoNews Africa, which is a network in membership of the Association of Progressive Communications and ARIES, the electronic network of the European Union's Social Economy. The Committee also held a joint meeting with the Research Committee on the same subject followed by a reception to launch the new ICA publication by Rita Rhodes, "The ICA during War and Peace 1910 - 1950", for members of both committees, which was organised in collaboration with the Society of Co-operative Studies, UK.

The Executive also met in Geneva in February 1996, prior to a meeting of Chairs and Secretaries of ICA Specialised Bodies in which the Chairman and Secretary participated.

Second ICACC Workshop for Journalists

The Workshop was held in Stanford Hall, Loughborough and Manchester with twelve participants from Egypt, India, Kenya, Poland, Romania, Russia, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. The programme which was built around the needs of the participants concentrated on feature writing, radio and TV interviewing and desk top publishing, with special sessions on Crisis PR, gender perspectives in journalism, and a mini workshop on Strategic Planning. During the ICA Congress and related meetings, the participants had hands-on experience in undertaking interviews, writing news items and features and in typesetting and layout of the Congress Bulletin under the supervision of members of the ICACC. Participants were also introduced to electronic networking during the Communications Seminar and had the occasion for hands-on experience at the Internet Stand which was set up in the Exhibition area at the Congress site.

All participants successfully completed the course and were awarded with certificates. After the meeting both students and resource people were issued with questionnaires which were used to prepare the assessment report.

Feed-back on the Workshop was extremely positive with the skills learned being judged by participants as new, useful and relevant to their jobs. The Resource persons were impressed by the cohesion of the group, the team spirit manifested throughout the course and the enthusiasm, intelligence and energy of the participants who manifested a strong personal engagement to learning and hard-work.

Congress News Bulletins

The Communications Committee produced three eight-page issues of Congress News at the ICA Centennial Congress with the assistance of journalists from the Workshop for Young Journalists from the Co-operative Movement.

Future Projects

A submission for funding by the European Union DG 23 for a workshop for co-operative journalists from East and Central Europe was not accepted in the Spring 1996 intake, but the ICACC has been recommended to amend and re-submit the proposal in October. However, the interest manifested by ICA member organisations in the region at this stage does not warrant the input of human resources required.

However, there has been a strong indication that the organisation of such a workshop would be strongly welcomed by ICA member organisations in Africa and the Secretariat will investigate the possibilities.

ICACC efforts and support will continue throughout the future strategies of the ICA Communications Department in promoting the new co-operative principles, in promoting electronic networking among co-operators, in establishing a strong co-operative presence on the Internet and in the new television strategy as well as the more traditional methods of communication via publications, press releases, etc.

Future Meetings

After the Executive Meeting in Budapest on 28 October 1996, a Communication Seminar will be held with the following speakers:

- *Poul Dines, Chair of the ICA Communications Committee*
- *Andrew Booth, World Television*
- *Zahid Qureshi, ICMIF*
- *Byron Henderson, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives, University of Saskatchewan, Canada*



Yehudah Paz



Jan-Eirik Imbsen

Executive Committee

Chairperson: Yehudah Paz (Israel)

Vice-Chairpersons: Ungku A. Aziz (Malaysia); Gabriele Ullrich (ILO); Fakhry Shousha (Egypt); Taketoshi Nojiri (Japan)

Members: B.D. Sharma (India); Vitaliy Teplov (Russia); Saled Syafradji (Indonesia); Esther Gicheru (Kenya); Luis Arturo Muñoz (Colombia)

Secretary: Jan-Eirik Imbsen (ICA)

The mandate given to the committee in Manchester was first of all to establish a structure that could promote regional and global networking as well as to undertake HRD activities. Since our meeting in Manchester the members of the Executive have been in regular contact; the first meeting of the new committee was held in Manchester, the Asian members of the committee met in Bangalore in November, and a meeting of the full Executive was held in Kuala Lumpur in June. There have also been several meetings between individual members of the committee.

Each member of the committee has been kept informed through information sent out by the secretariat.

As 1996 is a year during which the Regional Assemblies will meet, we have wanted to see that the programme of each of these will include an HRD event; a meeting of the regional HRD framework and/or a seminar/workshop with participation of the regional and/or global committee.

A meeting of the emerging committee for East, Central and Southern Africa was organized in conjunction with the ICA Ministerial Conference in Mauritius. In conjunction with the African Regional Assembly in Dakar in August a joint ICA/DSE (Germany) regional bilingual seminar was organised on information, communication, education and training in co-operatives. Three members of the Executive (Chairman, Secretary, African representative) as well as a representative of the regional structure participated. A draft constitution for the regional network, which also mentions research and consultancy, was also discussed.

The ICA Committee on HRD for Asia and the Pacific organized its meeting in conjunction with the Asian Regional Assembly in Kuala Lumpur. This meeting was combined with a workshop on management and co-operative values co-organised by the global committee. A new constitution for the Committee was discussed and later approved by the Regional Assembly. The constitution also makes reference to research in its mandate as well as its name.

The ICA Regional Office for the Americas organized a regional meeting Lima in July to discuss ICA's proposed HRD strategy for the region. The Chairman of the Global HRD Committee made a presentation and served as a resource person.

Two more important events have been planned for this year. Firstly, another meeting of the Executive will be held in conjunction with the European Regional Assembly in Budapest in October. A discussion on the role, constitution and structure of the Committee with a view to bringing forward a formal proposal for discussion and decision at the time of the next General Assembly meeting will be the major issue on the agenda. Other points that need to be discussed are the links between the global and the regional committees and the ICA, and the question of uniformity of regional frameworks/constitutions.

The second remaining important event planned for this year is a global seminar on HRD in co-operatives in Israel in November/December. 25 participants from Africa, Asia, Latin America and East and Central Europe have been invited to attend the course which is a joint activity with the International Institute (Histadrut - Israel).

For 1997 we have so far proposed a seminar in Israel in conjunction with the '97 General Assembly. Discussions have also been held with the Communications Committee, the Research Committee and the Women's Committee on the possibility of organizing joint activities.

Being the only truly global co-operative organization in the world the ICA has a role to play in promoting HRD at the global level. The creation of a global HRD body is consequently consistent with its scope, and supplements whatever HRD activities it carries out at the regional level, including networking. Networking is of course more than just organising and attending meetings, and our hope is that the global structure will stimulate and lend itself to other forms of exchange and communication between institutions dealing with co-operative HRD.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE



Roger Spear



Alina Pawlowska

Executive Committee

Chairman: Roger Spear (UK)

Vice-Chairmen: Yohanan Stryjan (Sweden); Lou Hammond-Ketilson (Canada); Akira Kurimoto (Japan)

Secretary: Alina Pawlowska (ICA)

Membership

At the last ICA meeting in Manchester Roger Spear (Open University, UK) took over from Sven Åke Book as Chair of the ICA Research Committee. Although Sven Åke Book is still available for consultation and advice, the current committee comprises a global team of people providing support: Lou Hammond-Ketilson (Canada), Yohanan Stryjan (Sweden), and Akira Kurimoto (Japan), who was appointed in the summer. The committee operates largely through electronic (email) communication and through the support of local national sections for conference organisation. More formal support and communication is provided through the good offices of ICA Geneva, by Mary Treacy (Director Communications) and Alina Pawlowska (Research). Sven Åke Book did an excellent job for the Research Committee over many years, and was a popular and respected figure. He was ably assisted by Kai Blomqvist, amongst others. We would like to pay tribute to their hard work and dedication in developing a lively, stimulating and friendly research community.

Current Activities

The major activity each year is an International Research Conference. This tends to coincide with ICA global meetings, but recently the conference has taken place in Eastern or Western Europe. The last conference was held in Manchester in 1995 to coincide with the ICA's 100th anniversary. It was extremely successful with about 50 papers given on a wide range of themes, and with about 200 participants. This year's conferences are in Estonia (international), and Budapest (regional). A special issue of the Review of International Co-operation has been produced; it comprises abridged versions of some of the best papers from the Manchester conference last year. We are extending our membership base and improving our capability for communication and networking (see strategy section below).

International Co-operatives Research Conference: Co-operative Innovation and Change - 26-29 September 1996, Tartu, Estonia, organised with the assistance of The Academic Society for Co-operative Studies (Estonia). The organising Committee includes: Yohanan Stryjan, Stockholm School of Business, Prof. Walter Krinal, Academic Society, Lea Sudokova, MAI, and Roger Spear, Open University. This conference is concerned with innovation and change in the co-operative movement. The forces of change affecting co-operatives are both external: changing economic and political systems in the cooperatives' environment, and internal: the changing needs and values of the cooperatives' corpus of members, and of the organizations themselves. The parameters of change and the responses to the forces of change vary from country to country, from one co-operative movement to another, and from sector to sector. The international conference will be held in Tartu, Estonia. Tartu is a small, charming town, and Estonia's principal university centre, the site of national university of Estonia (founded in the XVII century by Gustav II Adolph of Sweden), the School of Economics, and the Agricultural University. Communications to and from Tallinn (capital and airport) will be taken care of by the organizers.

Regional (European) Co-operatives Research Conference: Labour Markets, Unemployment and Co-ops - 27-28 October, 1996, Budapest, organised with the assistance of The Co-operative Research Institute, Budapest, Hungary. The organising Committee includes: Prof. Isabel Vidal, University of Barcelona, Laczo Ferenc, Co-op Research Institute, Budapest, Roger Spear, Open University, Milton Keynes. This conference is to be run in conjunction with the ICA Regional Meeting in Budapest towards the end of October. The conference is concerned with the serious and deteriorating problem of unemployment in Western, Central and Eastern Europe, and in particular how an understanding of labour markets and innovative approaches to employment creation can ameliorate the situation.

Future Strategy

Our main aims are to strengthen and internationalise activities, and to make the work of researchers more visible, particularly to ordinary managers and co-operators. We will do this by improving the quality and scope of conferences and publications, improving our communications and our network organisation.

Conferences

We will continue to hold an annual conference but will try also to arrange or sponsor regional workshops on topical themes.

Communications

We want to increase the visibility of research to other researchers and to co-operators world-wide through electronic communication, an internet web page, regular publications (a book of best papers every year), and more publications in journals such as the Review of International Co-operation. With the support of Mary Treacy, Communications Director of ICA Geneva, we are exploring various ways we could work together, and communicate research findings more widely (this may include a newsletter). She is progressively developing internet usage - we now have a web page providing information about our meetings and publications and with links to other sites. This way of communicating will become increasingly important (but not exclusively so at present); nonetheless we are also improving our communication capability by initialising setting up a register of researchers' email and fax addresses, so please include these in future communications!

Publications

It is essential that we make our research findings more widely accessible. I have been trying to get a publisher for an annual series of a book based on a selection of best papers from our conference papers each year. This is delaying publication of a selection from last year's conference, but I hope to agree to something soon. In the meantime, with the support of Mary Treacy at the ICA Geneva, we have produced a special issue of the Review of International Co-operation. This contains abridged versions of 10 of the best papers from the Manchester Research Conference.

Networking and Collaboration

Over the next few years we will try to develop the membership base through national nodes or organising institutions (such as national societies of co-op studies or co-op research institutes). We also want to build up a lively network of individual researchers globally. This will enable us to be more aware of each other's work, the potential of collaboration or comparative studies; we can also more effectively disseminate our research findings to other researchers and co-operators. The network will be built up organically - i.e. gradually by identifying good quality research work. It is important to maintain high quality standards, if research work and its findings are to be credible and influential. We are aware that some national research groups are very active with annual conferences and regular meetings. We would like to build on this by helping publicise their meetings (if

desired), encouraging international links, and stimulating other national groups to become more active. Many of our more active members are involved with other research networks such as CIRIEC (Centre International de Recherche et d'Information sur l'Economie Publique, Sociale et Co-opérative) and Research Committee 10 of the International Sociological Association, and the International Association for the Economics of Participation. We are exploring ways we can collaborate and communicate more effectively between our members, and with activities. Discussions are most advanced with CIRIEC. The Research Committee Chair and other members of the committee have attended a number of conferences during the year and attempted to develop these networks. We envisage that, in future, research projects and working groups could be initiated or promoted by the Research Committee, possibly in collaboration with other groups or networks. We feel there is considerable potential here, and we are only at the beginning of a long road. One example of a collaboration is an International Register of Researchers which the UK Society of Co-operative Studies is putting together and which will be available on the Internet when completed, via the ICA/UWCC Co-operative Gopher and through websites. CIRIEC has regular research working groups studying various issues. It would seem highly desirable if we could collaborate on such projects or promote similar groups, and better still, if the topics could be related to ICA priorities and our findings fed into their debates in a more coordinated manner than currently.

Resources

Although we believe that the Research Committee has a vital role to play in informing discussions about key issues of governance, management and membership (for example), current resources do not match these high aspirations or level of activities indicated above. The Research Committee has a minimal budget and relies on the goodwill and voluntary labour of many people. Its researchers are often not members of the co-op movement but university employees or contract researchers who often work for the Research Committee in their spare time. The success of our work depends on the work of these researchers, the support of national and regional organisers for our conferences, the work of Geneva support staff, and last but not least our committee. In another sense our success also depends on developing our relationship with the co-operative movement, by making our research findings accessible and amenable to members, managers and boards alike. It is not always easy conducting research for both academic consumption and for that of the movement, but it is something to which we are committed, and will continue to strive for. In order to succeed we will need to strengthen our resource base. We will consider internal and external sponsorship of projects (internal - co-operative, external - research foundations, EC, etc), and membership charges, however in each case we will have to increase our level of activity in order to offer something in return. We also believe we have a good case for a larger budget from the ICA, given the level of activities already undertaken and underway. We are very positive about our future research and activities. We feel we have a good base for strengthening global research activities and their visibility. In an increasingly knowledge-based economy and society, good quality research will become absolutely essential to a dynamic co-operative movement. Work carried out this year has made good progress towards these aims.

ICA GLOBAL WOMEN'S COMMITTEE



Katarina Apelqvist



Susan King

Executive Committee

Chairwoman: Katarina Apelqvist (Sweden)

Vice-Chairwoman: Bernadette Wanyonyi (Kenya)

Secretary: Susan King (UK)

Members: Natsuko Yuasa (Japan); Irene Drazewska (Poland); Nargis Rashid (Pakistan); Galina Kisseleva (Russia); Chieftainess Chiyaba (Zambia)

Since its Plenary Meeting in Manchester in September 1995, the Women's Committee has been working within the framework of a new name and a new constitution, which has now been formally approved by the ICA Board.

Membership of the ICA Global Women's Committee is open to all Member Organisations and there is no longer any restriction on the number of women from any one organisation or country.

We currently have 54 members from 34 organisations in 29 countries representing each of the ICA regions.

The new Constitution states that the Committee shall promote the interests of women in every aspect of co-operative activity, including co-operative development.

This shall be done through, for example:

- *Encouraging worldwide and regional discussions on issues relating to the equality between women and men; initiating positive actions and specific measures to achieve that equality; and encouraging women to actively participate in the policy-making and management of all co-operatives;*
- *Initiating and, where possible, co-ordinating educational, training and research projects in co-operative organisations at national, regional and global levels, through appropriate means such as courses and seminars in collaboration with co-operative and other institutions;*
- *And facilitating the establishment of Regional Women's Committees, and supporting and promoting them.*

Polish Training Programme

The major success story of the year has, undoubtedly, been the pilot training programme "Equal Opportunities within Co-operatives; Confidence and Capacity Building of Women Co-operators in Eastern Europe". This project was set up with a grant from the European Union through the PHARE Democracy Programme. The Equal Opportunities Programme was initiated by the ICA Women's Committee and facilitated through collaboration with Co-op Network.

60 Polish Women Co-operators participated in the three-week courses held in Germany and England, and on their return have each trained a further 10-15 women in their own co-operatives. The project has proved to be very successful and, funding permitting, it is hoped to repeat the programme for other women from Eastern and Central Europe in the future.

The next phase of the project is to establish a women's network and a newsletter has subsequently been produced by Co-op Network. It is hoped that its production will continue under ICA Europe.

All too often the initiatives of the Global Women's Committee have been thwarted by the lack of financial support. A seminar on Women's Financial Security had to be postponed because we were unable to secure adequate funding. We hope to pursue this important theme in the future and are seeking to collaborate with the ICA Federation of Insurers and the ICA Banking Committee.

Meetings

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS - MALAYSIA

In June this year we were delighted to accept an invitation to hold the Executive Committee meeting in Malaysia and to participate in the Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific.

The main reason for attending the Regional Assembly was to lobby support for the proposal for a Regional Women's Committee for Asia and Pacific. A working party has been set up with the aim that a Regional Women's Committee will be formally approved by the next Regional Assembly in Bangladesh in 1998.

ANNUAL GLOBAL MEETING - COSTA RICA

In November we will hold our Annual Global Meeting in conjunction with the Regional Assembly for the Americas in Costa Rica. The participation of the Women's Committee in a Gender Forum preceding the main event is something we are very much looking forward to. This forum will be the culmination of a major campaign that is currently being carried out in Central America in which women are asking, 'How many are we? What do we want?'

We are also planning a Management Training Course at the International Institute for the Histadrut in Israel. It will be the first time that the Women's Committee has held a gender integrated course.

The Chairwoman of the Committee has been working closely with Raija Itkonen (member of the Committee and the ICA Board, and Focal Point for Gender Issues in Europe) and Bruce Thordarson (ICA Director General), in order to make positive proposals to the ICA Board which will help address the embarrassing and harmful gender imbalance that currently exists in the Board and Regional Assemblies. These proposals include defined targets and a timetable for their achievement. This small working group has also discussed the need for ICA Global and Regional gender policies.

In September 1995, Raija Itkonen, the only woman on the ICA Board, led the ICA delegation to the UN 4th World Conference on Women in Beijing. She was able to present a Statement to the Main Conference in which the International Co-operative Alliance pledged the commitment of the whole Co-operative Movement to the improvement of women's status.

At the Centennial Congress in Manchester a resolution was passed calling for the highest priority to be given to Gender Integration and for positive steps to be taken to ensure equal participation of both women and men at all levels.

It is the fervant hope of this Committee that at last our demands will be met and that these Resolutions will not, like those in the past, be followed by so little positive action.

We are reassured by the fact that some Co-operatives have already looked closely at the reasons why women are often precluded from the decision-making progress. In Centrosoyus in Russia and in JCCU in Japan positive action has been taken to ensure that the gender balance at Board level is improving.

To enable women to participate fully within the movement, however, there needs to be a change in attitude. It is still not fully recognised that the skills, values and experiences of both women and men are essential not only to the credibility, well-being and success of the movement as a democratic organisation (as defined in the Co-operative Statement of Identity), but to its very survival.

For many women, the Global Women's Committee is a safe forum in which they can practice the skills that they need in order to develop self-confidence to participate in a male dominated environment. Without such a facility, many women would not be able to progress within their own Society let alone within the wider Movement.

We would like to think that the ICA Global Women's Committee will be there for as long as it is needed!

INTERIM REPORT OF THE AUDIT & CONTROL COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1995



1996 being an intervening year between General Assemblies, the Committee is issuing an interim report for the year 1995. The complete report for the period 1995–1996 will be delivered at the General Assembly in 1997.

The Committee has remained the following composition: Dr. Markus Schelker of Coop Switzerland (Chairman), Dr. Pal Bartus of Co-op Hungary, Mr. Ivar O. Hansen of NBBL Norway, Mr. Wilhelm Kaltenborn of VdK Germany and Mr. Jacques Moreau of G.N.C. France. Mr. Claes Thorselius, the ICA Deputy Director-General, has been the Secretary to the Committee.

The Committee has held two meetings in the past year. The first one, in conjunction with the Manchester General Assembly, focused on a general review of the financial and organisational situation, the progress of the implementation of International Accounting Standards (IAS) and a look at the forthcoming budget and audit work. The second meeting, in May 1996, was devoted to the 1995 Financial Statements and the Report of the Auditors. Two weeks before the spring meeting, the Chairman had a review meeting with the auditors in Geneva.

Through these meetings, we have formed the opinion that:

- 1. The structure and organisation of work has functioned well and been most cost efficient.*
- 2. The routines and control mechanisms are appropriate and well functioning.*
- 3. An important step has been made in terms of implementing the IAS in all ICA offices. As seen from the accompanying Report of the Auditors and Financial Statements, this step has led to a good and clean opinion from the auditors.*
- 4. The good 1995 surplus, of CHF 225,019, was to a large extent a result of the overwhelming participation at the Centennial Celebrations in Manchester.*
- 5. Our proposal to the 1997 General Assembly will be that:*
 - The 1995 Accounts are approved as presented and*
 - The surplus is transferred to the General Reserves.*



REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

with

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended December 31, 1995

of

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1995

Contents	Page
Independent Auditor's Report	3
Consolidated Balance Sheet	4
Consolidated Statement of Revenue and Expenses	5
Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows	6
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements	7-13
Supplementary Information :	
Schedule I - Summary Comparison of Revenue and Expenses to Budget and Prior Year	14
Schedule II - Detailed Comparison of Revenue and Expenses to Budget	15-16
Schedule III - Detailed Comparison of Revenue and Expenses to Prior Year	17-18

Independent Auditor's report

To the Members of the

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements on pages 4 to 13 which include the consolidated balance sheet of the International Co-operative Alliance at December 31, 1995 and the related consolidated statement of revenue and expenses and the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the International Co-operative Alliance's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

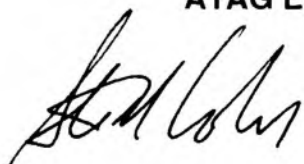
We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material mis-statement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the International Co-operative Alliance at December 31, 1995 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Accounting Standards.

Our examination has been made primarily for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying Schedules I, II and III are presented as additional information for analysis purposes. While they are not required under International Accounting Standards for a fair presentation of the financial statements on pages 4 to 13, they have been subjected to the tests and other auditing procedures applied in the examination of the financial statements mentioned above.

Geneva, April 29, 1996

ATAG Ernst & Young SA



S. Colville
Certified Public Accountant
(Auditor in charge)



M. Hawkins
Chartered Accountant

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 1995

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
		<u>CHF</u>	<u>CHF</u>
<u>Assets</u>			
<i>Current assets</i>			
Cash and interest bearing deposits	4	3,178,638	1,897,653
Accounts receivable	5	427,855	850,853
Other receivables and prepaid expenses	6	399,272	634,020
<i>Total current assets</i>		<u>4,005,765</u>	<u>3,382,526</u>
Fixed assets	7	79,074	24,196
Deposits and guarantees	8	34,345	36,302
		<u>4,119,184</u>	<u>3,443,024</u>
		=====	=====
<u>Liabilities, Funds and Reserves</u>			
<i>Liabilities</i>			
Membership organisation creditors		203,303	185,570
Other liabilities, accruals and provisions	9	1,151,319	1,191,122
Deferred development support		1,219,968	776,566
<i>Total liabilities</i>		<u>2,574,590</u>	<u>2,153,258</u>
<i>Funds and reserves</i>			
Regional special funds	11	85,511	55,702
General reserve	12	1,234,064	1,228,107
Current year surplus of activity		225,019	5,957
<i>Total funds and reserves</i>		<u>1,544,594</u>	<u>1,289,766</u>
		<u>4,119,184</u>	<u>3,443,024</u>
		=====	=====

(See notes to the consolidated financial statements)

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES

For the year ended December 31, 1995

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
	CHF	CHF
<u>Revenue</u>		
<i>Head office operational</i>		
Subscriptions	2,038,278	2,002,916
Interest income	70,374	60,890
Publications and services	92,409	88,137
Other net income	722,180	192,595
<i>Total head office operational</i>	<u>2,923,241</u>	<u>2,344,538</u>
<i>Direct development support</i>		
Head Office	745,920	724,421
Asia & the Pacific	1,960,535	2,186,789
East, Central & Southern Africa	870,865	727,717
West Africa	422,768	435,347
The Americas	1,313,050	1,215,731
<i>Total direct development support</i>	<u>5,313,138</u>	<u>5,290,005</u>
<i>Total revenue</i>	<u>8,236,379</u>	<u>7,634,543</u>
<u>Expenses</u>		
<i>Head Office operational</i>	1,868,677	1,743,582
<i>Development programme expenses</i>		
Head Office	1,340,465	1,119,420
Asia & the Pacific	2,010,535	2,236,789
East, Central & Southern Africa	945,865	777,717
West Africa	482,768	485,347
The Americas	1,363,050	1,265,731
<i>Total development programme expenses</i>	<u>6,142,683</u>	<u>5,885,004</u>
<i>Total expenses</i>	<u>8,011,360</u>	<u>7,628,586</u>
Surplus of activity for the year	225,019	5,957
	=====	=====

(See notes to the consolidated financial statements)

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended December 31, 1995

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
	CHF	CHF
Cash flows from operating activities		
Surplus of activity for the year	225,019	5,957
Adjustment for depreciation	42,090	22,286
Operating surplus before working capital changes	267,109	28,243
Decrease in accounts receivable, other receivables and prepaid expenses	657,746	32,162
Decrease in deposits and guarantees	1,957	4,926
Increase in membership organisation creditors	17,733	-
Decrease in other liabilities, accruals and provisions	(39,803)	(7,305)
Increase / (decrease) in deferred development support	443,402	(154,509)
<i>Net cash generated from operating activities</i>	1,348,144	(96,483)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of fixed assets	(66,109)	(15,478)
Donation of fixed assets	(47,894)	(10,390)
Disposal of fixed assets	17,035	-
Increase / (decrease) in special funds	29,809	(27,957)
<i>Net cash used in investing activities</i>	(67,159)	(53,825)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	1,280,985	(150,308)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	1,897,653	2,047,961
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	3,178,638 =====	1,897,653 =====

(See notes to the consolidated financial statements)

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 1995

Note 1 - Status and objectives

The International Co-operative Alliance ("the Alliance"), is an independent, non-governmental association which unites, represents and serves co-operatives worldwide. The status of the Alliance is that of an association organised as a corporate body regulated by Articles 60-79 of the Swiss Civil Code. The Alliance has the following objectives :

- (a) to promote the world co-operative movement, based upon mutual self-help and democracy;
- (b) to promote and protect co-operative values and principles;
- (c) to facilitate the development of economic and other mutually beneficial relations between its member organisations;
- (d) to further the economic and social progress of people, thereby contributing to international peace and security.

Note 2 - Summary of accounting policies

a. Accounting convention

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in Swiss Francs, in accordance with International Accounting Standards.

Certain prior year comparative information has been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation.

b. Consolidation policy

These consolidated financial statements include the assets, liabilities and transactions of the Geneva Head Office of the Alliance and its regional offices for Asia & the Pacific; East, Central & Southern Africa; West Africa; and The Americas.

The four regional offices are included in these consolidated financial statements even though they are not carried as investments in the individual financial statements of the Head Office. The similar assets, liabilities, reserves, revenue and expenses are combined on a line by line basis, and inter-office balances eliminated.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 1995

c. Fund accounting

To ensure observance of limitations and restrictions placed on the use of resources available to the Alliance, the accounts of the Alliance are maintained in accordance with the principles of fund accounting. This is the procedure by which resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into funds established according to their nature and purposes.

The regional special funds are funded by voluntary contributions or special allocations. Each fund has been created to support specific areas and aspects of the Alliance's development policy.

The general reserve represents an amount set aside as a general reserve fund for the Alliance (see note 12).

d. Foreign currency translation

The accounting records of the Head Office are maintained in Swiss Francs (CHF). All transactions in other currencies are translated into Swiss Francs at the rate prevailing at the time of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities in other currencies remaining at the balance sheet date are retranslated at the appropriate year end rate. Any differences arising on the retranslation are recognised as revenue or expenses as appropriate.

For the purposes of the Alliance's consolidation, the balance sheets of the regional offices are translated into Swiss Francs at the year end rates of exchange. Revenue and expense transactions are translated at the average rate for the year. Any resulting foreign exchange differences are classified as equity in accordance with IAS 21.

e. Revenue recognition

In common with many non-profit making organisations, the Alliance follows the cash receipts method of recognising members subscriptions and supplementary revenue. Other revenues including contracted support, bank revenues and revenues from publications and services are recorded on an accrual basis. All expenses are accounted for on an accrual basis.

f. Deferred development support

Receipts of funds donated for specific purposes are not reported as revenue until the resources are expensed for the purpose specified. Until then, they are reported as deferred development support.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 1995

g. Fixed assets

Fixed assets acquired by the Head Office and regional offices are capitalised at cost and depreciated according to the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of the asset as follows :

Furniture, fittings and equipment	4 years
Computer equipment	3 years
Vehicles	3 years

All donated assets which, prior to 1995, were being written-off fully during the year of acquisition are now being written-off over their estimated useful lives.

h. Contributed facilities and services

The Regional Office for West Africa and regional offices occupy premises located in Abidjan for which the annual rent is contributed by the Government of the Côte d'Ivoire. The value of this contribution is reported as support revenue and the corresponding expenses charged in the period in which the premises are used.

Facilities and services that are provided by members or third parties which cannot be accurately valued are not recorded as revenue or as expenses.

i. Pension plans

Certain officers and employees of the Alliance are covered by several separate contributory pension plans or their equivalent in the regional offices. The Alliance believes that adequate contributions have been provided to cover the different local social security requirements and national laws.

j. Income tax

In Switzerland, the Alliance has the status of an association organised as a corporate body regulated by the Swiss Civil Code in Articles 60-79 and, as such, is not subject to Swiss income tax.

Under the terms of an agreement between the Alliance and the Government of the Republic of Tanzania, the East, Central & Southern Africa regional office is exempt from tax. Due to its non-profit making activities in India, Costa Rica, and the Côte d'Ivoire, the Alliance considers it is not subject to local taxation in those countries.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 1995

Note 3 - Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the consolidated statement of cash flows consist of cash in hand, bank current accounts and interest bearing term deposits.

Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year include CHF 88,061 (1994 : CHF 83,495) relating to deposits with banks held by a regional office which are not freely remissible to the Head Office because of currency exchange restrictions.

Note 4 - Cash and interest bearing deposits

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
	CHF	CHF
Current accounts	1,717,587	536,729
Interest bearing deposits	1,100,000	1,100,000
Other deposits	361,051	260,924
	<u>3,178,638</u>	<u>1,897,653</u>
	=====	=====

The deposit of CHF 1,100,000 has a term of three years ending in October 1996. The interest rate is fixed at 4 1/4 %.

Note 5 - Accounts receivable

Accounts receivable represent funds receivable through project fund accounts with project donors.

Note 6 - Other receivables and prepaid expenses

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
	CHF	CHF
Staff advances	201,007	511,407
Sundry receivables	95,084	72,411
Prepaid expenses	103,181	50,202
	<u>399,272</u>	<u>634,020</u>
	=====	=====

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 1995

Note 7- Fixed assets

	Motor vehicles	Office equipment	Total
	CHF	CHF	CHF
Cost			
Balance at January 1, 1995	92,850	679,300	772,150
Additions	-	66,109	66,109
Donated assets	-	47,894	47,894
Disposals	-	(111,895)	(111,895)
	<u>92,850</u>	<u>681,408</u>	<u>774,258</u>
Balance at December 31, 1995	=====	=====	=====
Depreciation			
Balance at January 1, 1995	84,523	663,431	747,954
Charge for the year	6,679	35,411	42,090
Disposals	-	(94,860)	(94,860)
	<u>91,202</u>	<u>603,982</u>	<u>695,184</u>
Balance at December 31, 1995	=====	=====	=====
Net book value			
At December 31, 1995	<u>1,648</u>	<u>77,426</u>	<u>79,074</u>
	=====	=====	=====
At December 31, 1994	<u>8,327</u>	<u>15,869</u>	<u>24,196</u>
	=====	=====	=====

In prior years, only the net book value of fixed assets held by the Head Office of the Alliance was recorded. The net book value of fixed assets held by the regional offices was netted against other liabilities. In 1995, to comply with International Accounting Standards, the net book value of all fixed assets held by the Alliance has been recorded. The effect of this restatement is to increase fixed assets by CHF 10,390 and to increase other liabilities by a similar amount.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 1995

Note 8 - Deposits and guarantees

This balance of deposits and guarantees represents rental deposits made on behalf of employees for accommodation.

Note 9 - Other liabilities, accruals and provisions

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
	CHF	CHF
Other creditors and accruals	576,171	412,247
Provision for pensions	446,506	480,655
Other provisions	128,642	298,220
	<u>1,151,319</u>	<u>1,191,122</u>
	=====	=====

Note 10 - Commitments

At December 31, 1995, the Alliance is committed with respect to a rental agreement for its Geneva Head Office until November 30, 1996, renewable thereafter, at an annual rent of approximately CHF 132,300.

Note 11 - Regional special funds

The Regional special funds were created specifically for initiating and implementing new activities which are deemed to be priorities in the region and for which external resources are not available. The priorities are agreed upon within the annual planning process for each region.

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
	CHF	CHF
Asia & the Pacific	55,702	55,702
East, Central & Southern Africa	26,730	-
The Americas	3,079	-
	<u>85,511</u>	<u>55,702</u>
	=====	=====

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 1995

Note 12 - General reserve

The general reserve has been built up as part of the Alliance's general policy.

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
	CHF	CHF
Balance brought forward from prior year	1,228,107	1,412,188
1993 deficit drawn from general reserve	-	(184,081)
1994 surplus transferred to general reserve	<u>5,957</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance at the end of the year	<u>1,234,064</u> =====	<u>1,228,107</u> =====

The utilisation of the surplus of CHF 225,019 for the year ended December 31, 1995 is due for consideration by the General Assembly in 1997.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

SUMMARY COMPARISON OF REVENUE AND EXPENSE TO BUDGET AND PRIOR YEAR

For the year ended December 31, 1995

(Expressed in CHF)

	Actual 1995	Budget 1995	Actual 1994
	CHF	CHF	CHF
<u>REVENUE</u>			
<i>Head Office operational</i>			
Subscriptions	2,038,278	2,100,000	2,002,916
Interest	70,374	70,000	60,890
Publications and services	92,409	55,000	88,137
Other - net	722,180	568,000	192,595
<i>Total Head Office operational</i>	<u>2,923,241</u>	<u>2,793,000</u>	<u>2,344,538</u>
<i>Direct development support</i>			
Head Office	745,920	777,000	724,421
Asia & the Pacific	1,960,535	2,322,000	2,186,789
East, Central & Southern Africa	870,865	1,103,000	727,717
West Africa	422,768	663,000	435,347
The Americas	1,313,050	1,032,000	1,215,731
<i>Total direct development support</i>	<u>5,313,138</u>	<u>5,897,000</u>	<u>5,290,005</u>
<i>Total revenue</i>	<u>8,236,379</u>	<u>8,690,000</u>	<u>7,634,543</u>
<u>EXPENSE</u>			
<i>Head Office operational</i>	1,868,677	1,803,500	1,743,582
<i>Development programme expenses</i>			
Head Office	1,340,465	1,397,500	1,119,420
Asia & the Pacific	2,010,535	2,396,000	2,236,789
East, Central & Southern Africa	945,865	1,178,000	777,717
West Africa	482,768	718,000	485,347
The Americas	1,363,050	1,087,000	1,265,731
<i>Total development programme expenses</i>	<u>6,142,683</u>	<u>6,776,500</u>	<u>5,885,004</u>
<i>Total expenses</i>	<u>8,011,360</u>	<u>8,580,000</u>	<u>7,628,586</u>
Surplus of activity for the year	<u>225,019</u>	<u>110,000</u>	<u>5,957</u>
	=====	=====	=====

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

DETAILED COMPARISON OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES TO BUDGET

For the year ended December 31, 1995

(Expressed in CHF)

	<u>Head Office</u>		<u>Asia & the Pacific</u>		<u>East, Central & Southern Africa</u>	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Expenses						
Personnel	1,651,325	1,652,000	639,393	867,000	468,830	516,000
Travel	187,481	218,000	842,083	885,000	198,189	282,000
Premises	162,032	159,000	27,806	35,000	38,478	31,000
Office	505,265	495,600	109,780	146,000	65,591	87,000
Outside services	177,964	165,400	123,154	146,000	15,205	33,000
Development support	427,589	397,500	31,716	61,000	9,942	77,000
Meetings	66,401	84,500	230,269	224,000	82,763	127,000
Financial and others	31,085	29,000	6,334	32,000	40,138	25,000
Reserve allocation	-	-	-	-	26,729	-
Total expenses	3,209,142	3,201,000	2,010,535	2,396,000	945,865	1,178,000
Direct development support						
CCA - Canada	-	-	70,146	150,000	70,152	115,000
CUAC/MAFF - Japan	-	-	957,279	950,000	-	-
DID - Canada	-	-	80,510	130,000	-	-
FINNIDA - Finland	156,716	150,000	-	-	-	-
JCCU - Japan	-	-	287,905	275,000	-	-
NORCOOP - Norway	-	-	-	-	-	-
RABOBANK - Netherlands	-	-	-	-	129,699	135,000
SCC - Sweden	432,004	445,000	458,680	485,000	424,421	535,000
SOCODEVI - Canada	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other non-government org.	41,709	26,000	74,113	200,000	80,002	110,000
Other government org.	-	-	-	40,000	-	-
Other international org.	50,064	91,000	31,902	92,000	69,374	117,000
Member organisations	65,427	65,000	-	-	97,217	91,000
Total direct development support	745,920	777,000	1,960,535	2,322,000	870,865	1,103,000
Net expenses to be covered	2,463,222	2,424,000	50,000	74,000	75,000	75,000
Revenues						
Subscriptions	2,038,278	2,100,000				
Interest	70,374	70,000				
Publications and services	92,409	55,000				
Other - net	722,180	568,000				
Surplus of activity - HEAD OFFICE	460,019	369,000				

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

DETAILED COMPARISON OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES TO BUDGET

For the year ended December 31, 1995

(Expressed in CHF)

	<u>West Africa</u>		<u>The Americas</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Expenses						
Personnel	221,902	244,000	329,101	301,000	3,310,551	3,580,000
Travel	37,621	95,000	159,070	183,000	1,424,444	1,663,000
Premises	42,243	93,000	21,004	26,000	291,563	344,000
Office	25,889	63,000	237,099	165,000	943,624	956,600
Outside services	50,879	45,000	445,671	157,000	812,873	546,400
Development support	103,044	160,000	125,830	245,000	698,121	940,500
Meetings	-	8,000	1,174	-	380,607	443,500
Financial and others	1,190	10,000	40,889	10,000	119,636	106,000
Reserve allocation	-	-	3,212	-	29,941	-
Total expenses	482,768	718,000	1,363,050	1,087,000	8,011,360	8,580,000
Direct development support						
CCA - Canada	-	-	50,195	60,000	190,493	325,000
CUAC/MAFF - Japan	-	-	-	-	957,279	950,000
DID - Canada	-	-	430,655	150,000	511,165	280,000
FINNIDA - Finland	-	-	-	-	156,716	150,000
JCCU - Japan	-	-	-	-	287,905	275,000
NORCOOP - Norway	272,290	290,000	-	-	272,290	290,000
RABOBANK - Netherlands	-	-	-	-	129,699	135,000
SCC - Sweden	-	-	204,000	115,000	1,519,105	1,580,000
SOCODEVI - Canada	28,852	60,000	-	-	28,852	60,000
Other non-governmental org.	12,768	75,000	354,962	435,000	563,554	846,000
Other government org.	-	-	16,901	-	16,901	40,000
Other international org.	16,480	113,000	216,677	185,000	384,497	598,000
Member organisations	92,378	125,000	39,660	87,000	294,682	368,000
Total direct development support	422,768	663,000	1,313,050	1,032,000	5,313,138	5,897,000
Net expenses to be covered	60,000	55,000	50,000	55,000	2,698,222	2,683,000
Revenues						
Subscriptions					2,038,278	2,100,000
Interest					70,374	70,000
Publications and services					92,409	55,000
Other - net					722,180	568,000
Surplus of activity - TOTAL ICA					225,019	110,000

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE**DETAILED COMPARISON OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES TO PRIOR YEAR**

For the year ended December 31, 1995

(Expressed in CHF)

	<u>Head Office</u>		<u>Asia & the Pacific</u>		<u>East, Central & Southern Africa</u>	
	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
Expenses						
Personnel	1,651,325	1,635,824	639,393	706,457	468,830	473,377
Travel	187,481	174,150	842,083	1,015,628	198,189	158,271
Premises	162,032	175,736	27,806	28,929	38,478	33,285
Office	505,265	306,385	109,780	108,112	65,591	58,719
Outside services	177,964	188,280	123,154	128,960	15,205	22,443
Development support	427,589	244,598	31,716	26,000	9,942	-
Meetings	66,401	28,406	230,269	214,932	82,763	13,177
Financial and others	31,085	109,623	6,334	7,771	40,138	18,445
Reserve allocation	-	-	-	-	26,729	-
Total expenses	3,209,142	2,863,002	2,010,535	2,236,789	945,865	777,717
Direct development support						
CCA - Canada	-	-	70,146	150,064	70,152	-
CUAC/MAFF - Japan	-	-	957,279	962,527	-	-
DID - Canada	-	-	80,510	110,956	-	-
FINNIDA - Finland	156,716	-	-	-	-	-
JCCU - Japan	-	-	287,905	287,053	-	-
NORCOOP - Norway	-	-	-	-	-	-
RABOBANK - Netherlands	-	-	-	-	129,699	111,354
SCC - Sweden	432,004	434,946	458,680	404,094	424,421	455,890
SOCODEVI - Canada	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other non-government org.	41,709	147,083	74,113	176,189	80,002	47,781
Other government org.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other international org.	50,064	83,592	31,902	95,906	69,374	63,867
Member organisations	65,427	58,800	-	-	97,217	48,825
Total direct development support	745,920	724,421	1,960,535	2,186,789	870,865	727,717
Net expenses to be covered	2,463,222	2,138,581	50,000	50,000	75,000	50,000
Revenues						
Subscriptions	2,038,278	2,002,916				
Interest	70,374	60,890				
Publications and services	92,409	88,137				
Other - net	722,180	192,595				
Surplus of activity - HEAD OFFICE	460,019	205,957				

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

DETAILED COMPARISON OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES TO PRIOR YEAR

For the year ended December 31, 1995

(Expressed in CHF)

	<u>West Africa</u>		<u>The Americas</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
<u>Expenses</u>						
Personnel	221,902	229,072	329,101	71,746	3,310,551	3,116,476
Travel	37,621	99,012	159,070	231,195	1,424,444	1,678,256
Premises	42,243	42,857	21,004	22,188	291,563	302,995
Office	25,889	28,519	237,099	183,957	943,624	685,692
Outside services	50,879	32,261	445,671	436,895	812,873	808,839
Development support	103,044	40,881	125,830	131,546	698,121	443,025
Meetings	-	11,541	1,174	150,996	380,607	419,052
Financial and others	1,190	1,204	40,889	37,208	119,636	174,251
Reserve allocation	-	-	3,212	-	29,941	-
Total expenses	<u>482,768</u>	<u>485,347</u>	<u>1,363,050</u>	<u>1,265,731</u>	<u>8,011,360</u>	<u>7,628,586</u>
<u>Direct development support</u>						
CCA - Canada	-	-	50,195	84,447	190,493	234,511
CUAC/MAFF - Japan	-	-	-	-	957,279	962,527
DID - Canada	-	-	430,655	245,137	511,165	356,093
FINNIDA - Finland	-	-	-	-	156,716	-
JCCU - Japan	-	-	-	-	287,905	287,053
NORCOOP - Norway	272,290	252,730	-	-	272,290	252,730
RABOBANK - Netherlands	-	-	-	-	129,699	111,354
SCC - Sweden	-	-	204,000	114,454	1,519,105	1,409,384
SOCODEVI - Canada	28,852	48,707	-	-	28,852	48,707
Other non-government org.	12,768	26,740	354,962	561,581	563,554	959,374
Other government org.	-	-	16,901	23,118	16,901	23,118
Other international org.	16,480	33,903	216,677	155,581	384,497	432,849
Member organisations	92,378	73,267	39,660	31,413	294,682	212,305
Total direct development support	<u>422,768</u>	<u>435,347</u>	<u>1,313,050</u>	<u>1,215,731</u>	<u>5,313,138</u>	<u>5,290,005</u>
Net expenses to be covered	<u>60,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>2,698,222</u>	<u>2,338,581</u>
<u>Revenues</u>						
Subscriptions					2,038,278	2,002,916
Interest					70,374	60,890
Publications and services					92,409	88,137
Other - net					722,180	192,595
Surplus of activity -						
TOTAL ICA					<u>225,019</u>	<u>5,957</u>