

ICA Council for South-East Asia

TWENTY SECOND MEETING

Venue COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

Dates NOVEMBER 15-16, 1980

334:061.25
ICA-I.



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110065, India*

TWENTYSECOND MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA

COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

NOVEMBER 15-16, 1980

A G E N D A

<u>Agenda</u> <u>Item No.</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
1. WELCOME	1
2. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR	1
3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN	1
4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 21ST MEETING & EMERGENCY MEETING	1
5. REPORT ON THE "RECENT CHANGES, TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS OF THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA" BY THE COUNCILLORS	1
6. ADMINISTRATION	2
7. EDUCATION CENTRE	4
8. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRADE SECTION	19
9. PUBLICATIONS; PUBLIC RELATIONS AND LIBRARY SECTION	24
10. IDACA ACTIVITIES	34
11. DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL - AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, CONSUMER, TRADE	40
12. RELATIONS WITH MEMBER ORGANISATIONS IN THE REGION	40
13. RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS	42
14. VENUE AND DATES OF THE NEXT MEETING	42
15. ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR	43
16. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR	43
<u>A N N E X E</u>	
A. NOTE TO AGENDA ITEM NO. 15	44
1. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF REGIONAL SEMINAR ON NATIONAL COOPERATIVE ORGANISATIONS	
2. COPAC COOPERATIVE INTERLENDING PROGRAMME	
3. FAO'S PROGRAMME ON "PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PROMOTION OF SELF - HELP ORGANISATIONS"	
4. MINUTES OF THE 21ST MEETING AND EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT PETAIING JAYA	

.....

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 : WELCOME

1. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, Council Member for Sri Lanka, and President of National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka will welcome the members of the Council on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 : INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY THE ICA REGIONAL DIRECTOR

2. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia, will welcome the members of the Council.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 : ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

3. The Members of the Council are requested to elect a new Chairman from among the members from the host country, viz. Sri Lanka. The New Chairman's term of office will be till the next Council Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 21ST MEETING AND EMERGENCY MEETING

4. The minutes of the last meeting and the emergency meeting held at Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, have been circulated to all the members. No comments have been received. Both the minutes may be confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 : REPORT ON THE "RECENT CHANGES, TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS OF THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA" BY THE COUNCILLORS

5. Each Councillor will be requested to briefly report on the recent changes, trends and developments of the cooperative movement in his country as a supplement to the details contained in the book entitled "Recent Changes, Trends and Developments of the Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia". (It would be highly appreciated if Councillors could circulate a written document).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 : ADMINISTRATIONContributions to the funds of the ROEC

6.1 The ROEC is glad to report that the following member organisations have contributed the amounts mentioned against their names to the funds of the ROEC for the financial year 1979-80 :

(statement upto July 1980)

Name of the member-organisation	Contributions paid Indian Rs.
1. National Cooperative Union of India	Rs. 25,000.00
2. Japanese Joint Committee on Cooperatives	29,048.75
3. National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, Korea.	9,120.00
4. Singapore National Cooperative Union	3,250.00
5. Cooperative League of Thailand	8,000.00
6. Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union	6,500.00
Total Rs. 80,918.75	

The total received for the year was Rs. 80,918.75 and this generous support of the members has helped ROEC immensely in the performance of its activities in the Region.

Contributions to the ICA ROEC in respect of work done for the Sub-Committee on Agriculture

6.2 For the year 1979-80, contributions of £50/- each have been received from Australia, India, Japan, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Singapore (£5/- only), Sri Lanka and Thailand. The total received for the year was £405/-. Reminders have been sent to the member organisations in Indonesia, Iran, Pakistan and the Philippines.

Concessions by the Government of India

6.3 The foreign experts attached to the ROEC continue to enjoy income-tax and import-duty concessions from the Government of India. We express our sincere thanks and appreciation to our host government.

Staff Changes

6.4 The following officers of the ROEC have been promoted from Officer Grade II to Grade I with effect from January 1980 :

Mrs. Margaret D'Cruz, Education Officer (Women & Youth), Mr. I.S. Gupta, Office Manager, and Mr. A.H. Ganesan, Publications Officer. Mr. Balam Singh, Receptionist has been promoted to the next grade and has now been designated as Receptionist-cum-Technical Assistant (Cemas).

6.5 Dr. G. Ojha who has been working as Cooperative Education Officer in the Cemas Unit has now been appointed as the New Delhi Research Officer for the Small Farmer Research Study with effect from 1st April 1980.

6.6 Mr. Daman Prakash, Education Officer (AVA) attached with the Teachers Training Project, Sri Lanka, has been given further extension upto 30th June, 1981 to work with the Project.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 : EDUCATION CENTRE

Section I : Action taken on the Minutes of the last meeting

7.1 Action has been initiated to carry out the programme of activities approved by the Council for the year July 1980-June 1981.

Section II : Review of Education Activities: September 1979 to July 1980

REGIONAL SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

7.2 The Orientation Seminar on Consumer Cooperation

The above seminar was held by the ICA ROEC/SCC from September 4-9, 1979 in Bangkok, Thailand. Nineteen participants from the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia attended the seminar. An opportunity was given to the participants at this Seminar to study the consumer cooperatives in Thailand and identify its problems. Later these participants took part in a Seminar on Consumer Cooperation held by the Swedish Cooperative Centre in Sweden from 10th September to 26th October 1979.

7.3 6th Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management

The Conference was held by the ICA ROEC in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, from 25th to 30th November 1979 in collaboration with the Malaysian Cooperative Member Organisations of the ICA. The Conference was attended by 277 participants as follows:

Bangladesh	:	1	Nepal	:	1
India	:	9	Philippines	:	3
Indonesia	:	6	Singapore	:	26
Malaysia	:	226	Sri Lanka	:	3
			Thailand	:	2

The Conference was opened by Mr. Edmund Langgu, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Government of Malaysia.

The Conference discussed the three subjects : (i) Cooperative Development in the Eighties in the Region, (ii) Strategy for Mobilisation and Investment of Funds through Cooperatives in the Eighties, and (iii) Role of Thrift and Credit Societies vis-a-vis better living and community development in the eighties.

7.4 Regional Workshop on Case Writing and Allied Teaching Techniques for Cooperative Teachers in South-East Asia

The Workshop was held by the ICA ROEC at Pune, India from 15th January to 29th March 1980 in collaboration with the Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management, Pune, India. The Workshop, third in series, was attended by 20 participants from national and provincial cooperative training colleges from Afghanistan, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The Workshop was inaugurated by Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, President, National Cooperative Union of India. The main objectives of the Workshop were (i) to discuss the present situation of the cooperative colleges in South-East Asia with particular reference to the teaching techniques used by them, (ii) to give participants command of effective training techniques, (iii) to enable them to construct or improve training programmes, and (iv) to enable them to develop and produce their own training materials. During the Workshop period, the participants visited cooperative institutions in Maharashtra and Gujarat States. The programme also included the preparation and use of training packages based on visual aids and management cases.

7.5 Fellowship to Cooperative Teachers for Production of Educational Material

The Fellowship programme was held by the ICA ROEC at Pune, India in collaboration with the VMNIRM from 15th January to 30th April 1980. Four Fellows from India, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand participated in the Fellowship Programme. The original objective was that the selected Fellowship holders will produce training material for a basic course in cooperative management. However, when the selected participants reported for the programme, discussions with them revealed that they would benefit more by taking part in the Regional Workshop on Case Writing and Allied Teaching Techniques, which was being concurrently held at Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management, Pune (15th January to 29th March 1980). Hence the Fellowship holders were asked to participate in the Workshop. They were later given training in Research Methodology and they carried out a research study in the operations of the Dairy Project of the Pune District Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation.

7.6 Regional Seminar on How to Improve the Effectiveness of National Cooperative Organisations

The Regional Seminar was organised from 3rd to 13th February 1980 jointly by the ICA ROEC and the National Cooperative Union of India at New Delhi. The seminar was inaugurated by Dr. S.K. Saxena, Director, ICA. The seminar was attended by 23 participants representing the national cooperative unions and the government departments of cooperative development in Bangladesh, India, Iran, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. Five cooperators from apex organisations in Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone (West Africa) also attended the seminar. The Swedish Cooperative Centre provided scholarships to the cooperators from West Africa to cover their international travel costs.

All the local costs including board and lodging were met by the National Cooperative Union of India.

The following issues were discussed at the Seminar:

- i. What role and functions should devolve on the National Cooperative Organisation (NCO) in the context of the development economies in South and South-East Asia? What factors, if any, stand in the way of the performance of the role and functions expected?
- ii. Is the N.C.O. representative of the cooperators and the cooperatives? What structural or other changes and self disciplines are necessary to make the N.C.O. representative and strong?
- iii. What effective means can be used to increase the financial resources available to the N.C.O.

7.7 SCC/NRS/CZSP/ICA International Seminar on Industrial Cooperatives for South-East Asia - Phase I

The ICA assisted in the conduct of the Phase I of the above seminar in Bangalore, India, from 5th to 11th May, 1980 in collaboration with the National Cooperative Union of India and its affiliates in Karnataka State. The one-week programme in India was to prepare the participants for the second phase of the seminar which was held partly in Poland and partly in Sweden from 12th May to 10th June 1980. During the first phase the participants identified the strengths and weaknesses of industrial cooperatives

in their respective countries with a view to focussing attention to the areas of need during their studies in Poland and Sweden.

The sponsoring organisations in Sweden and Poland were as follows:

(1) Swedish Cooperative Centre, (2) Supreme Cooperative Council, and (3) Central Union of Work Cooperatives.

7.8 ICA Regional Working Party Meeting on Cooperative Press and Publicity

The Meeting was held by the ICA ROEC from 27th to 30th May 1980 in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia. Sixteen participants from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand attended the meeting.

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

7.9 Course for Afghan Trainers

At the request of the FAO/PACCA Project in Afghanistan, the ICA ROEC conducted a Course in Training Methodology and Techniques at the Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management, Pune, India from 5th October to 11th November 1979. Eleven cooperative educators participated in the Course.

7.10 Course for Women Leaders in Cooperatives in the Philippines

The above course was held in Baguio City, Philippines from 22nd to 30th October 1979. 32 participants and resource persons met to discuss the problems of consumers, credit and rural cooperatives and the way in which women's participation in these cooperatives can be increased. The course was jointly held by the Philippines National Federation of Women for Cooperatives and the ICA ROEC. Other organisations which supported the course included the Government Bureau of Cooperative Development, Cooperatives Consultative & Coordinating Committee, the Advisory Board of the Cooperative Education and Training Fund and the Philippines Cooperative Wholesale Society.

7.11 National Workshop on Cooperative Press & Publicity, India

The workshop was held at New Delhi by the National Cooperative Union of India in collaboration with the ICA ROEC from 24th to 27th October 1979. 35 Editors of cooperative journals and Publicity Officers from cooperative organisations and Government Department attended the workshop.

7.12 National Workshop on Case Writing, India

The Case Writing Workshop was held at Pune, India by the Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management and the ICA ROEC from 26th November to 14th December 1979. Eleven participants attended the workshop.

7.13 National Seminar on Member Education, Thrift & Credit Activities and Consumers Cooperation, Singapore

The above seminar was jointly held in Singapore from 5th to 9th December 1979 by the Singapore National Cooperative Union and the ICA ROEC. The seminar was attended by 75 participants from 16 cooperative societies. The seminar was inaugurated by Mr. Chan Chee Seng, Senior Parliamentary Secretary (Social Affairs), Government of Singapore.

7.14 National Seminars on Management to of Agricultural Cooperatives

7.16

Three Seminars on Management of Agricultural Cooperatives were held in Bangkok, Manila and Kuala Lumpur from January to May 1980, jointly by the ICA ROEC and the host movements in Thailand, the Philippines and Malaysia. The seminars discussed the problems in management of agricultural cooperatives. The seminars were held on the following dates :

Bangkok, Thailand	:	7-17 January 1980 (24 participants)
Manila, Philippines	:	22-28 January 1980 (22 participants)
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	:	12-22 May, 1980 (29 participants)

7.17 Workshop on Cooperative Retail Management, Thailand

The above workshop was held from 15th to 29th April 1980 in Bangkok, Thailand. 29 participants attended the workshop. The workshop was conducted to enable the Managers of Consumer Cooperatives to improve economic results of their shops.

7.18 Workshop on Education Methods and Audio-Visual Techniques, Nepal

The workshop on Education Methods and Audio-Visual Techniques was held in Kathmandu, Nepal from 19th May to June 3, 1980. Ten teachers and instructors from Cooperative Training Centre and Department of Cooperatives attended the workshop.

7.19 Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS)

The clearing house function of CEMAS was continued and several requests for information about education material and specimen copies were attended to.

The Manual on Role Plays for Cooperative Teachers was finalised and is under print.

7.20 Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers in Sri Lanka

The administrative set-up of the Project was changed on the basis of the experience gained in the first year of the Project. The post of the Project Director had fallen vacant after the first year. It was decided to appoint a Sri Lankan to the post of Project Director as such an arrangement would facilitate better administration of the Project in view of the fact he was familiar with the administrative practices and procedures obtaining in the country and specially in the NCC and the Department of Cooperative Development. The Swedish Expert, Mr. Stig Ivarsson who replaced Mr. Bo Lund, functions as a Chief Technical Advisor.

The Project carried out training activities to train the teachers of five selected District Cooperative Education Centres in techniques of teaching. Two courses, one in Library Development and another in Management of Agricultural Cooperatives were also held for teachers of District Cooperative Education Centres. In addition, arrangements have been worked out to give knowledge of field situation to cooperative teachers.

The task group, appointed by the Project Advisory Committee to suggest a revised cooperative training system, prepared its report. A National Symposium on the Revision of Cooperative Staff Training System in Sri Lanka was held by the Project with the assistance of the NCC and the ICA ROEC to consider the report of the task group and make recommendations on the subject. The Symposium was attended by 41 participants drawn from various institutions and agencies concerned with cooperative training in the country.

The Project Advisory Committee has constituted another task group to suggest revised syllabi for the courses as per the suggested training system by the Task Group and the National Symposium.

7.21 Project for Women's Consumer Education and Information through Cooperatives in Sri Lanka

The ICA, ROEC continued to provide advisory services to the Project.

It has been agreed that the ICA ROEC will have the same responsibilities towards the Women's Project as those vis-a-vis Teachers' Training Project in Sri Lanka.

7.22 Field Project in Cooperative Member Participation in Indonesia

Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education) had assisted in 1979 the Dewan Koperasi Indonesia in formulating a Project Document for the above Project. The ICA ROEC wrote to Dewan Koperasi in November 1979 suggesting to them to send a formal request to the ICA ROEC for assistance along with the finalised Project Document. In the absence of response from Dewan Koperasi, we are exploring the possibility of locating the Project in another country.

7.23 Consultative and Allied Services

- (i) The Officers of the ICA ROEC gave talks at various seminars and courses held in India.
- (ii) The Joint Director (Education) worked as a member of the Assessment Team constituted by the NCUI to assess the activities of the NCUI Field Project in Cooperative Education, Indore.
- (iii) The Director (Education) presided over a Panel Discussion held on 17th August 1979 on 'Need, Importance and Approach for Cooperative Education and Leadership Development - Involvement of Cooperative Banks' for 35 participants of the Leadership Development Course of the NCCE, India.
- (iv) The Director (Education) attended meetings of the NCUI Committee on Cooperative Education held on 18th August 1979 and 4th August 1980.
- (v) The Regional Director, Director (Education) and Specialist in Consumer Cooperation were associated in a Technical Meeting on "Rural Distribution through Cooperatives in India" convened by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) on 22nd August 1979.
- (vi) The Joint Director (Education) visited Nepal between 22nd October and 1st November 1979 and assisted the Cooperative Training Centre, Kathmandu, in planning its study on Evaluation of Cooperative Member Education Programme in Nepal.
- (vii) The Specialist in Cooperative Agricultural Marketing assisted as a Resource Person at a COOPTRADE National Workshop, jointly held by the NCUI/ILO/COOPTRADE in New Delhi from 12th to 17th November 1979.
- (viii) The Joint Director (Education) attended the third meeting of the Local Advisory Group (LAG) of the NCUI Cooperative Education Field Project at Indore on 30th December 1979.
- (ix) The Joint Director (Education) attended a National Conference on Fishery Cooperatives organised by the NCUI at New Delhi on 16th and 17th August 1979.
- (x) The Joint Director (Education) and Specialist in Cooperative Agricultural Marketing attended MATCOM/VMNICM Workshop on Adaptation of MATCOM material entitled 'An In-Service Training Programme for

Managers of Agricultural Cooperative Unions' at VMNICM, Pune from 3rd to 30th September 1979.

(xi) The Joint Director (Education) attended a National Workshop on Integration of Population in Cooperative Education Programmes, jointly held by the ILO and the NCUI in New Delhi from 15th to 17th October 1979.

(xii) The Specialist in Cooperative Agricultural Marketing attended a Symposium of Marketing of Farm Produce through Farmers' Associations organised by the Asian Productivity Organisation, held in Tokyo, Japan from 22nd to 29th October 1979.

(xiii) The Education Officer (Women & Youth) attended as an Observer the Regional Preparatory Conference for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, organised by ESCAP in New Delhi from November 5-9, 1979.

(xiv) The Specialist in Cooperative Agricultural Marketing attended a Conference on Structural Changes in Cooperative Movement organised by the NCUI, New Delhi on 29th and 30th November 1979.

(xv) The Regional Director and Director (Education) participated in the ILO/NORAD Symposium on Setting Effective Cooperative Training Policy and Standards in Asian Countries held in Chiang Mai, Thailand from 3rd to 6th December 1979.

(xvi) The Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation attended the 39th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics at Bangalore, India from 18th to 20th December 1979.

(xvii) The Librarian and Documentation Officer attended the XII All India Conference of Indian Association of Special Librarians and Information Centres from 25th to 30th December 1979 held at Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee (U.P.), India.

(xviii) The Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation attended the 15th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific organised by the FAO at New Delhi from 5th to 13th March 1980.

(xix) The Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation attended the Asian Farm Leaders' Regional Meeting organised by the International Federation of Agricultural Producers at Bangkok from 22-24th April '80.

(xx) The Specialist in Consumer Cooperation attended two days' Workshop on Leakage and Stock Control organised by the Pranakorn Cooperative Store Ltd., Bangkok on 9th and 10th March 1980.

(xxi) The Specialist in Consumer Cooperation joined the Swedish Expert at Manila and rendered consultative services to the Metro-Manila Consumer Cooperative Complex, Manila in the fields of financial management, inventory management and manpower development from 15th May to 10th June 1980.

(xxii) The Specialist in Consumer Cooperation attended a Meeting of the Senior Officers of the Haryana State Cooperative Department in Chandigarh and assisted in the discussions on the organisational structure of Consumer Cooperative Movement in Haryana.

(xxiii) The Regional Director, ICA ROEC attended the third UNIDO Conference at New Delhi held in January 1980.

(xxiv) The Education Officer (W&Y) attended Study Tour on Youth Programmes for Community Development organised by the Mount Carmel International Training Centre for Community Services, Haifa, Israel from 10th to 25th March 1980.

SECTION- IIIProposed Programme of Activities : July 1981 - June 19821. SCC/ICA Follow-up Seminar on Agricultural Cooperation

Venue : Open
 Duration : 3 weeks in July 1981
 Participants: 25 (former participants of SCC's and ICA's seminars from Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines, Indonesia and Iran)

The objectives of the seminar are to find out the application of Swedish experiences made by the participants in their organisations and their cooperative movements, to assess the effectiveness of Swedish and ICA Seminars and to enable participants to exchange experiences in regard to the latest developments in the Agricultural Cooperative Movements of the participating countries.

2. SCC/ICA Follow-up Seminar on Agricultural Cooperation

Venue : Open
 Duration : 3 weeks in January/February 1982
 Participants: 25 (former participants of SCC's and ICA's seminars from India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Korea)

The objectives of this Follow-up Seminar will be the same as the one planned above.

3. ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar in Japan

Venue : Tokyo, Japan
 Duration : 3 weeks in September 1981 preceded by one-week study visits in the Republic of Korea
 Participants: 25

The theme will be proposed at the time of the meeting. The above is the normal annual activity in collaboration with the CUAC and the IDACA.

4. 7th Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management

The Regional Council Meeting is expected to be held in the Republic of Korea. However, the member organisation indicated that it will not be possible for them to host the Open Asian Conference. The venue and the dates of the Conference have to be decided upon keeping in view the above situation.

The Council Meeting held in Malaysia in November 1979 had suggested that the theme of the 7th Open Asian Conference be "Cooperation among Cooperative Movements with special reference to the Region". Keeping in view the discussions held at the last Council Meeting it is suggested that the following three subjects may be on the agenda of the Conference:

- i. Cooperation among members at the local level;
- ii. Cooperation among cooperatives within a country; and
- iii. Cooperation among cooperatives on a regional and global basis.

5. Regional Workshop on Development of Consumer Cooperatives

Venue : Open
 Duration : 3 weeks in October 1981
 Participants: 25

The objectives of the Workshop would be to discuss various operational questions from the point of view of efficient management of consumer cooperatives and development of consumer cooperative movement in the various countries of the Region. The participants to be invited for the Workshop would be executives who have considerable experience of operation of consumer cooperatives. The reports of studies carried out by the Specialist in Consumer Cooperation in Thailand, Philippines and Malaysia will provide useful material for discussions.

6. Regional Workshop on Promotion of Exports by the Cooperative Movements in the Region

Venue : Open
 Duration : 2 weeks in March/April 1982
 Participants: 25 (senior executives of cooperative trading organisations dealing with export trade)

The purpose of the Workshop would be to discuss specific questions concerning export activities of cooperative organisations in the Region and find out ways in which exports can be promoted within the Region as well as outside the Region.

7. Regional Course in Research Methodology and Training Techniques

Venue : VMNICM, Pune, India
 Duration : 3 months - January to March, 1982
 Participants: 20

The ICA ROEC has held three Regional Courses for training of teachers in modern training techniques. The Principals of the various cooperative training centres have expressed appreciation of these courses and recommended that the ICA should give high priority to training of teachers. They suggested that the teachers also need training in research methodology and general management. Hence it is proposed that the above course should include a 3-4 weeks segment on research methodology.

8. National Seminars and Consultative Services

8.1 It will be possible for the ICA ROEC to assist the member movements in holding national seminars and consultative services in the

following areas :

- (i) Cooperative Policy and Development;
- (ii) Agricultural Cooperation including Agricultural Cooperative Marketing;
- (iii) Consumers Cooperation;
- (iv) Cooperative Education with special reference to Training Methodology and Techniques, and member education;
- (v) Training of Women Cooperators;
- (vi) Library science and documentation;
- (vii) Industrial Cooperatives; and
- (viii) Fishery Cooperatives.

8.2 The assistance of the ICA ROEC would be made available to the member movements on request keeping in view the personnel and financial resources of the ICA ROEC. The Council members may like to indicate if they would like to sponsor national seminars/technical meetings for which assistance of the ICA ROEC may be needed.

9. Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS)

9.1 CEMAS will continue to perform its clearing house function.

9.2 It is proposed to bring out in printed form the Cooperative Management Case Book and the Manual of Preparing Training Packages with Audio-Visual Aids. The manuscripts for both the above materials are in final stages.

10. Teachers Training Project in Sri Lanka and Project in Women's Consumer Education and Information through Cooperatives in Sri Lanka

Negotiations for continuing these projects for a further period of two years are in progress.

11. Projects in other areas

The Swedish Cooperative Centre has indicated that it will be possible for them to provide assistance for Projects in educational

fields. The fields in which the ICA ROEC has gained experience and for which support for the Swedish movement may be available are the following:

- i. Cooperative Education at the local level including member education;
- ii. Training of teachers engaged in staff training; and
- iii. Women and cooperatives.

The Council may like to consult with the member organisations in their respective countries and then indicate at the time of the meeting if their movements would be interested in sponsoring projects in any of the above areas. The ICA ROEC would then initiate necessary action for assisting, to begin with, in carrying out feasibility studies and formulating project proposals.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 : TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND
TRADE SECTION

Part I - Technical Assistance

Request for supply of audio-visual aids and Micro
buses to Bangladesh National Cooperative Union

8.1 The Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union (BJSU) approached the ICA Regional Office for financial support for their project namely, "Production and Display of Documentary Films on Cooperatives". The Project envisaged production of eight documentary films on various cooperative activities in Bangladesh and purchase of four publicity vans for display of these films throughout the country, particularly in rural areas.

8.2 The Project was forwarded to the ICA London office for their consideration. The Regional Office had recommended that in the beginning only one van equipped with 16 mm cine projector be supplied to the BJSU and the request for additional equipment be considered in due course only if the Union (BJSU) is able to make an effective use of this van and equipment in carrying out their publicity and member education programmes.

8.3 The ICA London office, however, regretted their inability to accommodate this request out of the ICA Cooperative Development Fund. They informed us that the demand on the ICA Development Fund had been considerable and the provision of equipment such as this has not been one of their priorities for some years now.

Consultancy services to the Metro Manila Consumers
Cooperative Complex in the Philippines

8.4 It was reported to the Council in the last meeting that the Chairman of the Cooperative Consultative and Coordinating Committee of the Philippines had approached the ICA Regional Office to secure the services of a Swedish expert to advise the management of the Metro Manila Consumers Cooperative Complex in the following areas :-

- (a) Inventory management practices and control,
- (b) Financial management and practices,
- (c) Manpower development.

8.5 The ICA Regional Office supported the above request and forwarded the same to the Swedish Cooperative Centre, Stockholm, for favourable consideration.

8.6 The SCC, Stockholm agreed to provide the services of one management consultant for a period of three months. Mr. Arne Hansson was assigned to carry out the above assignment from 15 March to 14 June, 1980, in collaboration with Mr. Puri, the Specialist in Consumer Cooperation in the Regional Office. Mr. Puri, however, was able to join Mr. Hansson only on the 15th May due to previously accepted commitments. The consultancy services rendered by Mr. Hansson and Mr. Puri have been very much appreciated by the management of the Metro Manila Consumers Cooperative Complex.

8.7 In his report Mr. Hansson has recommended that the ICA Regional Office should closely follow up developments in the Metro Manila Consumers Cooperative Complex and make available the services of their staff for a follow-up mission. It has also been recommended that the Regional Office should conduct, as soon as possible, a Workshop on Cooperative Retail Management exclusively for the staff of the Metro Manila Consumers Cooperative Complex. Mr. M.K. Puri, Specialist in Consumer Cooperation in the Regional Office will conduct the Workshop very shortly, and this will also be financed by SCC.

Part II - Promotion of Cooperative Trade

International Cooperative Trade Conference in Moscow from 9-11 October, 1980

8.8 The first International Cooperative Trade Conference was held in New York in November 1978. Though the Conference was organised in a relatively short time it produced good results in practical terms, and in emphasising the need and possibility of inter-cooperative trade and commercial relations. It also underlined the need for further activities.

8.9 The next International Cooperative Trade Conference, jointly sponsored by the ICA, the Economic Sub-Committee (ESC) of the Agricultural Committee and CENTROSOYUS, will be held in Moscow from 9-11 October, 1980. In addition to trade, the Conference will specifically deal with investment in agriculture and agricultural production inputs, including energy.

8.10 The three days conference is intended to cover the following programme :-

- First Day : (a) Report on the potential of exports and outlook for market for agricultural and related products, including fisheries.
- (b) Report on the needs of agricultural cooperatives for plant, machinery and production material.
- Second Day : Inter-cooperative trade discussions and negotiations in the following groups :-
- (a) Grain feed and livestock,
- (b) Other foods,
- (c) Non-food consumer goods,
- (d) Farm supplies including energy,
- (e) Credit finance and joint ventures.
- Third Day : (a) Review of inter-cooperative trade discussions.
- (b) Conclusions and recommendations of the Conference.

8.11 As the Conference will provide a very useful forum for discussions and negotiations and also offer an opportunity for business deals, the member organisations have been asked to advise the cooperative trading organisations who may be involved or have interest in international trade to attend this trade conference. In consultation with the member organisations and the leader of the COOPTRADE Project, we have intimated to our Head Office the names of the cooperative trading organisations in the Region who should be invited to attend the Conference.

National Workshops on Promotion of Export Trade

8.12 Under the ILO-SIDA Cooptrade Project, national workshops on "Strengthening of Inter-Coop Trade Relations" were held in seven countries in the Region.

Sri Lanka	....	22-27 October, 1979
Bangladesh	....	4-9 February 1980
India	....	12-17 November, 1979
Philippines	....	9-14 December, 1979
Malaysia	....	10-15 March, 1980
Thailand	....	26-31 May, 1980
Indonesia	....	16-21 June, 1980

8.13 These workshops were conducted by the COOPTRADE Project in collaboration with cooperative apex organisations and were attended by participants from cooperative trading organisations who are engaged or are interested in international trade.

8.14 More or less a uniform pattern was followed at each of these workshops. Resource persons from the International Trade Division of ESCAP gave talks on technical subjects e.g. how to find markets, trade information centres, trade policy barriers, quality control and standards, costing, pricing and quotations, terms of delivery and cargo insurance, terms of payments, contract of sales. The local resource persons gave information on the following :-

- The present import and export situation in the country,
- Government policy in respect of exports and imports,
- Information about activities of some of the local export promotion organisations,
- Information about policies and activities of the State trading organisations who are engaged in export and import business.

8.15 In each country the host movement had prepared commodity papers in respect of such of the commodities as were considered to have potential for export. The list of commodity papers discussed at each national seminar is given below :-

- Sri Lanka - Fruits and vegetables, coconut and coconut bye products, leather goods, batik, craft textiles, fish, bamboo and rattan furniture.
- Bangladesh - Shrimps, fish, jute, jute products, handicrafts.
- India - Handlooms handicraft, marine products, fresh and processed fruits and vegetables, tea, coffee and cardamom, pepper and chillies.
- Philippines - Marine products, coffee, fruits and vegetables, tobacco, handicraft, rattan furniture.
- Malaysia - Agricultural products, pepper, coco, tapioca, coffee, batik, cut flower, palm oil and rubber.
- Thailand - Rice, maize, tapioca, sugar, pineapple, handicraft, orchids, cut flowers, oranges, tobacco, fish and fish products.
- Indonesia - Fruits & vegetables, coconut bye-products, leather goods, batik, craft textiles, fish, bamboo and rattan furniture.

8.16 The Workshops at the national level tried to identify the commodities available in each country for export and also its needs in the field of imports. At the end of each workshop the participants made certain recommendations for the promotion of international cooperative trade and also formulated time bound action programmes, in respect of important commodities. It has not been possible for the Regional Office to know to what extent the follow-up action has been taken on the recommendations of the national workshops.

8.17 The ICA Regional Office, in collaboration with the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) and the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) is convening a Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade", at New Delhi, from 22-30 September, 1980. We are trying to bring in to this seminar some of the persons who were involved at the above mentioned national level workshops. The seminar will review the follow-up action taken by the cooperatives in each country and also examine whether anything meaningful can be worked out in respect of continued activity following from the national level workshops. A report about the recommendations of the Regional Seminar will be placed before the members of the Council during the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 : PUBLICATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS
AND LIBRARY SECTION

PUBLICATIONS

9.1 The following publications were issued during the period under review (November 1979 to October 1980).

(i) Experts' Consultation on Cooperative Member Education - Report and Papers.

9.2 This is the report of the Experts' Consultation on Cooperative Member Education held in April 1979 at Trincomalee, Sri Lanka. Background papers distributed at the Consultation, indepth studies and papers on ongoing member education activities and plans for Cooperative Member Education in Sri Lanka are included in the publication.

(ii) Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management, Report and Papers, Singapore, 1977.

9.3 The publication consists of the working papers presented at the Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management held in Singapore in December 1977 i.e. Member Communication, Staff Relations and Manpower Development and the Conference Report.

(iii) Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management, Report and Papers, Bangkok, 1978.

9.4 The publication comprises the working papers presented at the Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management held in Bangkok in December 1978, viz. Impact of Multinationals on Cooperatives, Better Planning in Cooperatives and Better Living through Cooperatives and the Conference Report.

(iv) Manual of Role Plays for Cooperative Teachers.

9.5 This publication consists of three sections. The first section deals with "Role Play as a Teaching Technique" and the second deals with "Writing of a Role Play". The third section contains eleven role plays prepared by the participants who attended the

ICA Follow-up Programme in Teaching Methodology and Techniques for Cooperative Teachers in Asia held in the Philippines in February-March 1979. This publication has been prepared under the Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS) of the ICA and has been edited by Prof. (Miss) S. Khandwala.

(v) Speech No. 19 : Cooperation in the 80's.

9.6 The publication consists of lectures delivered by Mr. S.S. Puri, Secretary, Planning Commission of India, and Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia at the Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in November 1979.

PUBLICITY

9.7 The ICA Regional Bulletin was issued quarterly. The feature 'Spotlight' was continued giving accounts of the following:

Land Development Banks and Agricultural Development - October 1979 issue.

Shetkari Sahakari Sangh Limited - January 1980 issue.

IFFCO - April 1980 issue.

Kubang Pasu Women's Multipurpose Cooperative Society - July 1980 issue.

(a) Collection of Cooperative News.

9.8 Collection of cooperative news from the Region was continued during the year under review. The news is used in the ICA Regional Bulletin and supplied to the Head Office for use in its journals as well. All the members of the ICA Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press for South-East Asia, in their first meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in May 1980, have agreed to act as liaison officers/correspondents for the ICA Regional Bulletin and to supply cooperative news, features, success stories on a regular basis.

(b) Press Releases.

9.9 The practice of issuing press releases after the conclusion of a seminar, conference or other important event was continued during this period. The press releases were sent to cooperative journals in the region for publication.

First Meeting of the ICA Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press for South-East Asia

9.10 The First Meeting of the ICA Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press for South-East Asia was held in the training room of the MCIS at Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, from 27th to 30th May 1980 in collaboration with the Cooperative Union of Malaysia. Sixteen members, representing 10 countries, from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand attended the meeting. The meeting was formally inaugurated by Dato N.A. Kularajah, President of the Cooperative Union of Malaysia. Dr. J.H. Ollman, Joint Chief of Information, Research and Public Relations (Press and Public Relations) and Mr. Aage Buchert, Chief Editor, 'Samvirke', Denmark, attended the meeting as resource persons from the ICA Working Party on Cooperative Press.

9.11 Mr. Ahmad Hourmain bin Dato Esah, Malaysia and Mr. Teo Cheng Peow, Singapore were unanimously elected Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Working Party respectively.

9.12 Background papers indicating the present position of cooperative press and publicity in the participating countries and problems faced by them in carrying out press and publicity work were presented to the meeting.

9.13 A talk on "Compilation of a Cooperative Newspaper" was given by Mr. Aage Buchert. "Communication in Urban Cooperatives in Malaysia" was discussed by Mr. Abu Bakar bin Othman, Executive Secretary, Cooperative Union of Malaysia. Mr. Roslan ABD. Razak, Farmers' Organisation Authority of Malaysia, gave a talk on "Communication in Agricultural Cooperatives in Malaysia" and Mr. C.M. Rajan, Associate Editor of Tamil Nadu Journal of Cooperation, spoke on "Communication in Cooperatives through Journalistic Medium".

Discussion on ICA Regional Bulletin -
its improvement

9.14 The ICA Regional Bulletin, a quarterly, published by the ICA ROEC, has been under publication since 1968. The bulletin was originally started as a mimeographed news sheet giving information of the activities of the Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia. Later it was printed as an eight-page bulletin. It has gradually grown to the present position - average 32 pages per issue - and has a number of features covering cooperative news from the Region (Regional News Round Up), cooperative news from other parts of the world pertaining to the Region and news of UN and other international organisations (News in Brief), success stories of cooperative organisations (Spotlight), in addition to information regarding ICA's own activities. Articles on various aspects of cooperation also are published from time to time.

9.15 With a view to improving the bulletin to make it more effective and to improve the contribution it makes to dissemination of cooperative news and knowledge, the ICA ROEC sought the assistance of the readers of the Bulletin. A questionnaire was sent to the readers asking them to comment on the different features included in the bulletin - mix of the material, new areas that should be added, general comments on the get up of the bulletin and ways of improving the news inflow. The ROEC felt that the guidance of the Working Party should also be sought for the improvement of the bulletin. A summary of the readers views collected through the survey was presented to the Working Party to form a basis for discussion.

9.16 The Working Party discussed the ICA Regional Bulletin. It appreciated the gradual growth of the bulletin and the role it plays as a Regional Bulletin. The Working Party felt that the bulletin makes a very useful contribution to dissemination of cooperative news and views.

9.17 The main suggestions made by the Working Party for consideration for the further improvement of the bulletin were :

1. The mix of materials at present in the bulletin is generally good and there is a healthy balance between cooperative news and articles. The overweight of news regarding a few countries should be rectified by covering news of other countries.
2. Articles depicting the development of the movement in the different sectors from the countries served by the ROEC should be published.
3. Additional features like letters to the editor, views and experiences of participants of ICA seminars, interviews with prominent cooperators, book reviews may be included.
4. Special articles on topics of current importance should be included from specialists and the public, for example : powers of the registrar, operations of multipurpose societies, relations between boards and managers, staff training and promotional policies in cooperatives, etc.
5. The feature spotlight highlighting the stories of successful cooperatives serves a very useful purpose and give publicity to good cooperatives. More and more such success stories should be published. The Working Party members should provide write ups of success stories from their respective countries.
6. When an important ICA event is scheduled in a country an article(articles) on the cooperative movement of that country should be included in the issue immediately preceding the event to serve as a background information about the movement of that country.
7. Each country should send a story or cooperative news letter, including a few action photographs, to the editor of the bulletin regularly.
8. The name of the bulletin "ICA Regional Bulletin" need not be changed.
9. The feature "news in brief" be renamed as "News Around the World".
10. The typography and lay out of the bulletin could be improved. Latest trends in international magazine designing i.e. making the page look full with as much reading matter compressed as possible, suitably leading out the matter from the readability point of view and with short margins, may be tried to improve the lay out.

11. More action oriented photographs of cooperatives should be included. This could specially be done along with success stories and news regarding study visits. However, with regard to seminars and conferences photographs of the meetings may be published. Colour photo originals are being used for printing in black and white in the bulletin. This results in poor reproduction. As colour printing is expensive only black and white originals should be used as far as possible.

9.18 The Working Party unanimously decided that all the members of the Working Party should act as liaison officers/correspondents of the ICA Regional Bulletin in their respective countries and should send news, articles, success stories and interviews with members/ eminent cooperators etc. to the Editor of the Bulletin. The Working Party also decided that where there were more than one member in the Working Party from one country representing different member-organisations of the ICA in that country they should send news items pertaining to their own organisations only and that too through the member organisations concerned (e.g. Republic of Korea. There are two members - one representing NACF and the other representing NFFC). Where there was only one member representing the whole movement e.g. Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, etc. the member concerned should get the news cleared/approved by the member organisation of the ICA of the country concerned. The Working Party felt that this procedure would give the news so sent more credibility.

9.19 The Working Party members also visited the publications department of the MCIS and ANGKASA, the Malaysian Cooperative Printing Press Society and the Cooperative Book Shop of the University of Malaya.

Membership of the Working Party

9.20 The membership of the Regional Working Party was open to all affiliated organisations of the ICA in the Region who may be represented by those involved in a professional capacity on cooperative papers, magazine and information media within the cooperative movement. It is suggested that the membership also may be extended to cover the affiliates of the member organisations of the ICA in the Region publishing papers and magazines of their own.

3. LIBRARY

9.21 There are 14,400 volumes including bound periodicals on cooperatives and allied subjects and nearly 5,000 booklets in the library now. The library subscribes to many journals and also receives many on a complimentary basis. Altogether over 200 journals are received in the library. It acts as a clearing house of information on books and documentation. The library has been extensively used by the cooperators, cooperative organisations, students and scholars.

4. DOCUMENTATION SERVICES

9.22 The following have been issued:

1. The Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XIII, No.1, June 1978.
2. The Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XIII, No.2, September 1978.
3. The Annotated Bibliography of Literature on Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia - First and second half - yearly supplements : June and December 1977 (combined issue).
4. The Annotated Bibliography of Literature on Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia - First and second half-yearly supplements : June and December 1978 (combined issue).

The following are in production process:

1. The Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XIII, No. 3, December 1978.
2. The Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XIII, No.4, March 1979.

The following are under preparation :

1. The Annotated Bibliography of Literature on Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia : First and second half-yearly supplement : June & December 1979.
2. The Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XIV, No.1 & 2, June & September 1979.
3. ICA Library Catalogue, Part-IV (Cumulative list of library books since 1962-1975).

5. SUPPLY AND EXCHANGE OF LITERATURE

9.23 The library undertakes the exchange of material with other libraries. It supplies on request free mimeographed material on cooperative subjects, e.g. background papers presented at the various ICA seminars and conferences. It also acts as a clearing house of cooperative literature in English published by member movements. The Librarian & Documentation Officer provides on request the background papers on the socio-economic conditions of the countries in the Region.

6. LIAISON AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

9.24 The Librarian and Documentation Officer is an active member of the International Working Party of Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers. He participates in the meetings of the Working Party held from time to time. The Librarian & Documentation Officer has been assisting the Working Party in the implementation of the decisions taken in the Working Party meetings particularly of those having a bearing on South-East Asia. Besides these, the Librarian and Documentation Officer has been contributing articles, lists of articles, reports, news reports, etc. to the Working Party's newsletter "LIBRADOC and International Archive News". The Librarian and Documentation Officer has been helping the International Working Party in bibliographical and other technical matters. Special attention has been given in the expansion of the membership of Working Party in the Region of South-East Asia.

India

9.25 A National Working Party of Indian Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers has been constituted. Indian Working Party has been given formal recognition by the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) and has been affiliated with the International Working Party of Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers of the ICA.

Sri Lanka

9.26 As a follow up of the National Workshop on "Library Management, Development and Documentation Services" held by the ICA/SCC/NCC . Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers in Sri Lanka in collaboration with the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka and the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia at Polgolla, from 28th May to 2nd June 1979, the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka has now constituted a National Advisory Committee to develop a proper library system and documentation services for the cooperative movement.

7. PROMOTIONAL AND CONSULTATIVE SERVICES.

9.27 The ICA ROEC Librarian & Documentation Officer has been actively involved in the promotional activities of the cooperative library development of South-East Asia. During 1979-80 the following consultative services were provided by the Librarian and Documentation Officer.

(1) The Librarian and Documentation Officer participated in the Regional Course in Training Methodology and Techniques for Cooperative Staff Training in South-East Asia, Pune (India) from 15th January to 20th February 1980. During the Course the Librarian and Documentation Officer prepared a training package on documentation and information services with special reference to cooperatives.

(2) The Librarian and Documentation Officer was the resource person in the Induction Course for persons in charge of libraries at Cooperative Training Centres, State Cooperative Union and Registrar's Office in Rajasthan State of India at Jaipur from 7th to 12th April 1980. The course was attended by ten participants.

(3) The Librarian and Documentation Officer continues to provide consultative services to the Cooperative Movement of India for the development of cooperative library and documentation services in the country.

PUBLICATIONS PROGRAMME FOR 1980-81

9.28 The following publications would be brought out during the year 1980-81.

1. Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management, Kuala Lumpur, 1979.

The publication will consist of papers presented at the Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in November 1979.

2. Readings in Cooperative Marketing.

A publication comprising papers presented at the forthcoming Regional Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing, some selected papers on Cooperative Marketing presented in other seminars conducted by the ICA would be brought out.

3. How to Improve the Effectiveness of National Cooperative Unions.

The publication will comprise of the report and papers presented at the Regional Seminar on the subject held in New Delhi, India, in February 1980 in collaboration with the National Cooperative Union of India.

4. Amalgamation of Primary Agricultural Cooperatives - the Japanese Experience.

The above publication, brought out in 1973, will be updated and brought out during this year.

5. Cooperative Series.

Publications dealing with topical aspects of the movement will be published under this series.

6. Speeches on Cooperation.

Important speeches on matters of cooperative relevance and interest will be issued in this series.

7. Publicity.

As usual the ICA Regional Bulletin will be issued quarterly during the year.

AGENDA AGENDAN ITEM NO. 10 : IDACA ACTIVITIES

(1) Main training programmes until July, 1979 -

(A) Training Course for the cooperators
from selected countries

10.1 Of the training programmes, IDACA has carried out these training programme with the subsidy from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. In 1979 the training programmes were conducted for two countries Sri Lanka and Bangladesh respectively.

Training course for Sri Lanka

Date : July 17 to August 13, 1979

No. of participants : 8

Study visit : Tokushima prefecture

10.2 The training was carried out on various activities of agricultural cooperatives in Japan, particularly, with special emphasis upon members' activities in primary societies including study visit training.

10.3 Nomination of participants is entrusted to the president of National Cooperative Council (N.C.C.) of Sri Lanka. All the necessary expenses for return air fares, board and lodging and internal travelling were borne by IDACA.

Training Course for Bangladesh

Training was carried out as the same condition above..

Date : October 2 to October 29, 1979

No. of participants : 5

Study visit : Gunma prefecture

(B) Introductory course in Agricultural Cooperatives
under the Colombo Plan

10.4 This was a training programme commissioned by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (hereinafter referred to as JICA). This has been organised once a year since the establishment of IDACA and it is one of the oldest courses of IDACA.

Date : November 5 to December 3, 1979

no. of participants : 21 (16 countries)

Study visit : Ehime prefecture

10.5 This was designed as introductory course for getting the participants acquainted with the history and activities of the agricultural cooperatives in Japan with relatively large number of countries.

10.6 Quite large number of government officials were usually included among the participants. Therefore, a complaint has been often made that there are few participants who represent national organisations of the agricultural cooperatives and that this derives from the fact that coordination between the government and the agricultural cooperatives would not be performed well in nominating participants.

(C) Training for presidents of primary societies of Republic of Korea

10.7 This training was conducted on the basis of memorandum between NACF and CUAC. The necessary expenses were met by NACF and some expenses during study visit in Japan were met by CUAC.

Date : March 19 to March 28, 1980
 Number of participants : 13 (of which presidents of primary societies were eleven and staff of NACF two)
 Study visit : Shiga prefecture

10.8 The training was conducted with special emphasis upon case study of activities of the agricultural cooperatives in the area near the urban cities.

(D) ICA Regional Seminar in collaboration with CUAC and IDACA

Date : August 27 to September 14, 1979
 Number of participants : 22 (10 countries)
 Resource persons : 3
 Study visit : Shizuoka prefecture

10.9 The theme of the training was focussed upon the better living activities as case study.

(E) Other training

Training for Cooperative Agricola de Cotia (CAC) in Brazil

10.10 This training was conducted on the basis of memorandum between CAC and CUAC.

Date : October 2 to October 29, 1979
 Number of participants : 5 (of which officials of the CAC were 3 and Senior staff two)
 Study visit : Yamagata prefecture

10.11 International air fares were borne by the CAC, whereas expenses during the training in Japan were met by CUAC and language to be used was Japanese.

(2) Survey and Research Project

10.12 IDACA has carried out a series of surveys necessary for promoting agricultural cooperatives in Thailand since 1979 with the assistance of JICA.

10.13 The government of Thailand has requested the government of Japan to help enhance productivity of agriculture of Thailand, upgrade and stabilize economic standard of living for farmers as well as foster and strengthen farmers' organisation.

10.14 In response to this request, the government of Japan through JICA has entrusted IDACA to make a preliminary survey within 1979 prior to the main survey to be conducted in 1980. After discussing with CUAC on this matter, IDACA conducted the preliminary survey on the fostering of the organisation by dispatching a team of three experts to Thailand.

Date : From November to December 1979

(3) Activities of Re-union meeting of IDACA

10.15 The number of participants who have received the training has reached 1679 so far. IDACA conducts Re-union meeting for the purpose of giving further information and guidance to the ex-participants in the respective countries.

10.16 IDACA selects certain countries and dispatches persons concerned to give necessary cooperative guidance. In 1979 Re-union was held in the Philippines and IDACA sent Mr. Tashiro, Manager and Mr. Abe, staff of IDACA, Mr. Komatsu from CUAC and Mr. Takahashi, Managing Director of Kisarazu Primary Society. They attended the training seminar in the Philippines, thereby they deepened mutual understanding, got acquainted with how the ex-participants are working and they observed the actual state of cooperative activities in that country.

Date : January 19 to February 1, 1980

Plan of the activities of IDACA in 1980

10.17 The outline of the plan of IDACA activities in 1980 is as

follows :

(1) Training Programmes

1. Introductory course in agricultural cooperatives under the Colombo Plan

10.18 Until 1979 this course in principle had been conducted in autumn every year. However, it was changed from this year to be conducted in spring.

Date : May 19. to June 20, 1980
 No. of participants : 16 (12 countries)
 Study visit: Ehime prefecture

10.19 This course was already completed and is likely to be held in the middle of May next year. We are informed in the written form that there are quite a few people who are not recommended for the seminar because of the lack of communication between the government and the agricultural cooperatives in nominating participants. On the part of Japan, we would like to ask you to discuss this matter directly with the relevant office of the government in the respective countries for the nomination of participants since Japanese government leaves this matter entirely to the respective government. IDACA will send a copy of invitation to the members of the Council as soon as the Japanese government issues the invitation.

2. Seminar for Thai on Agricultural Development Project

10.20 This seminar was organised under the auspices of ZEN-NOH, CUAC and UNICOOPJAPAN in collaboration with ACFT in Thailand. The seminar was conducted in Thai language.

Date : June 24 to July 23, 1980
 No. of participants : 15 (In addition, one person from cooperative promotion department of Thai government attended this course)
 Study visit: Miyagi prefecture

3. ICA Regional Seminar in collaboration with CUAC and IDACA

Date : August 24 to September 13, 1980
 No. of participants : 25
 Study visit : Yamanashi prefecture
 Theme : Role of cooperatives in Modernization of Agriculture

7. Memorandum Training Course for NACF

10.26 On the basis of the memorandum between NACF and CUAC, this training programme continues this year.

Date : March 1981
 No. of participants : 14 or 15
 Study visit : Wakayama prefecture

8. As for the training courses from April, 1981 onwards, they are now under discussion

10.27 The trainings are expected to be carried out more or less in similar way as having been planned in 1980 and the details of the training programmes will^{be} supplemented at the ICA Regional Council Meeting in Sri Lanka.

(2) Plan of Re-union Meeting

10.28 CUAC and IDACA are now planning to hold the Re-union meeting and local visit in some areas of India in order to have mutual exchanges with the ex-participants of IDACA for two weeks beginning from the middle part of January 1981. Some agricultural cooperative experts will be sent for this programme which will be made in cooperation with the National Cooperative Union of India and ICA Regional Office for South-East Asia.

(3) Survey and Research Projects

10.29 As for the survey on fostering the organisation of the agricultural cooperative of Thailand, the main survey is being conducted in 1980. JICA extends support to the implementation of the survey which takes place on the months of July and August. The team of experts from Thailand and Japan will make recommendation on the basis of the survey report to the people concerned, both of the Government of Thailand and that of Japan and necessary projects will be worked out after thorough study of the report by the governments and agricultural cooperatives in both the countries.

(4) Publication of IDACA News

10.30 The IDACA News is published in order to maintain closer contact with the trainees and related agencies in other countries. Besides this, an effort will be made to keep ex-participants informed of general activities of IDACA in tie-up with Zen-chu News.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 : DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL- AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, CONSUMER, TRADE

11.1 A resume of the decisions taken by the Sub-Committees of the Regional Council will be given to the Council at the time of the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 : RELATIONS WITH MEMBER ORGANISATIONS IN THE REGION

12.1 As in the past, the ROEC continued to maintain close liaison with member-organisations in the Region through correspondence, personal visits, consultancy services etc.

12.2 "Buy a Bucket of Water" Programme - The Regional Councillors are aware that a scheme for the supply of drinking water through selected projects in developing countries was inaugurated at the Central Committee Meeting held in Copenhagen in 1978. This programme initiated by the ICA with the collaboration of several cooperative organisations and UNICEF was meant as ICA's own contribution to the International Year of the Child and was specifically aimed at providing clean potable water to ensure that children and their parents could maintain good health and sanitation.

12.3 Member organisations in the region were requested to forward their project proposals under this programme. To date we have had project proposals submitted by India, Sri Lanka, Philippines and Thailand. 36 Projects have been approved so far and the details are as follows:-

		<u>Assistance granted</u>
India	18 projects	£stg. 18,500.00
Sri Lanka	2 projects	£stg. 3,718.80
Philippines	8 projects	£stg. 6,825.58
Thailand	8 projects	£stg. 7,000.00

12.4 In addition to the above, the Consumers Guilds in Sweden have collected 30,000 Swedish Kroners under this programme to assist the Women's Project in Sri Lanka to modernise and renovate 9 wells within the project area covered by the five cooperative societies in PHASE I of the Consumer Education Project.

12.5 Research Study on "Cooperatives and Small Farmer Development : Implications For Government Guidance and Supervision" - The ICA in collaboration with the Royal Tropical Institute in Amsterdam has undertaken a research study on the above with a view to investigate the problems of small farmer development and implications for government guidance and supervision. Councillors are aware that there is growing national and international concern over the increasing deterioration of the living and working conditions of the small farmer in many developing countries in the region in spite of the fact that in many countries agricultural production has been on the increase in the recent past. One of the principal objectives of the research study is to identify the elements of strategy, planning and implementation which will make co-operatives more effective in satisfying small farmer needs and aspirations.

12.6 The research study is financed by the Government of Netherlands, the Royal Tropical Institute and to a limited extent by ICA London.

12.7 The research involves an indepth study in selected areas in Thailand and Sri Lanka, which countries were willing to join in the study and also a desk research study undertaken at New Delhi in respect of the states of Maharashtra and Bihar in India and Malaysia. The research study findings will be discussed at a Regional Seminar to be held in Sri Lanka around early 1982.

12.8 Dr. P. Van Dooren of the RTI is the Supervisor of the Project while Mr. K. Verhagen is the Amsterdam based Research Officer. These are assisted by Dr. G. Ojha, the New Delhi based Research Officer and by three Country Research Officers in each country selected.

Thailand	:	1. Dr. Preeda Prapertchob 2. Mr. Chumporn Pahakij 3. Ms. Chulaporn Choochongniran
Sri Lanka	:	1. Dr. J.M. Gunadasa 2. Mr. M. Etampawela 3. Mr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya

12.9 The member organisations in Thailand and Sri Lanka viz. the Cooperative League of Thailand and the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka are functioning as coordinator and supervisor in the national context.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13 : RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

13.1 Cordial and fruitful relations continued to exist between the ICA ROEC and the UN Specialised Agencies as well as the non-governmental international organisations functioning in the region. More specifically, the following instances of collaborations may be mentioned :

- (i) FAO : The Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation attended the 15th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific held at New Delhi from 5th March to 13th March, 1980.
- (ii) ILO : The Regional Director and Director (Education) attended the ILO/NOR Symposium on Setting Effective Cooperative Training Policy and Standards in Asian Countries held at Chiang Mai , Thailand, from 3rd to 8th December 1979.
- (iii) UN/ESCAP : Mr. Chumporn Pahakij of the Cooperative League of Thailand attended on behalf of the ICA the 36th Session of UN/ESCAP held at Bangkok from 18th to 29th March 1980.

Mr. Chumporn Pahakij also attended on behalf of the ICA the UN/ESCAP Intergovernmental Meeting on Integrated Rural Development held at Bangkok from 11-17 December, 1979.

Mr. A.K.M. Zahirul Haque, Chief Executive Officer, Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union, attended on behalf of the ICA the 3rd Session of the Committee on Agricultural Development held at Dacca from 9th to 15th October 1979.

- (iv) UNIDO: The Regional Director along with Director, ICA, and Chief Executive of the National Cooperative Union of India attended the 3rd General Conference of UNIDO in New Delhi from 21st January to 8th February 1980.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 : VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

14.1 As reported in the last Council Meeting, the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of the Republic of Korea have agreed to host the next Regional Council Meeting in Seoul, Republic of Korea, in 1981.

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

Please see attached note at Annexe "A".

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

NOTE TO AGENDA ITEM NO. 15

15.1 If the Chairman and the Councillors so agree, it is proposed to discuss under this heading some other matters which are relevant to the work in the region - this would come under the following headings:

1. The Conclusions and Recommendations made at the Regional Seminar on "Strengthening National Cooperative Organisations".
2. Project Identification and Formulation.
3. Role of Industrial Cooperatives - what emphasis
4. Nominations to seminars and follow-up action
5. Regional Council vis-a-vis the needs of the Région etc.

15.2 A brief note plus connected documents where such is available in respect of the above are also included as annexures to the Agenda Notes.

1. Strengthening of National Cooperative Organisations

15.3 Councillors will agree that in the programmes of cooperative development in the South-East Asia there is increasing need for provision of consultancy services, training of staff, development of skills, education of members in primary cooperatives etc. and the entire process necessitates detailed programming for development activity. All too often it is found that the primary cooperatives left to themselves are unable to fend for themselves and have to look to secondary and apex organisations for support in their development programmes. All too often also it is found that the secondary organisations or the national cooperative organisation itself is not geared to providing necessary assistance to the primary cooperatives. The need, therefore, arises for the strengthening of the apex organisations, the secondary organisations and in particular the national cooperative organisation which functions as the spokesman and representative of the national cooperative movement.

15.4 In February this year a Regional Seminar on this aspect was held in New Delhi with the support and collaboration of the National Cooperative Union of India and certain conclusions and recommendations were arrived at. These have been circulated to the member-organisations

but are once again placed before the Regional Councillors (Annexure 1) with a view to focus their attention on an area of very urgent need so that perhaps the Regional Councillors could evolve suitable strategies which would be helpful to the national cooperative movements and also which will eventually help the national cooperative organisation to play the role that it is expected to play in the context of the national cooperative effort in each country.

2. Project Identification and Formulation

15.5 At the last Regional Council Meeting which was held in Malaysia, from the secretariat we informed the Regional Councillors of the possibility of funding suitable projects provided there was adequate feasibility study and a carefully drawn up project document. Over the year that has passed the amount of technical assistance that have been made available is quite insignificant and perhaps the only achievements worth mentioning would be the assistance that has been made available to some cooperative movements under the "Buy a Bucket of Water" programme and the assistance that was provided through the SCC to the Filipino Cooperative Movement in respect of Super Palangke.

15.6 In addition to the above there were some requests from some movements which unfortunately did not meet with much success but we from the secretariat would like to stress once again that the approach to cooperative development through carefully identified projects is becoming more meaningful and more relevant in developing context as the project itself can be made use of for further cooperative education both within the movement and also outside and hence we would like to once again focus attention of the Regional Councillors on this matter and urge that the national cooperative organisations develop suitable departments or sections within themselves capable of handling the work in relation to project identification, feasibility studies, project formulation etc. The setting up of such sections or departments would eventually help also in the eventual implementation of such projects once technical assistance is made available.

15.7 In this connection we are including in the annexures documents in relation to two project programmes which have been circulated earlier: (a) Cooperative Interlending Programme formulated by COPAC (Annexure 2), and (b) People's Participation in Rural Development through Promotion of Self-help Organisations programme funded through FAO (Annexure 3).

15.8 The FAO programme is of recent origin. To date under the Interlending programme which was circulated earlier we have had no request whatsoever from this region.

15.9 Perhaps the Regional Councillors would like to take a closer look at these two programmes and see whether the national cooperative organisations within their country could identify suitable projects which could receive assistance under these programmes.

3. Industrial Cooperatives - What Emphasis

15.10 Regional Councillors are aware that Industrial Cooperatives in the Asian context have a vital role to play in the economic development of the weaker sections of the community. They provide opportunities to develop skills at base level, help the growth of capital, provide opportunities to above surplus agrarian labour, help in preventing migration to the urbanised sector and help in increasing the incomes at rural level. They also are a means to provide meaningful sources of employment and income in the urban situation. However, it is felt that their full potential has not been used and that there is a tendency to give low priority to this sector.

These facts are placed before the Regional Councillors with a view to evolving suitable strategies for development in this sector.

4. Nominations to Seminars etc.

15.11 We had occasion to discuss this aspect previously too at the last Regional Council Meeting and the intention once again is to focus the attention of the Regional Councillors on the need to evolve suitable policies within national movements themselves to make nominations possible within the specified times and also to derive the best benefits from those who participate at the regional seminars.

15.12 The position often encountered by the secretariat is that even though nominations for seminars are called for about one or two months ahead of time there are often situations where national organisations are unable to send in the nominations with adequate detail in time and this sometimes means the loss of an opportunity for the concerned national cooperative movement. We would once again wish to urge that meaningful steps be taken to identify suitable candidates well in time and make available the nominations in due form to the secretariat to facilitate work at the secretariat - perhaps the drawing up of a priority list may be of assistance.

15.13 The other matter that has to be discussed under this is the need for briefing of selected participants for seminars prior to their leaving the country for the seminar and their debriefing subsequent to the seminar. We have often requested that the ICA ROEC also be supplied with copies of the reports submitted by seminar participants as this would help us in future programmes. This would also help the national movement itself to evolve suitable follow-up programmes based on the subject-matter of the regional seminar. We from the secretariat are not fully aware of any follow-up action that is taken by the national movements subsequent to a regional seminar and we would think that the best use of a regional seminar could be by following up the regional seminar with a seminar at national or district level in the home country and perhaps thereafter by identifying and developing a suitable project which could be worked on the basis of the findings of the seminar.

15.14 We would like to focus attention of the Regional Councillors on this matter with a view to discussing the possibilities of getting the maximum out of regional seminars both by ensuring that the participants are such as would be able to make an effective contribution at the seminar and thereafter by ensuring that they would be able to take up follow up action within their own movement at home, and also by evolving strategies for NCOO to maintain contact and carry out follow up activities with the participants of such seminars.

5. Regional Council vis-a- is the needs of the Region etc.

15.15 It is our intention to focus attention on of the Regional Councillors on the Regional Council itself and to see whether we could devise suitable strategies for the Regional Council to play a more meaningful role in the developmental activities of the Region and also perhaps vis-a-vis the world body itself.

February 19, 1980

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE
REGIONAL SEMINAR ON "HOW TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS
OF THE NATIONAL COOPERATIVE ORGANISATION"

Preamble

1. South-East Asian countries in their efforts to ensure a better standard of living for their people have assigned an increasing role to the cooperatives in the development of their economies. This has resulted in the diversification of the activities of the cooperatives and also an increasing involvement of the government which in turn has led to the erosion of the democratic and autonomous character of the cooperative movement. These developments have necessitated a fresh look at the role the National Cooperative Organisation (N.C.O.) should play in strengthening the movement.

Issues

2. In this context the following issues were discussed in the Seminar:-
- (i) What role and functions should devolve on the N.C.O. in the context of the developing economies in South and South-East Asia? What factors, if any, stand in the way of the performance of the role and functions expected?
 - (ii) Is the N.C.O. representative of the cooperators and the cooperatives? What structural or other changes and self-disciplines are necessary to make the N.C.O. representative and strong?
 - (iii) What effective means can be used to increase the financial resources available to the N.C.O.

Definition of N.C.O.

3. In this context, the Seminar defined the National Cooperative Organisation (N.C.O.) as the apex promotional and ideological cooperative organisation, acting as the spokesman of the cooperative movement in the country.

Objectives

4. The Seminar was of the view that the N.C.O. should have the following main objectives:-

- (1) To popularise cooperative ideology and to protect and promote the cooperative principles as enunciated by the International Cooperative Alliance (I.C.A.);
- (2) To promote and develop the cooperative movement;
- (3) To act as the spokesman of the cooperative movement;
- (4) To safeguard the interests of the cooperatives and their members and to strengthen inter-cooperative relationship at all levels;
- (5) To represent the movement nationally and internationally.

Necessary conditions for effective functioning

5. Keeping in view the objectives the Seminar identified the following conditions necessary to make the N.C.O. effective:-

- (i) Legal autonomy;
- (ii) Financial independence;
- (iii) Committed leadership;
- (iv) Dedicated and efficient staff; and
- (v) Enlightened membership.

Inhibiting Factors

6. The Seminar, however, felt that there were certain factors which stood in the way of the effective functioning of the N.C.O. The factors were internal to the N.C.O. and also relating to the movement as a whole. There

were also external factors that needed to be taken note of. They are :-

I. Internal Factors

(a) Directly relating to the N.C.O.

- i) Ineffective planning and follow-up at the N.C.O. level;
- ii) Inadequacy of enlightened and dynamic leadership;
- iii) Vested interests;
- iv) Inadequacy of finances.

(b) Relating to the Cooperative Movement as a whole

- i) Limited appreciation of the potentiality of Cooperation among the masses;
- ii) Want of sufficient knowledge about cooperation among the membership and poor communication with their cooperatives;
- iii) Inadequate support from business cooperatives;
- iv) Lack of effective inter-cooperative relationship;
- v) Large number of weak cooperatives;
- vi) Shortage of trained manpower at all levels;
- vii) Poor member and public relations.

II. External Factors

- i) Restrictive legal and other provisions;
- ii) Inadequate involvement of cooperatives by government, in cooperative policy formulation and development strategy;
- iii) Inconsistency and ad hocism in government cooperative policies;
- iv) Multiplicity of agencies working in the field of cooperative development;
- v) Political interference.

Functions

7. The Seminar identified the following as the principal functions of the N.C.O.:-

- i) To organise and administer cooperative education and training programmes;
- ii) To develop inter-cooperative relationship;
- iii) To act as the accredited representative of the country's Cooperative Movement in the national and international spheres,

- iv) To promote and carry out research and studies on important cooperative problems;
- v) To undertake the production and publication of cooperative literature and educational material, including audio-visual aids;
- vi) To do public relation work and publicity activities;
- vii) To maintain an information bureau and a library;
- viii) To hold National Cooperative Congresses;
- ix) To assist the member societies in resolving their problems and difficulties and to undertake consultancy services;
- x) To assist in resolving disputes between members of the N.C.O.;
- xi) To arrange for the audit and supervision of member societies;
- xii) To formulate perspective plans for the cooperative movement and to participate in the national development planning process;
- xiii) To maintain liaison and coordination with government and non-government national and international agencies interested in cooperative developments;
- xiv) To undertake pilot projects to demonstrate the effectiveness of the cooperative approach in socio-economic development;
- xv) To ensure holding of regular general body meetings and elections in member societies.

Structural Aspects

8. Surveying various organisational patterns of the N.C.O. specially in South-East Asia, the Seminar observed that these have evolved over a period of time based on national situations. Therefore, each country may evolve its own organisational structure for N.C.O. However, the Seminar recommended that where there was no N.C.O. immediate steps should be taken to organise an N.C.O.

Recommendations

9. The Seminar reviewed the situation obtaining in the Region and in order to strengthen the effectiveness of the N.C.O. it made the following recommendations:-

- 1) The N.C.O. should make conscious efforts to become fully representative and to be the effective spokesman of the Cooperative Movement in the country. In this context the Seminar was of the view that the Board of Management of the N.C.O. should comprise only of the elected representatives and that there should be no nominees of the government in the Board.

- ii) The N.C.O. should build up its own professional managerial cadres. In this context, it was felt that the secondment of government officers to the management cadres of the N.C.O. was not desirable.
- iii) The N.C.O. must be at all times alive to the changes in government policies and legislation and must be capable of influencing the course of action as is necessary.
- iv) To build up the unity and solidarity of the Cooperative Movement and to formulate policy guidelines, the N.C.O. should convene periodically National Cooperative Congresses.
- v) To encourage self-discipline in the Cooperative Movement, the N.C.O. should formulate a Code of Conduct for the Cooperators and for the cooperatives. The code should also include guidelines for observance of political neutrality.
- vi) The N.C.O. should have the financial independence meaning thereby that its resources should be built up through the contribution of member cooperative organisations. In order to preserve its independent character, the N.C.O. should not accept government grants.
- vii) The N.C.O. should clearly spell out its annual programmes to the constituent members and clearly indicate their financial obligations at the time of the General Body Meeting.
- viii) The N.C.O. should establish a very effective research management and consultancy wing for the benefit of its member cooperative organisations.
- ix) The N.C.O. should provide advertising agency functions for its members.
- x) The N.C.O. should provide printing and publication services also as a measure of raising resources.
- xi) The N.C.O. should be entrusted with the task of providing audit services to the member cooperatives.
- xii) The N.C.O. should provide legal advice and assistance to member cooperatives.
- xiii) In those countries where cooperative development and cooperative education funds are administered by the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, the management of such funds should be transferred to the N.C.O.
- xiv) In some of the countries the funds of liquidated cooperative societies are invested by the government in fixed deposits in banks. The interest earned on such funds should be made available to the N.C.O. for promotional work. In this context, if there is any need to amend the cooperative law, rules and regulations, the same must be undertaken early.
- xv) As a self regulatory measure some of the functions of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies like supervision, promotion, extension, preparation of statistics etc. should be gradually transferred to the N.C.O.

Role of the ICA in strengthening the N.C.O.

10. (i) While appreciating the role of the ICA as the world body of the cooperatives, the Seminar recommends that the ICA should play a more positive role in strengthening the effectiveness of N.C.Os in their national and international relations.

(ii) The ICA should assist N.C.Os in the identification and formulation of specific projects.

(iii) There should be closer dialogue between the N.C.Os and the ICA. The N.C.Os should keep the ICA regularly informed of the problems and progress of their movements.

(iv) The Seminar was of the view that in case of international cooperative assistance to national programmes funded by the developed cooperative movements, U.N. Agencies, etc., the ICA and the N.C.O. should always be associated.

(v) Periodical exchange of views and experiences between the N.C.Os in Africa and Asia should be arranged under the auspices of the ICA.

(vi) The ICA should sponsor a study on the impact of political interference on the healthy growth of the cooperative movements of the Region.

General

11. A joint consultative committee of the N.C.O. and the government should be constituted in each country for consultation on cooperative policies and for project formulation and international assistance.

#####

DRAFTING COMMITTEE

Chairman : Mr. A.Z.M. Nasiruddin
Bangladesh

Rapporteur-
Secretary : Mr. K.C. Jain
India

Members : Mr. P.K. Dissonayako
Sri Lanka

Mr. Joseph Edward
Singapore

Mr. A.K.M. Zahirul Haque
Bangladesh

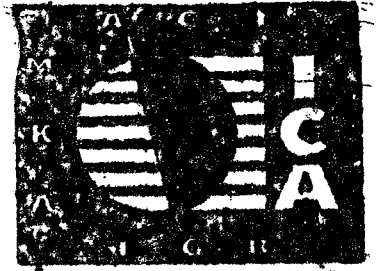
Mr. B.D. Sharma
India

Resource
Persons : Mr. Richard Oluor
U.K.

Dr. D. Vir
ICA ROEC

Mr. R.B. Rajaguru
ICA ROEC

**International Co-operative Alliance
Alliance Coopérative Internationale
Internationaler Genossenschaftsbund
Международный Кооперативный Альянс**



Regional Office & Education Centre for S-E Asia, "Bonow House", 43 Friends' Colony, Post Box No. 3312, New Delhi-110-014 India. telephone 63-1541, telegrams "Interallia" New Delhi.

Your ref

3.32

May 30, 1979

Our ref.

TO ALL MEMBER-ORGANISATIONS
IN THE REGION

ANNEXE 2

Dear Sir,

Re : COPAC International Cooperative Credit
Interlending Programme (ICCIP)

The Joint Committee for the Promotion of Aids to Cooperatives (COPAC) has for some time been considering the possibility of international interlending between the developed cooperative organisations and the cooperative organisations in the developing countries. They have now prepared a note on initial arrangements for identification and funding of projects under this programme. I am enclosing herewith a copy of this document.

I would be very thankful if you could kindly indicate to me at your very earliest whether you would consider that this kind of international interlending would be of relevance to you in your situation and would be acceptable to both your movement and the government of the country. Some of the requirements in regard to this form of international interlending are indicated in some detail in the document and I shall be thankful if you will kindly give particular considerations to the requirements as stated at paras B and C and let me have your considered views and projects, if any, as early as possible.

With cooperative greetings,

Yours faithfully,

Encl: document

R.B. Rajaguru

Note on Initial Arrangements for Identification and Funding of Projects:

Under an International Co-operative Credit Interlending Programme (ICCIIP)

- A. The following applies to the initial stage in establishing an ICCIP while the confidence of co-operative lending institutions in developed countries is being built up and experience of minimum conditions for commercially bankable projects gained.

Purpose: to increase food production and consumption in developing countries

Beneficiaries: principally small farmers organised in co-operatives

Method: granting of short or medium credits together with technical assistance in a package tailored to the requirements of the country concerned.

The above are the main criteria laid down by COPAC. But as ICCIP has always been defined as a 'commercial' programme (not a hand-out or concessional arrangement) it will be necessary to take account of the conditions that potential lenders will insist on:

- reasonable risk
- normal return on loan
- guarantees of various kinds

These considerations point in the following directions:

- choice of country - the more developed which offer better prospects of repayment
- type of project - loans to co-operatives rather than to individual farmers; loans for construction of storage, processing plant, marketing facilities, etc, where tangible assets result and where export (and export credits) may be involved; projects linked in some way with institutions such as World Bank, regional banks, development agencies, etc; projects for which the government of the recipient country may be prepared to offer guarantees or facilities; projects for which the government of the lending institution's country may guarantee the loan (case of CUNA-OPIC).

Loans to co-operatives in developing countries will probably have to be at least approved by the government of the country and it may be best to seek such approval at an early stage.

It is likely that almost any project will benefit a mix of small, medium and even large farmers, these terms being quite unspecific outside of a national context. It will be necessary to assess in each individual case how far the project satisfies the criterion of benefiting principally small farmers.

Examples of countries that may be suitable for initial projects: Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, Colombia, Kenya, Egypt, South Korea, Thailand, Ivory Coast, Malaysia, etc.

B. The Borrowing Institution

Any well established institution with sufficient administrative and financial capacity and of such a size that the loan is not out of proportion to present turnover may contract a loan. This would normally be a national or regional

co-operative financing institutions in developed countries. If a grant component is also required, e.g. for technical assistance, donors may also be contacted.

7. Project Preparation

In the event a project attracts the interest of a co-operative financing institution(s) the financing institution(s) may undertake to follow up on the project itself. If it does not, support from the potential financing institution(s) and if necessary a donor agency will be sought to cover costs of project scrutinising and preparation by COPAC members and consultants as convenient.

8. Loan Negotiation

Final arrangements for granting the loan would invariably be agreed on a bilateral basis between the financing institution and the borrowing organisation.

co-operative union/bank, or a governmental institution such as a development bank. These institutions could for certain types of project then on-lend to one or more secondary borrowers

Most potential lenders prefer to keep the number of intermediaries to a minimum.

For nearly all countries loans will require the eventual agreement of the foreign exchange authorities.

Size and Terms of Loans

Initially loans will:

- fall in the range of \$2 million - \$6 million (smaller projects of US \$100,000 and upwards may be considered exclusively under export guarantee arrangements);
- be repayable over four to eight years with a period before repayments commence not exceeding three years;
- carry commercial interest rates, i.e. around 8-10 percent (more preferential rates are sometimes available under export guarantee schemes);
- be denominated in the currency of the country in which the developed country lending institution is based.

Initial Project Screening

For purposes of project screening, a project summary of about four pages should be prepared and sent to COPAC Secretariat. (It is not the intention to request organisations to carry out much work before there is any indication of lender interest).

The summary should include:

- purpose of the loan including details of ultimate beneficiaries;
- brief details on the borrowing institution particularly its financial and administrative capacity;
- project description including information on any related projects and timetable;
- project budget including an indication of the locally funded component;
- proposed loan disbursement and repayment schedule.

COPAC Secretariat will scrutinise the project to check:

- if it falls within the criteria of the ICCIP;
- if any additional information is required at that stage (where more details are needed this will be requested from the organisation submitting the project with the help of COPAC members if this is conveniently available).

Project Circulation

The project will then be circulated to potentially interested co-operative

**International Co-operative Alliance
Alliance Cooperative Internationale
Internationale Genossenschaftsbund
Международный Кооперативный Альянс**



Regional Office & Education Centre for S-E Asia, "Bonow House", 43 Friends' Colony, Post Box No. 3312, New Delhi-110-014 India. telephone 63-5123, telegrams "Interallia" New Delhi.

Your ref.

Our ref. 3.4 (1)

June 26, 1980

TO : ALL MEMBER-ORGANISATIONS IN THE REGION

ANNEXE 3

Dear Cooperator,

Re : Identification of suitable projects under
FAO's Programme - "People's Participation in
Rural Development through Promotion of
Self-help Organisations"

1. The FAO in collaboration with International Non-governmental Organisations (INGOS) such as the ICA and National Non-governmental Organisations (NGOS) such as the National Cooperative Organisation (NCO) proposes to implement over the coming years a multi-donor umbrella programme of assistance for rural development whose special feature will be the involvement of INGO, NGO, donors and rural people's organisations like the cooperatives in the identification, planning, implementation and evaluation of development projects in selected countries. This approach is based on the acceptance of the view that rural development strategies can realise their full potential only through motivation, active involvement and organisation at the grass root level of rural people, with special emphasis on the least advantaged, in conceptualising and designing policies and programmes and in creating administrative, social and economic institutions such as cooperatives for implementing and evaluating them.

2. This approach to development is a direct sequel to the decisions made at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD) held in Rome in July 1979 which decisions among others declared that "national progress based on growth with equity and participation requires a redistribution of economic and political power and fuller integration of rural areas into national developmental efforts with expanded opportunities of employment and income for rural people and development of people's organisations including farmers associations,

International Cooperative Alliance

2

cooperatives and other forms of voluntary, autonomous, democratic organisations of primary producers and rural workers".

3. The specific objectives of this programme are:

- (i) to stimulate the creation - particularly by the rural poor themselves - of adequate forms of people's self-help organisations at the village level, which the poor regard as their own, in order to improve their conditions and to satisfy their specific needs;
- (ii) to support the employment-generating and income raising agricultural, fishery and forestry activities of those organisations at the village level, with a view to increase the income of the poor through economically viable group action;
- (iii) to increase the effectiveness of existing rural people's organisations to support the rural weak and promote their active participation in self-development efforts;
- (iv) to stimulate and strengthen the national rural servicing agencies' ability to support the demands created by effective organisation, increased productivity and incomes.

4. We are of the view that participation of the cooperatives in this programme will open up new avenues for strengthening the base structure of the cooperatives within the country, will increase the levels of participation of the members with the cooperative, will provide increased opportunities for training and education at all levels, will increase the employment opportunities in both the farm and non-farm sectors, will increase the contribution of the cooperatives to the total development effort, will lead to equitable participation of even the under-privileged in the results of increased production, will provide equitable access to social and economic services, and will establish effective channels of communication between the less-advantaged who hitherto have not been directly involved in the processes of identification and planning of projects on the one hand and the cooperatives and governmental agencies involved in the process of development.

5. The programme aims to reach the small farmers and rural labourers and their families as the basic unit of development.

6. It is very likely that there will be no need always to set up new cooperatives to give effect to proposals under this programme. Existing agricultural, multipurpose, fishery cooperatives etc., could formulate suitable projects that would help the development of a particular commodity or a particular group interest, for example, bee keeping, mushroom growing, sericulture, grain and seed processing,

International Cooperative Alliance

3

fishery development (marine and fresh water), forestry development, market gardening, marketing, development and management of irrigation facilities, development of small-scale animal husbandry, cottage industries etc. A whole host of functions vital to the development of the small farmer and the less privileged in society will lend themselves to support under this programme.

7. The projects identified in the first instance should be relatively small and would be considered as pilot projects with possibility of expansion on the basis of the experience gained during the process of development. As emphasized earlier, the projects should be those that will ensure effective participation at grass-root level by the likely beneficiaries and should be those that will enable the participants to strengthen/develop their own cooperatives and also improve their income and their standard of life.

8. You are kindly requested to give the above proposals your earnest consideration, discuss with the appropriate cooperative organisations and government agencies where necessary and identify suitable projects which can be assisted under this programme. In identifying and formulating the project proposals it would be necessary to observe the following:

- (i) involve the beneficiaries in the planning and programming process;
- (ii) give as much detail as possible about the proposed project, especially the nature of the project, the numbers likely to participate, the number of families and population likely to benefit, the way in which the project will be implemented, the time duration of the project with identifiable phases of project, if any;
- (iii) the likely cost of the total project and of the various phases of the project, and the likely local contribution for the implementation of the project which could be in the form of participatory labour contribution etc;
- (iv) the likely training and education programme which will be necessary to make the project meaningful;
- (v) the supporting agencies which need to be developed and strengthened to get the best benefits of the project;
- (vi) the machinery that can be set up for evaluating the project;

International Cooperative Alliance

4

(vii) the external input that is considered necessary both as regards (a) personnel, (b) equipment and technical assistance, and (c) financial assistance and such other details as would be relevant to better understanding of the project proposal, its development potential and the proposed method of implementation.


9. I would be most thankful if you would in the first instance indicate as early as possible whether your organisation or your affiliates would be interested in coming into this programme of assistance and subsequently if you will at your earliest convenience send me suitable proposals under this programme.

10. I would once again urge that this programme which is based on a concept of increasing people's participation in rural development would be one that would be most advantageous to our cooperatives and that apart from the positive development effects that we would have under this programme the process will lead towards the strengthening of the cooperatives both at the base level and eventually at all levels in the country.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

With cooperative greetings,

Yours sincerely,



R.B. Rajaguru
Regional Director

pk/

International Cooperative Alliance
"Bonow-House"
43, Friends Colony, New Delhi - 65

January 10, 1980

21ST MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD
AT PETALING JAYA, MALAYSIA, ON 22ND & 23RD NOVEMBER 1979

Inauguration Ceremony of the 21st Meeting
of the ICA Council for South-East Asia

1. The inauguration ceremony of the 21st meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia and its various Sub-Committees was held at Hotel Jaya Puri, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia on 19th November 1979. The meeting was attended by a large and representative gathering of cooperators and government officials. The Hon. Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Edmund Langgu, was the Chief Guest and delivered the Inaugural Address.
2. Royal Professor Ungku Aziz, President, ANGKASA, in this address welcomed all the Regional Councillors and Sub-Committee members and others and thanked his Excellency the Deputy Minister of Agriculture for the encouragement and support given by his presence at the meeting. He said: "the cooperatives in the country were now at the crossroads as to what role to play in accelerating the socio-economic development of the people in the rural areas. Equal attention should also be given to a good understanding of the principles of cooperatives". He also commented that many joined the cooperatives because they expected to get a loan or a piece of land. Other countries also shared the same experience as to what motivates people to join cooperatives and it was found that they are motivated by personal benefits.
3. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, in his address welcomed all Regional Councillors, Members of the Committees and all others who had graced the occasion by their presence. He expressed his gratitude to His Excellency Mr. Edmund Langgu, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, for his presence.
4. His Excellency Mr. Edmund Langgu, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, in his Inaugural Address while welcoming all Regional Councillors said: "the government is setting up school cooperatives throughout the country to teach students the basics and practices of cooperatives and help them run their own business. About 283 school cooperatives were now in operation with a total membership of 23,000. Business carried out by these cooperatives amounted to \$2.19 million last year in the form of school books, school uniforms and other equipment". He went on to say that "the government hoped the future generations could be cooperative-conscious through the implementation of such activities. The strength of the cooperative movement in the country was quite encouraging with a total membership of 1.34 million. This indicated that about 10 per cent of the total population in the country was directly involved in the cooperative movement". He hoped that the discussions at the meeting would pave the way for a more progressive cooperative movement in the South-East Asian Region.

5. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education), ICA ROEC, extended a vote of thanks to all those present and also thanked the host movement, the Cooperative Movement of Malaysia for the excellent arrangements and the facilities provided.

Minutes of the Twentyfirst Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia held at Putaling Jaya (Malaysia) on 22-23 November 1979

6. The Twentyfirst Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia was held at the Board Room of Wisma MCIS on 22nd and 23rd November, 1979.

7. The following were present:-

Members of the Council

1. Royal Prof. Ungku Aziz, Chairman & Member for Malaysia
2. Mr. I.H. Hunter, Member for Australia
3. Mr. Ali Hossain, Member for Bangladesh
4. Mr. M.A. Haque, Member for Bangladesh
5. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, Member for India
6. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia
7. Mr. Djoko Basuki, Member for Indonesia
8. Mr. Sachifumi Ochiai, Member for Japan
9. Mr. Akira Kurimoto, Alternate Member for Japan
10. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Member for Malaysia
11. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Member for Philippines
12. Mr. Joseph Edward, Member for Singapore
13. Mr. Teo Cheng Peow, Member for Singapore
14. Mr. Jaya Herat, Member for Sri Lanka
15. Mr. R.S. Jayaratne, Alternate Member for Sri Lanka
16. Mr. Adul Niyomviphat, Member for Thailand
17. Mr. Vichien Inthachat, Member for Thailand

Secretary : Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia

Observers

1. Mr. K. Fujimoto, Managing Director, IDACA, Tokyo
2. Mr. Supah Noh, Malaysia
3. Mr. Malte Jonsson, SCC, Stockholm
4. Mr. Syed Kamarulzaman, FOA, Malaysia
5. Mohd Nor Ibrahim, Cooperative Department, Malaysia

ICA Staff

1. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education), ICA ROEC
2. Dr. D.Vir, Joint Director (Education), ICA ROEC
3. Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (P&PR), ICA ROEC
4. Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TA&T), ICA ROEC

In attendance

1. Mr. S. Komatsu, CUAC, Tokyo
2. Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, ICA ROEC

Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome

8. Dato N.A. Kularajah welcomed the Regional Councillors on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Malaysia. He hoped that the meeting would be successful and that members would have a pleasant stay and carry back pleasant memories of Malaysia.

9. Before commencing the meeting, Dato Kularajah requested all the members to stand for a minute in silence in memory of Mr. Mak Kam Heng, former Regional Councillor from Singapore, who died recently. A minute's silence was observed.

Agenda Item No. 2 : Introductory Remarks by Regional Director

10. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia, extended a welcome to all the Councillors to the 21st Meeting of the Regional Council and thanked them for finding time out from their busy schedule to be present at this meeting. He said: "this meeting is very important from the point of view of the secretariat because it is here that you decide on what kind of emphasis should be placed in regard to the activities of the ROEC in the Region. We are also very privileged that we have today with us Mr. Malte Jonsson of the Swedish Cooperative Centre (SCC). As you know, most of the educational activities of the ROEC are financed through the SCC and it is good that we have the privilege of having Mr. Malte Jonsson with us today because he would be able to understand the needs of the region and emphasis placed by us and this will help him to get his organisation to help us wherever such help is possible. Over the last few days of deliberations in Committees one of the things that has come up constantly as a matter of urgent need is the aspect of development of management skills. Another matter of emphasis was the aspect of member education inclusive of even the youth through school cooperatives. I hope that the Regional Councillors in their deliberations would be able to place emphasis on what they think are really the fundamental issues in the Region in respect of cooperative development and then hopefully would be able from the secretariat to define these in more concrete terms to the SCC and ICA London who would be financing our activities.

11. "Another aspect that I would like to emphasize today which we might also consider is the aspect of trying to quantify really what assistance is really being given by the various member countries in the Region itself for our regional activities. This I think you might remember we have mentioned several times. Most of our host member organisations some how or other do not like to quantify how much they spend, but we would think that for general consumption it would be useful to find out how much each of our member organisations do spend on various activities because then we would be able to find out really how much support there is for our activities within the Region itself. This will be of use to the SCC who sometimes feel that the regional expenditure is not commensurate with theirs. I would suggest Mr. Chairman that we take up this matter and find some ways of quantifying the assistance without of course affecting the normal cultural traits of the country concerned."

12. He once again thanked the Regional Councillors and Mr. Malte Jonsson from Sweden for being present at these deliberations and hoped that they will give the directions necessary for the ROEC to continue to work more effectively in the future.

Agenda Item No. 3 : Election of Chairman

13. Royal Prof. Ungku Aziz, Member for Malaysia, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Council till the holding of the next Council Meeting.

Agenda Item No. 4 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the 20th Meeting

14. The Minutes of the 20th Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia held at Bangkok, Thailand, on 6th December 1978 which had been circulated earlier were confirmed.

Agenda Item No. 5 : Background papers on "Recent Changes, Trends, and Developments of the Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia"

15. A printed book entitled "Recent Changes, Trends and Developments of the Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia" was presented to each Councillor by the ROEC. The meeting was of the view that the publication seemed to be a very good one and thanked the ICA ROEC for having published it.

Agenda Item No. 6 : Administration

Contributions to the funds of the ROEC

16. The Secretary reported that the total contributions received from the member-organisations amounted to Rs.95,612.50 for 1978-79.

17. He also informed the meeting that the Sarawak Central Cooperative Bank was no longer in the membership of the ICA.

Contributions to ROEC in respect of work done for the Sub-Committee on Agriculture

18. The Secretary reported that for the year 1978-79, the total contribution received by the ROEC in respect of the work done for the Sub-Committee on Agriculture amounted to £405/-.

Concessions by the Government of India

19. The Secretary once again placed on record his sincere thanks to the Government of India for the concessions and other facilities that they have provided to the ROEC while the office is being maintained in India. He added that this support has been continuous and that they have also had continued support from the Ministry of Cooperation and from the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI).

Staff Changes

20. The Secretary reported the following as regards the staff changes in the ROEC:

21. Mr. M.V. Madane, who was working with the ROEC as Joint Director(TAT) resigned on 1 January 1979 to work permanently with the FAO/PACCA Project in Kabul, Afghanistan.

22. At this point, the Member for India, Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, asked whether the post vacated by Mr. Madane had been filled by a Specialist in Industrial Cooperatives. The Secretary said that the post had not been filled. In the present situation of the ICA finances it was not known whether this post would be filled on a permanent basis. He said "we have been advised by the ICA London to cut down expenditure by 20 per cent and as you know Mr. Madane was an officer who was paid by the ICA as against some of the other officers paid by the Swedish support. In the present financial constraints of the ICA London I am not too sure whether we will be having adequate finances to fill the post as such. We have sought the sanction of the Head Office to fill the post and the priorities of the ROEC being Management and Industrial Cooperatives."

23. Dr. G. Ojha, Cooperative Education Officer (Cemas) has been given extension for a period of one year with effect from 17.7.1979. The Secretary informed the meeting that Dr. Ojha was a very capable person and that he had been conducting a number of workshops on his own. He hoped that he would continue to work with the ROEC for one more year.

24. Mr. Daman Prakash, Education Officer (AVA) working with the Teachers Training Project in Sri Lanka had been given extension from 1.9.1979 upto 30.6.1980.

25. Mr. Daman Prakash and Mr. B.D. Pandey had been promoted to Officer Grade I with effect from 1.1.1979.

Agenda Item No. 7 : Education Centre

26. Action taken on the Minutes of the last meeting relating to educational activities was noted.

Review of Education Activities

27. The Council noted the following activities carried out by the Education Centre for the period October 1978 - August 1979 :

Regional

1. 5th Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management held at Bangkok, Thailand, from 11-16 December 1978 in collaboration with the Cooperative League of Thailand.
2. Follow-up Programme for Cooperative Teachers held at Los Banos, Philippines, from 7 February - 6 March 1979 in collaboration with the Cooperative Consultative and Coordinating Committee, Bureau of Cooperatives Development and ACCI.
3. Experts' Consultation on Cooperative Member Education held at Trincomalee, Sri Lanka, from 15-29 April 1979, in collaboration with the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka.
4. Second Meeting of SEASPECT held at Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 9-21 June 1979 in collaboration with the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF), followed by four days study visits in Japan.

5. Regional Seminar on Better Living Activities through Cooperatives held at Tokyo, Japan from 27 August - 14 September 1979 in collaboration with the CUAC/IDACA, preceded by one week study visits in Republic of Korea organised by NACF.

National Seminars

1. A Technical Meeting on Teaching of Cooperation in Schools and Colleges, held at Manila, Philippines, from 7 - 9 March 1979 on the request of the Cooperative Consultative & Coordinating Committee (CCCC) of the Philippines.
2. Four Pre-Seminars on Consumer Cooperation, held in the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia from 12 February to 15 May 1979.
3. National Seminar on Management of Agricultural Cooperatives, held at Colombo, Sri Lanka, on the request of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka (NCC).
4. National Workshop on the Use of Audio-Visual Aids, held at Pune, India, on the request of the National Centre for Cooperative Training (NCCI) and V M National Institute of Cooperative Management (VMNICM).

CEMAS

28. The ROEC is collaborating with the MATCOM which has produced some material and the CEMAS Unit in New Delhi is trying to adopt this material to conditions in South-East Asia. It was reported that there is a Memorandum of Understanding between ICA London and ILO/MATCOM whereby both the parties have agreed that there will be no overlapping in each other's activity.

29. The Member for Malaysia, Dato N.A. Kularajah, suggested that the CEMAS pamphlet needs some improvement, especially the man on the back cover page looks like a blind man. The ROEC was asked to bring this to the notice of CEMAS London.

30. The Director (Education) mentioned that with regard to CEMAS activities the ROEC had recruited Dr. Djha on a temporary basis. If we want to build up the activities we might need the services of a person on a full-time basis. This matter will be discussed further with the SCC and the position will be reported at a later stage.

Teachers Training Project, Sri Lanka

31. The Director (Education) informed the meeting that the project faced certain difficulties which was quite natural in a project at the initial stages. The work of the project was now getting into swing and it was hoped that the project will continue to work on the lines which have been chartered out for it in the project document. It will help to raise the capability of teachers in Sri Lanka to teach better and also to produce material which is suitable for the training courses in Sri Lanka.

Cooperative Education Field Project, Indonesia

32. The Director (Education) informed that an agreement has been reached on the project document between ICA ROEC and DKI. The project will be carried out by DKI. With regard to finding external funds, the ICA ROEC will explore the possibilities. Contact has been made with the SCC and their preliminary reactions are awaited.

Proposed Programme of Activities - July 1980-June 1981

33. The Director (Education) presented the programme of activities the ICA ROEC proposed to carry out during the year. The Council approved the following activities scheduled for the period July 1980 - June 1981 :

(1) Regional Conference on "Enhancing Women's Participation in Cooperative Activities"

Venue : Sri Lanka
Duration : 3 weeks (July/September 1980)
Participants: 25

34. The Member for Sri Lanka, Mr. Jaya Herat, said that the proposal will be put up to the Board of NCC and the decision to host the conference will be intimated to the ROEC in due course.

35. The Chairman suggested that family planning be included as one of the subjects of the conference as family planning in many countries are moving into the whole business of total life and total family and cooperation. Attention should also be paid to the aspect of obstacles for women to come to the top in cooperative organisations.

36. Mr. Malte Jonsson of SCC informed the meeting that this type of activities is one of the priority list in Sweden for technical assistance programme concerning women participation.

37. The alternate Member for Japan, Mr. A. Kurimoto, suggested that the booklet entitled "Member Activities in the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Movement" by Mrs. M. D'Cruz of ICA ROEC should be made full use of at this conference.

38. It was also suggested that the collaboration of Mt. Caremal Institute be also explored.

39. The Director (Education) said that all these suggestions will be kept in view while drawing up the programme.

(2) ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar in Japan

Venue : Tokyo, Japan
Duration : 21 days
Study visits: One week in Republic of Korea
Participants: 25

40. It was decided that the subject of the seminar be "Role of Cooperatives in Modernisation of Agriculture".

41. The Chairman suggested that the following two subjects be incorporated in the seminar programme : (i) Cooperative Modernisation and Energy Crisis - how cooperatives can help their members, (ii) Problems of inflation in relation to agriculture - the role of cooperatives in protecting their members from the impact of inflation especially in respect of agricultural inputs and in dealing with the problems of agricultural marketing in the context of inflation.

(3) 7th Open Asian Conference

Venue : Along with the Council Meeting
Duration : One week

42. The Council decided that the title of the 7th Open Asian Conference be "Cooperation among Cooperative Movements with special reference to the Region". The following topics were suggested for inclusion in the conference programme : (i) How can we strengthen relationship between cooperatives in the Region, (ii) Trade, (iii) Joint Ventures, (iv) Technical Assistance, (v) Technical know-how, (vi) Member Relations, (vii) Cooperation among Members - loyalty and support, strengthening of members' support as a basis for cooperation with other cooperatives, (viii) Cooperation at the global level.

(4) Regional Training Course on Cooperative Management

Venue : Pune, India
Duration : 2 months, January/March 1981
Participants: 25

43. The Director (Education) said that the experience from the two Training Methodology Courses held so far by the ROEC was that while we have trained the teachers on training methodology and they have got some skills in participative teaching techniques such as case studies, role plays, the deficiencies we have observed in most of the teachers is that when it comes to management, general management, principles, their acquaintance is limited. It is from that point of view that we thought of having this course and it is hoped that this course would be valuable to them.

44. The Chairman suggested that the MATCOM material be sent in advance to the participants so that they can study it in advance before coming to the course. The participants to the course may among others include 50 per cent of middle level managers.

45. The Director (Education) said that "we are working on the curriculum for the course. One thing we found in MATCOM material is that that material is developed with cooperative organisations in Africa and therefore we cannot use the same cases here. We have to produce fresh material. We can take only the theoretical portion, but when it comes to application we have to use our material."

(5) Regional Seminar on "Organisation and Development of Fishery Cooperatives"

Venue : Korea
Duration : 3 weeks with one week study Visits in Japan
Period : March/April 1981
Participants : 25

46. The Director (Education) informed the meeting that this was discussed at the Fisheries Sub-Committee meeting and the suggestion was that the emphasis should be on the development of fishery cooperatives keeping in view that the fishery cooperatives have not developed as much as expected in the past and it was also felt that in view of the annual seminar which is being held in Japan on this subject, this could be converted not as a training programme but some kind of policy-makers conference or technical meeting where competent people are invited to discuss how fishery cooperatives can be developed.

(6) Regional Course for Principals of Cooperative Training Institutions in the Region

Venue : Sweden
Duration : 4 weeks - April/May 1981

47. The Director (Education) informed that this was one of the recommendations of the SEASPECT meeting held in Seoul. The SEASPECT meeting observed that although the teachers have been given training in participative teaching techniques and in materials production, they themselves do not have such exposure and they would like some training themselves so that they could provide necessary support to the teachers. This request was conveyed by the ROEC to SCC and it had been agreed that a one month course for the Principals would be held in spring of 1981 in Sweden.

48. The Chairman requested the ROEC to prepare bibliography of the papers that will be taken up at the course and send it in advance to the Principals/Directors of the national training institutions so that they could study it before coming to the course.

✓ (7) Technical Meeting on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing

Venue : New Delhi, India
Timing : 2nd half of September 1980

49. The Director (Education) informed that originally this meeting was to be held during the current financial year. However, on account of the work which the Cooptrade Project is doing, it was decided by the Sub-Committee on Agriculture that this meeting be postponed and be held during the second half of 1980.

(8) Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation

Venue : Singapore
Timings : February 1981

50. It has been tentatively decided that there should be a follow-up seminar some time in February 1981. In this follow up seminar apart from those participants who attended the International Seminar in Sweden, the SCC has desired that the ROEC should also invite other participants who had attended earlier seminars. The Course Director of the Swedish International Seminar will also be attending this seminar.

National Seminars

51. The Director (Education) requested the member movements to send their requests to the ICA ROEC for holding National Seminars on topics of interest to them.

52. Requests for the following national seminars were made at the meeting :

Philippines : i. Training Methodology Course
 ii. Teaching Techniques
 iii. Agricultural Cooperation including Agricultural
 Cooperative Marketing
 iv. Library Science

Thailand : i. Training Methodology Course
 ii. Agricultural Cooperation including Agricultural
 Cooperative Marketing

CEMAS

The CEMAS activities will be continued.

Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers, Sri Lanka

53. The Project will be continued during the year.

Cooperative Education Field Project in Indonesia

54. It is expected that this project will become operational during the current year.

Project for Consumer Education and Information through Cooperatives in Sri Lanka

55. The project will be continued during the year.

56. Mr. Malte Jonsson of the SCC made the following remarks at the meeting after the Agenda on Education Centre was over :

"I would like to make a few points to the members of this meeting concerning some changes in the future collaboration between the SCC and the ICA ROEC. You certainly know that we have through last year's supported the activities of the ICA ROEC and the amount made available from Sweden came to 80 per cent from the Swedish Government from SIDA and 20 per cent from the cooperative members and cooperative organisations in Sweden. Due to financial difficulties specially in the consumer cooperative sector in Sweden from whom we receive the biggest part of our resources the contribution to the activities of SCC has been reduced because it was connected with the dividend system and most of the big societies in Sweden have now stopped giving dividend because of financial difficulties. This would mean that member contributions from the consumer sector from Sweden to our activities which was

2 million Swedish Kroners every year (equivalent to US\$ 400,000) has been reduced to Sw.Kr. 700,000. To meet the big demands from the developing countries not only in Asia but also from Africa for technical assistance from Sweden to support cooperative development, the Swedish Government and SIDA have taken a policy decision that one of the policies of the Swedish Government to support developing countries should be in the field of trade unions and cooperatives. This policy decision of the government will be placed before the Parliament for approval in January 1980. The SCC and the government authorities are sure that this policy decision will be approved by the Parliament. This approval means a substantial financial improvement from the present 80-20 basis. This means that from the budget year 1980-81 we will receive 100 per cent contribution from SIDA both for the ICA ROEC activities and for national projects. For the support of the national projects we will still have 80-20 contribution where we give 20 per cent from our own funds, but for regional activities we will have 100 per cent contribution. We will now have more money available for projects of national or local type."

In view of this Mr. Malte Jonsson requested the members to submit more suggestions for national projects and programmes before 1st February next year. The ROEC would then be requested to work out the project documents. He added "I would like to mention here what type of new projects or new activities we and SIDA especially are interested in. There is one subject which is of very big interest for Sweden and that is the 'Cooperatives and Poor'. We have also the subject of Industrial Cooperatives. There is new trend also in Sweden inside the SCC in collaboration with our member organisations, KF, Consumer cooperative apex organisations and the LRF, in terms of increasing to set up special body for commercial activities. Previously it was very negatively regarded upon in SIDA to combine commercial activities with technical assistance". He requested the cooperatives in South-East Asia to increase the possibility for commercial exchange, between cooperative organisations in the developing countries and in Sweden for example. "We will create a body in Sweden to deal with commercial contacts. This will also mean we may in the future have training activities in collaboration with the ICA in this field."

Agenda Item No. 8 : Technical Assistance and Trade Section

57. The Joint Director (TAT) informed the meeting that following requests were received by ROEC for technical and financial assistance:

1. BJSU request for Audio-Visual aids and micro buses

58. The ROEC requested the BJSU to send the project document. This is still awaited and as soon as it is received it will be examined.

2. Request from Philippines for Swedish Experts on Coop Supermarkets

59. The SCC has already agreed to provide consultants for 3-man months. They have asked for certain information from the Philippines such as a background paper about the current situation of the consumer cooperative movement, present position and proposals of Super Plangke. This information was still awaited. Once this information is received the SCC will take five months to make arrangements for suitable consultants. The member for Philippines, Mr. Ben Faustino, said that this will be very much in time for their need.

3. Support for Coop Education Programmes in Schools in Philippines

60. This request was forwarded by ICA ROEC to Head Office in London and they have indicated that it would not be possible to fund this project through Cooperative Development Fund.

4. Bhor Dairy Project

61. The Joint Director (TAT) informed the meeting that assistance to Bhor Project is now complete. All the monies that was available has been released by ICA.

Part II : Trade

ICA Trade Directory

62. The information given in the Agenda was noted by the meeting. It was decided to defer the question of bringing out the trade directory for some time more.

Cooperative Trade Conference, Moscow, 1980

63. The Joint Director (TAT) informed the meeting that the 2nd International Trade Conference will be held in Moscow in October 1980 along with the ICA Congress. It has also been tentatively decided that the 3rd International Trade Conference will be held in a developing country.

64. The ROEC has requested its member organisations to supply the names of the cooperative trading organisations who would like to participate in this conference. They may have to carry their samples, quotations etc.

Future of ICTO

65. The information given in the Agenda was noted by the Council.

Cooperative Trade Project

66. The information given in the Agenda was noted by the Council. Mr. Malte Jonsson of the SCC informed the meeting that this is also one of the priority list of SIDA.

Agenda Item No. 9 : Publications, Public Relations and Library Section

67. The Joint Director (PPR) informed the Council that publications brought out by the ROEC during the previous year had been listed in the agenda.

Publicity

68. The Joint Director (PPR) requested the Council for assistance in obtaining information regarding cooperative development activities in the Region for inclusion in the Regional Bulletin. He explained that the Regional Bulletin was originally started as a mimeographed news sheet giving information of the ICA RO activities. Later it was printed as an eight-page bulletin. It has gradually grown to the present position. Now it has a number of features covering cooperative news from the Region, cooperative news from other parts of the world pertaining to the Region, success stories of cooperative organisations in addition to the information regarding ICA's own activities. Articles on various aspects of Cooperation also is published from time to time. He said there are difficulties in obtaining news regarding current development activities in the field of Cooperation and requested the Council to assist in this regard. He also requested them to make suggestions for improvement of the Bulletin.

69. The Regional Director informed the meeting that some have pointed out that the Regional Bulletin does not serve the purpose it really intends to serve. He wanted to have a frank discussion on this matter in order to have the views of the Council. He asked the members "Is it worthwhile, useful? Is there anything we can improve in the quality of the Bulletin? How can you help us by giving news items which we can include in the Bulletin as we find it very difficult to get news from our member organisations".

70. The Member for Malaysia, Dato Kularajah, said that the Bulletin is useful and good.

71. It was suggested that the ROEC should write to all the member organisations to find out the number of copies they would like to have. It was decided that the national organisations will nominate persons for the supply of news to the ROEC. Such nominated persons will also be supplied with additional copies of the Bulletin.

Supply and exchange of literature

72. The Joint Director (PPR) informed the meeting that after a seminar is over, a complete set of papers of the seminar is posted to all the member organisations in the Region. This is, however, proving very expensive in view of the high cost of postage especially when the set of papers are sent from Japan. He wanted to know from the meeting whether to continue with this practice.

73. The Council decided that the ROEC should continue to send set of seminar papers to all the affiliated organisations.

Publication Programme for 1979-80

74. The Council noted that the following publications would be brought out during the year 1979-80 :

1. Indian Cooperative Rules vis-a-vis Cooperative Principles
2. Readings in Cooperative Marketing
3. Amalgamation of Primary Agricultural Cooperatives - The Japanese Experience (revised and reprinted)
4. Cooperative Member Education in South-East Asia - proceedings of Experts' Consultation
5. Agricultural Marketing for Cooperators (revised)
6. Cooperative Series
7. Speeches on Cooperation

Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press

75. The Joint Director (PPR) informed the meeting that as a result of the recommendation made by the Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press and Publicity held in Tokyo, the ROEC has now established a Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press for the Region. Almost all the countries have sent in their nominations. It is hoped that the first meeting of the Working Party will be held in Malaysia some time at the end of May 1980.

Agenda Item No. 10 : Decisions and Recommendations of the Sub-Committees of the Regional Council - Agriculture, Fisheries, Consumer, Trade

76. The Secretaries/Chairman of the Sub-Committees on Agriculture, Fisheries, Consumer and Trade reported to the Council the decisions and recommendations arrived at their Sub-Committee meetings.

77. Sub-Committee on Agriculture

1. There was a suggestion to bring out a bibliography of research in this Region. After discussion the Sub-Committee decided that instead of bringing out a separate research register for the Region that we should support the existing Research Register which is being published by the ICA London in collaboration with Poland and Hungary. It recommended to the various organisations to see that information regarding research done by them are sent to ICA ROEC so that they can pass on to the people who are preparing this register.

2. Regarding better living activities, the Sub-Committee discussed at length and decided that the cooperative organisations especially agricultural cooperatives should be encouraged to introduce better living activities. The Sub-Committee noted that some of the societies are already carrying out these activities, but this need to be extended and where they do not exist, it should be introduced. It was also suggested that pilot projects in some countries may be started and international assistance for this may be sought by the ROEC.

3. Another decision by the Sub-Committee was to request SCC to hold a Marketing Seminar in Sweden for the countries in this region in future. In this connection there were requests from various other Sub-Committees also and it was therefore decided that this should be discussed in the Council Meeting and some sort of priorities be decided. The SCC has agreed to hold a International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in 1983.

78. Sub-Committee on Fisheries

1. The Fisheries Sub-Committee noted the new method of sending invitations to the seminar in Japan. From last year, the invitations are being sent by ICA ROEC and all participants in the last seminar were from cooperative organisations. As this seminar is now an annual event, it was suggested that the national organisations should have some sort of roster from which they can send participants to the seminar on time for the Japanese Fishery Federation to process and arrange for their travel etc.

2. The Fishery Seminar to be held in Korea in 1981 was also discussed. In view of the seminar that is held in Japan early this year, it was decided that the seminar in Korea be of different type i.e. it should be aimed at policy-makers to discuss organisational and development aspect of fishery cooperatives especially because in all the countries in the Region the development of fishery cooperatives are not very well developed.

3. The Sub-Committee also decided that the ICA ROEC should explore possibilities of getting training for fishery cooperators in advanced countries.

4. It was decided to collect papers on the fishery cooperatives in the countries of the Region. This will first be brought out in mimeographed form.

79. Committee on Consumer Cooperation

1. The Committee had dealt with follow up actions generated from the last meeting and the main activities this year was the national Pre-Seminars and International Seminar held in Sweden. This item was dealt with in great detail and the Secretary submitted an evaluation paper on this subject. In the course of discussions, hearty gratitude was expressed to the SCC for the successful conduct of the International Seminar. As a follow up of the International Seminar it was decided to hold a workshop in February 1981 in Singapore. In this connection it was strongly suggested that at the national level also follow up action should be taken by the national organisations in the form of consultations with participants and collecting verbal and then written reports from each participant. These reports can be collected by the ROEC for purposes of overall evaluation of the effect of International Seminar as well as National Seminars.

2. There was a strong demand in the Committee for developing management skills, manpower building. The Committee took into consideration the possibility of holding the next International Seminar in Sweden in 1983.

3. Mr. Chong Thin Huatt, General Manager of the Malaysian Cooperative Supermarkets Society presented a paper on Consumer Cooperative in Malaysia - Problems and Prospects at the Committee meeting. He raised some problems which they were facing in Malaysia.

4. A talk about the history of consumer cooperative movement in Japan and its experiences was presented by the Chairman, Mr. Kurimoto.

5. The Chairman expressed his satisfaction at the successful conduct of the meeting. He hoped that some steady progress could be made. He said that we should try to implement and study in detail about the experiences of each country which was expressed and presented at the meeting and should have follow-up national level seminars.

6. It was decided to hold a Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan particularly with reference to members' participation as it was felt that Japanese experience is much more useful and more relevant to conditions in South-East Asian context. The Chairman informed the meeting that the matter of holding the seminar in Japan would be taken up with IDACA and JCCU Board of Directors and the decision to this effect will be notified to ROEC in due course.

80. Sub-Committee on Trade

1. As a follow up of the last meeting, the ROEC informed all the member organisations about the ILO/SIDA Project on Strengthening of Inter-cooperative Trade Relations and also about the Trade Promotion Centre in the ESCAP Region. The ROEC also circulated the list of information centres which have been established in the various countries of the Region from whom they can find out the export market and where there are potentials for them to export products from their respective countries.

2. The ROEC also informed the member organisations in the Region about the very useful quarterly journal FORUM which is being published by ITC, Geneva. It is being supplied free of cost to any cooperative organisations or individuals in the developing countries. The Sub-Committee recommended that all the important trading organisations which are interested to enter into foreign trade should subscribe to this journal.

3. The ROEC also kept the members of the Sub-Committee informed of the important developments of the 5th Meeting of the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development which was held in May 1978.

4. A brief account of the ILO/SIDA Workshop held in Singapore in January 1979 was given to the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee was also informed of the 10 scholarship which was offered under this project and 10 persons were sent to Sweden from this region to attend the seminar on Export Promotion for one month. After the seminar these fellows were taken to various countries in Europe on trade contract mission.

Mr. Rolf Akoby, Team Leader ILO/SIDA Cooptrade Workshop, who was present by invitation gave details of their activities and the progress made so far and of the Project's future programmes.

5. The meeting was also informed about the conclusions and recommendations which was made by the participants at the Singapore Workshop. The Sub-Committee requested all the member-organisations that they should give wide publicity to the ILO/SIDA Project and ensure that right type of participants are selected for these workshops in their respective countries.

6. A list of exportable items which have been produced by the cooperatives in the Region was given to the members of the Sub-Committee. These items have been identified by the ITC Expert by making on the spot study in various countries. It was further supplemented by the information given by the participants in the Singapore Workshop. They were asked to explore the possibility of having intra-regional trade as far as these items are concerned.

7. The Sub-Committee also recommended that the ICA should continue to intensify its activities in the field of cooperative trade. Further it was recommended that the ROEC should try to make available trade information from the various agencies for the benefit of the trading organisations in the Region.

8. The Sub-Committee was informed that the ICA Agriculture Committee has already decided that the next International Trade Conference will be held in Moscow from 9-11 October 1980. One day will be devoted to consider how to promote trade from the developing countries and they have already issued questionnaires to the cooperative trading organisations in the Region and member organisations were requested to cooperate and try to furnish the information so that worthwhile paper could be put up at that conference. Interested cooperative trading organisations should participate in this conference along with samples of their products, quotations on f.o.b. basis so that some type of transactions can take place.

9. The Sub-Committee expressed the strong need for providing training in export trade, basic management skills for the employees of the business organisations which have the potential to enter into foreign trade.

Agenda Item No. 11 : Relations with member organisations in the Region

81. The information given in the agenda was noted by the council. The member for India, Mr. Vishwanathan, informed the meeting that the NCUI has agreed to cater to educational needs of 25 members from Sri Lanka every year, explore the possibility of trade between Sri Lanka and India and also to assist the Sri Lanka Cooperative Movement in the establishment of a national cooperative bank. He requested the ROEC to explore the possibility of making Nepal, Bhutan and Afghanistan as members of the ICA as cooperative movements in these countries have not been developed at all.

82. The Secretary informed the meeting that as far as Nepal was concerned, ICA had been inviting participants from Nepal to all the educational activities of ROEC by sending invitations to the Cooperative Department there. They are already working towards the establishment of a national organisation which would eventually become a member of the ICA. However, the process is slow.

83. As regards Bhutan, the Secretary said that this is the first time it is mentioned here. The ROEC will certainly take note of Bhutan.

84. As regards Afghanistan, we have had contact very recently through the FAO PACCA Project. We conducted a training course for Afghan trainees. The contact will be useful in that they will work towards the setting up of a national organisation which might eventually become a member of the ICA.

85. The Member for Sri Lanka, Mr. R.S. Jayaratne, expressed his thanks to the Cooperative Movement of India for the generous contribution made by it towards the rehabilitation of cooperatives in the cyclone affected areas.

86. At this point, the Chairman suggested that the ROEC should also explore the possibility of helping the refugees in Kampuchea through the Thai Cooperative Movement either in cash or kind. The members for Thailand agreed to take up the matter in the Board meeting.

87. The Secretary informed the meeting that collection of funds and transmitting it from India to Thailand would be difficult because of exchange control regulations in India. It was however agreed that the ROEC will write to all member organisations in the Region requesting them to assist the refugees in Kampuchea and that the money be sent directly to the Cooperative League of Thailand who will collect the funds with information to ROEC.

Agenda Item No. 12 : Relations with International Organisations

88. The information given in the agenda was noted by the Council.

Agenda Item No. 13 : Venue and Dates of the next meeting

89. The Secretary informed the meeting that the Cooperative Federation of Australia had regretted its inability to host the Regional Council Meeting and the Top Level Cooperative Leaders' Conference in 1980.

90. He also informed the meeting that the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of the Republic of Korea had agreed to host the Regional Council Meeting in 1981. They have, however, regretted their inability to hold the Open Asian Conference which normally follows the Regional Council Meeting. The ROEC is, however, in correspondence with the Japanese Cooperative Movement to see whether they could host a Top Level Cooperative Leaders' Conference immediately after the Regional Council Meeting in Korea in 1981. A reply is awaited.

91. Mr. Irwin Hunter, Member for Australia, regretted the movement's inability to host the meeting in 1980 due to several reasons. He was however hopeful that the Australian Movement would be able to host the event in the very near future.

92. As regards the venue of the Regional Council meeting to be held in 1980, it was decided that the ROEC could enter into correspondence with the various member organisations in the Region and see if it could locate a venue in course of time. .

Agenda Item No. 14 : Any other matter

93. The Secretary informed the meeting about the "Buy a Bucket of Water" project. The Japanese Cooperative Movement has made a donation of £stg. 27,000 which money was collected by the cooperative movement on this "Buy a Bucket of Water" programme. Because of the tremendous support that the Japanese Cooperative Movement has given to this programme, the ICA is able to release £ 70,000 for this Region for the construction of wells to provide drinking water facilities. The Secretary requested the members to draw up projects which the ROEC could send on to London for funding in 1980. If there are any projects the same may please be sent to ROEC before the end of the year so that funds may be released in the first quarter of 1980. He thanked the Japanese Cooperative Movement on behalf of the Region for the tremendous support they give in this regard.

94. The Member for India, Mr. Vishwanathan, submitted a proposal for the establishment of a Asian Centre for Cooperative Research Studies within the Asian Region. The Council decided that this proposal be studied further by the ROEC in collaboration with the following Council Members and its views submitted to the Council :

(1) Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, India, (2) Mr. Ben Faustino, Philippines, (3) Dato N.A. Kularajah, Malaysia.

95. The Secretary mentioned the aspect of selection of participants for the various seminars and courses conducted by the ROEC. He strongly urged once again that the selection be done most carefully so that the best benefits of the courses are derived by the movement concerned.

96. The Secretary brought to the notice of the Council that the ROEC faces the problem sometimes in the preparation of background papers when there are more than one person from a country taking part in the seminars. He said: "I would like to suggest that when we select more than one person for an event the national organisation take on itself the responsibility to summon the persons selected so that they can prepare a joint background paper before the participants leave the country. They should get the people together and have a look at the background paper submitted on behalf of the cooperative movement".

97. The Secretary suggested that the national organisation brief their participants before they come out of the country. This, he thought was necessary as sometimes the situation can be delicate in the international seminars which might not be complementary to the situation back home.

98. As to the aspect of the follow up when participants come back from a seminar, the Secretary said that the participants should be expected to submit a report to the national organisation. The national organisations could consider sending copies of these to the ROEC too. They should not only submit a report but an occasion be found for the persons to meet the Board or President of the national organisation to report verbally so that he is able to give an account of himself and thereafter also prepare a follow up programme.

99. The Principals of the national training colleges may be kept informed of the regional event. They on their part should also try to negotiate or contact the national organisation to see how follow up programme can be fitted into their programme. The ROEC is taking recourse to a system that as soon as a regional seminar is over to write to the members of the SEASPECT informing them that a regional seminar of this nature was held and perhaps the national organisation may be trying to get up a follow up programme and if they can assist, the national organisation in this regard.

100. The Joint Director (PPR) informed the meeting that sometimes the ROEC has to nominate people at very short notice. He suggested that a roster be drawn up by the member organisations depending on their various functional requirements so that in the event of the persons having to be sent at a short notice, selections could be made in time.

101. The Chairman suggested that the ROEC should hold a Seminar on Seminars to have a clinical study of the participants.

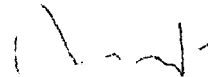
102. Mr. Malte Jonsson of SCC referred to the forthcoming International Seminar on Industrial Cooperatives which is actually the first experience for the SCC in this field being held in collaboration with the Supreme Cooperative Council of Poland and the ICA ROEC. Much will depend on the result of this seminar, if the SCC will continue this type of activity. He said that the Polish Cooperative Movement had contacts with several organisations in the countries of the Region and the list of such organisations has been sent to ROEC. If the Council agrees, this list can be circulated among the member organisations in the Region. The Council agreed with this suggestion and asked the ROEC to circulate this list to the member organisations in the Region requesting them to consult them before making nominations to the ROEC. The nominations should reach New Delhi by the middle of January 1950.

103. The Member for Singapore, Mr. Joseph Edward, thanked the various Regional Councillors and Sub-Committee members who have sent

condolence messages on the bereavement of Mr. Mak Kam Heng. All these messages have been conveyed to Mrs. Mak Kam Heng who has asked me to convey her deep sense of gratitude to those who have sent the messages.

Agenda Item No. 15 : Vote of thanks to the Chair

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



R.B. Rajaguru
Secretary, ICA Council for
South-East Asia

pk/aa

International Cooperative Alliance
43, Friends Colony,
New Delhi 110065.

June 18, 1980

MINUTES OF THE EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE ICA
COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD ON 23RD
NOVEMBER 1979 AT 11.30 AM

1. The Emergency Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia was held at the Board Room of the Wisma MCIS on 23rd November 1979 at 11.30 a.m.

2. The following were present :

Members of the Council

1. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Chairman and Member for Malaysia
2. Mr. I.H. Hunter, Member for Australia
3. Mr. Ali Hossain, Member for Bangladesh
4. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, Member for India
5. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia
6. Mr. Djoko Basuki, Member for Indonesia
7. Mr. Sachifumi Ochiai, Member for Japan
8. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Member for Philippines
9. Mr. Joseph Edward, Member for Singapore
10. Mr. Teo Cheng Peow, Member for Singapore
11. Mr. Jaya Herat, Member for Sri Lanka
12. Mr. R.S. Jayaratne, Alternate Member for Sri Lanka
13. Mr. Adul Niyomwiphat, Member for Thailand
14. Mr. Vichien Inthachat, Member for Thailand

Secretary : Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director
for South-East Asia

Observers

1. Mr. K. Fujimoto, Managing Director, IDACA, Tokyo
2. Mr. Supah Noh, Malaysia
3. Mr. Malte Jonsson, SCC, Stockholm

ICA Staff

1. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education), ICA ROEC
2. Dr. D. Vir, Joint Director (Education), ICA ROEC
3. Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (PPR), ICA ROEC
4. Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TAT), ICA ROEC

In attendance.

1. Mr. S. Komatsu, CUAC, Tokyo
2. Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director
Regional Director, ICA ROEC
3. The meeting commenced with Dato N.A. Kularajah in the Chair.
4. The Secretary informed the Council that at the meeting of the Board of Advisers held on 23rd November 1979 the Board of Advisers considered favourably the Memorandum submitted by the Managing Director of IDACA in which he stressed the need to integrate the activities of IDACA more effectively with those of the ICA ROEC. The Board, therefore, recommended that IDACA activities be considered as part of the ICA Council Agenda itself. The Board felt that this was step in the correct direction.
5. The Council discussed at length the recommendation of the Board of Advisers of IDACA and decided that all programmes and activities of IDACA for the Region should be considered by the Regional Council Meeting.
6. The Council took the following decisions :
 - (1) that all programmes and activities of IDACA for the Region should be considered by the Regional Councillors at the Regional Council Meeting itself.
 - (2) that the reporting in regard to activities of IDACA would form a part of the ICA report itself.
 - (3) that the administrative details and mechanics involved in this change would be worked out separately, and
 - (4) that there would be no change in the financial responsibilities of IDACA in respect of the ICA Council meetings and other programmes worked in collaboration with the ICA.
7. On the basis of the above decisions, the Council felt that it would become necessary to eventually make changes in the present agreement between ICA and IDACA and in particular in respect of the payment of 50 per cent of the airfare costs borne by the ICA in respect of the Regional Councillors who were also the members of the Board of Advisers of IDACA. The ICA will continue to bear 50 per cent of the costs of the ICA/IDACA joint reception held during the Regional Council Meeting. IDACA will bear the other 50 per cent costs.

8. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Member for Philippines, wanted to include a note, which was adopted unanimously, of appreciation to the Japanese Cooperative Movement, especially to the Managing Director of IDACA, Mr. K. Fujimoto, in the way the matter was presented to the Regional Council for consideration. He emphasized that the present arrangement will enable the Regional Council meeting to be more involved and effective.

9. On a proposal by Mr. Supah Noh from Malaysia, it was unanimously decided that the Managing Director of IDACA will attend the Regional Council Meetings as a Special Invitee and the Secretary was requested to send special invitations to him for attending the Regional Council meetings.

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



New Delhi
18.6.80

R.B. Rajaguru
Secretary, ICA Council for
South-East Asia

Note : The Minutes are revised in keeping with the details mentioned in my letter to all Regional Councillors dated 19 February 1980.

**ICA Council
for South-East Asia**

22nd Meeting

Venue Colombo, Sri Lanka

Dates November 15-16, 1980



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110065, India*

International Cooperative Alliance
Regional Office & Education Centre
for South-East Asia, Bonow House,
43, Friends Colony, New Delhi-65.

December 10, 1980

TWENTYSECOND MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA
HELD AT COLOMBO, SRI LANKA, ON 15TH AND 16TH NOVEMBER, 1980

Inauguration Ceremony of the
22nd Meeting of the ICA Council
for South-East Asia

1. The inauguration ceremony of the 22nd Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia and its various Sub-Committees was held at the Auditorium of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka on 12th November, 1980. The meeting was attended by a large and representative gathering of cooperators and government officials. The Hon. Minister for Food and Cooperatives, Mr. S.B. Herath, was the Chief Guest and delivered the Inaugural Address.
2. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, President, National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, in his address welcomed the Regional Councillors and expressed his happiness in being able to host the 22nd Meeting of the Regional Council for South-East Asia. He was of the view that the holding of the Regional Council Meeting in Sri Lanka at this time would help to focus attention of all concerned on the problems faced by the cooperatives in Sri Lanka and also that the exchange of views between experienced cooperators in the region would help in finding suitable solutions. The problems in the region were very similar and hence cooperators of the region could find cooperative solutions to such vital aspects like inter-cooperative trade, cooperative financing etc.
3. Mr. Bogollagama also welcomed the Chief Guest, Hon. Mr. S.B. Herath, Minister for Food and Cooperatives and expressed great pleasure in having an experienced and a practising cooperator as the Minister for Cooperatives. He said that he was very happy that the Minister, in spite of his heavy schedule, found it possible to be present and to inaugurate the 22nd Meeting of the Regional Council. He welcomed all guests and the Regional Councillors and wished them a happy stay in Sri Lanka.
4. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, in his address welcomed the Regional Councillors, the members of the Sub-Committees and the distinguished guests. He welcomed the Chief Guest, the Hon. S.B. Herath, Minister for Food and Cooperatives and thanked the Hon. Minister for the continuing support he, his Ministry and the Department of Cooperatives gave to all ICA activities in Sri Lanka.
5. Mr. Rajaguru drew the attention of all cooperators to the socio-economic problems faced by the various countries of the Region and the need for cooperatives to do some very hard rethinking in regard to the role of

cooperatives in socio-economic development. He pointed out, that numerous studies had shown that cooperative effort had not really helped those in real need and hence arose the need for devising strategies for greater involvement of the member and for greater participatory activities which would strengthen the cooperative and consequently the movement. He mentioned that the 27th Congress of the ICA held recently in Moscow had tried to look at Cooperatives in the Year 2000 A.D - and what emerged was the awareness of the tremendous role cooperatives had to play, if they were to ensure a better quality of life for those in real need of cooperative support. He stressed the need for the strengthening of the bonds between the member and his society, between cooperatives in the country and inter-cooperative bonds between the movements of the region. He said the emphasis would have to be better member relations programmes and more meaningful economic activities which will help the membership at large to get the best benefits from their efforts. He said that the problems facing the Regional Councillors at this meeting would be considerable but he was sure the wealth of experience available in the Regional Council will help to draw up the necessary effective guidelines for ICA activity in the Region for the year ahead.

6. Mr. Rajaguru thanked the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka for the invitation extended to hold the meeting in Sri Lanka and also for the excellent arrangements made. He also thanked the Hon. Minister, the Ministry and Department officials and all cooperators for their continuing support for ICA activities.

7. The Hon. S.B. Herath, Minister for Food and Cooperatives, delivering the inaugural address welcomed the Regional Councillors and expressed a hope that they would have a pleasant stay in Sri Lanka. In his address he identified some of the more common problems faced by the cooperatives in the country such as the difficulty of finding convinced and committed leaders, the inadequacy of inter cooperative relationship, member apathy and indifference, the lack of sufficient managerial skills within the movement and the sad fact of the more capable and efficient employees "draining" away from the movement for more lucrative jobs in the private sector. He made reference also to the complex question of "State and Cooperatives" where there were divergent views ranging from total independence of the movement to that of strict control of the movement by the government. He, however, was of the opinion that in the developing countries there was a need for state assistance and some guidance while ensuring and respecting the democratic control by the members who own the cooperatives.

8. He also stressed the need for the national cooperative organisations like the National Cooperative Council to increase its membership and thus get stronger and be the true leader and spokesman of the movement.

9. The Hon. Minister wished the Councillors all success in their deliberations and expressed a hope that the decisions made at the meeting would assist in the rapid progress of cooperatives in the region.

10. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education), ICA ROEC, in his vote of thanks expressed deep gratitude to the Hon. Minister for his presence and the very stimulating inaugural address. He thanked also the National Council of Sri Lanka for the excellent arrangements for the inauguration and for the Regional Council Meeting. He expressed the thanks of the ICA ROEC to all those present for their encouragement and support.

Minutes of the Twentysecond Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia held at Colombo (Sri Lanka) on 15-16 November, 1980

11. The Twentysecond Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia was held at the office of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka on 15th and 16th November, 1980.

12. The following were present :

Members of the Council

1. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, Chairman & Member for Sri Lanka
2. Mr. Ali Hossain, Member for Bangladesh
3. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, Member for India
4. Mr. R.G. Tiwari, Member for India
5. Mr. Shiro Futagami, alternate Member for Japan
6. Mr. M. Ohya, alternate Member for Japan
7. Mr. Youn-Keo Lee, Member for Korea
8. Mr. B.J. Suh, alternate Member for Korea
9. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Member for Malaysia
10. Mr. Supah Noh, alternate Member for Malaysia
11. Mr. Joseph Edward, Member for Singapore
12. Mr. Teo Cheng Peow, Member for Singapore
13. Mr. Palitha Ratnayake, Member for Sri Lanka
14. Dr. Bunjird Khatikarn, alternate Member for Thailand
15. Mr. Vichien Inthachat, Member for Thailand

Secretary : Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia

Observers : 1. Mr. K. Fujimoto, Managing Director, IDACA, Tokyo.
2. Mr. Malte Jonsson, SEC, Stockholm.

ICA Staff : 1. Dr. S.K. Saxena, Director, ICA
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education), ICA ROEC
3. Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (PPR), ICA ROEC
4. Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TAT), ICA ROEC
5. Mr. P-E Lannhagen, Specialist in Agricultural Coop Marketing,
ICA ROEC

In attendance

Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director,
ICA ROEC, New Delhi.

Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome

13. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, President, National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, welcomed the Regional Councillors on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka. On behalf of the NCC and the Regional Councillors he also welcomed the presence of Dr. S.K. Saxena, Director, ICA, and Mr. Malte Jonsson, Deputy Director, SCC.

Agenda Item No. 2 : Introductory Remarks by the Regional Director

14. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia welcomed the Regional Councillors to the 22nd Meeting of the Regional Council and thanked the Chairman and the cooperative organisations in Sri Lanka for the kind hospitality extended to the Councillors. He thanked Dr. Saxena, Director, ICA, and Mr. Malte Jonsson, SCC, for finding time out of their busy schedules to attend the meeting. He said that it was a great advantage to have them at the meeting as it helped in the deliberations and in making meaningful decisions. He indicated that during the course of the meeting he and his colleagues would be reporting on the activities of the ICA over the last year and would also place before the Councillors a programme of action for the ensuing year. He mentioned also that he had focussed attention on some areas of vital concern under agenda item "any other matter" and hoped that the Councillors would find adequate time to deliberate on these matters and decide on a suitable course of action in each case.

15. Mr. R.G. Tiwari, Councillor for India, pointed out that there was a need to take a close look at the problems faced by the various movements and to decide on an overall policy for cooperative development.

16. Mr. Bogollagama made mention of the assistance provided to the Cooperative Management Services Centre (CMSC), Sri Lanka, and emphasized that the CMSC was a government organisation and functioned independently of the movement and was anxious that any assistance to cooperatives should be channelled through the National Cooperative Council. Mr. Malte Jonsson, SCC, explained that the assistance was provided by the Swedish Government in response to a request from the Sri Lanka Government - they themselves at the SCC would have been happy if the assistance was granted through the National Cooperative Council.

17. It was agreed that the Council would discuss these aspects under the various agenda items on an overall basis, but it would be left to each national movement to work out an overall policy taking into consideration the various problems faced in each situation.

Agenda Item No. 3 : Election of Chairman

18. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, Member for Sri Lanka, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Council till the holding of the next Council Meeting.

Agenda Item No. 4 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 21st Meeting and Emergency Meeting

19. The minutes of the 21st meeting and the Emergency Meeting of the Regional Council held at Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, on 22-23 November, 1979, which had been circulated earlier, were confirmed.

Agenda Item No. 5 : Report on the "Recent changes, trends and developments of the cooperative movement in South-East Asia by the Councillors

20. At the request of the Chairman, each Councillor made a brief statement regarding the recent changes, trends and developments of the cooperative movement in his country. Some of the more important items mentioned were :

i. Bangladesh - 1980 was declared Cooperative Year and the National Convention of Cooperatives was held in March 1980.

- government was taking action to clearly define the roles of the cooperative department and of the IRDP with a view to having a unified approach to development.

- a high powered committee was being appointed by the government to revise the cooperative laws in the country.

ii. India - In some states in India, cooperatives were under government control - no elections have been held in some cooperatives for a long time.

- a Cooperative Agricultural Bank is to be set up - the cooperatives have requested that the shares of this bank should be owned by the cooperatives.

- the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Cooperative Union and the Platinum Jubilee Celebration of the Movement was held in 1980.

- CLUSA is assisting the Indian Movement to set up an Asian Institute for Cooperatives.

- NAFED has been entrusted by the government with a significant role both in internal procurement of agricultural commodities and also in the export and import of agricultural commodities and especially the import of fresh fruits, pulses, etc.

iii. Japan - Japanese Agricultural Cooperatives were facing severe problems in the face of over production in such commodities as rice, milk, oranges, swing.

- a recent government regulation prohibits the distribution of cooperative newspapers to non-members.

- action is being taken to set up cooperative banks in collaboration with Trade Unions.

iv. Korea - The process of amalgamation of small cooperatives continued during the year. The total number of primary cooperatives was 1490 at the end of 1979 as compared to over 20,000 in 1960. There were in addition 140 County or City Agricultural Cooperatives and 142 Special Agricultural Cooperatives. The NACF remained the apex of the agricultural cooperatives with a membership of over 2 million farmers.

v. Malaysia - There has been a steady growth of cooperatives in the urban, agricultural and fishery sector.

- all cooperatives were required by law to make a specified contribution towards the National Apex.

vi. Singapore - A new Cooperative Societies Law was promulgated on 1.1.1980.

- a new National Apex Cooperative Society was registered on 18.9. 1980 under this law.

- the apex society is now charged with the responsibility of providing, organising and supervising effective centralised services for cooperative education and training, supplies, marketing, banking, transport, accounting, audit, etc.

- membership in secondary cooperative societies are restricted to registered cooperative societies and trade unions.

- a central cooperative fund has been established and every society is required to contribute 5 per cent of its annual surplus to this fund. The fund will be used to further cooperative education, training, research, audit, etc.

- bonus certificates or bonus shares can now be issued by societies to their membership.

- the powers of the Registrar have been increased.

- the SNCU which was the National Apex till recently will identify a new role for itself for the future.

vii. Sri Lanka - The National Cooperative Council was in negotiation with the government to set up a Cooperative Insurance Society and a Cooperative Bank.

- Sri Lanka was now operating an open economy policy and as a result cooperatives have no special privileges and are required to compete in the open market.

- The National Cooperative Council would hold a National Cooperative Congress in 1981.

viii. Thailand - The reorganisation of the Cooperative Movement in collaboration with CLUSA was going on - substantial progress has been made so far.

Agenda Item No. 6 : Administration

Contributions to the funds of the ROEC

21. The Secretary reported that the total contributions received from the member-organisations amounted to Rs.80,918.75 for the year 1979-80.

22. Dato N.A. Kularajah mentioned that there was no contribution from Malaysia that year because they had to incur about Indian Rs.60,000 for hosting the Regional Council Meeting and the Open Asian Conference in 1979.

Contributions to the ICA ROEC in respect of work done for the Sub-Committee on Agriculture

23. The Secretary reported that for the year 1979-80, the total contribution received by the ROEC in respect of the work done by the Sub-Committee on Agriculture amounted to £405.00.

Concessions by the Government of India

24. The Secretary placed on record the appreciation of the ROEC for the concessions granted by the Government of India to the expatriate staff working at the ROEC, New Delhi. He thanked also the NCUI for the support given in all ICA activities.

Staff Changes

25. The Secretary reported the following staff changes that had taken place within the organisation :

- Promoted to Grade I from Grade II :

- i. Mrs. M.D'Cruz
- ii. Mr. I.S. Gupta
- iii. Mr. H.H. Ganesan

- Dr. Ojha who was working with the CEMAS Section was now working as New Delhi based Research Officer in the Small Farmer Research Study which the ICA ROEC had undertaken in collaboration with the Royal Tropical Institute of Netherlands.

- Mr. Daman Prakash, Education Officer (AVA) continues to function as an expatriate adviser to the TTP in Sri Lanka. He has been given further extension to work with the project till 30th June, 1981.

Agenda Item No. 7 : Education Centre

26. Action taken on the minutes of the last meeting relating to educational activities was noted.

Review of Education Activities

27. The Council noted the following activities carried out by the Education Centre for the period September 1979 to July 1980 :

Regional

- (1) Orientation Seminar on Consumer Cooperation, Bangkok (Thailand), from 4-9 September, 1979.
- (2) 6th Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management, held at Petaling Jaya (Malaysia), from 25-30 November, 1979 in collaboration with the Cooperative Union of Malaysia.
- (3) Regional Workshop on Case Writing and Allied Teaching Techniques for Cooperative Teachers in South-East Asia, held at Pune (India), from 15 January to 29 March 1980 in collaboration with the VMNICM.
- (4) Fellowship for Cooperative Teachers for Production of Educational Material, held at Pune (India) from 15 January to 30 April, 1980.
- (5) Regional Seminar on How to Improve the Effectiveness of National Cooperative Organisations, held at New Delhi (India) from 3-13 February, 1980 in collaboration with the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI)
- (6) SCC/NRS/CZSP/ICA International Seminar on Industrial Cooperatives for South-East Asia - Phase I, held at Bangalore (India) from 5-11 May, 1980 in collaboration with the NCUI.
- (7) ICA Regional Working Party Meeting on Cooperative Press and Publicity, held at Petaling Jaya (Malaysia) from 27-30 May, 1980, in collaboration with the Cooperative Union of Malaysia.

National

- (1) Course for Afghan Trainers, held at Pune (India) from 5 October to 11 November, 1979.
- (2) Course for Women Leaders in Cooperatives in the Philippines, held at Baguio City, Philippines, from 22-30 October, 1979.
- (3) National Workshop on Cooperative Press & Publicity, held at New Delhi (India) from 24-27 October, 1979 in collaboration with the NCUI.

- (4) National Workshop on Case Writing, held at Pune (India) from 26 November to 14 December, 1979.
- (5) Three National Seminars on Management of Agricultural Cooperatives, held at :
- | | | |
|--------------|---|---------------------|
| Bangkok | : | 7-17 January, 1980 |
| Manila | : | 22-28 January, 1980 |
| Kuala Lumpur | : | 12-22 May, 1980 |
- (6) Workshop on Cooperative Retail Management, held at Bangkok (Thailand) from 15-29 April 1980.
- (7) Workshop on Education Methods and Audio-Visual Techniques, held at Kathmandu (Nepal) from 19 May to 3 June, 1980.
- (8) CEMAS : Work in this section was continuing at a slower pace - due to absence of qualified staff.
- (9) Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers in Sri Lanka : Information given in the agenda was noted.
- (10) Project for Women's Consumer Education and Information Through Cooperatives in Sri Lanka : The ICA had a consultancy role vis-a-vis this project, but from the current financial year it had been agreed that the ICA ROEC will have the same administrative responsibility for this project as in the case of the TTP. The Regional Director informed the meeting that on the 18th of November the ROEC was hoping to sign the agreements for the extension of the projects for a further period of one year, i.e. upto 30th June, 1981, with the possibility of further extension if such was desirable and funds are available.
- (11) Field Project in Cooperative Member Participation in Indonesia :
The D (E) informed the Council that as there was no positive reply from Indonesia in this matter, the ROEC would be willing to consider other requests.
Mr. Supah Noh, Member for Malaysia, requested that this type of project would be desirable in Malaysia. The D (E) said that the ICA would be able to consider if a formal request was made.
- (12) Consultative and allied services : Information given in the agenda was noted.

Proposed Programme of Activities : July 1981 - June 1982

28. The D (E) presented the programme of activities the ICA ROEC proposed to carry out during the year. The Council approved the

following activities scheduled for the period July 1981 to June 1982:-

(1) SCC/ICA Follow-up Seminars on Agricultural Cooperation

- | | | | |
|------|--------------|---|--------------------------|
| (i) | Venue | : | Sri Lanka |
| | Duration | : | 3 weeks in July 1981 |
| | Participants | : | 25 |
| (ii) | Venue | : | Thailand |
| | Duration | : | 3 weeks in November 1981 |
| | Participants | : | 25 |

29. The proposals in regard to the follow-up seminars were that for the participants from Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines, Indonesia and Iran, a 3-week follow-up seminar would be held in Sri Lanka in July 1981 followed by a week's study visits in India, and for participants from India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Korea, a 3-week seminar would be held in Thailand in November 1981 followed by a week's study visits in Malaysia.

30. One of the objectives of these seminars in addition to finding out what the participants had done since the last seminar was to assess the effectiveness of Swedish and ICA seminars in which these participants took part so that future seminars could be suitably designed.

(2) ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar in Japan

- | | | |
|--------------|---|---|
| Venue | : | Tokyo, Japan |
| Duration | : | 3 weeks in September 1981 preceded by one-week study visits in the Republic of Korea. |
| Participants | : | 25 |

31. The Seminar this year would be on Consumer Cooperation, in collaboration with CUAC/IDACA and the Consumers Cooperative Union.

(3) 7th Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management

- | | | |
|----------|---|--------------------|
| Venue | : | Sri Lanka or India |
| Duration | : | One week |

32. The Council was informed that in view of the forthcoming International Conference on Cooperative Thrift & Credit to be held in New Delhi and in view of the requests made by some of the Regional Councillors, the 7th Open Asian Conference was put off for some time. Arrangements would be made to hold the conference on the same theme as decided in Kuala Lumpur. The venue will be decided on after consulting the concerned movements.

(4) Regional Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Credit

Venue : Bangladesh
 Duration : 3 weeks
 Participants : 25

33. The D (E) said that the Sub-Committee on Agriculture had suggested that a Regional Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Credit be held and the matter was now referred to the Regional Council for approval. The Council approved the holding of this seminar. The Member for Bangladesh agreed to host the seminar.

(5) Regional Course in Research Methodology and Training Techniques

Venue : VMNICM, Pune (India)
 Duration : 3 months, January-March, 1982
 Participants : 20

34. The D (E) said that this seminar would include training of teachers in research methodology and education management.

National Seminars

35. The D (E) requested the member movements to send their requests to the ROEC for holding national seminars on topics of interest to them.

36. Requests for the following National Seminars were made at the meeting :

Malaysia : (1) Consumer Cooperation
 (2) Cooperative Education with special reference to Training Methodology and Techniques and Member Education.

Thailand : (1) Consumer Cooperation

CEMAS

37. The CEMAS activities will be continued.

Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers, Sri Lanka

38. The project will be continued during the year.

Project for Consumer Education and Information Through Cooperatives, Sri Lanka

39. The project will be continued during the year. The administrative responsibility of the project will now be taken over by the ICA ROEC in the same manner as the TTP.

Projects in other areas

40. The RD said that if any member-organisation would like the ROEC to help them with regard to any national projects, then the necessary ground work, feasibility study etc. could be carried out and the ROEC would be prepared to consider requests for assistance for national projects.

41. Requests for the following national projects were made at the meeting :

<u>Bangladesh</u>	:	Cooperative Education at the local level including Member Education.
<u>India</u>	:	Women, Youth and Cooperatives.

42. It was agreed that each of the movements would send a preliminary background document indicating the scope of the project and the kind of assistance required on receipt of which the ROEC would take up the matter for processing.

43. Mr. Malte Jonsson said that the SCC had the possibility of assisting national projects, but of course in collaboration with the ICA ROEC.

44. Dr. Saxena stressed the need to emphasize the area of industrial cooperatives and requested the members to give sufficient attention to this sector.

Agenda Item No. 8 : Technical Assistance and Trade Section

Technical Assistance

45. The JD (TAT) informed the meeting that the following requests were received by the ROEC for technical and financial assistance :

1. Request for supply of audio-Visual Aids and micro buses to BJSU
- this request had since been regretted by the ICA.
2. Consultancy services to the Metro Manila Consumers Cooperative Complex in the Philippines
- information given in the agenda was noted.

Promotion of Cooperative TradeInternational Cooperative Trade Conference in Moscow, 9-11 October, 1980

46. The JD (TAT) said that the ICA in collaboration with the Centrosoyus conducted the 2nd International Cooperative Trade Conference in Moscow before

the ICA Congress. This conference had proved beneficial and there was a demand that this type of conference be held more frequently. The RD informed the Council that at this conference there was a fair amount of trading going on and the participants were divided into commodity wise groups and the suppliers and buyers were meeting across the table to establish meaningful contacts with the cooperative organisations of the countries concerned. Unofficial information was that the business transactions were quite considerable.

47. Dr. Saxena added that by the very nature of the Trade Conference you will never get a clear indication of the actual business transacted. People would like to keep it to themselves. Further, the net results of the trade conference are known in some years. It is a contact making exercise with people interested in some type of commodities meeting across the table. It is an exercise which we have started and we hope it will bring together the cooperators interested in trading.

48. The RD informed the meeting that the representation from the developing countries was as usual very poor - only India and the Philippines being represented. He raised the question whether the Regional Council should not work towards finding a forum of this nature for the movements of the Region.

National Workshops on Promotion of Export Trade

49. The information given in the agenda was noted.

Agenda Item No. 9 : Publications, Public Relations and Library Section :

publications

50. The JD (PPR) informed the Council that the publications brought out by the ROEC during the previous year had been listed in the agenda.

Publicity

51. The information given in the agenda was noted.

Collection of Cooperative News

52. The JD (PPR) said that this was an area where the ROEC faced several problems earlier, but now with the setting up of the Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press for South-East Asia, the situation had greatly improved. The Working Party members in almost all the countries of the Region were now functioning as correspondents supplying news regularly to the ROEC.

Press Releases

53. The JD (PPR) said that the practice of issuing press releases after every important event had been continued.

First Meeting of the ICA Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press for South-East Asia

54. The information given in the agenda was noted. The JD (PPR) said that a significant development in the field of press and publicity in the Region last year was the establishment of this Working Party. The first meeting of the Working Party was held in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, in May 1980. The deliberations at the meeting were very useful to the participants who were mostly those working in the field of cooperative journalism. Meetings of the Working Party would be held every two years.

Discussion on ICA Regional Bulletin - its improvement

55. The information given in the agenda was noted. The JD (PPR) said that during the first meeting of the Regional Working Party in Malaysia, an opportunity was also provided to discuss at that forum as to how the ICA Regional Bulletin could be improved. From the questionnaires sent by the ROEC to the readers of the Bulletin, it was found that many readers appreciated the information that was supplied to them quarterly. At the same time good suggestions were made for the improvement of the Bulletin. These suggestions have been listed under the agenda item. The Bulletin now attempts to give a wider coverage in a more readable form.

Documentation Services

56. The JD (PPR) said that there had been some problems regarding the bringing out of this Bulletin in time due to manpower shortage. However, every effort was being made to bring it out in time.

Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians & Documentation Officers

57. The JD (PPR) informed the meeting that the ICA ROEC would be organising a Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers in the Philippines from 14th to 29th April, 1981. The countries to be invited were: Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. It was hoped that in a subsequent year a similar workshop for the other countries of the Region would be held.

Publications Programme for 1980-81

58. The Council noted that the following publications would be brought out during the year 1980-81:-

1. Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management, Kuala Lumpur.
2. Readings in Cooperative Marketing.
3. How to Improve the Effectiveness of National Cooperative Unions.
4. Amalgamation of Primary Agricultural Cooperatives - the Japanese Experience.
5. Cooperative Series : Publications dealing with topical aspects of the movement will be published under this series.

6. Speeches on Cooperation
7. Publicity : As usual the ICA Regional Bulletin will be issued quarterly during the year.

59. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, Member for India, suggested that the ICA ROEC should maintain a film library. He informed also that a national cooperative film federation had been established in India and this organisation would be able to assist the ROEC in the handling of films by the ROEC.

Agenda Item No. 10 : IDACA Activities

60. The D (E) presented the activities carried out by IDACA for the period 1979-80:-

1. Training Course for Sri Lanka cooperators, July 17-August 13, 1979.
2. ICA/CUAC/IDACA-Regional Seminar on Better Living Activities through Cooperatives, August 27-September 14, 1979.
3. Training Course for Bangladesh Cooperators, October 2-29, 1979.
4. Introductory Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under Colombo Plan, November 5-December 3, 1979.
5. Training for Cooperators of CAC of Brazil, October 2-29, 1979.
6. Training for Presidents of Primary Societies of Republic of Korea, March 19-28, 1980.
7. Introductory Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under Colombo Plan, May 19-June 20, 1980.
8. Seminar for Thai on Agricultural Development Project, June 24-July 23, 1980.
9. ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar on Role of Cooperatives in Modernisation of Agriculture, August 24-September 13, 1980.
10. Training Course for Cooperators from Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, September 18-October 17, 1980.
11. Training Course for Cooperators of CAC, Brazil, in Japanese language, September 24-October 24, 1980.
12. Refresher Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under Colombo Plan, November 6-December 10, 1980.

IDACA Programme of Activities for 1981

61. Mr. Shiro Futagami presented the programme of activities IDACA

proposed to carry out during the year 1981 which were as follows:-

1. Reunion Meeting, India, January-February, 1981.

2. Survey & Research Project, Thailand

62. This survey will be completed by the end of this year. According to the recommendations of this Survey, the Japanese Government will consider what kind of projects they are going to assist.

3. Training Course for NACF

Date	:	March 1981
No. of Participants	:	14 or 15
Study Visit	:	Wakayama Prefecture

4. Introductory Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under the Colombo Plan, May 21-July 3, 1981.

5. Seminar for Thai Cooperators on Agricultural Development Project, July 6-August 7, 1981.

This had been entrusted by JICA to IDACA.

6. ICA Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperatives, September 1-21, 1981.

7. Training Course for Cooperators from selected countries, September 28-October 27, 1981.

63. For this Training Course, the CUAC and IDACA were negotiating with the Japanese Government to know which countries the Japan Government would decide on and which Training Courses would have to be conducted. The decision would be communicated to the ICA RCLC.

8. Refresher Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under Colombo Plan, November 9-December 13, 1981.

64. This programme was arranged on government to government basis. IDACA would request JICA to increase the number of participants to 20 and also not to restrict the Course to ex-participants only. The government decision would be known in due course.

IDACA News

65. The publication of IDACA News would be continued during the year.

66. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, Member for India, requested IDACA to organise a special course for Indian participants. The costs in connection with the airfare will be borne by India and IDACA would have to meet only the local costs.

67. He also requested that advance information regarding Colombo plan courses be sent to the National Cooperative Union of India so that it could send participants.

68. Mr. Futagami said that the budget for the training courses for selected countries were provided by the government. For 1979-80, the government had selected Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Though a request was made to the government to include some other countries also, because of the limitations of the budget the programme was confined to two countries only. That was why India was not included. Last year it was expected that Malaysia would be included, but finally the government decided their budget at the end of December and so all the other countries were excluded. He informed the meeting that they were now trying to get a larger budget to include other countries too. This would be decided by the end of this year. To organise a course of one month duration at IDACA cost a substantial sum. Even for the ICA Regional Seminar which was held annually, the cost was about 10 million yen for three weeks for 25 participants. It was not easy to allocate funds from IDACA's own budget. Hence they had to depend on government funds. It was not possible, therefore, to make any definite commitment.

69. As regards sending advance information regarding Colombo Plan courses, Mr. Futagami said that IDACA was already sending copies of those invitations to the Council members so that they could approach their government for nominations.

70. On a question raised by Dr. Saxena, about the IDACA Reunion meeting, Mr. Futagami explained that each Reunion meeting followed a different methodology. These meetings helped in the assessment of the usefulness of the courses conducted at IDACA. This was made possible by discussions and field observations. One of the significant advantage was that the resource persons from Japan were able to study the situation in the country concerned and take back with them valuable experiences, which would help in the designing of and the conduct of future courses.

71. Referring to the Colombo Plan Courses and the selection of participants, Mr. Rana mentioned that a few years back in respect of a Regional Course in Fishery Cooperatives, all the participants were government employees - as the invitations had gone on a government to government basis. However, on the basis of an agreement in Japan, the invitations to subsequent seminars were being sent through the ROEC and it was now possible for cooperators to get nominations. It was suggested that IDACA made a similar effort in respect of nominations for Colombo Plan seminars.

Agenda Item No. 11 : Decisions and Recommendations of the Sub-Committees of the Regional Council - Agriculture, Fisheries, Consumer, Trade

72. The Secretaries of the Sub-Committees on Agriculture, Fisheries, Consumer and Trade reported to the Council the decisions and recommendations arrived at their Sub-Committee meetings.

73. Sub-Committee on Agriculture

1. The Agriculture Sub-Committee elected a new Chairman, Mr. R.G. Tiwari, from India, and a new Vice-Chairmen, Mr. Palitha Ratnayake from Sri Lanka.
2. The Sub-Committee proposed the holding of a Regional Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Credit. This had now been approved by the Council.
3. A better living seminar was held in Sri Lanka in 1980 and a similar one was planned for Thailand in 1981. In the seminar to be held in Thailand, an effort would be made to draw up a project for implementation of better living activities through agricultural cooperatives in that country.
4. Preliminary discussions were held at the Sub-Committee on FAO's Programme - "People's participation in rural development through promotion of self-help organisations" and Small Farmer Research Study.
5. There was a request that a seminar should be organised in Sweden on the subject of Agricultural Cooperation and the ICA RQEC was requested to find out the possibility. The present position was that a seminar on agricultural cooperation could be held in Sweden only in 1984. After the evaluation of the Swedish Seminars if it was decided that more seminars should be held in Sweden, perhaps it would be possible to hold a seminar before 1983.
6. The activities carried out in the field of agricultural cooperation was reported to the Sub-Committee.
7. As was the practice in the Sub-Committee meetings, a talk on the subject of "Agricultural Cooperative Movement in Sri Lanka - Problems and Prospects" was delivered by Dr. J.M. Gunadasa. He gave a very elaborate description about the agricultural cooperative movement in Sri Lanka and the problems of and prospects for the movement.

74. Sub-Committee on Fisheries

1. The Sub-Committee elected a new Chairman in Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim from Malaysia. Mr. J. Saito, Chairman of the main committee, also participated and gave a brief report regarding the activities of the main committee.
2. The meeting of the Sub-Committee started by a talk on the subject of "Fishery Cooperatives in Sri Lanka - Problems and Prospects" by Mr. M.D. Fernando, Secretary/General Manager, Sri Lanka Fisheries Cooperative Federation.
3. The forthcoming Regional Seminar on "Organisation and Development of Fishery Cooperatives" to be held in March/April 1981 in Korea with one-week study visits in Japan was also discussed at the Sub-Committee.

4. The Sub-Committee also discussed the National Seminar on Fishery Cooperatives that would be held in Malaysia. A resource person for this seminar would be made available from the National Federation of Fishery Cooperative Associations of Japan.

5. A publication on Fishery Cooperatives in the Region would be brought out after the Regional Seminar was held in the Republic of Korea in 1981.

6. The Sub-Committee was informed that for the annual seminar in Japan the invitations were being sent by the ICA ROEC with the result that almost all the participants were from cooperative organisations. The Chairman suggested that the possibility of study visits in the Republic of Korea for participants in this seminar too should be explored.

75. Sub-Committee on Trade

1. The Second Meeting of the Sub-Committee which was held on 12th November 1980 re-emphasized the importance of cooperative international trade for the development of the cooperative movements in the Region.

2. The Sub-Committee appreciated the work that had been done by the ILO Cooptrade Project and recommended that the ICA ROEC in consultation with the ILO Cooptrade Project work out a phased programme for the development of International Cooperative Trade and that this programme be placed before the next meeting of the Sub-Committee scheduled to be held in the Republic of Korea in 1981.

3. The Sub-Committee recommended that the ICA ROEC should work towards establishing a suitable forum to provide contacts to representatives of cooperative business organisations in the Region.

76. Committee on Consumer Cooperation

1. This Committee met on 13th November 1980. The meeting was attended by representatives from six countries, namely, Japan, Malaysia, India, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

2. This Sub-Committee welcomed the intention of the ICA Consumer Committee to formulate an ICA programme on consumer protection as a step forward from the declaration of consumer rights in 1969 and also expressed its appreciation for the various initiatives that had already been taken by the ICA Consumer Committee in this regard.

3. The programme on Consumer Protection which had been formulated by the working group appointed by the ICA Consumer Committee was considered by the Sub-Committee and the Sub-Committee recommended that the report of the working group should be supplied to all the national cooperative movements in the Region with a request that they should discuss various aspects of the consumer programme in the context of the national situation and inform the secretariat of the Sub-Committee in the ICA ROEC, New Delhi, by the end of June 1981 about

their comments and suggestions which should reflect the aspirations of the movement and their problems. The secretariat would produce a working document as would help evolve a consumer policy for the Region. This paper would be made available before the next meeting in October 1981.

4. The Japanese Movement had offered to host a Regional Seminar on "Consumer Cooperation" in September 1981. The seminar would be conducted in collaboration with the ICA ROEC and will be preceded by one-week study visits in the Republic of Korea.

5. The representative of the Cooperative Union of Malaysia invited the Regional Office to hold the Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Malaysia. The invitation was accepted and the Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation would be held in Malaysia in May 1981.

6. The Committee placed on record their appreciation for the services rendered by Mr. Nakabayashi, the outgoing Chairman of the Committee. Mr. Nakabayashi had expressed his inability to accept the chairmanship for another term for personal reasons. Mr. Chong Thin Huatt, General Manager of the Malaysian Cooperative Supermarket Society was elected Chairman of the Committee and a representative from the Consumer Cooperative Movement from Thailand was elected as its Vice-Chairman.

7. The next meeting of the Committee would be held in Korea preceding the meeting of the ICA Regional Council in October, 1981.

Agenda Item No. 12 : Relations with member organisations in the Region

77. The information given in the agenda was noted by the Council.

Buy a Bucket of Water Programme

78. The information given in the agenda was noted. The Secretary informed the meeting that in addition to the requests mentioned in the agenda, there were few more subsequent requests which had been passed on to ICA London for further financing. They were from Thailand, Philippines and Sri Lanka. The total assistance that the region was likely to get under this programme would be something like £45,000/-.

79. Nine wells were constructed in the five societies of Phase I of the Women's Consumer Education Project and these would be made available to the public before the end of the year. A flag day was conducted in Sweden by the Consumer Guilds and in Sri Lanka by the Project to raise funds for the construction of these wells.

80. The Director, ICA, informed the meeting of an extensive programme in Peru and Latin America.

81. The Secretary said that this programme had also assisted the FAO PACCA Project in Afghanistan to the extent of 20 wells in Afghanistan.

Research Study on "Cooperatives and Small Farmer Development
: Implications for Government Guidance and Supervision"

82. The information given in the agenda was noted. The Secretary said that the studies in Thailand and Sri Lanka would be concluded around March 1981 and that there would be a New Delhi Research Workshop in early January 1981 where the researchists from the two countries and the researchists from RTI and the Research Officer from New Delhi would be involved in a programme of analysing and assessing the findings. Once the desk research studies in respect of Malaysia and India were complete, a technical meeting would be held in Sri Lanka in 1982 at which meeting an attempt would be made to prepare suitable guidelines which will help the policy-makers in planning for small farmer development.

83. Mr. R.G. Tiwari from India suggested that study on the following two aspects be held in India and the cost of such study would be borne by the NCUI : (1) Study of causes retarding the primary cooperative societies, (2) more practical and pragmatic coordination between the consumer and marketing cooperatives. The secretariat took note of the request.

Agenda Item No. 13 : Relations with International Organisations

84. The information given in the agenda was noted by the Council. In this context Dr. Saxena said: "The area of our relations with international organisations perhaps more particularly with international governmental organisations is that I think at no time in ICA history have we a stronger team than we have now at present representing the Alliance at various U.N. Agencies. We have recently signed an agreement with the UNDP and it is a cooperating agreement and we are among the five or six non-governmental organisations which have this privilege, which gives us the possibility of being able to act as a consultant to UNDP which is the main funding agency within the U.N."

Agenda Item No. 14 : Venue and Date of the next meeting

85. The Member for Korea invited the Council to hold its next meeting, 23rd in the series, in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The Council thanked the member for Korea for the invitation and accepted it. It was tentatively decided that the meeting will be held around the middle of October, 1981.

Agenda Item No. 15 : Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

1. Strengthening of National Cooperative Organisation

86. Information given in the agenda was noted. It was pointed out that very little information was available in regard to the role played by the national organisations and in regard to the problems faced. The need to work towards a strong and representative national organisation was emphasized and it was agreed that member organisations would keep the ROEC informed of the NCO activities.

87. The Chairman put forward the idea of producing a cooperative film as a means to strengthening the solidarity between cooperators and the various cooperative movements. It was felt however that as the emphasis would vary from one country to another it was best that such a film be produced on a national basis.

2. Project Identification and Formulation

88. The Secretary reported that the ICA ROEC had an indication both from COPAC and SCC that there was a possibility for financing of certain projects if the projects were carefully drawn up and if they could be replicated over a wide area in the community. There had been very little activity in this Region in regard to projects. Hence the details pertaining to the Cooperative Interlending Programme of COPAC and the FAO's People's Participation in Rural Development through Promotion of Self-Help Organisations were being placed before the Councillors to focus the attention of the meeting to these possibilities so that suitable projects for such financing could be identified.

89. Mr. Malte Jonsson pointed out that the SCC was in the process of deciding on priorities - whether they should continue with seminars and conferences as had been done from 1958 onwards or whether there should be increasing emphasis on projects - especially projects which are of a participatory nature and involving the rural poor. He mentioned that 'women' would be a special focus for Swedish assistance. Further, in recent times, there was increasing collaboration in Sweden between the Trade Unions and the Cooperatives. The SCC had a programme to assist not only the South-East Asian Region, but also East and Central Africa and also some programmes in West Africa. Besides these they had programmes in Egypt. There was Swedish Government support for these programmes but the SCC dealt directly with the cooperatives - as project support is now being favoured, he would be happy if suitable projects could be identified and requests made through the ROEC.

3. Industrial Cooperatives - What Emphasis

90. The Secretary mentioned that in most of the countries of the Region the plans for economic development laid increasing emphasis on the development of small scale and cottage industries, and in most countries there was an industrial cooperative sector - which unfortunately was not doing too well. He would therefore like to focus attention of the Councillors to this important area for future development. He also mentioned that the ICA had completed a research study in respect of industrial cooperatives and the report of this study would be available soon.

91. Mr. Malte Jonsson referred to the experiences they had from the International Cooperative Seminar on Industrial Cooperatives. The participants recruited for the seminar were not upto the standard expected. Some of the national federations did not even send any representatives. He mentioned that there would be a seminar in East Africa also on the same

subject and the SCC had discussed this with the industrial cooperative organisations and they were very much interested in continuing to support the development of industrial cooperatives in the developing countries in Asia and in Eastern and Central Africa. He indicated that there could be a possibility of SCC financing some participants from this region for the seminar in East Africa. The Regional Councillors agreed that this was an area that needed particular attention.

4. Nominations to Seminars etc.

92. The Secretary mentioned about the failure of the member organisations to send nominations in time to the ROEC. It would be most useful for the countries concerned if they could have a priority list for participants for various cooperative sectors. He also mentioned about the preparation of background papers and the need for briefing and de-briefing of the participants. He suggested that some procedure be adopted whereby the papers prepared as background papers were vetted at some responsible level. The Secretary mentioned about the practice followed in the Philippines where nobody left the country till they were briefed by the deputing organisation and where they were debriefed on their return and in addition a report had to be submitted. He requested the Regional Councillors and the national organisations to pay special attention to these matters as often the image of the country and of the movement was involved. He also requested the organisations deputing to make available a copy of the reports submitted by the various participants as that would help in understanding and assessing the real value of the activity.

93. Mr. Malte Jonsson fully supported the points raised by the Secretary in the agenda.

5. Regional Council vis-a-vis the needs of the region etc.

94. The Director, ICA, Dr. Saxena introduced this subject. For the convenience of all Regional Councillors, his introductory remarks are quoted in full : "I have distributed to all the members a copy of the organisational structure of the ICA. It is a rather important subject on which I need your advice. It is a question of seeing where the regional councils are within the overall structure of the ICA and where you want them to be in terms of the policy making bodies in the ICA. This matter was discussed at our Executive and Central Committees in Montreal last May and further in the Central Committee meeting in Moscow this October and the following points emerged:-

1. The regional offices are extensions of the headquarter secretariat responsible to me and I am in turn responsible to the Executive Committee of the ICA.
2. Regional Councillors draw up their own agenda and make their own decisions. The Regional Directors are normally the secretaries of the Regional Councils and responsible for implementing the decisions made by the Regional Councils.

3. There could be occasions where the decisions of the Council could run counter or disagree with the policy making bodies of the ICA and this could place both the RD and Director in some difficulties although I hasten to emphasize that at no time has the Executive Committee felt that there was need to reverse a decision of the Council. They are the people on the spot and they know their problems and we have only second hand information.

This I think is the problem. The Councils have no direct link with the ICA policy making authorities and there is no provision for them to be represented in the representative body of the Alliance - the Central Committee. It will therefore seem appropriate to bring the Regional Councils more centrally into ICA affairs so that they share our problems and we speak with the same voice - the entire family, whether it is the elected Executive Committee members, or the Regional Councillors or anybody else who speaks on ICA matters. This will help to develop a unified approach and I emphasize there has been no division so far. Theoretically, there are possibilities of diversity between the two - the Executive Committee and the Regional Councils. The ICA has set up a special working party to examine a number of aspects of ICA structure and the terms of reference of that group are as follows:-

- i. to examine the composition of the ICA Executive Committee with a view to seeing whether any changes need to be recommended bearing in mind the requests made for increasing representation from the developing countries and from women,
- ii. to examine the structure of the ICA particularly from the point of view of the place in that structure of the Regional Councils,
- iii. to examine the structural relationship of the ICA Auxiliary Committees and the Central Committee within the ICA,
- iv. to examine the ICA Rules and Standing Orders particularly in relation to the procedure and working of the ICA.

95. It may be appropriate to have the Regional Council Chairman invited to the Central Committee meetings and perhaps with the power to speak but not to vote for the simple reason that all members of the Central Committee are appointed by their movements to the Central Committee and therefore in this case like other Auxiliary Committees, the Regional Council will really not be representing any particular national movement.

96. Now there might be difficulty because for instance in the case of South-East Asia the Chairmen are rotated every year which is not the case in West Africa where the Chairman is appointed from one Congress to the other.

Nevertheless the Chairman of the Regional Council will carry a lot of weight in the sense he will be speaking with full familiarity of the problems and the needs and the aspirations of the region as a whole.

97. The working party is likely to meet in Paris in March, I have raised a similar question in the East African Regional Council but I did not get a lot of reaction from them. Therefore if you could suggest what kind of recommendations you might like to include in the paper which we will prepare in London, in what way the Regional Council views could be reflected more fully in the policy making body of the Alliance, a fairly critical question in the future, of the type of influence you can build up in the policy making bodies of the ICA, then, this would be most helpful."

98. After some discussion on the subject, the Council decided that the Chairman of the Regional Council be represented in the Central Committee with or without voting powers. The Councillors further agreed that they would give this matter further consideration and express any further views in due course.

99. On a suggestion made by Dato Kularajah, the Council agreed that at its future meetings : (1) there was no need for each individual Councillor to make a statement, (2) the presentation of the country paper should be by one Councillor only, and (3) the country paper should indicate only the developments since the previous reporting to the Regional Council.

Agenda Item No. 16 : Vote of thanks to the Chair

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



R.B. Rajaguru
Secretary, ICA Council
for South-East Asia

pk/

ANNEXE

DATES AND VENUE OF ICA REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD SO FAR

<u>Meeting No.</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Dates</u>
First	New Delhi, India	October 20-22, 1961
Second	Tokyo, Japan	April 13-14, 1962
Third	New Delhi, India	May 1-2, 1963
Fourth	Tokyo, Japan	April 17-18, 1964
Fifth	Newra Eliya, Sri Lanka	November 18-19, 1964
Sixth	New Delhi, India	November 25-26, 1965
Seventh	Manila, Philippines	October 24-25, 1966
Eighth	Tokyo, Japan	November 2-3, 1967
Ninth	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	November 13-14, 1968
Tenth	Tehran, Iran	March 1-2, 1969
Eleventh	Seoul, Rep. of Korea	May 8-9, 1970
Twelfth	New Delhi, India	February 17-18, 1971
Thirteenth	Melbourne, Australia	November 8-9, 1971
Fourteenth	Chiengmai, Thailand	November 19-20, 1972
Fifteenth	Tokyo, Japan	October 30, 1973
Sixteenth	Colombo, Sri Lanka	November 1-2, 1974
Seventeenth	Manila, Philippines	December 7, 1975
Eighteenth	Tehran, Iran	November 7-8, 1976
Nineteenth	Bali, Indonesia	December 9-10, 1977
Twentieth	Bangkok, Thailand	December 6-7, 1978
Twentyfirst	Petaling Jaya, Malaysia	November 22-23, 1979
Twentysecond	Colombo, Sri Lanka	November 15-16, 1980

an/

ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture : 15TH MEETING
ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries : 10TH MEETING
for South-East Asia

Venue SRI LANKA

Dates November 13-14, 1980



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
& Education Centre for South-East Asia, 'Bonow
House', 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110-065, India*

FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA, SRI LANKA : 14TH NOVEMBER 1980

A G E N D A

<u>Agenda</u> <u>Item No.</u>		<u>Page No.</u>
1.	WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT	1
2.	REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR	1
3.	REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN	1
4.	CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 14TH MEETING	1
5.	TALK ON "AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN SRI LANKA - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS"	1
6.	PRESENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION	1
7.	BETTER LIVING ACTIVITIES THROUGH AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES	1
8.	SEMINAR IN SWEDEN ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION	2
9.	IDENTIFICATION OF SUITABLE PROJECTS UNDER FAO'S PROGRAMME - PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PROMOTION OF SELF-HELP ORGANISATIONS	2
10.	RESEARCH STUDY ON "COOPERATIVES AND SMALL FARMER DEVELOPMENT : IMPLICATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE AND SUPERVISION"	4
11.	EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE ICA ROEC IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION	5
12.	EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS PLANNED BY THE ICA ROEC IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION	6
13.	ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR	7
14.	VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE	7
15.	VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR	7

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

1.1 A council member for Sri Lanka will welcome the members of the Sub-committee on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 14TH MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the last meeting held in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, on 21st November 1979 have been circulated to all members. A copy of the minutes is annexed hereto for ready reference.

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : TALK ON "AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN SRI LANKA - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS"

5.1 In continuation of the practice of arranging a brief talk on a subject pertaining to agricultural cooperation, arrangements have been made to give a talk on the following subject.

"Agricultural Cooperative Movement in Sri Lanka - Problems and Prospects" by Dr. G.M. Gunadasa.

The talk will be followed by discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : PRESENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

6.1 Members of the Sub-committee have been requested to come prepared to present briefly the recent significant developments in the agricultural cooperative movement in their respective countries.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : BETTER LIVING ACTIVITIES THROUGH AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES

7.1 In national seminars on "Management of Agricultural Cooperatives" held in the Philippines, Malaysia and Thailand this subject was discussed. Participants of these seminars have shown a keenness to introduce better living activities gradually in their cooperatives.

7.2 A national seminar on the above subject was held in Sri Lanka involving the 15 societies covered by the Women's Consumer Education Project. The National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka intends to expand these activities to the other multipurpose cooperatives. The President of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka speaking at the closing of the national seminar expressed his strong desire in expanding these activities to other cooperatives.

7.3 A national seminar on "Better Living Activities through Agricultural Cooperatives" is planned to be held in Thailand in February 1981. It is expected to formulate a plan at the seminar for introduction of better living activities in some selected agricultural cooperatives in Thailand. The Sub-committee may like to discuss ways of introducing better living activities in agricultural cooperatives.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : SEMINAR IN SWEDEN ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

8.1 The Sub-committee suggested at its last meeting that ROEC should find the possibility of holding a seminar in Sweden after 1981. Oral report will be made on the position by the Secretary.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : IDENTIFICATION OF SUITABLE PROJECTS UNDER FAO'S PROGRAMME - "PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PROMOTION OF SELF HELP ORGANISATIONS"

9.1 The FAO in collaboration with International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOS) such as the ICA, and National Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOS) such as the National Cooperative Organisation (NCO) proposes to implement over the coming years a multi-donor umbrella programme of assistance for rural development whose special feature will be the involvement of INGOS, NGOs, donors and rural people's organisations like the cooperatives in the identification, planning, implementation and evaluation of development projects in selected countries. This approach is based on the acceptance of the view that rural development strategies can realise their full potential only through motivation, active involvement and organisation at the grass-root level of rural people, with special emphasis on the least advantaged, in conceptualising and designing policies and programmes and in creating administrative, social and economic institutions such as cooperatives for implementing and evaluating them.

9.2 This approach to development is a direct sequel to the decisions made at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD) held in Rome in July 1979 which decisions among others declared that "national progress based on growth with equity and participation requires a redistribution of economic and political power and fuller integration of rural areas into national developmental efforts with expanded opportunities of employment and income for rural people and development of people's organisations including farmers associations, cooperatives and other forms of voluntary, autonomous, democratic organisations of primary producers and rural workers".

9.3 The specific objectives of this programme are :-

- (i) to stimulate the creation - particularly by the rural poor themselves - of adequate forms of people's self-help organisations at the village level, which the poor regard as their own, in order to improve their conditions and to satisfy their specific needs;
- (ii) to support the employment-generating and income raising agricultural, fishery and forestry activities of these organisations at the village level, with a view to increase the income of the poor through economically viable group action;
- (iii) to increase the effectiveness of existing rural people's organisations to support the rural weak and promote their active participation in self-development efforts;
- (iv) to stimulate and strengthen the national rural servicing agencies' ability to support the demands created by effective organisation, increased productivity and incomes.

9.4 We are of the view that participation of the cooperatives in this programme will open up new avenues for strengthening the base structure of the cooperatives within the country, will increase the levels of participation of the members with the cooperative, will provide increased opportunities for training and education at all levels, will increase the employment opportunities in both the farm and non-farm sectors, will increase the contribution of the cooperatives to the total development effort, will lead to equitable participation of even the under-privileged in the results of increased production, will provide equitable access to social and economic services, and will establish effective channels of communication between the less-advantaged who hitherto have not been directly involved in the processes of identification and planning of projects on the one hand and the cooperatives and governmental agencies involved in the process of development.

9.5 The programme aims to reach the small farmers and rural labourers and their families as the basic unit of development.

9.6 The Regional Director through a circular letter has brought to the notice of the member-organisations of the ICA in the Region the above information and requested them to indicate whether they or their affiliates would be interested in carrying out this programme of assistance.

9.7 The Sub-committee may like to discuss this and suggest way of involving agricultural cooperatives in the programme.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : RESEARCH STUDY ON "COOPERATIVES AND SMALL FARMER DEVELOPMENT : IMPLICATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE AND SUPERVISION"

10.1 The ICA in collaboration with the Royal Tropical Institute in Amsterdam has undertaken a research study on the above with a view to investigate the problems of small farmer development and implications for government guidance and supervision. Sub-committee members are aware that there is growing national and international concern over the increasing deterioration of the living and working conditions of the small farmer in many developing countries in the region in spite of the fact that in many countries agricultural production has been on the increase in the recent past. One of the principal objectives of the research study is to identify the elements of strategy, planning and implementation which will make cooperatives more effective in satisfying small farmer needs and aspirations.

10.2 The research study is financed by the Government of Netherlands, the Royal Tropical Institute and to a limited extent by ICA London.

10.3 The research involves an indepth study in selected areas in Thailand and Sri Lanka, which countries were willing to join in the study and also a desk research study undertaken at New Delhi in respect of the states of Maharashtra and Bihar in India and Malaysia. The research study findings will be discussed at a Regional Seminar to be held in Sri Lanka around early 1982.

10.4 Dr. P. Van Dooren of the RTI is the Supervisor of the Project while Mr. K. Verhagen is the Amsterdam based Research Officer. These are assisted by Dr. G. Ojha, the New Delhi based Research Officer and by three Country Research Officers in each country selected.

Thailand	:	1. Dr. Preuda Prapertchob 2. Mr. Chumporn Pahakij 3. Ms. Chulaporn Choochongniran
Sri Lanka	:	1. Dr. J.M. Gunadasa 2. Mr. M. Etampawela 3. Mr. P.A. Kiriwandumiya

10.5 The member organisations in Thailand and Sri Lanka viz. the Cooperative League of Thailand and the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka are functioning as coordinator and supervisor in the national context.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE ICA ROEC IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

- (i) National Seminar on "Management of Agricultural Cooperatives" in the Philippines.
- (ii) National Seminar on "Management of Agricultural Cooperatives" in Thailand.
- (iii) National Seminar on "Management of Agricultural Cooperatives" in Malaysia.
- (iv) National Seminar on "Better Living Activities through Agricultural Cooperatives" in Sri Lanka.
- (v) Regional Seminar on "Role of Cooperatives in Modernisation of Agriculture".

A Regional Seminar on "Role of Cooperatives in Modernisation of Agriculture" was held in Tokyo, Japan, by the International Cooperative Alliance Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia in collaboration with Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (CUAC) and the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA) from 25th August to 12th September 1980. The seminar in Japan was preceded by one week of study visits in the Republic of Korea.

AGENDA ITEM NO.12 : EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS PLANNED BY THE ICA ROEC IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

(i) National Seminars on "Management of Agricultural Cooperatives"

Two national seminars on "Management of Agricultural Cooperatives" are planned to be held in Bangladesh and Indonesia in 1980-81.

(ii) National Seminar on "Better Living Activities through Agricultural Cooperatives".

This seminar is scheduled to be held in Thailand in the first quarter of 1981.

(iii) Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade".

A Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade" is scheduled to be held in New Delhi, India, by the International Cooperative Alliance Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia in collaboration with the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation Limited (NAFED) and the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) from 24th November to 2nd December 1980.

(iv) The annual Regional Seminar in Japan in collaboration with CUAC and IDACA.

This seminar will be held in Tokyo, Japan, in August/September 1981 on a consumer subject. The seminar in 1982 will be on agricultural multipurpose cooperatives.

(v) Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Credit"

A Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Credit" to discuss problems of agricultural cooperative credit may be organised. Sub-committee may like to discuss the major areas that may be dealt with in the seminar.

(vi) Follow-up seminar for the participants of the International Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing.

Two follow-up seminars for the participants of the Swedish International Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing and some selected participants of ICA Regional Seminar on Agricultural Cooperation will be held in Thailand and Sri Lanka in 1981-82.

GENDA ITEM NO.13 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

GENDA ITEM NO.14 : VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

GENDA ITEM NO.15 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

Sd/-

Lionel Gunawardana
Secretary, ICA Sub-committee
for Agriculture for S-E Asia

New Delhi
2.9.1980

MINUTES OF THE FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR
AGRICULTURE FOR S-E ASIA HELD AT PETALING JAYA ON 21 NOV.1979.

1. The 14th meeting of the ICA Sub-committee for Agriculture for South-East Asia was held at the Board Room of the Wisma MCIS on 21st November 1979.

The following were present at the meeting :

Members

1. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Chairman and Member for the Philippines
2. Mr. I.H. Hunter, Member for Australia
3. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia
4. Mr. S.P. Srivastava, Member for India
5. Mr. S. Ochiai, Member for Japan
6. Mr. Supah Noh, Member for Malaysia
7. Mr. Joseph Edward, Member for Singapore
8. Mr. Vichien Inthachat, Member for Thailand
9. Mr. R.S. Jayaratne, Alternate Member for Sri Lanka
10. Mr. Ali Hossain, Member for Bangladesh

Secretary

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

Observers

1. Mr. M.A. Haque, ICA Councillor for Bangladesh
2. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, ICA Councillor for India
3. Dato N.A. Kularajah, ICA Councillor for Malaysia
4. Mr. Jaya Herat, ICA Councillor for Sri Lanka
5. Mr. Adul Niyomviphat, ICA Councillor for Thailand
6. Mr. Teo Cheng Peow, ICA Councillor for Singapore

ICA Regional Office Staff

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

Special Invitee

Mr. Khairi Haji Mohamed, Director-General, Farmers Organisation Authority, Malaysia.

In attendance

1. Mr. S. Komatsu, CUAC, Tokyo.
2. Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, ICA ROEC.

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

2. Mr. Supah Now welcomed the members on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Malaysia. He expressed the hope that the deliberations would be useful and that the stay of the members in Malaysia would be interesting and comfortable.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

3. The Regional Director, Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, extended a very warm welcome to the members of the Sub-committee. He said that agriculture still remained the most important economic activity in the Region and the majority of the population was dependent on agriculture. In this context he stated that increasing attention had to be paid by the cooperative sector for the development of agriculture and agricultural marketing need to receive particular attention. He said that ICA had tried to highlight this aspect over the last several years. The Regional Office had a Specialist in Agricultural Cooperative Marketing and it was in the process of trying to organise some national seminars on Management of Agricultural Cooperatives where Agricultural Marketing also would be dealt with. Along with agricultural development and marketing, the emphasis would be given to better living activities. He mentioned that a Regional Seminar on Better Living Activities through Cooperatives was held recently in collaboration with IDACA and CUAC. There had been an increasing interest on this aspect as this was something very relevant for large mass of the peasantry in trying to improve their conditions of living. He pointed out that development of the agricultural sector would also necessitate the establishment of trade channels both within the region and outside.

4. Mr. Rajaguru further stated that attempts were also being made to get assistance in respect of further training in agricultural cooperation in more advanced countries and that it could be discussed at a later stage. He said that it was appropriate for the Sub-committee to discuss the needs of the agricultural cooperative sector not only for 1980 but also for 1981-82 and beyond.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

5. Mr. B.P. Faustino, the Chairman, said that he would like to start by expressing his thanks for the very kind hospitality of the host movement in Malaysia which made it possible for everybody to meet under such pleasant circumstances, in very comfortable premises under the very watchful and thoughtful eyes of the Malaysian host so that the members were able to meet in an atmosphere conducive to the deliberations they were starting. On behalf of the members of the Sub-committee he extended his sincere appreciation and thanks to the host movement - the Cooperative Movement of Malaysia. Secondly, he recalled that it was almost a year since they last met in Bangkok.

Nevertheless, many things had happened not only in the world scene and the regional scenes in the context of South-East Asia but also in the respective national scenes within which they operated. He said that in the Sub-committee meeting the members got an opportunity to meet each other and exchange views and experiences.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 13TH MEETING

6. The minutes of the 13th meeting, which was circulated in advance among the members, were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : TALK ON "AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN MALAYSIA - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS"

7. The Chairman requested Mr. Khairi Haji Mohamed, Director General of Farmers Organisation Authority, Malaysia, who was present on invitation, to talk on the subject of "Agricultural Cooperative Movement in Malaysia - Problems and Prospects".

8. Mr. Khairi Mohamed thanked the Sub-committee and the ICA ROEC for having given him an opportunity to give a talk at the Sub-committee meeting.

9. He outlined the development of the agricultural cooperative movement in Malaysia and explained various problems faced by the movement and the steps that were being taken to solve them. The talk was supported by a very informative slides show. Copies of the address were made available to all the members and other participants.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : PRESENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

10. At the request of the Chairman, each member made a brief statement regarding the significant developments in the field of agricultural cooperatives in his country.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : HOW COOPERATIVES CAN INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION

11. The information given in the agenda was noted by the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : RESEARCH STUDIES ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

12. The information given in the agenda was noted by the meeting. The Secretary said that the Sub-committee may consider in the light of the information given in the agenda notes whether it is necessary to bring out a separate research register or whether it would be better to support the register that was being compiled by ICA London in collaboration with Cooperative Movements of Hungary and Poland. He said that bringing out a separate register for South-East Asia would pose a lot of problems not only from the point of view of funding but also from the point of view of collecting information and production. The Research Register produced by ICA London was available to any cooperative organisation in the Region.

13. The Regional Director felt that within the country itself there would be fairly well brought out studies and documents which would show on-going research in the respective countries. The one that was produced through London was giving a composite picture.

14. After some discussions, it was agreed by the Sub-committee to support the existing research register brought out by ICA London.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : SEMINAR IN SWEDEN ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

15. The Secretary said that at the request of the Chairman of the Sub-committee and some members this item was included on the agenda to emphasise the importance of the seminar and to request the Swedish Cooperative Centre to agree to holding the seminar continuously in future.

16. The Chairman said that it would definitely be a very valuable seminar for imparting training for agricultural cooperative people, broadening their perspectives and coming back with much more enthusiasm for carrying out their agricultural development plans.

17. It was decided to request the Swedish Cooperative Centre to hold the seminar in Sweden.

18. The Director (Education) said that the position in regard to SCC was that they were able to offer one seminar to our Region once in two years. The other year was reserved for Africa. This was the position that had to be kept in mind. Presently SCC had agreed, though they had held a seminar on Consumer Cooperation this year, to hold a seminar for Principals of national level Cooperative Training Centres for training in Training Methodology and Curriculum Development in 1981.

19. The Regional Director informed the meeting that the SCC in collaboration with the Polish Cooperative Movement will also be holding an International Seminar on Industrial Cooperatives in May 1980, which would mean basically that for 1980 and 1981 the Swedish facilities were exhausted. Hence the seminar on Agricultural Cooperation would have to be held after 1981.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : BETTER LIVING ACTIVITIES THROUGH AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES

20. The Secretary said that a proposal had been made for the Sub-committee to consider ways and means of promoting this activity in agricultural cooperatives especially in rural areas and that the Director (Education), ICA ROEC, had suggested some fields to be undertaken under this activity such as health cooperatives or cooperatives for invalids and creches run by cooperatives.

21. The Chairman said that basically the proposal was now for the Sub-committee to consider ways and means of introducing or expanding better living activities especially in agricultural cooperatives.

22. The Regional Director said that one thing that may be considered was how the national organisations were going to make use of persons who attended the seminar on Better Living held in Japan. Perhaps they could be used as the nucleus persons to introduce or expand these activities in their respective countries. The Chairman said that national organisations should really make it a point to try and see how these benefits starting from a small number of people could be multiplied and applied to the field situation whenever and wherever circumstances are conducive. He suggested that perhaps it may be desirable to initiate pilot experimental activities in a few selected countries on agricultural locations where agricultural cooperative activity was on-going and perhaps try to ask the ICA to explore possibilities of obtaining technical assistance or funding assistance.

23. The Regional Director said that as regards external funding or technical assistance, the feasible way would be to draw up meaningful project documents and then explore the possibilities. There were number of funding organisations who were willing to assist. The chances were that some assistance could be got if ICA ROEC received some proposals like that. It could be possible to go to COPAC or to Cooperative Development Committee. He said that it was a very welcome move to start activities like this in the Region.

24. The Sub-committee decided that the countries interested should be assisted by the ROEC in obtaining assistance for pilot projects.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE ICA ROEC IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

25. The Secretary reported that the following activities have been carried out in the field of agricultural cooperation by the ROEC.

- i. National Seminar on Management of Agricultural Cooperatives in Sri Lanka.
- ii. Regional Seminar on Better Living Activities through Agricultural Cooperatives in Japan.

26. The Secretary informed that the National Seminar on Management of Agricultural Cooperatives that was proposed to be held in Bangladesh was postponed at the request of Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union due to parliamentary elections. The Member for Bangladesh said that they would like the seminar to be held in 1981.

AGENDA ITEM NO.12 : EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS PLANNED BY THE ICA ROEC IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

27. The Secretary reported that the following educational activities have been planned to be carried out by the ROEC in the field of agricultural cooperation in 1980-81.

Seminars

- i. Technical meeting on cooperative agricultural marketing in India in September 1980.
- ii. National Seminar on Management of Agricultural Cooperation in Thailand, Philippines and Malaysia.
- iii. National Seminars on Better Living Activities through Agricultural Cooperatives in Thailand and Sri Lanka.

Studies

- i. Study of the problems of amalgamation in Malaysia to be followed by a technical meeting.

28. The Chairman suggested that it would be useful for other countries in the Region as well to undertake such studies and this suggestion was accepted by the Sub-committee.

AGENDA ITEM NO.13 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

29. The Secretary informed the meeting that the subject of the next seminar in Japan would be "Role of Cooperatives in Modernisation of Agriculture" and will be held in August-September 1980.

30. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan from India suggested that it was better if the ROEC invites country papers on agricultural development in the last year or progress made in the last year in advance and the papers so collected circulated to the members so that these could be discussed in the meeting.

31. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan from India also suggested that from countries which have two or more national level organisations in the field of agriculture it would be better if representatives of all these organisations were invited to the Sub-committee meeting. He quoted the example of India which had two national level organisations in the field of agriculture, namely, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation Limited and the National Cooperative Land Development Banks Federation.

32. The Regional Director said that it was possible to invite representatives of such organisations if the main national organisation informs the ICA ROEC the persons to be invited. In the case of India, NCUI should send this information. The expenses of attending the meetings, however, would have to be borne by their own organisations.

AGENDA ITEM NO.14 : VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

33. It was decided to have the next meeting in the same venue where the ICA Council Meeting would be held.

AGENDA ITEM NO.16 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

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

Sd/-

Lionel Gunawardana
Secretary, ICA Sub-committee
for Agriculture for S-E Asia

sm.

10/2/80

TENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES FOR SOUTH-EAST
ASIA, SRI LANKA : 13TH NOVEMBER 1980

A G E N D A

<u>Agenda</u> <u>Item No.</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
1. WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT	1
2. REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN	1
3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 9TH MEETING	1
4. TALK ON "FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN SRI LANKA - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS"	1
5. PRESENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION	1
6. REGIONAL SEMINAR ON "ORGANISATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERY COOPERATIVES"	1
7. NATIONAL SEMINAR FOR FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN MALAYSIA	2
8. PUBLICATION ON FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION	2
9. TRAINING FACILITIES FOR FISHERY COOPERATORS IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES	2
10. NEEDS OF THE COOPERATIVE FISHERY MOVEMENT IN THE REGION - INFORMATION TO ICA CONGRESS	3
11. REGIONAL SEMINAR ON FISHERIES COOPERATIVES IN JAPAN	3
12. ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR	3
13. VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE	3
14. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR	3

.....

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

1.1 A council member for Sri Lanka will welcome the members of the Sub-committee on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE NINTH MEETING

3.1 The minutes of the last meeting held in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, on 20th November 1979 have been circulated to all members. A copy of the minutes is annexed hereto for ready reference.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : TALK ON "FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN SRI LANKA - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS"

4.1 A brief talk on the following subject will be given.

"Fishery Cooperatives in Sri Lanka - Problems & Prospects".

The talk will be followed by discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : PRESENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

5.1 The members will make a brief presentation on the present position of fishery cooperatives in their respective countries.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : REGIONAL SEMINAR ON "ORGANISATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERY COOPERATIVES" IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

6.1 The National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives (NFFC) is hosting a Regional Seminar on "Organisation and Development of Fishery Cooperatives" from 17th to 30th March 1981. Arrangements for the seminar are being made.

6.2 As suggested by the Sub-committee in its meeting in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, participants to this seminar would be drawn from fishery cooperative leadership. From the countries which do not have fishery cooperatives, cooperative leaders who are at policy making level and who might be able to initiate organisation of fishery cooperatives will be invited.

6.3 It is also planned to carry out study visits in Japan in collaboration with the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations for one week for the participants of the seminar after the closing of the seminar in the Republic of Korea. The National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations has agreed to organise the study visits.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : NATIONAL SEMINAR FOR FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN MALAYSIA

7.1 This seminar will be held in Malaysia in January 1981. The National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan has agreed to provide a resource person for this seminar.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : PUBLICATION ON FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION

8.1 The member-organisations are being requested to prepare papers on the fishery cooperatives in their respective countries. These papers could also be used in the forthcoming Regional Seminar in the Republic of Korea and publish subsequently.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : TRAINING FACILITIES FOR FISHERY COOPERATORS IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

9.1 The Regional Office made enquiries regarding this. We received information regarding a seminar held in Hungary for fishery cooperators from the developing countries to get training in fresh water fishery. This information had been communicated to several cooperative fishery organisations in the Region. However, as the travel cost for participation in this seminar has to be borne by the participants there was no response.

9.2 The other information we have received from the FAO was regarding training facilities in Japan. As the members know through the generosity of the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan, the cooperators are receiving training in Japan through annual seminars.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : NEEDS OF THE COOPERATIVE FISHERY MOVEMENT IN THE REGION INFORMATION TO ICA CONGRESS

10.1 On a suggestion made by Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Member for Malaysia, the Sub-committee decided that Mr. Ibrahim should make an intervention at the ICA Congress in Moscow to bring to the notice of the Congress the needs of the fishery cooperatives in the Region. Later a note was prepared by Mr. Ibrahim giving the points to be mentioned and the members consent was obtained by circulating it among them.

10.2 Mr. Ibrahim will report briefly regarding his intervention.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : REGIONAL SEMINAR ON FISHERIES COOPERATIVES IN JAPAN

11.1 The Regional Seminar for Fisheries Cooperatives in South-East Asia was held in Tokyo from 1st to 19th September 1980 by the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan. Sixteen participants from 8 countries, namely, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Rep.of Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand attended the seminar. ICA Regional Office collaborated by sending invitation and assisting in selection of participants.

AGENDA ITEM NO.12 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

AGENDA ITEM NO.13 : VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

AGENDA ITEM NO.14 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

Sd/-

Lionel Gunawardana
Secretary, ICA Sub-committee
for Fisheries for S-E Asia

New Delhi
22.9.1980

MINUTES OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD AT PETALING JAYA, MALAYSIA ON 20TH NOVEMBER 1979.

1. The Ninth Meeting of the ICA Sub-committee for Fisheries for South-East Asia was held at the Board Room of Wisma MCIS on 20th November 1979. The Chairman of the Sub-committee, Mr. Eddiwan, presided.

The following were present :

1. Mr. Eddiwan, Chairman and Member for Indonesia
2. Mr. S.P. Srivastava, Member for India
3. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Member for Malaysia
4. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Member for Philippines
5. Mr. Jaya Herat, Member for Sri Lanka
6. Mr. Abdul Niyomviphat, Member for Thailand.

Secretary

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

Observers

1. Mr. B. Krishnappa, India
2. Mr. R.S. Jayaratne, Sri Lanka
3. Mr. Teo Cheng Peow, Singapore
4. Mr. M. Matsuhira, Japan

ICA Staff

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

In attendance

Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, ICA ROEC.

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

2. Dato N.A. Kularajah welcomed the members on behalf of the Malaysian Cooperative Movement.

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

3. The minutes of the last meeting, 8th in the series, were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : DISCUSSION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

4. At the request of the Chairman, each member made a brief statement regarding the development of fishery cooperatives in his country.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : REGIONAL SEMINAR FOR FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN JAPAN

5. The Secretary reported on the second Regional Seminar for Fishery Cooperatives held in Japan, invitations for which were sent by the ICA ROEC. He said that this activity was going to be an annual feature in Japan. There was some difficulty in getting the nominations in time for onward transmission to Japan to make arrangements for travel etc. In order to avoid last minute nominations, he suggested that the member-organisations may develop some sort of priority list of likely participants who could be nominated. The Member for the Philippines, Mr. B.P. Faustino, felt that this would be a very good method. The Sub-committee accepted the suggestion and decided that it be recommended to the nominating organisations.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : REGIONAL SEMINAR FOR FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

6. The Secretary reported that the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives of the Republic of Korea had agreed to host a Regional Seminar on Fishery Cooperatives in the first half of 1981. He said that he had an opportunity of discussing this matter personally with NFFC when he was last in Korea. He said that as there was an annual seminar in Japan it might be difficult to get sufficient number of qualified participants if the seminar covered the same subject area covered by the seminar in Japan. It was also pointed out that all the countries did not have fishery cooperatives and some countries had only a few. In this context he said that it might be better to discuss development and organisational matters in the seminar to be held in the Republic of Korea.

7. The Member for the Philippines, Mr. Faustino, suggested that this seminar be meant for policy makers or leaders.

8. The Director (Education) said that if we have two seminars on the same subject for the Region for fishery cooperatives in one year, it would be difficult to get the right type of participants and in sufficient numbers. He said that the seminar in Korea should have a different emphasis. One of the problems that had been mentioned in the Sub-committee discussion was that the fishery cooperatives had not developed very much in spite of so many years of cooperative development work. If this aspect was kept in view, it would be good if the theme of the Korean Seminar could be on "How to Develop Fishery Cooperatives".

The Seminar may suggest some kind of guidelines or strategies for the future development of the fishery cooperatives at an accelerated rate. Then it would be possible to get a different set of people. He suggested that participants should be from among the high level leaders of the fishery cooperative movements and also possible top government policy makers.

9. The Member for the Philippines, Mr. Faustino, suggested that the Korean Seminar be on the organisation side, how to accelerate the organisational aspect of developing on a faster pace the fishery cooperative activity.

10. The Member for Malaysia, Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, suggested that where fishery activity is relatively more developed participants should be drawn from fishery cooperative leadership, whereas in others where there was not that kind of developmental pace perhaps people from policy making in the bureau in charge of fishery cooperatives should be invited and thus get them involved in the fishery cooperative development. The Sub-committee generally agreed with the suggestion made and decided that the ICA ROEC should decide on a suitable title based on the suggestions made.

11. The Secretary reported that he had discussions with the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan regarding organising study visits in Japan for this seminar. They have reacted favourably to the suggestion.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : PUBLICATION ON FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION

12. The Secretary said as there is a lack of literature on fishery cooperatives in the Region, it would be good if a publication is brought out on the situation of fishery cooperative development in the Region. The publication once brought out could be updated after five years. The ICA ROEC could develop a format with a brief synopsis which can be sent to the member organisations who could supply an article on their respective countries.

13. The Regional Director suggested that this publication should, in the first instance, be brought out in a mimeographed form and once a demand for it was built up it could be printed.

14. It was decided that the ROEC will collate information and decide later whether it should be brought out in printed or mimeographed form taking into consideration the material received and the cost of production.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : TRAINING FACILITIES FOR FISHERY COOPERATORS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

15. The information given in the agenda was noted by the Sub-committee.

16. The Regional Director said that by and large over the last so many years the fishery cooperative sectors and the Sub-committee had been concerned primarily with marine fishing. There was an increasing emphasis now on fresh water fish. Therefore, it may be desirable for the Sub-committee to study the aspect of fresh water fishing.

17. After discussion the Sub-committee requested the ROEC to explore the possibilities of getting training facilities in inland, offshore and deep fishing in developed countries for the fishery cooperators in the Region.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : ROSTER OF EXPERTS ON FISHERMEN'S COOPERATIVES

18. The Secretary requested the members if there were any additional names to be sent to the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission that they be sent early to ROEC for onward transmission to FAO.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : VISIT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ICA FISHERY COMMITTEE, MR. J. SAITO, TO INDIA, SRI LANKA AND BANGLADESH

19. The Chairman requested Mr. M. Matsuhiro from Japan to make a brief report on the visits of the Chairman of the Fishery Committee. Mr. Matsuhiro read out a brief note from the Chairman which is reproduced below.

20. "The present situation and problems faced by the countries and their requests to ICA Fishery Committee are as follows :-

- i. In these three countries which I visited, fisheries cooperative movement is lagging behind in its organisation and activities due to the low educational level of fishermen and shortage of funds. Although governmental agencies in each country are giving positive guidance and assistance, fishermen do not have much desire to join fisheries cooperative societies.
- ii. Due to the little progress in modernisation of fishing techniques, productivity of fishing is extremely low.
- iii. While there is a very strong desire to modernise fisheries industry, shortage of equipment for modernisation is striking and in addition, education and training of fishing techniques are insufficient.
- iv. Basic facilities for fish landing are not well provided and there is a problem in keeping freshness of fish due to incomplete distribution and processing facilities. Therefore, there is a great need for providing these facilities.
- v. Fishermen are raising funds required for fishing from middlemen at a high rate of interest, which brings an extremely heavy financial pressure upon fishermen.

vi. In order to develop and strengthen organisation of fisheries cooperative societies, education and training for leaders are indispensable."

21. The Regional Director said that the type of visits the Chairman undertook were very useful and expressed the wish that he undertakes such visits to other countries also in future and keep the Fishery Committee informed of their problems so that it could extend possible assistance to the developing countries for the development of fishery cooperatives.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

22. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Member for Malaysia, suggested that the Sub-committee should submit a memorandum to the forthcoming ICA Congress in Moscow on the needs of the fishery cooperatives in the Region. The Sub-committee felt that instead of submitting a memorandum an intervention could be made by a member of the Sub-committee at the Congress highlighting the needs of the fishery cooperatives.

23. The Director (Education) said that the intervention on behalf of the Fisheries Sub-committee could be planned. It would be very valuable indeed because rarely questions of this sector were brought up at all.

24. The Regional Director suggested that points for the intervention may be drafted and the consent of the members of the Sub-committee could be taken by circulation. Mr. Aziz Ibrahim undertook to draft the points for getting the consent of the members. Mr. Aziz Ibrahim would present these points at the Congress discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

25. It was agreed that the venue and date of the next meeting of the Sub-committee should be the same as that of the ICA Regional Council meeting and the date would be fixed by the Regional Director when fixing the dates of the Council Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.12 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

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

Sd/-

sm.

27/1/2/80

Lionel Gunawardana
Secretary, ICA Sub-committee
for Fisheries for S-E Asia

MINUTES

ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture : 15th Meeting

ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries : 10th Meeting

Venue COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

Dates 13-14 NOVEMBER 1980

*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
& Education Centre for South-East Asia, 'Bonow
House', 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110-065, India*

International Cooperative Alliance
3, Friends Colony, New Delhi

MINUTES OF THE FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR
AGRICULTURE FOR S-E ASIA HELD AT COLOMBO, SRI LANKA ON NOV.14,1980

1. The Fifteenth Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture for South-East Asia was held at the office of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka on 14th November 1980.

2. Mr. R.G. Tiwari (member for India) was unanimously elected as Chairman. Mr. Palitha Ratnayake (member for Sri Lanka) was unanimously elected as Vice-Chairman.

The following were present at the meeting:

1. Mr. R.G. Tiwari, Chairman & Member for India
2. Mr. Palitha Ratnayake, Vice Chairman and Member for Sri Lanka
3. Mr. Ali Hossain, Bangladesh
4. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, India
5. Mr. Shiro Futagami, Japan
6. Mr. Youn Koo Lee, Korea
7. Mr. Byung Joon Suh, Korea
8. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Malaysia
9. Mr. Supah Noh, Malaysia
10. Mr. Joseph Edward, Singapore
11. Mr. Tec Cheng Peow, Singapore
12. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, Sri Lanka
13. Dr. Bunjird Khatikarn, Thailand
14. Mr. Vichien Inthachat, Thailand

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

Observers : 1. Mr. K. Fujimoto, Managing Director, IDACA, Japan
2. Mr. Agustin Kilayko, Sugar Coops Dev. Institute, Philippines.

ICA ROEC Staff

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TA&T)
4. Mr. Per Eric Lannhagen, Specialist in Agrl.Coop. Marketing

Special Invitee

Dr. J.M. Gunadasa, Lecturer, Department of Geography,
University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

In attendance

Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director,
ICA ROEC

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

3. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, President, Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka welcomed the members of the Sub-Committee and wished them success in their deliberations. He congratulated the new Chairman of the Sub-Committee. He said the chief occupation of this region was agriculture and the people had hopes that vast strides would be taken by cooperatives for the development of agriculture. He thanked the Sub-Committee for giving the Vice-Chairmanship to Sri Lanka.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

4. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia said that agriculture was the mainstay of most of the countries of the region and it had been the central focus of cooperative effort in most of the countries. The contribution made by the cooperative effort in each country was quite considerable for the development of agriculture. The cooperatives had contributed by provision of agricultural inputs and credit. The Sub-Committee would agree that the area in which not much had been achieved was the area of agricultural marketing both within the country and also between countries. There were, however, individual situations where there were marked improvements. He said that the ICA in collaboration with National Agricultural Cooperative Federation and National Cooperative Union of India would be holding a Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to export trade" in Delhi and that seminar would focus the attention on the possibility of inter-regional or international trade in agricultural produce. It was necessary to identify the problems in agricultural marketing within the nations itself. He said that Agricultural Cooperative Movement in Japan was giving lot of assistance in the field of agricultural cooperation by annually hosting an agriculture seminar at IDACA where a number of persons from the countries of the region were exposed to the very developed cooperative agricultural system in Japan. He said cooperatives in the region were grateful to the Japanese movement for this support. He requested the Sub-Committee to give the ICA ROEC the necessary guidelines which would help in programming for the future.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

5. Mr. R.G. Tiwari thanked the Sub-Committee for electing him chairman. He said that agriculture had great significance in the socio-economic life of the region, and the Sub-Committee had an important job to do in the development of agriculture through cooperatives.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 14TH MEETING

6. The minutes of the 14th meeting, which was circulated in advance among the members, were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : TALK ON "AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN SRI LANKA - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS"

7. Dr. J.M. Gunadasa, Lecturer, Department of Geography, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka gave a talk on "Agricultural Cooperative Movement in Sri Lanka - Problems and Prospects".
8. Dr. Gunadasa thanked the Sub-Committee and the ICA ROEC for having given him an opportunity to give a talk at the Sub-Committee meeting.
9. Copies of the talk were made available to all the members and others present at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : PRESENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

10. At the request of the Chairman, each member made a brief statement regarding the significant developments in the field of agricultural cooperatives in his country.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : BETTER LIVING ACTIVITIES THROUGH AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES

11. The Secretary said that the intention of placing this item in the agenda was to bring to the notice of the Sub-Committee the activities that the ROEC had carried out in this field during the last several months and what was planned for the coming months, and to seek the advice of the Sub-Committee as to what further action was needed by the ROEC as well as by the agricultural cooperatives in the region.
12. The educational activities carried out so far by the ROEC in the field of better living activities through agricultural cooperatives were noted by the Sub-Committee.
13. The Secretary said that a project had been submitted by the Philippines to the ROEC for a pilot project to introduce better living activities.
14. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama said that a good beginning had been made in Sri Lanka to introduce better living activities through the Women's Consumer Education Project. He said that better living had to really start in the home and women had to take the primary place in such activities and they needed education and direction. The National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka wished to expand these activities to other cooperatives presently not covered by the project.

15. Mr. Rajaguru drew the attention of the meeting to the Regional Seminar on "Enhancing Women's Participation in Cooperative Activities" held in Kandy, Sri Lanka, in September 1980. He said the concepts that came out of the seminar needed careful analysis. There were two schools of thoughts. One was that there should be a separate women's organisation within a cooperative system entirely for the women. The other, which was supported by the majority of the participants, was that women should be absorbed in the mainstream of cooperative activity which would enable them to influence activities of cooperatives so that the quality of life improves. The general majority opinion was that the women should become members of the existing cooperative system and use their influence as pressure groups and try to improve the general performance of the cooperatives.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : SEMINAR IN SWEDEN ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

16. The Secretary reported that as decided at the last meeting the ROEC contacted the Swedish Cooperative Centre to find out the possibility of organising a seminar on agricultural cooperation in Sweden. Normally Sweden hosts a seminar annually, one year for Asian countries and the other year for the African countries.

17. According to the present time-table, it would be possible for the SCC to hold an International Seminar on Agricultural Cooperation for Asian countries in 1984. This means that pre-seminars for selection of participants would have to be held in 1983. He said that if the evaluation, which would be undertaken shortly, showed that seminars in Sweden were useful to the region there was a likelihood of increasing the frequency of the seminars, having two seminars in a year - one for Asia and one for Africa. If that happened a seminar for Asia could be held earlier.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : IDENTIFICATION OF SUITABLE PROJECTS UNDER FAO'S PROGRAMME - PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PROMOTION OF SELF-HELP ORGANISATIONS

18. The information given in the agenda was noted. Mr. Rajaguru pointed out that the Regional Office had written to all the member organisations earlier in the year and so far only two organisations had responded. He said that the thinking in the U.N. circles was that the assistance programmes did not meet with the necessary success that was expected. Very often the benefits of assistance did not percolate to the people at the bottom. There was information that a fair amount of money was available under the FAO programme. The basic concept of the approach was that planning must be done at the very grass root level and from the initial stages of planning people who were likely to be beneficiaries would be involved in the planning process in trying to formulate a programme which will eventually be worked out as a project. FAO would be interested only if the project had a capacity to be replicated elsewhere.

19. They should necessarily be small projects, not large projects. They could be projects starting even with 1,000 - 2,000 US dollars as the case may be. -

20. He requested the members to explore the possibilities for getting the best benefits of this programme.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : RESEARCH STUDY ON "COOPERATIVES AND SMALL FARMER DEVELOPMENT : IMPLICATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE AND SUPERVISION"

21. The information given in the agenda was noted.

22. Mr. Rajaguru further explained the information given in the agenda notes. He said that in early January 1981 an international workshop of the researchers would try to collate the experiences gathered from the research areas and proceed further with the research study. A technical meeting on the subject would be held sometime in 1982 in Sri Lanka with persons in the field of small farmer activities from about 5-6 countries in the region. The basic idea was to test out the material that had been collected and then to produce a document which would be of use to policy-makers in respect of small farmer development. There was very little information in respect of small farmer and that most policy decisions were made on the basis of assumptions that everything was all right. Much more details could be reported after the Delhi workshop.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE ICA ROEC IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

23. The Secretary reported that the following activities had been carried out in the field of agricultural cooperation by the ROEC:

- i. National Seminar on "Management of Agricultural Coops.", in the Philippines.
- ii. National Seminar on "Management of Agricultural Coops.", in Thailand.
- iii. National Seminar on "Management of Agricultural Coops.", in Malaysia.
- iv. National Seminar on "Better Living Activities through Agricultural Cooperatives", in Sri Lanka.
- v. Regional Seminar on "Role of Cooperatives in Modernisation of Agriculture", in Tokyo, Japan.

AGENDA ITEM NO.12): EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS
PLANNED BY THE ICA ROEC IN THE FIELD OF
AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

24. The Secretary reported that the following educational activities have been planned to be carried out by the ROEC in the field of agricultural cooperation in 1981-82:

- i. National Seminars on "Management of Agricultural Cooperatives", Bangladesh, Indonesia, 1980-81.
- ii. National Seminar on "Better Living Activities through Agricultural Cooperatives, Thailand 1981.
- iii. Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to export trade", New Delhi, 1980.
- iv. Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Credit", Bangladesh, 1981.
- v. Follow-up Seminars for participants of the International Seminars on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing, Thailand and Sri Lanka, 1981-82.

AGENDA ITEM NO.13 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION
OF THE CHAIR

25. Dato Kularajah inquired about the status of the Sugar Cooperatives Development Institute of the Philippines which was a member of the ICA.

26. Mr. Rajaguru pointed out that there are over 260 members of the ICA and all were treated equal. However, when it comes to the Regional Council Meeting, there was an accepted channel of communication between the ROEC and the movements concerned, and nomination of councillors was made through this channel. For example, in India there were 7 or 8 member organisations which were members of the ICA. For matters concerning the Regional Council the ROEC corresponded with the National Cooperative Union of India. In the case of Japan for most of the matters the Regional Office deals with the Japanese Joint Committee on Cooperatives.

27. In respect of the Philippines, there was a Cooperatives Consultative and Coordinating Committee with whom the Regional Office was communicating. However, there was information that the CCCC was no longer functioning and instead there was now a Supreme Cooperative Council of which the Cooperative Union of the Philippines, the Sugar Cooperatives Development Institute and the Electric Cooperatives were members. A new channel of communication had still not been established. It was hoped that the matter could be discussed at the meeting - unfortunately the designated Councillors were not present. The matter would be taken up soon after the Regional Council Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.14 : VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

28. It was decided to have the next meeting in the same venue where the ICA Council meeting would be held.

AGENDA ITEM NO.15 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

29. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Sd/-

Lionel Gunawardana
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee
for Agriculture for S-E Asia

vn/

International Cooperative Alliance
43, Friends Colony, New Delhi

MINUTES OF THE TENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES
FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD AT COLOMBO, SRI LANKA ON NOVEMBER 13, 1980

1. The Tenth Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries for South-East Asia was held at the office of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, Colombo on 13th November 1980.

2. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim from Malaysia was elected as the new Chairman of the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee recorded its appreciation of the services of the outgoing Chairman Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia.

The following were present:

1. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Chairman and Member for Malaysia
2. Mr. J. Saito, Japan
3. Mr. Sool Hwa Jeong, Korea
4. Mr. Seoung Woo Hong, Korea
5. Mr. Joseph Edward, Singapore
6. Mr. Tec Cheng Peow, Singapore
7. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, Sri Lanka
8. Dr. Bunjird Khatikarn, Thailand

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

Special Invitee :

Mr. M.D. Fernando, Secretary/General Manager,
Sri Lanka Fisheries Cooperative Federation.

ICA ROEC Staff :

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TA&T)
4. Mr. Per Eric Lannhagen, Specialist in Agrl. Coop.
Marketing

In attendance

1. Mr. M. Yamaguchi, NFFC, Tokyo, Japan
2. Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director,
ICA ROEC

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

3. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, President, NCC, welcomed the members on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka. He congratulated the new Chairman and said that his long experience would help the member movements in developing the cooperative fishery sector. He wished the deliberations all success.

REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

4. Mr. R.B. Rājāgūru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia said that the concern of the Committee was the small fishermen who were mostly the coastline fishermen. He was the most exploited and the most in need of cooperative support. At the Moscow meeting too the need to develop both marine and inland fresh water fisheries was emphasised. He also mentioned that even though Hungary had offered training facilities to a number of countries in the region in agriculture and fresh water fisheries, very many of them could not avail of that facility because of the difficulty of meeting the airfare. It had been suggested in the Fisheries Committee in Moscow that some kind of fund be developed with the assistance of the developed nations so that when the scholarships were offered, the concerned participants could seek assistance from such a fund to cover their airfare. He thanked the National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives Association of Japan and the NFFC in Korea for the continuing support they gave to the member movements by supporting ICA activities.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

5. The Chairman, Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim thanked the Sub-Committee for electing him Chairman and said that he would do his best with the support of the members to improve the working of the Sub-Committee. He congratulated Mr. J. Saito on his re-election as Chairman of the ICA Fishery Committee.

ICA Committee on Cooperative Fisheries

6. Mr. J. Saito said that the participation from the region in the meeting of the Fishery Committee was not satisfactory. Only two persons including him participated in the last meeting held in Moscow. He appealed for more active participation.

7. Mr. Saito informed the meeting that:

- (a) In order to strengthen the secretariat of ICA Fisheries Committee, ZENGYOREN (Japan) seconded a young expert in cooperative fisheries to the headquarter of ICA in London from September 1980.
- (b) The third seminar for fisheries cooperation for the South-East Asian countries was held from 2nd to 19th September 1980 in Tokyo, Japan.
- (c) The first issue of the Cooperative Fishermen's Bulletin was issued in September 1980. The printing cost of the publication was contributed by ZENGYOREN, Japan, and the fisheries organisations in Iceland contributed the postal expenses. The bulletin would be issued four times a year as an important means of "exchange of information". He appealed to the members to send information regarding fishery cooperatives activities for publication in the bulletin.

8. Entering into the age of high price of fuel oil and 200 nautical miles fishing zone, the fisheries all over the world encountered a significant turning period. Future fishery development in each country would have to concentrate on the development of both coastal and off shore fishing to make the best use of the ample resources within the 200 nautical miles fishing zone. From this point of view, the future role of fisheries cooperatives will become more and more important. In order to develop cooperatives in developing countries, technical and financial assistance between cooperatives on the international level was necessary. Mr. Saito said that the cooperators in Asian countries must have closer relations and cooperation with each other and wished success for the meeting of the Fisheries Sub-Committee.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 9TH MEETING

9. The minutes of the 9th meeting held at Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, on 20th November 1979 were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : TALK ON "FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN SRI LANKA - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS"

10. Mr. M.D. Fernando, Secretary/General Manager, Sri Lanka Fisheries Cooperative Federation, gave a talk on the subject of "Fishery Cooperatives in Sri Lanka - Problems and Prospects".

11. Mr. Fernando thanked the Sub-Committee and the ICA ROEC for having given him an opportunity to give a talk at the Sub-Committee meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : PRESENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

12. At the request of the Chairman, each member present at the meeting made a brief statement regarding the significant developments in the field of fishery cooperatives in his country.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : REGIONAL SEMINAR ON "ORGANISATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERY COOPERATIVES"

13. The Secretary reported that the arrangements with regard to this seminar were proceeding well. Invitations had been sent out to the member organisations in the region. The seminar will be held in the Republic of Korea from 17th to 30th March 1981 to be followed up by one week study visits in Japan from 1st to 8th April 1981. The detailed programme for the seminar was being worked out. As regards the programme for the study visits in Japan, detailed information was awaited from Mr. Sakamoto of Fisheries Federation of Japan who had promised to draw up a programme and send it to the ICA ROEC in due course.

14. The participants to this seminar would be of policy making level.

15. The delegate from the Fisheries Federation of Korea gave a brief sketch of the seminar programme to the meeting. It was agreed to convey the gratefulness of the Sub-Committee to the President of the NFFC of Korea for organising this seminar.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : NATIONAL SEMINAR FOR FISHERY COOPERATIVES
IN MALAYSIA

16. The Secretary reported that the National Seminar for Fisheries Cooperatives in Malaysia which was scheduled earlier for January 1981 would now be held in February and that arrangements were being made accordingly. He informed the Sub-Committee that the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan would be sending resource person to the seminar in Malaysia.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : PUBLICATION ON FISHERY COOPERATIVES
IN THE REGION

17. The Secretary said that the plan was to bring out a publication on fishery cooperatives in South-East Asia comprising papers that would be submitted to the forthcoming Regional Seminar in Korea. The member organisations nominating participants to the seminar would be requested to send comprehensive papers to be presented by them at the seminar.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : TRAINING FACILITIES FOR FISHERY
COOPERATORS IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

18. The Secretary informed the meeting that a training course for fishery cooperators was held in Hungary but the travel costs of the participants from the region could not be met, the cooperators from the South-East Asian region could not make use of the facilities offered in Hungary

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : NEEDS OF THE COOPERATIVE FISHERY MOVEMENT
IN THE REGION - INFORMATION TO ICA CONGRESS

19. The Secretary reported that as per the decision of the last meeting of the Sub-Committee, Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, the Chairman, made an intervention regarding needs of the fishery cooperatives in the region at the ICA Congress held recently in Moscow in October 1980.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : REGIONAL SEMINAR ON FISHERIES
COOPERATIVES IN JAPAN

20. The Secretary reported about the Regional Seminar for Fisheries in South-East Asia held in Tokyo from 1st to 19th September 1980. This had become an annual event where ICA ROEC collaborates with the Japanese Movement in inviting and in selecting the participants. The Secretary said that the participants were all from cooperative organisations. The Chairman suggested that the possibility of organising study visits for participants of the seminar in Korea should be explored by the ICA.

AGENDA ITEM NO.12 : VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING
OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

21. It was agreed that the venue and date of the next meeting of the Sub-Committee should be in the same venue and precede the Regional Council meeting.

22. The Regional Director informed the meeting that the venue had been fixed as Seoul, Republic of Korea, and that the meeting would be held in October 1981.

AGENDA ITEM NO.13 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

23. With a vote of thanks to the chair, the meeting came to a close.

Sd/-

Lionel Gunawardana
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee
for Fisheries for S-E Asia

vm/

ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development for South-East Asia

SECOND MEETING

Venue COLOMBO (SRI LANKA)

Dates 12 November 1980



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110065, India*

Second Meeting of ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development
for South-East Asia, Colombo, Sri Lanka : 12 November, 1980

Date : 12 November 1980

Time : 11.30 A.M.

Venue : ~~Mt. Lavinia Hotel, Colombo (Sri Lanka)~~ *MCC*

A G E N D A

1. Welcome by the host movement.
2. Remarks by the Chairman.
3. Remarks by the ICA Regional Director
4. Confirmation of minutes of the last meeting held on 19 November, 1979 at Petaling Jaya, Malaysia.
5. Matters arising out of decisions of the last meeting.
6. To discuss about the role of a Regional Trading Organisation in promoting cooperative international trade.
7. Any other matter with permission of the Chair.
8. Venue of the next meeting.
9. Vote of thanks to the Chair.

1. Welcome by the host movement

The Council member for Sri Lanka will welcome the members of the Trade Sub-Committee on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka.

2. Remarks by the Chairman

Mr. Irwin Hunter, the President of the Cooperative Federation of Australia and Chairman of the ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development for South-East Asia will welcome the members to the Second Meeting of the Sub-Committee.

3. Remarks by the ICA Regional Director

Mr. R. B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia will make general observations.

4. Confirmation of minutes of the last meeting held on 19 November 1979 at Petaling Jaya (Malaysia)

Minutes of the last meeting of the Sub-Committee held on 19 November, 1979 at Petaling Jaya (Malaysia) were circulated to all members of the Sub-Committee on 22 January 1980.

Mr. Rolf Akeby, Team Leader of Cooptrade Project, who had also attended the above meeting as a Special Invitee, requested vide his letter dated 30 January 1980 to substitute the words "Regional Trade Directory" by "updated supply Survey Report" in para (c) under agenda item No. 3. A copy of the letter received from Mr. Akeby was circulated to all members of the Committee.

It is proposed that members of the Sub-Committee may adopt confirmation of the minutes after incorporating the amendment proposed by Mr. Rolf Akeby.

5. Matters arising out of decisions of the last meeting

(a) Revised Supply Survey Report

In the last meeting, Mr. Rolf Akeby, Team Leader of ILO-SIDA Cooptrade Project had informed the members of the Sub-Committee that after the National Workshops the Cooptrade Project authorities would have received a lot of information about cooperatives which are exporting or have export potential. Mr. Akeby had said that on the basis of that information they would prepare a revised up-dated Supply Survey Report.

It has been intimated by Mr. Akeby that the revised up-dated supply survey report is under compilation and the printed report should be ready before the close of the year.

(b) Trade Contact's Mission

The Team Leader of the Cooptrade Project has intimated that trade contact mission in Asia, for representatives of cooperative trading organisations in the Region, might be included in the activities of the Cooperative Trade Project, should the project be extended beyond the end of this year.

(c) Training facilities in international trade

The Secretariat has intimated to all member organisations about the training workshops and seminars which figure in the Work-Plan of the Trade Promotion Centre of ESCAP, Bangkok, for the year 1980-81. Member organisations have been requested to advise cooperative business organisations to avail themselves of these training facilities.

(d) International Cooperative Trade Conference
in Moscow : 9-11 October 1980

Information about the above trade conference was given to all member organisations in the Region and they were also requested to advise the cooperative trading organisations in their respective countries to furnish information against the questionnaire issued by the Economic Bureau of the Sub-Committee of ICA Committee for Agriculture.

A Report about the Trade Conference in Moscow will be given in the meeting by Mr. R. B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia.

(e) National Workshops on Promotion of Export Trade

Under the ILO-SIDA Cooptrade Project, national workshops on "Strengthening of Inter-Coop Trade Relations" were held in seven countries in the Region.

Sri Lanka	...	22-27 October 1979
Bangladesh	...	4-9 February 1980
India	...	12-17 November 1979
Philippines	...	9-14 December 1979
Malaysia	...	10-15 March 1980
Thailand	...	26-31 May 1980
Indonesia	...	16-21 June 1980

These Workshops were conducted by the Cooptrade Project in collaboration with ICA member organisations who were requested, as per decision of the last meeting of the Sub-Committee, to extend full support and cooperation to the Cooptrade Project authorities in conducting these workshops. The workshops were attended by participants from cooperative business organisations who are engaged in or are interested in international trade. The ICA ROEC, New Delhi, deputed a Resource Person to all the workshops except the one in Bangladesh.

More or less a uniform pattern was followed at each of these workshops. Resource persons from the International Trade Division of ESCAP gave talks on technical subjects e.g. How to find markets, trade information centres, trade policy barriers, quality control and standards, costing, pricing and quotations, terms of delivery and cargo insurance, terms of payments, contract of sales. The local resource persons gave information on the following :-

- The present import and export situation in the country,
- Government policy in respect of exports and imports,
- Information about activities of some of the local export promotion organisations,
- Information about policies and activities of the State trading organisations who are engaged in export and import business.

In each country the host member had prepared commodity papers in respect of such of the commodities as were considered to have potential for export. The list of commodity papers discussed at each national seminar is given below :-

Sri Lanka

Fruits and vegetables, coconut and coconut by products, leather goods, batik, craft textiles, fish, bamboo and rattan furniture.

Bangladesh

Shrimps, fish, jute, jute products, handicrafts.

India

Handlooms, handicraft, marine products, fresh and processed fruits and vegetables, tea, coffee, and cardamom, pepper and chillies.

Philippines

Marine products, coffee, fruits and vegetables, tobacco, handicraft, rattan furniture.

Malaysia

Agricultural products, pepper, coco, tapioca, coffee, batik, cutflower, palm oil and rubber.

Thailand

Rice, maize, tapioca, sugar, pineapple, handicraft, orchids, cut flowers, oranges, tobacco, fish and fish products.

Indonesia

Fruits and vegetables, coconut and coconut by-products, leather goods, batik, craft textiles, fish, bamboo and rattan furniture.

The Workshops at the national level tried to identify the commodities available in each country for export and also its needs in the field of imports. At the end of each workshop the participants made certain recommendations for the promotion of international cooperative trade and also formulated time bound action programmes, respect of important commodities. It has not been possible for the Regional Office to ascertain the extent to which the follow-up action has been taken by each movement on the recommendations of the national workshops.

The ICA Regional Office, in collaboration with the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) and the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) is convening a Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade", at New Delhi, from 22-30 September 1980. We are trying to bring in to this seminar some of the persons who were involved at the above mentioned national level workshops. The seminar will also review the follow-up action taken by the cooperative movement in each country and also examine whether anything meaningful can be worked out at the regional level. A report about the recommendations of the Regional Seminar will be placed before the members of the Council during the meeting.

As stated above, commodities having potential for export have been identified at the National Workshops. (a) The members of the Sub-Committee may consider the list of the identified items and advise what action be taken by the cooperatives at various levels so as to push the export of these commodities through cooperative channels. (b) The members may also consider and suggest ways in which the Trade Sub-Committee could play a useful role in encouraging the cooperative business organisations to enter into international trade.

6. To discuss about the role of a Regional Trading Organisation in promoting cooperative international trade

At the Regional Workshop on "Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations", held in Singapore in January 1979, under the ILO-SIDA Cooptrade Project, the participants made the following recommendation :

"The participants noted that an attempt has already been made in the Region, to further cooperative trade through a body established by cooperatives in the Region. They further noted that it had made little headway and they recommended that this body be strengthened by broadening its membership base and taking on the added responsibilities of collaboration and coordination of export commodities, failing which another body be constituted to provide a central point for discharging these responsibilities."

In the light of the above recommendation by the participants of the Regional Workshop at Singapore and subsequent detailed discussions at various national workshops, the members of the Sub-Committee may like to discuss about the role of a cooperative trading organisation at the regional level in promoting cooperative international trade. They may also consider the future strategy for developing business activities of ICTO.

7. Any other matter with permission of the Chair

8. Venue of the next meeting

It is proposed that the next meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development may be held in Seoul (Republic of Korea) preceding the ICA Council Meeting for South-East Asia. Any other suggestion in this regard is welcomed from members.

9. Vote of thanks to the Chair

M.K. Puri
Secretary,
ICA Sub-Committee for Trade
Development for S-E Asia

22 January, 1980

MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR TRADE DEVELOPMENT FOR S-E ASIA AT PETALING JAYA (MALAYSIA) ON 19 NOV, 80

The first meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development for South-East Asia was held at MCIS Board Room, Petaling Jaya (Malaysia) on November 1979. In the absence of Mr.I.H. Hunter, Chairman of the Committee, Mr.B.P. Faustino from the Philippines was unanimously appointed to act as Chairman for this meeting. The following were present :

1. Mr.Ali Hossain, Bangladesh
2. Mr.M.A.Haque, Bangladesh
3. Mr.S.P. Srivastava, India
4. Mr.Eddiwan, Indonesia
5. Mr.Djoko Basuki, Indonesia
6. Mr.A.Kurimoto, Japan
7. Mr.Hui Weng Chee, Malaysia
8. Mr.Supah Noh, Malaysia
9. Mr.Sulaiman Daud, Malaysia
10. Mr.B.P.Faustino, Philippines
11. Mr.Joseph Edward, Singapore
12. Mr.Jaya Herat, Sri Lanka
13. Mr.R.S.Jayaratne, Sri Lanka
14. Mr.Vichien Inthachat, Thailand
15. Mr.Verasak Choipat, Thailand
16. Dato N.A.Kularajah, Malaysia

Special Invitees

1. Mr.Rolf Akeby, ILO/SIDA Project, Bangkok, Thailand.
2. Mr.Claude Scheurer, France.

Secretary

Mr.M.K. Puri, Jt.Director (TA&T), ICA ROEC, New Delhi.

ICA ROEC Staff

1. Mr.R.B.Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for S-E Asia.
2. Mr.J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Dr.Dharm Vir, Jt.Director (Education)
4. Mr.Lionel Gunawardana, Jt.Director (P&PR)

In attendance

Mr Prem Kumar, P.A. to Regional Director, ICA ROEC, New Delhi.

At the outset, Mr.R.B.Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director informed the members about the sad demise of Mr.Mak Kam Heng former Chairman of the Singapore National Cooperative Union. As a mark of respect for the departed soul, the members of the Committee observed two minutes silence.

Agenda Item No. 1 : Remarks by the Chairman

Mr.B.P.Faustino, Chairman of the meeting said, "I feel very privileged and honoured to be asked to preside over this meeting and am very pleased to welcome you all here to the First Meeting of the Trade Development Committee for South-East Asia. I wish to thank the Malaysian hosts for the very comfortable surroundings which they have provided for this meeting. It is a welcome sign to have everyone around right from the first day of the series of meetings in Petaling Jaya, through the courtesy of Malaysian Cooperative Movement. Apart from members of the Committee, most of whom are present except the Chairman, I find that we have quite a number of other persons also whose contributions would certainly be very valuable to the meeting.

He also extended special welcome to Mr.Rolf Akeby; Leader of the ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project and to Mr.Claude Scheurer; Adviser to the Chairman of the Economic Bureau of ICA Agricultural Committee.

Agenda Item No.2 : Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the 6th meeting of the ICA Trade Promotion Group for South-East Asia (now elevated to ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development for South-East Asia) which met in Bangkok on 4th December 1978 were confirmed.

Agenda Item No.3 : Matters arising out of the minutes of last meeting

(a) The Secretary informed the Committee that the addresses of cooperative trading organisations in Australia, Iran, Bangladesh, Indonesia, South Korea and Singapore were still awaited. The members were requested to request their national apex organisations to collect the requisite information and supply the same to the Secretariat of the Committee at New Delhi.

(b) Selection of suitable participants for ILO-SIDA Workshop

The Secretary informed that at the ILO-SIDA Regional Workshop on "Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations", held in Singapore in January 1979, out of 22 participants, 14 represented cooperative trading organisations and the other eight were from government departments. It appears that cooperative movements in a few countries could not bring to bear sufficient influence upon their governments to confine their selections exclusively out of business executives of cooperative trading organisations.

The members of the Committee impressed upon Mr.Rolf Akeby that in order to ensure proper selection of right type of participants he should recommend to the ILO authorities that in future the selection of participants for cooperative projects should invariably be made in consultation with the International Cooperative Alliance or national level cooperative apex organisations in each country.

(c) ICA Trade Directory

The information given in the agenda notes was noted. Mr. Rolf Akeby also endorsed the suggestion made in the Agenda Notes that the interested cooperative trading organisations should, like all other private business houses, get themselves listed in their national trade directories and should also have their names included in the list maintained by the Chambers of Commerce and the Trade Councillors attached to their embassies in various countries.

He further remarked that in order to promote inter-cooperative trade both within and outside the Region, it may be useful to have some kind of trade directory which shows the list of cooperatives in the Region and the particulars of the exportable products that they are producing. He said that after the national workshops have been conducted under the COOPTRADE Project, they will be able to prepare a ~~Regional Trade Directory~~ ^{to} and would also address an appeal to the Board of Directors of cooperatives in developed countries that they should extend their support at the initial stage by placing trial orders on cooperative organisations in developing countries. *supplied*

(d) Training facilities in international trade

The information given in the agenda notes was noted. Thereafter Mr. Rolf Akeby clarified that the Trade Contact Missions in Asia had not been dropped but had been only deferred for the time being.

(e) ESCAP Trade Promotion Centre

The information given in the agenda notes explaining the activities of ESCAP Trade Promotion Centre in Bangkok was noted. The Secretary informed the meeting that he had circulated the list of Trade Information Centres which have been established in various countries of the Region from where they can find out the export markets and where there are potentials for them to export products from their respective countries.

(f) International Trade Forum

The Secretary informed the meeting that the ROEC wrote to organisations that they should advise their business organisations to get themselves enlisted on the free mailing list of "International Trade Forum", which is a very useful quarterly journal, published by ITC, Geneva, for the benefit of institutions who are interested in international trade.

(g) UNCTAD V

The information given in the agenda notes was noted. The members appreciated action on the part of the Secretariat of the Sub-Committee in keeping them informed of the important developments at the UNCTAD V meeting held in Manila.

Agenda Item No.4 : To consider the recommendations made by the ILO/SIDA Workshop held in Singapore in January 1979

A brief account of the ILO-SIDA Workshop held in Singapore in January 1979 was given by the Secretary to the Sub-Committee. The sub-committee was also informed of the 10 fellowships which were offered under this Project and that 10 persons from the region were sent to Sweden to attend a seminar on Export Promotion for one month. After the seminar, these fellows were taken to various countries in Europe on trade contact mission.

Mr. Rolf Akeby, Team Leader of ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project who was present by invitation gave details of their activities and the progress made so far and of the Project's future programme.

The meeting was also informed about the conclusions and recommendations which were made by the participants at the Singapore Workshop.

The Sub-Committee suggested that at the end of each national workshop, which are now being planned under the COOPTRADE Project in most of the countries of the Region, a Coordinating Committee at the national level should be constituted by the cooperative movement in each country and this Committee should pursue the follow-up action on the recommendations of the national workshops by identifying the products which have potential for export and by formulating action programmes for promoting their exports.

The Sub-Committee also recommended that the ICA should continue to intensify its activities in the field of cooperative trade. Further it was recommended that the ROEC should try to make available trade information from the various agencies for the benefit of trading organisations in the Region.

The Sub-Committee expressed the strong need for providing training in export trade and basic management skills for the employees of cooperative business organisations which have potential to enter into foreign trade.

Agenda Item No.5 : To consider about the future of ICTO

The Secretary drew pointed attention of the members of the sub-committee to the following recommendations made by the participants of the Regional Workshop on "Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations", which was held in Singapore in January 1979 under the ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project and requested the members that in view of the past experiences of ICTO and its present position they may like to express their views as to what they think about the future of ICTO.

"The participants noted that an attempt has already been made in the region, to further cooperative trade through a body established by cooperatives in the Region. They further noted that it had made little headway and they recommend that this body be strengthened by broadening its membership base and taking on the added responsibilities of collaboration and coordination of export commodities, failing which another body be constituted to provide a central point for discharging these responsibilities."

Mr. Rolf Akeby clarified that the above recommendation merely reflected the views of the participants at the Regional Workshop who wanted to stress that we should make use of the cooperative trading organisation in Singapore.

He said that he could not give any definite opinion in the matter till he had assessed the real scope for export potential of cooperative products in each country.

Mr. Rolf Akeby further said, "When we started the ILO Project one year ago, we did not know enough about the situation in the Region, It is better to wait until we find where the real scope is and this may be possible after the national workshops have been conducted. Let cooperative organisations in each country find out their potentials and discuss how they want to export their commodities. I think, we have to first start at that level. The export of all cooperative products should be canalised through cooperative national organisations. When that has been done, at that stage, a discussion should be started to find out whether there is also a need for a regional organisation."

Most of the members expressed the opinion that ICTO being the international cooperative trading organisation of the cooperative sector, all member organisations in the Region have a joint responsibility to make it a success. They also emphasised the need for strengthening the internal cooperative marketing structure in each country which they thought was a necessary pre-requisite before international trade operations are undertaken in any country.

The discussion on the subject concluded with remarks from the Chairman that the Board of Directors of ICTO would take a decision on this matter rather than this sub-committee making any hard and fast decision in this regard.

Agenda Item No.6 : How can member movements help in extending their collaboration to COOPTRADE Team

The Sub-Committee noted with pleasure that the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka and the National Cooperative Union of India had assisted the ILO-SIDA Project Team in holding national workshops on promotion of export trade in Sri Lanka and India.

The Sub-Committee decided that ICA member-organisations in the Region should give wide publicity to the on-going COOPTRADE Project and its objectives in their respective countries. It was further urged that they should also assist the Project Team in holding of national workshops on promotion of export trade and make sure that cooperative business organisations in their countries sponsor right type of candidates for participating in these Workshops.

Agenda Item No.7 : To consider the proposal of the French Cooperative Movement

Mr. Claude Scheurer explained to the members of the sub-committee the objectives and activities of the Economic Bureaus which have been set up by the Economic Sub-Committee of the ICA Committee on Agriculture. He informed that there could be possibilities of providing financial and technical assistance

from the French and other cooperative movements in the developed countries for setting up joint ventures as may lead to promotion of cooperative international trade. He said that they were trying to assist not only the marketing of products of the developing countries but could also consider proposals to provide them equipment for processing of their products so that they acquire better opportunities to export their finished products. He invited the cooperative movements in the Region to inform them about the products they were interested to export to European countries and also about the kind of assistance, whether technical, financial or equipment, that was required by them. He said that after examining the proposal somebody from the Economic Bureau would visit them and explore the possibilities of evolving a mutually agreed arrangement for working together.

Agenda Item No.8 : To examine the list of exportable items

The sub-committee requested the member organisations to study carefully the list of exportable items from each country of the Region as identified by the ITC Adviser and further supplemented by the information given by the participants in the Regional Workshop at Singapore. They were requested to examine the possibilities of developing intra-regional trade in these goods with cooperative business organisations in the Region.

Mr.Rolf Akoby informed that a few more items had been identified by them and that a revised paper on the subject would be prepared by them during the second part of 1980. He requested the members of the sub-committee that he would be grateful if the business organisations in the Region could keep him informed, about the progress made by them in this respect.

It was decided that the final paper prepared by the COOPTRADE Project on the subject should be circulated by the Secretariat of the Committee to all member-movements in the Region.

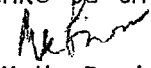
Agenda Item No.9 : Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

The Secretary informed the meeting, that the ROEC had received information from ICA London office that the Second International Cooperative Trade Conference will be held in Moscow from 9-11 October 1980, and that one day at the Conference will be devoted to consider how to promote trade from the developing countries. He said that he had already sent a circular letter to all member-organisations in the region requesting them to intimate the names of cooperative business organisations in the Region to whom invitation may be issued by ICA London office for participating in this trade conference.

Mr.Claude Scheurer informed that the Economic Bureau was planning to issue in December 1979 a questionnaire to ICA member organisations in all countries and he requested the sub-committee to ensure that member organisation in the Region furnish replies to this questionnaire as that would help the ICA Economic Sub-Committee to know about the requirements of member organisations in the developing countries.

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

cc: Chairman & Members of the Committee
Members of the ICA Council for S-E-As
Director, ICA, London and SCC, Stockholm.


M.K. Puri
Secretary,
ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Dev.

**ICA Sub-Committee for
Trade Development for South-East Asia**

SECOND MEETING

Venue COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

Dates 12 NOVEMBER 1980



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110065, India*

MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE ON TRADE DEVELOPMENT FOR S-E ASIA HELD AT COLOMBO, SRI LANKA ON NOV.12,1980

1. The Second Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee on Trade Development for South-East Asia was held at the office of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, Colombo on 12th November 1980 at 2.30 p.m. In the absence of Mr. I.H. Hunter, Chairman of the Sub-Committee, Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama from Sri Lanka was unanimously appointed to act as Chairman for this meeting.

The following were present :

1. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Malaysia
2. Mr. Supah Noh, Malaysia
3. Mr. Joseph Edward, Singapore
4. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, Sri Lanka
5. Mr. Palitha Ratnayake, Sri Lanka
6. Dr. Bunjird Khatikarn, Thailand
7. Mr. Vichien Inthachat, Thailand

Special Invitees :

1. Mr. Malte Jonsson, SCC, Stockholm
2. Mr. Rolf Akeby, ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project, Bangkok

Observers :

1. Mr. Agustin Kilayko, Sugar Coops. Development Institute, Philippines.

Secretary : Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TA&T), ICA ROEC

ICA ROEC Staff:

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (P&PR)
4. Mr. Per Eric Lannhagen, Specialist in Agrl. Coop. Marketing

In attendance :

Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, ICA ROEC

AGENDA ITEM NOS.1 & 2 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT AND REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

2. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, President, National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka and Chairman of the meeting welcomed the members of the Sub-Committee on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka. He thanked the members for honouring him by asking him to preside over the meeting and expressed the hope that deliberations of the Sub-Committee would pave the way for further development of inter-cooperative trade both within and outside the region. He thanked Mr. Rolf Akeby, Team Leader of the ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project, for having responded to an invitation from the Sub-Committee to attend its meeting. He thanked also Mr. Malte Jonsson for his presence.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

3. The Regional Director of the International Cooperative Alliance for South-East Asia welcomed the members to the second meeting of the Sub-Committee on Trade Development.

4. He said that it was quite appropriate for the Trade Development Sub-Committee to hold its meeting some time after some deliberations on the subject had taken place at the International Cooperative Trade Conference in Moscow.

5. He said that it was necessary for the Sub-Committee to highlight, once again, the role of international inter-cooperative trade for the development of cooperatives in the region. He went on to say that this was an area of growing interest and an area with great potential.

6. The Regional Director was happy that Mr. Rolf Akeby, Team Leader of ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project was present in the meeting. He said that Mr. Akeby had been, during the last two years, in close contact with the efforts of the cooperatives in countries of the region. The Sub-Committee on Trade Development has worked in close collaboration with what had been done under the COOPTRADE Project. The Regional Director pointed out that there had been indications and suggestions at informal discussions that once the COOPTRADE Project was phased out by ILO-SIDA authorities, the programmes and activities initiated under the Project would eventually have to be carried through by the ICA Regional Office and the Sub-Committee on Trade Development for South-East Asia. The members of the Committee, therefore, had a heavy responsibility cast on them and they would have to find out ways and means of consolidating what had already been gained or was likely to be gained under the COOPTRADE Project.

7. The Regional Director informed the members of the Sub-Committee that the ICA ROEC was holding a Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade" in Delhi during the last week of November 1980. The seminar which would be attended by representatives from nearly all member countries of the region, would focus attention on inter-cooperative trade and identify commodities which had possible potential for export. He said that a lot of action needed to be taken at the national, regional and international levels so as to increase cooperative's share in international trade.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 19TH NOVEMBER 1979 AT PETALING JAYA, MALAYSIA

8. The Secretary reported that the minutes had already been circulated to all the members. These minutes were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : MATTERS ARISING OUT OF DECISIONS
OF THE LAST MEETING

(a) Revised Supply Survey Report

9. The Secretary reported that the revised Supply Survey Report had been compiled by the ILO-SIDA Project and had been published under the title "Cooperatives with Export and/or Import Potential". This report would be circulated to all member organisations.

(b) Trade Contact Mission

10. The question of arranging a trade contact mission to Asian countries for representatives of Cooperative Trading Organisations in the region was still under consideration of the COOPTRADE Project.

(c) Training Facilities in International Trade

11. The Secretary informed the members that the work plan of the Trade Promotion Division of the ESCAP for the year 1980 and 1981 had already been circulated to all member movements in the region. He also informed the Sub-Committee that the ICA Regional Office would be conducting a Regional Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade in the last week of November 1980 at New Delhi.

(d) International Cooperative Trade Conference,
Moscow, October 1980

12. The Secretary informed the meeting that as decided in the last meeting the ICA London had been requested to invite all the important cooperative trading organisations from the region. However, we had been made to understand that the representation from the Asian countries was very poor - only India, Philippines and Japan being represented. The conference itself had been well represented with the buyers and sellers from the western countries being in attendance.

(e) National Workshops on Promotion of Export Trade

13. The Secretary gave a brief account of the National Workshops on Promotion of Export Trade which had been conducted in seven countries of the region by the COOPTRADE Project in collaboration with the ICA Regional Office and its member organisations. The Secretary said that though action programmes had been formulated, in respect of important commodities, at the end of each National Workshop, the ICA Regional Office had not been able to gather any information about the implementation of these action programmes. He believed the COOPTRADE Project was pursuing the follow-up action.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : TO DISCUSS ABOUT THE ROLE OF A REGIONAL TRADING ORGANISATION IN PROMOTING COOPERATIVE INTERNATIONAL TRADE

14. The members of the Sub-Committee were generally of the view that since the Cooperative Marketing and distribution structures in most of the developing countries in the region were still very weak, they would have to first strengthen their own infrastructure and establish a strong and dynamic base in the domestic market before they could enter into export marketing in any effective manner. They stressed the need for establishing strong marketing organisations at the national level. The members felt that a Cooperative Trading Organisation at the regional level would be able to play a meaningful role only after strong and dynamic trading organisations at the national level had been established in most of the countries of the region.

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

15. Mr. Rolf Akeby, Team Leader of ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project, who was present in the meeting on a special invitation, was requested to inform the members of the Sub-Committee about the activities of the Project. Mr. Rolf Akeby distributed among the members a copy each of two documents viz. "Cooperatives with Export and or Import Potential" and "Report on Activities of the COOPTRADE Project". Mr. Akeby informed the meeting that in place of the "Trade Directory" or "Revised Supply Survey" they had been able to complete a document which gave information about the cooperatives in the region which were already engaged in or had potential to enter into international trade. He said that they had listed 79 cooperatives in 10 countries of this region which had 131 export products and 157 potential export products. He informed the Sub-Committee that the Project would try to send out nearly 1500 copies of that document to all over Europe and other industrialised countries in the world.

16. Thereafter, Mr. Akeby, gave a brief account of the activities which had been carried out by the COOPTRADE Project during the last two years. He also distributed among the members of the Sub-Committee a written document on the subject. Mr. Akeby informed the meeting that the Project was now providing short-term consultancy to some cooperative trading organisations in the region such as the MARKFED and the Coconut Cooperative Union in Sri Lanka, Nilgiri Tea Growers Cooperative in India, Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Thailand, and a few cooperative organisations in the Philippines and Malaysia.

17. The Regional Director said that though the COOPTRADE Project had identified 150 commodities which had potential for export it might not be possible, at the first instance, to work on all of them. He suggested that to begin with two or three cooperative organisations should be selected and they should be enabled to establish contacts

with cooperatives in other countries. He also stressed on the need for strengthening national cooperative organisations to develop international cooperative trade.

18. The Regional Director also stressed on the need for more frequent trade contact missions and suggested that the ICA Regional Office and the Trade Sub-Committee should try to find ways and means of providing more frequent opportunities for representatives of cooperative trading organisations in the region to get together to discuss matters of mutual interest and to negotiate trade transactions at personal level. He said that sizeable business had been transacted among representatives of cooperatives at the Cooperative International Trade Conferences in New York and in Moscow, and suggested that it might be useful to arrange an Asian Conference on Trade.

19. The representative from Sri Lanka said that besides export of Tea and Spices they were also interested in other trades like hotel business and tourism. He was of the view that joint ventures in this field by the cooperatives in industrialised countries with cooperatives in the developing world should be encouraged.

20. While concluding discussions on the subject, the Regional Director mentioned it would be necessary to work out in consultation with Mr. Rolf Akeby, a phased programme for taking over activities of the COOPTRADE Project by the ICA Regional Office and its Trade Development Committee in the event of the COOPTRADE Project being terminated.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

21. The Regional Director informed that the next meeting of the ICA Regional Council would be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Korea had already extended an invitation to the Council for this purpose. It was decided that the next meeting of the Sub-Committee should be held in Seoul, preceding the meeting of the ICA Regional Council.

22. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Sd/-

M.K. Puri
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee
for Trade Development for
South-East Asia

vn/

W. E. M. M. M.

AGENDA NOTES

ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia

FOURTH MEETING

Venue COLOMBO (SRI LANKA)

Dates 13 November 1980



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110024, India*

4 August 1980

Fourth Meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation
for South-East Asia, Colombo, Sri Lanka : 13 November, 1980

Date : 13 November 1980

Time : 09.00 A.M.

Venue : ~~Mt. Lavinia Hotel, Colombo (Sri Lanka)~~ NCC

A G E N D A

- 1 ✓ Welcome by the host movement.
- 2 ✓ Remarks by the Chairman.
- 3 ✓ Remarks by the Regional Director..
- 4 ✓ Confirmation of minutes of the Third Meeting held on 20 November 1979 at Petaling Jaya (Malaysia).
- 5 ✓ Matters arising out of minutes of the last meeting.
- 6 ✓ Election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman.
- 7 ✓ Presentation of significant developments in the field of consumer cooperation in countries of the region by the delegates.
- 8 ✓ A talk on the past, present and future of consumer cooperative movement in Sri Lanka.
- 9 ✓ To consider suggestions from the delegates regarding work programme of the Committee.
- 10 ✓ Any other matter with permission of the Chair.
- 11 ✓ Concluding remarks by the Chairman. ✓

1. Welcome by the host movement.

The Council Member for Sri Lanka will welcome the members of the Committee on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka.

2. Remarks by the Chairman

Mr.S. Nakabayashi, the Chairman of the ICA Committee for South-East Asia will welcome the members to the Fourth Meeting of the Committee and also give a brief account of the activities of the ICA Consumer Committee.

3. Remarks by the Regional Director

Mr.R.B.Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia will make general observations.

4. Confirmation of minutes of the Third Meeting of the Committee held on 20 November 1979 at Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 1979 have since been circulated to all members of the Committee. A copy of the minutes is annexed hereto for ready reference.

5. Matters arising out of the last meeting(a) Follow-up of 21st International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Sweden

As per decision of the last meeting, the concerned organisations in the Region were requested to ask each of the participants of the 21st International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Sweden to submit a detailed report about the seminar and to forward these reports to ROEC with their own comments as to whether the training received in Sweden by the participants had been relevant to their needs. The member organisations were also requested to follow-up implementation of both Individual and National Action Programmes which were formulated by the participants during the course of their study in Sweden.

(b) ICA Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan

The Members of the Committee had proposed that ICA ROEC should arrange a Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan since the Japanese experience is much more useful and relevant to conditions in South-East Asian context. The ICA ROEC took up the matter with the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union. The matter is still under their active consideration.

6. Election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman

The present Chairman of the Committee, Mr.S.Nakabayashi, and Vice Chairman, Mr.Tapeshwar Singh, were elected as such by the members of the Committee in their meeting held on 7 December 1979 at Bali (Indonesia).

As per provisions in the Constitution of the Committee, the term of office of the Chairman and Vice Chairman have expired. The members are, therefore, requested to elect new Chairman and Vice Chairman. The relevant provisions in the Constitution are reproduced below :

"The Committee shall elect a Chairman and a Vice Chairman from amongst its members. Their term of office shall be for a period extending from one ICA Congress to the next such Congress or for a period of four years whichever is the shorter and the retiring officers shall be eligible for re-election. The period of office of any person elected Chairman or Vice Chairman within the period of two Congresses shall expire : the first Congress held after his election."

7. Presentation of significant developments in the field of consumer cooperation in countries of the Region by the delegates

The delegate from each country will be invited to inform the Committee about the significant developments that have taken place in the field of consumer cooperation in his home country. The members have been requested to submit a written statement also.

8. Consumer Cooperation in Sri Lanka

A guest speaker from Sri Lanka will give a talk on the past, present and future of consumer cooperative movement in Sri Lanka. The talk will be followed by discussions by members of the Committee.

9. To consider suggestions from the delegates regarding Work Programme of the Committee

The Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia came into being in December 1977. The object of the Committee is to promote consumer cooperation in the Region and more particularly :

- a. to review periodically the progress made in the field of consumer cooperation;
- b. to recommend policies and common lines of action in the field of consumer cooperation and consumer protection;
- c. to coordinate the activities of consumer cooperatives in the Region;
- d. to promote the systematic dissemination of information among the consumer cooperative organisations in the Region with regard to their experience in the field of retailing, warehousing, wholesaling, publicity, member-education, consumer protection and other fields of consumer activity;

- e. to make recommendations for improving the managerial competence and operational efficiency of consumer cooperatives in the Region;
- f. to identify technical assistance required in management and other fields;
- g. to suggest fields of research, programmes of member activities and measures for developing active participation of members in the management of consumer cooperatives at the primary level;
- h. to liaise or collaborate with other international organisations that are concerned with the protection and welfare of the consumer.

It is provided in the Constitution of the Committee that the Committee may raise funds from member organisations by way of annual and or special contributions, at a rate to be decided by the Committee. In actual practice, however, the Committee has not so far raised any funds from its member organisations. The Committee, therefore, has a limitation of financial and manpower resources in undertaking any substantive activity.

In September 1978, OCCP appointed a Working Group to examine the role and objectives of the ICA Consumer Committee and to suggest guidelines for its future activity. The Working Group stressed the importance of greater efforts in the following areas :-

- (a) to initiate discussions on the crucial problems of cooperative consumer policy;
- (b) to communicate information both to ICA members and to organisations outside the cooperative movement;
- (c) to collaborate with other ICA Committees;
- (d) to represent, on behalf of the ICA, cooperative consumer interests to other international or non-international organisations;
- (e) to collaborate with governmental and non-governmental agencies for consumer affairs, dealing with problems and interests of consumers, particularly with consumer protection;
- (f) to collect information about consumer policy initiatives in the ICA member organisations;
- (g) to publish information and results of work of the Committee through the proposed "Coop Consumers", a quarterly magazine, and with the use of other channels.

The Working Group has also been of the opinion that more can be achieved by pursuing a more limited number of objectives in a more deliberate manner and has recommended that efforts should be made to improve communication between member organisations, Secretariat and the ICA Headquarters in London. As recommended by the Working Group the 'Consumer Affairs Bulletin' has been replaced by a quarterly

magazine "Coop Consumer". It will be one of the primary tasks of "Coop Consumer" to inform and debate all new initiatives in the field of consumer policy of relevance to ICA members. The magazine will seek to inform the activities of the ICA Consumer Committee to a wider circle and ensure that all shades of opinion in the debate on consumer policy are heard. (All ICA member organisations in the South-East Asian Region are requested to subscribe to this quarterly magazine).

The Working Group has further emphasised that the Consumer Committee must apply itself to securing a greater degree of understanding for the cooperative movement and its important role as a "watchdog" for the consumer. Most of the recommendations of the Working Group have been accepted. The name of the OCCP has been changed to "Committee for Cooperative Consumer Affairs" and the Consumer Affairs Bulletin has since been replaced by a quarterly magazine, "Coop Consumer". The Committee has also accepted other guidelines and suggestions for its future activity.

The ICA Consumer Committee intends to formulate an ICA programme on Consumer Protection, as a step forward from the ICA Declaration on Consumer Rights at the Congress in 1969. The Committee has recommended that ICA member organisations should aim for an increased consumer protection in the fields of: the right to reasonable standard and quality of life, the right to safety, the right to be informed, the right to choose, the right to be heard, the right to representation and participation and the right to recourse and redress. A resolution on consumer protection by F.D.B. (Denmark) suggested by ICA Consumer Committee will be moved at the ICA Twenty-seventh Congress in Moscow from 11-13 October 1980. This resolution calls on all member organisations of the ICA to promote the protection of consumers and to improve living conditions for consumers by strengthened support for the Consumer Committee in its world-wide work for an increased quality of life for consumers in developed and specially in developing countries.

In the context of the above decision of the ICA Committee for Cooperative Consumer Affairs, the members of the ICA Committee for Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia may give their suggestions for the Work Programme of this Committee for the ensuing year.

M.K.
M.K. Puri,
Secretary,
ICA Committee for Consumer
Cooperation for S-E Asia

encl: Minutes of the
last meeting.

21 January, 1980

MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE ICA COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER
COOPERATION FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD AT PETALING JAYA, MALAYSIA
ON 20 NOVEMBER, 1979

The Third Meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia was held in the Board Room of the MCIS at Petaling Jaya (Malaysia) on 20 November 1979.

The following were present :-

1. Mr. Akira Kurimoto, Japan
2. Mr. Ali Hossain, Bangladesh
3. Mr. M.A. Haque, Bangladesh
4. Mr. B. Krishnappa, India
5. Mr. Djoko Basuki, Indonesia
6. Dato Ahmad Yunus, Malaysia
7. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Philippines
8. Mr. A. Paramanathan, Singapore
9. Mr. Joseph Edward, Singapore
10. Mr. R.S. Jāyaratne, Sri Lanka
11. Mr. Jaya Herat, Sri Lanka
12. Mr. Anan Chamnankit, Thailand

Secretary : Mr. M.K. Puri, Specialist in Consumer Cooperation, ICA
ROEC, New Delhi.

Special Invitee : Mr. Chong T. in Huatt, Malaysia

ICA ROEC Staff

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Dr. Dharm Vir, Joint Director (Education)
4. Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (PPR)

In attendance

Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, ICA ROEC.

Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome by the host movement

Dato N.A. Kulawajah, President of the Cooperative Union of Malaysia welcomed the members of the Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Malaysia.

Agenda Item No.2 : Remarks by the Chairman

In the absence of Mr.S.Nakabayashi, Chairman of the Committee, the members unanimously decided to appoint Mr.Akira Kurimoto, Alternate Councillor for Japan, as the Chairman for this meeting.

After thanking the members for the honour they had bestowed upon him in asking him to chair the meeting, Mr.Kurimoto conveyed Mr.Nakabayashi's regrets for his inability to attend the meeting. He informed that Mr.Nakabayashi had to attend an urgent meeting of the Japanese Cooperative Consumers Union (JCCU) in which the Board of Directors of the Union had to review implementation of the mid-term plan of the Union. He informed that Mr.M.Kobayashi too could not come to Malaysia for the same reason.

Mr.Kurimoto gave a brief account of the Annual Meeting of the O.C.C.P, held in Manchester (U.K.) in September 1979. He informed the members that a Working Group had been appointed by the OCCP at their meeting in Copenhagen in September 1978 to examine the role and objectives of the ICA Consumer Committee and to suggest guidelines for its future activity. The recommendations of the Working Group have stressed the importance of greater efforts : a) to initiate discussions on the crucial problems of cooperative consumer policy, b) to communicate information to both ICA members and to organisations outside the cooperative movement, c) to collaborate with other appropriate ICA committees, d) to represent on behalf of the ICA cooperative consumer interests to other international or non-international organisations and to collaborate with governmental and non-governmental agencies for consumer affairs, dealing with the problems and interests of consumers, particularly with consumer protection, e) to collect information about consumer policy initiatives in the ICA member organisations, f) to publish information and results of work of the Committee through the proposed "COOP Consumer" a quarterly magazine and with the use of other channels.

He further informed that while reviewing the work of the Consumer Committee the Working Group has remarked that more could be achieved in the future by pursuing a more limited number of objectives, in a more deliberate manner and that efforts should be made to improve communications between member organisations, the Secretariat and the ICA Headquarters in London.

The Working Group has recommended to replace the existing News Letter, Consumers Affairs Bulletin with a quarterly magazine, "Coop Consumer". It will be one of the primary tasks of "Coop Consumer" to inform and debate all new initiatives in the field of consumer policy of relevance to ICA members. The magazine will moreover seek to inform a wider circle of the activities of the Consumer Committee and will ensure that all shades of opinion in the debate on consumer policy are heard.

The Working Group in their report has further emphasised that the Consumer Committee must apply itself to securing a greater degree of understanding for the cooperative movement in its important role as watchdog for the consumer.

Mr. Kurimoto informed that Mr. S. Nakabayashi, President of the JCCU, had emphasised at the OCCP meeting the need for paying greater attention for seeking active involvement and participation by the members, particularly the housewives, in the affairs of their consumer cooperative societies.

The Working Party's recommendation to change the name of the OCCP to "Committee for Cooperative Consumer Affairs" had been accepted.

Agenda Item No.3 : Remarks by the Regional Director

Mr. R. B. Rajaguru, the Regional Director said, "I have little to add to what the Chairman has already said about the OCCP and INTERCOOP meetings, held in Manchester in September 1979, but I would like to focus attention of the members of the Committee on other aspects which I think are of importance to us in this Region. First, is a growing importance of consumer cooperation in the rural areas in most of the developing countries in South-East Asia. Perhaps, some of you may have already heard, of the tremendous programme that has recently been launched in India to open 200,000 outlets, both through cooperatives and other channels, to make available the basic essential commodities to the mass of people who live in rural areas. Possibly, this is a trend which is likely to take place in most of the developing countries where there is growing concern about the consumer in rural areas. We should focus our attention and see how we could strengthen such a movement and what management skills are needed to make extension of consumer activities to the rural areas more effective.

Another aspect that has been mentioned by the Chairman is that of consumer protection. This is a matter which is growing in importance and the consumer protection is becoming a strong move in the West.

Another aspect, which is relevant to both these situations, is that of involvement of women in consumer affairs in each country. Women have a dominant part to play in the buying of daily necessities. I would think that the members of the Committee would agree that, by and large, the involvement of women in cooperative activities in this part of the world has been rather poor. Perhaps, we could consider how we could find ways and means of getting more of the women involved both in the Committees of management or where that is not feasible, at least, in informal groups, so that they could make vital contribution to that area."

The members proposed that the ICA Consumer Affairs Committee should be requested to supply regularly to the Secretariat of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia at New Delhi, copies of their agenda notes and minutes of their meetings.

Agenda Item No.4 : Confirmation of minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting, second in the series, held on 4 December 1978 at Bangkok, Thailand, were confirmed.

Agenda Item No.5 : Matters arising out of minutes of the last meeting

Pre-Seminars on Consumer Cooperation

The Secretary of the Committee informed that five Pre-seminars on Consumer Cooperation were held in the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia during February-May 1979.

On the basis of the performance of the participants at the above pre-seminars, 20 participants were selected for attending the 21st International Seminar on "The Development of Consumer Cooperatives in South-East Asia". This seminar was conducted by the Swedish Cooperative Centre (SCC) in collaboration with the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA) in Sweden from 4th September to 26th October, 1979.

As regards holding of similar seminars for the personnel of consumer cooperatives in the remaining countries of the Region, the Secretary informed that on a request from the ROEC the SCC have already agreed that they would conduct the next International Cooperative Seminar on Consumer Cooperation for participants from the remaining countries of this Region in the spring of 1983. Final dates have yet to be worked out. As usual, the International Seminar would be preceded by Pre-seminars in these countries.

Agenda Item No.6 : Presentation of significant development in the field of consumer cooperation in the Region

At the request of the Chairman, some members made a brief statement regarding the significant developments in the field of consumer cooperation in their respective countries.

Bangladesh

The position was that there was only a very limited scope for organising separate consumer cooperative societies in the country, except among employees in big establishments and industrial undertakings. In rural areas, consumer goods were being distributed through multipurpose cooperative societies.

Indonesia

There were only a few separate consumer cooperative societies among different wings of armed forces and civil servants. The multipurpose cooperative societies in rural areas were being encouraged to undertake distribution of basic consumer goods.

Philippines

The Government in Philippines was keen to depress prices of essential food items like fish, vegetables and other staple foods. With a view to provide some relief to the consumer population in urban areas efforts were being made to organise cooperative super palenghes (supermarkets) in big cities. In respect of rural population, the basic consumer goods were being supplied to them through

multipurpose cooperative societies, for the present in selected areas only. Under the Regional Cooperative Development Programme, financed by the Canadian International Development Authority (CIDA), three cooperative complexes were being developed which also include consumer cooperative stores. It was intended to multiply these complexes so as to cover other parts of the country in the near future. There was now a shift in government policy for greater attention for the promotion and development of consumer cooperatives.

India

Consumer Cooperative Movement was well advanced serving more than five million member families besides a very large number of non-member families. The Government had launched a big programme to extend consumer cooperative activity in rural areas. It was intended to have a cooperative retail outlet in each village or a group of villages covering a population of 2,000. The Government was giving financial assistance for development of managerial skills and the purchase of shop equipment, besides contributions in the share capital of these societies. A number of foreign experts were assisting the movement, under an ILO/SIDA Project. Recently, two Regional Distribution Centres had been developed, one in Coimbatore and the other in Madras.

Sri Lanka

There were very few separate consumer cooperative societies in the country. Consumer goods were being distributed through a net work of multipurpose cooperative societies and their branches all over the island. Almost all households in the country were members of these societies.

The new Government had liberalised import and export trade and also taken various steps to relax regulations on internal trade. As a result, Sri Lanka had experienced a sudden influx of imported consumer goods, including vehicles. Unfortunately, the cooperative movement was not geared to face competition from the private and public sector enterprises. The result was that 60 per cent of the consumer sections of the multipurpose cooperative societies ran at a loss during 1978. A relaxation in the rationing of basic consumer goods resulted in a decline of their turnover. Nevertheless, the popularity and the important role played by cooperatives among people was evident from the fact that only 5 per cent of them have left cooperatives and transferred their ration books to private dealers.

The Cooperative Wholesale Establishment continued to be the main supplier of imported consumer commodities to the cooperative sector which still depends largely on the public corporations and government departments for supply of goods. Recently, attempts had been made to build up the Sri Lanka Cooperative Marketing Federation (MARKFED) to be the wholesale supplier of consumer articles. It had started imports of a few consumer goods in a limited way. It is expected that there will be an increase of imports by the MARKFED in the near future. Certain large primary cooperatives too had started importing consumer goods like textiles, vehicle and motor spare parts etc.

A mention was also made of the fact that the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka had recently launched a Project for Consumer Education and Information among Women through Cooperatives in Sri Lanka with financial and technical assistance received from Swedish Cooperative Centre, Swedish International Development Authority and the Consumer Guilds in Sweden. The objectives of the Project can be very broadly stated as the education of consumers, particularly the housewives in Sri Lanka, in regard to the value of consumer information, nutrition information, quality consciousness and to create among them an awareness of the role that cooperatives can play in promoting and protecting consumers interest.

Thailand

At the end of December 1977, there were 160 cooperative stores in operation with a total membership of 286,136 and a total annual sales turn-over of over Baht 1,177 million. The cooperative stores were facing strong competition from private trade and because of lack of adequate working capital and managerial skill they were finding it difficult to compete with them. However, three big cooperative societies in Bangkok viz. the Phranakorn, Krungdhob and the one in Chulalongkorn University are carrying out their operations very well. They have experienced and forward looking managements and are setting up department stores and supermarkets. At present, there are 11 retail outlets of Phranakorn and Krungdhob societies operating in various areas of Bangkok Metropolis.

More than 70 per cent of the total sales of consumer cooperative societies are to their own members. It is interesting to note that about 60 per cent of the total members in consumer cooperative societies are women.

The Consumer Cooperative Federation of Thailand was registered in 1975 but it has not so far been able to develop its functions as a wholesale society.

Malaysia

There were 124 consumer cooperatives and 98 other cooperatives having multipurpose objects with consumer activity as one of their functions in Peninsula Malaysia in 1977. The total membership was 107,923 and the share capital MS\$12,582,290. There were 313 units of cooperative shops comprising four supermarkets, 32 mini markets, 231 retail shops and 46 others. The total sales turnover amounted to MS\$67 million.

A number of cooperative shops were being operated at district level and those established under the Federal Land Development Authority. Rubber or Palm oil schemes, in the new villages were generally doing well. The success of these shops was, to a large extent, due to the fact that the settlers in the Scheme live together in a compact community, away from the towns. The cooperative shops were normally the only place they could go for their essential goods. All dues of the cooperative societies were deducted at the end of each month from their income.

In towns, small cooperative shops cannot survive against stiff competition from private shops. The current thinking was to grow big and to establish cooperative supermarkets and to locate them where they could best serve the common consumers particularly the middle and lower income groups. The Malaysian Cooperative Supermarket Society at Kuala Lumpur had been established on this basis and with the support and patronage of the consumers, the cooperative supermarket had proved to be a successful venture.

The main problems confronting consumer cooperative movement in Malaysia were : a) Inadequate share capital, b) Inexperienced management, c) Lack of proper stock-control, d) Inefficient control of operating expenses, e) Absence of a strong and efficient wholesale society, f) Inefficient support from members and g) Stiff competition from private business.

Japan

As on 31 March 1979, there were 650 consumers cooperative societies with 1,723 retail outlets and over six million households as members. The annual sales turnover at retail level amounted to over Yen 830 billion. The membership had increased by more than 200,000 during the year.

In order to establish a firm basis for the development of the consumer cooperative movement in the country, the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union had launched a mid-term plan whose objectives are to thoroughly strengthen the organisational and managerial structure of the cooperatives all over the country, through democratic administration, as well as to deepen the collaboration among them and consolidate the national level collaboration. The main features of the mid-term plan were a) to promote members activities and develop cooperative movement based on local community, b) to improve management skills, c) to improve the merchandising policy and techniques, d) to enlarge the skills of COOP employees and to cultivate motivated manpower and e) to strengthen the prefectural unions and regional level collaboration among cooperatives, f) the establishment of JCCU regional branches and g) the intensification of national level collaboration in the fields of finance, mutual aid and exchange of personnels.

During the International Year of the Child, the consumers cooperative movement in Japan had raised funds from its ordinary members for financing ICA Project "Buy a Bucket of Water". The Movement had also submitted petition to the Government to ensure safety of toys and baby foods and to take suitable measures to bring about necessary reforms in children education.

Agenda Item No.7 : Presentation of Paper by Mr.Chong Thin Huatt, General Manager of M.C.S.S.Ltd. on "Consumer Cooperation in Malaysia"

Mr.Chong Thin Huatt, General Manager of the Malaysian Cooperative Supermarkets Society Ltd., who was present in the meeting on a special invitation, gave an interesting and informative talk on the subject of "Consumers Cooperative Movement in Malaysia", which was followed by a lively discussion.

Agenda Item No.8 : Review of National Seminars on Consumer Cooperation in four countries and the International Seminar in Sweden

The written information which was circulated by the Secretary in the meeting was noted.

The members of the Committee desired to place on record their sincere appreciation and hearty gratitude for the generous assistance provided by the SCC and SIDA for arranging training in consumer cooperation for participants from South-East Asian countries.

Mr. R. B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, requested that the concerned national organisations meet with the participants and discuss their experiences and suggestions and also get them to submit a detailed report about the seminar. He requested also that copies of the reports submitted by the participants to their respective national organisations be made available to the ROEC. He suggested that the national organisations inform the ROEC how far they think that the training received by their people has been relevant to their needs and their future programming in the field of consumer cooperation on that basis. He also emphasised the importance for a serious and careful approach in the selection of participants for international seminars and their follow-up at the national level. He informed that a follow-up of the above seminar at the regional level was being contemplated by the SCC in collaboration with ROEC in the near future.

Agenda Item No.9 : A Talk by Mr. Akira Kurimoto on the history of Consumer Cooperative Movement in Japan and its Experiences

Mr. Akira Kurimoto, acting Chairman of the Committee, gave a brief talk on the History of Consumer Cooperative Movement in Japan and its Experiences. He listed the followings as some of the lessons from the experiences of the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Movement : a) Vital importance of practicing cooperative principles, e.g. democratic administration and sound expansion of coops, b) Integration of cooperatives based on long and medium term planning, c) Consolidation of wholesale functions and development of own brand products, d) Active involvement of members, especially of women and their participation in day-to-day cooperative operations, e) Education and staff training in cooperative philosophy and modern management techniques, f) Leading role in general consumer movement, against price-hikes, sale of hazardous goods and pollution, g) Collaboration with other cooperatives and labourers' welfare organisations and h) Efforts for international cooperation and lasting peace.

While concluding his talk Mr. Kurimoto hoped that some of the experiences of the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Movement might be of some help or guidance to movements in the South-East Asian countries.

The members of the Committee proposed that a Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation particularly with reference to Members' Participation be arranged in Japan as the Japanese experience was much more useful and more relevant to conditions in South-East Asian context. The Chairman informed the meeting that the matter of holding the seminar in Japan would be taken up with IDACA and JCCU Board of Directors and the decision to this effect would be notified to ROEC in due course.

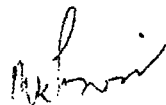
Agenda Item No.11 : Remarks by the Chairman

In his concluding remarks Mr. Akira Kurimoto said that he had been very pleased to preside over the meeting and expressed his happiness over the fact that attendance at this meeting had improved as compared with the last year's meeting. The Chairman expressed his satisfaction at the successful conduct of the meeting. He hoped that some steady progress could be made. He said that we should try to implement and study in detail about the experiences of each country which was expressed and presented at the meeting and should have follow-up national seminars.

Agenda Item No.12 : The Date and Venue of the Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee should be convened along with the next meeting of the ICA Regional Council and that the date and venue for the meeting will be fixed by the ICA Regional Director in due course.

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



M.K. Puri,
Secretary & Specialist in
Consumer Cooperation

cc: Chairman & Members of the ICA
Committee on Consumer Cooperation.
cc: Members, ICA Council for S-E Asia.
cc: Chairman, OCCP, FDB, Roskildevej 65, DK-2620 Albertslund (Denmark)
cc: Director, ICA, London (U.K.)
cc: Director, SCC, Stockholm (Sweden)

A/

266/1/80

ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia

FOURTH MEETING

Venue COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

Dates 13 NOVEMBER 1980



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110024, India*

International Cooperative Alliance
43, Friends Colony, New Delhi

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE ICA COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER
COOPERATION FOR S-E ASIA HELD AT COLOMBO, SRI LANKA ON NOV.13, 1980

1. The Fourth Meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia was held at the office of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, Colombo on 13th November 1980.

The following were present:

1. Mr. M. Ohya, Japan
2. Mr. R.G. Tiwari, India
3. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Malaysia
4. Mr. Teo Cheng Peow, Singapore
5. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, Sri Lanka
6. Mr. Vichien Inthachat, Thailand
7. Dr. Bunjird Khatikarn, Thailand

Secretary : Mr. M.K. Puri, Specialist in Consumer Cooperation,
ICA ROEC, New Delhi

ICA ROEC Staff :

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (P&PR)
4. Mr. Per Eric Lennhagen, Specialist in Agrl. Coop. Marketing

In attendance :

Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director,
ICA ROEC, New Delhi

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 :- WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

2. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, President, National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka welcomed the members of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia and expressed the hope that deliberations of the Committee would guide the development of strong and healthy consumer cooperative movements in the countries of the region.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

3. In the absence of Mr. S. Nakabayashi, Chairman of the Consumer Committee, the members unanimously decided to appoint Mr. M. Ohya, alternate Councillor for Japan, as the Chairman for this meeting.

4. Mr. Ohya thanked the members for asking him to preside over the meeting. Mr. Ohya gave a brief account of the meeting of the OCCP and further informed members of the Committee that the ICA Congress in Moscow, while considering the Report on Cooperatives in the year 2000, had emphasised that the highest priority should be given to the following:

- i. the development of agricultural cooperatives including agricultural producer cooperatives among small farmers, particularly in developing countries with a view to increasing food production and raising the real incomes of primary producers;
- ii. the promotion of industrial cooperatives and the conversion of existing industrial enterprises to the cooperative form or organisation so as to contribute to and increase in incentive and productivity, a reduction in unemployment, and improvement in industrial relations and the development of a policy for a more equitable distribution of incomes;
- iii. the further development of consumers' cooperatives in such a way as to emphasise the features which distinguish them most clearly from private traders and sustaining their independence and effective democratic control by members;
- iv. the creation of clusters of specialised cooperatives or a single multi-purpose society, especially in urban areas, in such a way as to provide a broad range of economic and social services - housing, credit, banking, insurance, restaurants, industrial enterprises, medical services, tourism, recreation, etc. within the scope of a single neighbourhood cooperative.

5. Mr. Ohya requested members of the Committee that they should ask their national movements to make careful study of the Report and to consider ways in which they could help to bring about the implementation of these four priorities for cooperative development in their respective countries.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

6. The Regional Director stressed the importance of promoting strong and healthy consumer cooperative movements in countries of the region.

7. He emphasised that the ICA Consumer Committee for South-East Asia should, in consultation with the member movements, evolve a policy and a programme for systematic development of consumer cooperative movements in the region. He went on to say that there was need to look at the whole question of development of consumer cooperatives as a policy matter and to see how best the Committee could help in evolving suitable approaches which all member movements could follow, and how it could help in identifying the objectives and assist in the drawing up of plans and programmes for the respective member countries.

8. The Regional Director drew attention of the members of the Committee towards the document on "Consumer Programme" which had been separately circulated among the members. This document on Consumer Programme had been prepared by the Working Group set up by the ICA main Consumer Committee (ICA Committee on Cooperative Consumer Affairs) and was primarily concerned with Consumer Protection.

9. The Regional Director pointed out that there was also a need even in the South-East Asian context for a comprehensive programme for consumer information. Unless the consumer was informed of the products which were available in the market and the types of goods and services which were marketed, both in terms of value and quality, the consumer would not be able to get the best value for his money.

10. The Regional Director suggested that cooperative movement in each country should take a careful look at the document on Consumer Programme. They should discuss the various aspects of the Programme in their respective home situation and send to the ICA Regional Office their comments and suggestions both for the Consumer Programme and the Strategy for the development of a strong consumer cooperative movement before the middle of the next year. The Secretariat of the Committee would then, on the basis of received comments, draft another document which could be discussed at the next meeting of the Committee, which is expected to be held in October 1981 at Seoul. The Regional Director expressed the hope that the document on Consumer Programme would be thoroughly discussed by the cooperative movements in each country and that their comments to the Regional Office would fully reflect the true situation, local problems, needs and aspirations of their cooperative movements. It was pointed out that in the document on Consumer Programme, prepared by the Working Group, separate suggestions had been made, under each aspect for programmes which could be carried out in developing countries, depending on their socio-economic conditions and the stage of development of their respective cooperative movements.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING HELD ON 20TH NOV.1979 AT PETALING JAYA, MALAYSIA

11. The minutes of the last meeting, third in the series, held on 20th November 1979 at Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

(a) Follow-up of 21st International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Sweden

12. The Secretary informed that as per decision at the last meeting, the secretariat wrote to all the concerned member organisations to secure reports from participants of the 21st International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation held in Sweden and to forward these reports

to the ICA Regional Office with comments whether the training in Sweden had been useful and relevant to their needs and future programmes. The secretariat had also suggested them to organise some follow-up programmes at the national level on the basis of the reports submitted by their participants. The ICA Regional Office did not receive any report from any of the member movements except Singapore.

13. The Secretary informed the Committee that the ICA Regional Office would be convening a Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in May 1981 and that the participants of the 21st International Seminar had been required to send reports about the implementation of their individual Action Programmes to the ICA ROEC by 31st January 1981. The secretary informed that some of those persons who had attended the earlier SCC Seminars in Sweden and were still working in the field of consumer cooperative activity might also be invited to attend this Follow-up Seminar.

14. Dato N.A. Kularajah, President of the Cooperative Union of Malaysia invited the ICA ROEC to conduct the Regional Seminar in Malaysia. This invitation was accepted by the ICA Regional Office.

(b) ICA Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan

15. The Secretary reported that the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union had agreed to host this seminar in Tokyo from 1st to 21st September 1981 and that it would be preceded by one week study visits in the Republic of Korea. This seminar will be held by the ICA in collaboration with the JCCU, CUAC and IDACA.

16. Managers, directors and chief executives working in consumer cooperative societies would be invited to this seminar. The participants would be accommodated at IDACA. There would be 25 participants in all.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

17. The members of the Committee expressed the desire that Mr. S. Nakabayashi, Chairman of the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Union be requested to continue to be the Chairman of the Committee for another term.

18. Mr. M. Ohya informed the members that for personal reasons Mr. Nakabayashi had regretted his inability to accept the office for an extended term and had requested to be relieved of this responsibility.

19. The members placed on record their sincere appreciation for the services rendered and guidance given to the Consumer Committee by Mr. S. Nakabayashi during his tenure as Chairman.

20. The members of the Committee unanimously elected Mr. Chong Thin Huatt, General Manager of the Malaysian Cooperative Super Market Society, Kuala Lumpur, as the Chairman of the Committee and further decided that the Vice-Chairman should be appointed from Thailand. It was decided that the Cooperative League of Thailand should be asked to nominate a suitable person, who should have been actively involved in consumer cooperative activity, to be the Vice-Chairman of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : PRESENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF CONSUMER COOPERATION IN COUNTRIES OF THE REGION BY THE DELEGATES

21. On the request of the Chairman, the members present at the meeting made brief statements regarding significant developments in the field of consumer cooperation in their respective countries.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : A TALK ON "CONSUMER COOPERATION IN SRI LANKA"

22. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, President of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka gave an interesting and informative talk on the subject of "Consumer Cooperative Movement in Sri Lanka" which was followed by a discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : TO CONSIDER SUGGESTIONS REGARDING WORK PROGRAMME OF THE COMMITTEE

23. The members expressed concern at the rising rate of inflation and non-availability of even basic necessities of life to a majority of the population in most of the developing countries in the region. They emphasised the urgent need for building up a strong and healthy consumer cooperative movement in all countries of the region.

24. The Regional Director drew attention to the document on "Consumer Programme", which had been prepared by the Working Group set up by the ICA main Committee on Consumer Cooperative and re-emphasised the need for member movements to work towards a generally acceptable consumer policy and expressed a hope that each of the movements would send in their proposals to the secretariat to enable the secretariat to prepare a document for the next meeting. The suggestion made by the Regional Director was accepted by all the members.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

25. It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee should be convened, along with the next meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia, which was likely to meet in Seoul in October 1981.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

26. In his concluding remarks, Mr. Dhya thanked the members for their kind cooperation. He was very pleased that even though the participants were very few, the discussions were very useful and interesting.

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

Sd/-

M.K. Puri
Secretary
ICA Committee on Consumer
Cooperation for S-E Asia
