

*ICA Council
for South-East Asia*

28TH MEETING

Venue IDACA, TOKYO, JAPAN

Dates 8 SEPTEMBER 1986

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

MINUTES OF THE 28TH MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD AT IDACA, TOKYO (JAPAN) ON 8TH SEPTEMBER 1986

The 28th Meeting of the ICA Regional Council for South-East Asia was held at the new premises of the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA), Tokyo, on 8th September, 1986 under the Chairmanship of Mr. R. Mathimugan, Regional Councillor from Malaysia and Chairman of the Regional Council.

The following were present :

Members

1. Mr. R. Mathimugan, Chairman & Member for Malaysia
2. Mr. Eddiwan, Vice-Chairman & Member for Indonesia
3. Mr. V.P. Singh, Member for India
4. Mr. Kamaluddin Ahmed, Member for India
5. Mr. Mohd Yahya Suryanagara, Member for Indonesia
6. Mr. Iwao Yamaguchi, Member for Japan
7. Mr. S. Fukuda, Member for Japan
8. Dr. Jung-Joo Kim, Alternate Member for Korea
9. Mrs. Armi Zairuddin, Member for Malaysia
10. Mr. Riazuddin Ahmed, Member for Pakistan
11. Gen A.S. Lozada, Member for Philippines
12. Mrs. Leonila V. Chavez, Member for Philippines
13. Mr. Aloysius Teo, Member for Singapore
14. Mr. Kasim Abdullah, Member for Singapore
15. Mr. Chern Bamrungwong, Member for Thailand

Secretary : Mr. R.B. Rajaguru
Regional Director, ICA RO

ICA Hq. : 1. Mr. Lars Marcus
president
2. Mr. Bruce Thordarson
Associate Director & Director Development

Special Invitee : Mr. K. Fujimoto
Managing Director, IDACA

Observers : 1. Mr. K. Katsube, Japan
2. Mr. Y. Tomosada, Japan
3. Mr. H. Nishido, Japan

In attendance: Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director,
ICA RO, New Delhi.

01. Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome by host organisation

01.01 Mr. Iwao Yamaguchi, Executive Vice President of the CUAC Japan and Regional Councillor extended a warm welcome to all the Regional Councillors on behalf of the host cooperatives in Japan.

In his address of welcome Mr. Yamaguchi referred to the First Asian Cooperative Conference held in 1962, at which a decision was taken to set up an institute to help development of agricultural cooperatives. IDACA came into being as a result of this decision and since then IDACA has had a long and fruitful relationship with the Regional Office in New Delhi and the Regional Council. The facilities available at the old IDACA became a little outdated and so a new facility was developed near the Central Cooperative College and he was happy that the Japanese Movement was able to host the 28th RC Meeting in these new facilities. He expressed his happiness that Mr. Lars Marcus, President, ICA, and Mr. Thordarson, Associate Director, were also able to join in the discussions. The meeting was an important one as many issues had to be discussed and he was hopeful that the meeting would be able to come to useful decisions. He also referred to the assistance provided by the Japanese Government to the ICA, initially in a sum of USD 400,000 for the first year, to develop a Training Programme to strengthen Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia and he was hopeful that with the assistance of all present, the ICA could make the project a success.

He wished the Councillors a pleasant stay in Japan and also wished the meeting every success.

02. Agenda Item No. 2 : Introductory Remarks - Chairman, President, ICA, Associate Director, ICA, Regional Director

02.01 The Chairman, Mr. R. Mathimugan, in his opening address thanked the CUAC, JJCC and IDACA for hosting the ExSubCo and RC Meeting. He congratulated the Japanese Agricultural Cooperatives on their new facility and was sure the premises would provide the necessary atmosphere for the RC to have a good meeting.

He welcomed also the Regional Councillors, the President ICA and the Associate Director, ICA.

The Chairman then referred to the untimely death of Mr. Ellie Anangisye, Regional Director, ICA RO for East, Central and Southern Africa, who passed away in April and also to the very recent passing away of Mr. George Chua, Chairman of Singapore National Cooperative Federation, and expressed the condolences of the RC to the members of the bereaved families.

The Councillors observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Ellie Anangisye and Mr. George Chua.

The Chairman then once again expressed his happiness that Mr. Marcus, the president, ICA, was able to participate in the meeting. He mentioned that the RC Meeting would be discussing very important issues pertaining to the restructuring and reorganising of ICA and the Regional Offices, the aspect of the development programme, the financial constraints of the ICA etc. and therefore the President's presence, backed by Mr. Thordarson, the Associate Director of the ICA, would be most helpful. He also made special reference to Mr. Thordarson, who was attending his first RC Meeting in Asia and was confident that his contributions will be most helpful.

While once again welcoming the Regional Councillors, the Chairman also referred to the absence of Regional Councillors from Australia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, China and North Korea, who were not able to attend the Council Meeting. The Chairman then referred to the meeting itself and said that in his view this was a very important meeting as very vital decisions had to be made in regard to the RO structures and in regard to the organisation, methods and directions of the Specialised Sub-Committees that had been formed. He mentioned that the Specialised Committees which had been set up since 1984 had given a new thrust and dimension to the development programmes in the region, and that the Sub-Committees had provided opportunities for greater participation and more decentralised planning and programming. He referred in particular to three Sub-Committees, namely, Trade & Industry Committee, Consumer Sub-Committee and the Agricultural Sub-Committee, which had been quite active in the last two years. He was hopeful that the others too would begin their work in earnest very soon. He said that, as the agenda provided for about 16 or 18 items, he would suggest that the Meeting consider the aspects of restructuring and reorganising of ROO as priority issues along with the Japanese Government supported Agricultural Training programme referred to by Mr. Yamaguchi. As regards the other items, he was hopeful that some could be attended to quite speedily, but where in depth discussion was necessary, the Meeting should apply itself to those matters. He also added that many of the issues coming up had been already discussed in the EXSubCo Meeting on the previous day and that these would be referred to at an appropriate stage.

02.02 Mr. Lars Marcus, President ICA, in his opening remarks thanked the Chairman and Mr. Yamaguchi for their words of welcome and added that he was attending the meeting on the personal invitation of Mr. Iwamochi, President of the CUAC, and that he was happy to have this opportunity to meet for the second time with the Asian cooperators, so that he could better understand the situation and problems in Asia. He said that in his view, the best position one can hope for is a position in a local cooperative society where one knows all the members and understands the problems. When one comes to the international situations, it was not always easy to understand problems, perceptions and attitudes - but that

meetings of this nature would go a long way to help him understand the Asian cooperative situation. He referred to the problems of cooperatives, that every movement had its problems, the JAC had theirs and so did others. He mentioned a useful discussion with Mr. Riazuddin Ahmed, Regional Councillor for Pakistan, which gave him new insights into the situation about cooperatives in that country, and in the Islam world.

The President then referred to the ICA, the problems faced and the work programme that had been outlined at the Central Committee Meeting in Washington. Progress made in regard to this programme would be discussed in Basel Central Committee Meeting, and then the ICA would during the period 1986-87 work towards getting closer to the Specialised Committees and assist them in their areas of activity and thus help decentralised decision making and action. At the 1988 Congress to be held in Stockholm, the ICA would be taking a closer look at how to work closer with the U.N. organisations. He said that he would be quite busy with the preparations and contacts, that they had already had three Executive Committee Meetings, and that there would be one more in Basel. However, he was happy of the opportunity he was provided to meet the Regional Councillors from Asia once again and he thanked the Chairman for his words of welcome, and the CUAC for persuading him to attend the meeting.

02.03 Mr. Bruce Thordarson, Associate Director, in his opening remarks expressed his happiness for the opportunity to attend his first Regional Council Meeting in Asia. He then briefly referred to ICA's efforts in development over the last 25 years in Asia and was happy to state that the ICA would continue its commitment to development. He referred in this context to his own appointment as Development Director and the steps taken to set up a Development Division at ICA Hq, which were all indicative of the commitment of the ICA to development. He added that while much had been achieved in the past, there were new compulsions which necessitated changes both in priorities and approaches, and he was hopeful that within the next three years the Secretariat would be able to fulfil the mandate set by the President and by the Executive Committee to have a development programme that looks quite different from the one that existed at present, which was better, which builds upon the desires and commitments of the movements in the different regions. He expressed his confidence that these could be achieved with the assistance of the Regional Council and its Specialised Committees.

02.04 The Regional Director in his opening remarks thanked the CUAC and IDACA for the kind invitation extended to the RC to hold its 28th Meeting in the new premises of IDACA and for the excellent facilities and hospitality provided by the CUAC/IDACA. He then thanked the President, ICA, and the Associate Director, ICA, for taking time out to attend this very important meeting of the RC. He extended a warm welcome to all Regional Councillors and a special welcome to the second lady Councillor, Mrs. Nelia Chavez from the Philippines. He expressed his happiness that women were now participating more in cooperative activity

and were taking on leadership positions. He was hopeful that this trend would get more reflected also at the Regional Council level. He also extended a warm welcome to the new Regional Councillors, namely the Councillors from Singapore, Mr. Aloysius Tee and Mr. Kasim Abdullah, Dr. Jung-Joo Kim from Korea and Mr. Riazuddin Ahmed, Councillor for Pakistan.

The RD then referred to the new Training Programme initiated by the ICA with assistance from the Government of Japan and thanked the CUAC/IDACA for the initiatives taken and the Japanese Government for the assistance provided.

In conclusion he expressed his happiness that the forum for discussions had been strengthened with the presence of the president, ICA, and the Associate Director, and was hopeful that the meeting would come to constructive conclusions which will guide the Secretariat in its work for the future.

03. Agenda Item No. 3 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the 27th Meeting

The minutes of the 27th Meeting of the ICA Regional Council held in New Delhi on 21-22 August 1985, which had been circulated earlier, were confirmed.

04. Agenda Item No. 4 : Matters arising out of the Minutes

04.01 Under this item, the Chairman emphasized that the matter that had to be given priority consideration by the RC would be that of ICA's Restructuring and Reorganisation vis-a-vis Regional Offices and its Development programme. These were matters which the ExSubCo had devoted considerable attention. He therefore requested Mr. Thordarson, Associate Director, ICA, to brief the RC in this regard.

04.02 Mr. Bruce Thordarson : "I know from reading the minutes of the last year's RC Meeting that a great deal of attention was given at that meeting to the structuring of the RO in this region. It is very important from ICA's point of view that we look at this issue in the context of the entire development programme of the ICA rather than to see it in isolation. As I indicated in my introductory remarks we at the secretariat have been asked by our Executive Committee to very critically review what ICA has been doing in development in the past many years and in consultation with our members see what we can do better for the future. There are, I would say, four major areas in which we see substantive changes required in the ICA Development programme.

(i) The first change that we see necessary is to make our development programme more result-oriented and to make greater impact. There have been criticisms in the past about our programmes in that they have not led to the desired impact at the levels of need in the developing countries. There seems therefore to be a need to develop

a new strategy to focus our activities more specifically perhaps in a smaller number of areas and to concentrate on these areas in which ICA has the unique capacity to carry out that role.

(ii) We have to increase the involvement of other donors in our programme. SCC has been the only major organisation which has been prepared to provide substantial development support to the ICA. That is not a healthy development either for ICA or for SCC and we very much want to change this.

(iii) We want to make our development programme more cost effective. Lot of money has been spent on development programmes in the past. I would not say it has been badly spent, perhaps we have not received the greatest value for that money.

(iv) We would like to make development programmes more international if the ICA is the representative of some 76 countries around the world. We need to be representing cooperative movements in different parts of the world to a greater extent than we have in the past.

How can we carry out this major restructuring of our development programme without disturbing or causing problems to the successful activities that are being presently carried out.

In terms of the content of the programme, we essentially think that the ICA should not regard itself as an implementing agency of programmes of activities but should concentrate on coordinating and assisting the efforts of the member organisations. This does not mean that the ICA should not deliver any programmes because there may well be instances where we are asked by a specific organisation to carry out a particular activity. Examples of these are the Comas Member Education Programme as well as the Agricultural Training Programme which the Japanese Movement has asked the ICA to implement. We feel however that in addition to these kinds of specific activities we should be focussing our efforts more on such matters as policy dialogue with governments, since attitudes of governments in developing countries is often a severe obstacle to the growth of and promotion of cooperative movements. We think the ICA should be working more closely with its members in perspective planning. This has been introduced in the RO work plan this year for the first time and essentially it consists of assisting our member organisations to identify their priority needs and in some cases assisting them in undertaking national planning exercises. I am convinced from all that I have seen around the world that we often fail to achieve our potential because we do not know what our needs are and what assistance we need and therefore cooperatives often become dependent on the priorities of the external organisation, but the result all too often is that the assistance given to cooperative movements does not respond to their priority needs. We think that the ICA overriding objective should be to help our member organisations identify their priorities in the best way they can and to assist them in achieving necessary resources to bring

these programmes into effect.

Secondly, we should get more donors. The Executive Committee has approved the establishment of an ICA Working Party on Cooperative Development for the first time. We will meet prior to our Central Committee Meeting in Basel. This year we will be bringing together the heads of 20 major cooperative organisations involved in international development. These will be cooperative organisations from North America, from Europe and from Japan, who over the years have made considerable efforts and spent a great deal of money, both their own and their governments, on cooperative development. We would like to provide a forum whereby these organisations can come together and learn from each other's experience and also work more closely with the ICA and possibly to get to the point where ICA is recognised as a forum to come together for their own benefit.

The major success of course within the last year in terms of diversification of donors is the entry of the Japanese Government into this field, thanks to the CUAC and its efforts. The extent of this support is very large. In 1986-87 the SCC support through New Delhi office amounts to some 5.8 million rupees. If you translate the equivalent of Japanese support it comes to 6.48 million rupees, so we have a second major donor of similar size to the huge support which has already been provided by the SCC. In addition we have now programmes or commitments to support from cooperative organisations in Canada, Denmark, Italy to work with the ICA in supporting activities with other ROs and we hope also to bring in new donor organisations in this region."

"How to make the programmes more cost effective?"

Mr. Thordarson then referred to the earlier decisions in regard to having small and flexible RO's in the future and outlined the steps taken in New Delhi to achieve this end. He informed the meeting that during the course of 1985, 12 redundancies had been declared and that the present proposal was for a further 8 redundancies to be declared by 31.12.1986. This would leave a core staff of 6 persons plus the project advisers whose number would depend on donor support. He added: "In very specific terms the proposed restructuring of the New Delhi office, if it is accepted by the RC and the Executive Committee, means that in January 1987 the New Delhi office would have the RO, an accountant, two secretaries and two support staff as core staff and then in addition there will be project activities supported by donors which will consist of Regional Development Officer, Regional Development Adviser, the Comas project Adviser, the Consumer project Adviser, the Agricultural Cooperative Training Adviser, (the programme Manager for the Japanese sponsored programme) and in KL the Cooperative Trade Adviser. In other words, there will be 5 project staff based in New Delhi and one in KL."

In terms of making the programme international, Mr. Thordarson added that there were several requests for ICA presence in several parts of the world, that the president had travelled to South America and to Africa and that it was hoped that within the next

3 years, the ICA could establish a small presence in Latin America, and in Africa. He added : "A great deal of attention was devoted by the RC to the question of KL. What has happened now is an agreement by our Executive Committee that we do not want to propose any changes to the present RC structure, that there will be one RC and we would also like to have the RO remain in New Delhi. We would, however, like to formally designate the KL Cooperative Trade Project Office as an ICA office so that the trade activity could continue and grow in the years ahead."

04.03 Mr. Mathimugan, Chairman, said : "The EXSubCo considered the question of how effective development can take place in this region, whether the structure of one RC and one office in Asia was manageable, was it rather too huge and unwieldy to conduct itself in an effective and proper manner to enhance cooperative development and direction in the Asian region, taking into consideration diverse activities and diverse kinds of situation that existed in the region. It was from there that the first discussion on having sub-offices took place. Then the decision that arose was to have an office in New Delhi to cover South Asia and an office in KL to cover the South East Asian Region. Now this idea got acceptance from a number of people and it was also sort of accepted by the Development Committee of the ICA. Subsequent to that further discussions were held and it was decided that this be referred to the RC for a final decision. That is how the matter came up to the RC in New Delhi. The President and Director attended that meeting. We had an EXSubCo Meeting earlier, and a five point plan was presented by the President which covered also this area of two separate offices, one in New Delhi and one in KL and that was accepted by the EXSubCo. The Five Point Plan was placed before the RC Meeting the next day and the views of those who were not in the EXSubCo were invited. During that meeting one of the non tangible aspects of the Asian region was brought up as a matter of importance and that was 'solidarity'. It would be useful to have solidarity and it was on the basis of solidarity that some of the issues were discussed. But basically the majority of the members accepted the concept of having two separate offices. However they said one Council and Asian solidarity should be maintained.

Subsequently finance became a major issue and the question was how HO could finance the activities of the ROs. It was in that context that the idea of ICA having ROs as requested and funded by those sponsoring came up. The suggestion was that the members finance the RO and the RC should have complete control of the RO. The questions that arose was about the accountability of such offices, to whom would they be accountable, and for whom such an office would be run.

We have come to this situation now whether the RO in New Delhi has got a building, that building is to be sold and that money is to be retained and from an economic point of view that office in New Delhi could have the support of the monies that would be retained in New Delhi which cannot be transmitted outside. So in that context it would be practical and sensible to have an office in New Delhi in the manner, in the form which has been described. Notwithstanding these

facts, what you have now to decide and discuss is, object of a Regional Council, what has this RC done and what does it achieve, is it an effective council or is it just a get together or a good forum for exchange of experiences and that is that. Beyond that the policies of the RO, the directions of the RO and all matters pertaining to administration and others would be under the purview of the HO, the directions, the appointments, and the reporting and accountability will be to the HO. So we should not fool ourselves. We have a council which has got an RO and that RO is not under its control. That is only hallucination. But the other point is if you want an office and you want to control then you must contribute to that office. The proposed new rules on composition and the functions of a RC, its role and responsibility, was circulated to you earlier. That has to be submitted to the HO for any amendments to the rules of the ICA.

So your discussion now should be to decide on the RC and its functions and its acceptance as it is/as proposed. You also have to realise that Asia has 51 per cent of the members representing the ICA. Now 51 per cent means out of half a billion members 260 million come from Asia and this council presides over that at least in name. Also would our programmes be effective as they are and run on the present basis? When we meet as a RC we meet for regional development but the concept and context of some members is that it is a forum for them to talk of their own individual problems. Now that is an aspect which also you may decide, whether it should decide in that form because you have your needs and you want your needs to be satisfied. We can discuss common problems at the RC level."

04.04 Mr. Riazuddin Ahmed, Pakistan : "I have one or two points which need clarification : (i) Whether in the new structure proposed the KL office will be independent of the RO in New Delhi. That is to say will the RO of the RO in New Delhi have jurisdiction over the KL office. In other words, will it be a sub-office or an independent office, (ii) it might have different financing implications and also a degree of responsibility and accountability. Therefore the relationship between the RO in New Delhi and the office in KL has to be more clearly explained or decided. Otherwise, to me it appears that the proposal is acceptable in principle. The expenditure involved in the case of the KL office being independent or subordinate to the RO will need to be discussed."

04.05 Chairman : "As it stands the KL office is going to be part of this region's activities and the KL office as proposed by Mr. Bruce Thordarson is in regard to the Cooperative Trade project that is located in KL and it is not going to serve a particular group. It is going to serve the Asian region as a whole and therefore it will be considered a part of this whole region. It is financially independent because it is supported by the SCC wholly and to some extent by various little assistance from the Cooperative Movement in Malaysia.

Accountability - I think every office will be accountable to the HO, whether they will be accountable to the Regional Council is another matter and I think that would be of interest to us. We are not going to discuss this matter on a legal basis. So the discussion yesterday at the EXSubCo was centred around what should be the role and responsibility of the Council over these offices. Should the RC be responsible for their budget, planning, for their accountability? If so, amendments to the rules of the ICA will take place."

04.06 Dr. Jung-Joo Kim, Korea : "Is your plan to have an RO at KL fixed? Are there any suggestions from countries like Japan or any other countries? I am not sure about the place - is it to be restricted only to KL?"

04.07 Chairman : "ICA has no firm policy where an office should be. Offices can be opened and set up in areas of need. That is the basic policy of the ICA - in one or two places you need some permanent structure for coordination and for continuity of action and support. So there was a suggestion at one time to have the Consumer Office and Agriculture Office in Japan itself or even Korea. I think both Japan and Korea declined to accept that responsibility.

One other aspect that you all must be aware of i.e. ACO (Asean Cooperative Organisation). It is functioning and meeting regularly and it is an effective body that takes into account interests of six countries in the Asean group, namely, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines, Brunei, Indonesia and there are others who wanted to become members of this group. There is nothing to stop the Asean region from asking ICA HO for an office to carry out their functions because they have very common interest. So it does not mean that the Regional Council for Asia need to be split into two. The solidarity that the members talk can still be continued and maintained. You can have the RO as a RO, but again let me make it clear that over the last 2-3 years the things that have happened do not give me confidence that whatever we discuss will fructify in the manner we discuss. That has been one of the frustrations that I have felt and for which reason I was not really prepared to discuss this matter. Nothing seems to move.

One other thing that we require in this region and every country requires is leadership, visionaries like Hasumi who has created this IDACA, Dr. Kanagawa who has created the consumer movement - that kind of leadership is required if you want to achieve the kind of development that you need. Do you want things to go on as they are. It is your choice. It is a very big region, very hard to get our minds to meet together on many things except on solidarity. But in the area of development and other things, we are unable to really foster the kind of support that each one can give for regional development, identifying countries that need development as a priority and when we discuss about contributing to RO there is a blank. We come to a wall. So this is where we are not prepared to commit. May be we are not prepared to commit as some of us have no authority to take a decision.

So we have donors for the RO in New Delhi and that office can continue and you must decide on what kind of council you want to have, what effective manner of supervising the RO you would like to propose."

04.08 Gen Lozada : "I recall in 1983 the CUP sent to RO and also to HQ in Geneva our concept of restructuring the international movement i.e. the ICA. We felt at that time that the RC was an outsider of the international movement in the sense that we are not a part, while we are a part of the discussion forum, we are not part of decision making structure. You will notice that the Philippines have been very strong because we have to develop a strong political will of the council if we want to make the council responsive to the global movement. Therefore it must be a part of decision making structure. So in 1984 the so-called organisation of Specialised Sub-Committees have been resorted to and that the RC had become almost autonomous and this is a very good direction in the sense that you must direct your effort towards the needs of the constituency and so in that context there has been discussion in New Delhi RC Meeting as to the efficacy of having several Regional Councils in South-East Asia. It seems that we were not very unanimous about dividing the South-East Asian Council, objections coming primarily from Korea and Japan. Since we have two additional members from China and North Korea, I think that these two new affiliates should be consulted on the matter. I am glad that there has been a strong direction coming from the secretariat from Geneva to prune down the structure of the RO in New Delhi. Now with this structure - so called project development direction - we are most happy. This is a new avenue for which we should give a chance to work out - the core group in New Delhi headed by the RO could be ably supported and supplemented and perhaps given lot of impetus by the project group - the project groups should be most effective because they are experts and professionals dealing with our needs in the various organisations in the Far East or South-East Asia. This may be given a chance to work out. We maintain the RO in New Delhi, come up with a semi office whenever possible in KL, but I pose the same question as posed by the representative from Pakistan - we need to define linkages and relationship between the RO and the sub-office with the RC, with the EXSubCo and also with the central secretariat in Geneva. So my personal view is that we should give this a chance. The solidarity must be maintained at all cost...when forwarding the paper to the Executive Committee for their perusal, they should take into consideration the feelings and the views that have been expressed by the EXSubCo and also the RC."

04.09 Mr. V.P. Singh : "Two important issues have been raised. They were discussed in the EXSubCo yesterday also. One question which you have very pertinently raised is about the functions and powers of the RC....we find that when ICA was constituted, as pointed out by Japan yesterday, we all became members of the ICA, and the RO - concept was not

there. But the concept of RC was introduced in Hamburg and immediately thereafter RCs were formed. The formation of RC therefore is only about two years old by now - otherwise RCs had been meeting earlier in the present shape and powers, and with amendments to the ICA Rules more powers were given to the RC. The Chairman has informed you that this RC should become more effective. There could be no two notions on this when such a representative gathering of cooperative leaders from the region meet it must have power to decide its own course of action. When I look at the paper which has been circulated I find that there are powers for which we are looking for, also powers of the ExSubCo. We find it has a power to appoint a RD and other senior staff in consultation with ICA HO, it has power to draw up the budget for confirmation of the RC, it has the power to establish policy and development programme of the RD, etc. However, I think we have to have the linkage with the ICA, the fact of belonging to the ICA HO. We have to work within the framework of ICA HO. That is the whole purpose of our being here and the RC has to work within the framework of ICA HO keeping the needs and aspirations of the region. Some amendments to the paper are necessary, but I think basically, it says what we want to say.

One aspect which is important is the amount of money which members should pay to the region. The question is where the money is going to come from. Now regional members pay their subscription to the ICA HO at Geneva. Would it be possible for member organisations here to increase their subscription by saying that a part of it will go to the RC or paid to the Regional Development Fund?

Another question is about finding donors within the region. The major donors at the moment are Japan, Korea and to some extent Malaysia and it may be possible to have more donors giving more and more money for regional development activities which will of course be formulated by this Council. I had proposed yesterday that you as Chairman should shoulder this responsibility with the approval of this Council to tour this region and meet leaders of the government with the help of respective cooperative movements and try and develop a Regional Development Fund. If we are able to put some money in this regional development fund, then we can talk of regional autonomy and managing our affairs...Once we are able to form a development fund, then we can talk in terms of more effective and regionally balanced council. We find that it is a good paper. I am in favour of this paper. We can review the situation after one year."

04.10 Chairman : "This is a paper that was circulated one year ago, and would have to go to the Central Committee of the ICA which is meeting in Basel in October. There would be a resolution to propose that the rules of the ICA be amended at the next Congress and then if the Executive Committee has to accept this - they may have their own considerations over what should be the involvement of the centre in RDs

and setting up of RCs. So we have to submit this to the centre and let them take a decision in the matter.

The other aspect that Gen. Lozada has brought about is solidarity. I think we must be quite clear in our minds and Mr. V.P. Singh also mentioned - we all are members of the ICA - the world cooperative movement is a brotherhood, there is no such thing as an Asian Cooperative Solidarity or an African Cooperative Solidarity. We are all brothers. So really I do not like the word Asian Solidarity - for what? All we are talking of is that we have some common problems to solve, so we talk in those terms. Let us delete the word "Asian solidarity" and substitute "Solidarity of the International Cooperative Movement."

04.11 Mr. I. Yamaguchi : "I would like to talk on this particular issue. The same opinion was raised at the ExSubCo and there may be some overlapping in my comments. We are now discussing the reorganisation of the RO in South-East Asia. I believe one of the major aspects in the reorganisation would be rationalising the activities of the RO here. However another major factor which comes into this is the financial stress that the ICA is presently facing and it appears that due to the impact of the financial difficulties of the ICA HO, the ICA RO in South-East Asia is being pressed to simplify and rationalise its organisation. Japan currently pays to the ICA HO a total sum of 70 million yen plus 500,000 yen per year to its development fund. We pay an additional amount of 900,000 yen to South-East Asia office for development activities in this region. So that means that the major portion of the money that Japan pays for the development goes to the ICA HO. ICA's activities is first of all to represent the will of the international cooperative movement as a spokesman in its negotiation with UN and other international organisations. However it is reasonable that that some amount of the 70 million yen that we pay to the ICA HO should and must flow back to the South-East Asian region. I do not think that the South-East Asian RO should face the blame, the consequences of the ICA financial difficulties. That is for ICA HO to clear.

Therefore, in short, we believe that having the RO in South-East Asia independent of the ICA HO would be tantamount to writing off the financial rights that we as members pay to the ICA. I believe that the RO in South-East Asia should be a part and parcel of the ICA organisation. In that regard, I believe that a portion of the money that we pay to ICA currently should flow back to the RO as administration cost for the South-East Asian RO.

However, agricultural development in the south-East Asian region will require a larger amount of funds. We are aware of the need to procure funds from the local cooperative organisations in South-East Asia. Now Japan has been paying its dues to the ICA on the basis of the formula. In addition to that, we now have an agreement with the ICA and the Japanese Government for a Training Programme on

Agricultural Cooperatives. The funds for this will be made available to the ICA, but these must flow back to New Delhi to implement the programme. In a sense therefore these are tied funds to support South-East Asian Agricultural Cooperatives. I would like to conclude by saying that the ICA RO should continue as part and parcel of the ICA organisation.

As far the setting up of specialised committees is concerned, there has been a proposal to set up the office of the Trade Sub-Committee for South-East Asia in KL. Now our understanding is the following ; that the KL office will be set up under the Regional Office in South-East Asia - to take care of the technical procedures or processes involved...So we are giving our agreement to the setting up of this office in KL only on the kind of structure that I just outlined. So please do understand that this is the way we are regarding this decision."

04.12 Mr. S. Fukuda : "I have a few questions : (i) Mr. Bruce Thordarson earlier explained the budget and I believe the budget pertains to the fundamental essence of this problem. Therefore I would like to hear further elucidation on the budget, (ii) I believe one year ago when we were discussing this issue of reorganisation of the RO we were talking about two possible offices, one in New Delhi and another somewhere else. So how have the discussion on the division of the offices developed to this day? (iii) Are there any specific proposals of the ExSubCo to the RC? Please let us know."

04.13 President, ICA, Mr. Lars Marcus, in his intervention said : "I would repeat some of the things I said yesterday, but also elaborate a bit on them....we are mainly talking about development and development of cooperatives is a very costly business. It can never be covered by dues income. Now for many years some movements have been the mainstay and support for the ICA. That resulted in ROs. Now there is a lot of money in the world for development. It is sometimes a problem to find a right use for it....we have to help the people in the countries who are in a poor situation. Most of this money does not go to cooperative development. It goes to support programmes of many kinds. It passes from government to government. Cooperatives are a part of or a tool for such a development and there is an increasing effort made to introduce cooperative ideas for development. We believe that ICA should try to get more government money channelled from movement to movement and some of which should be channelled through the ICA because ICA can do a few things that many movements cannot do. ICA is a non-governmental organisation and comprises different kinds of movements and countries with different political backgrounds. ICA could have a say but it should not be an implementor but one organising, finding projects, attracting money etc. You have to prove that you are very good, that you do the job better than

any other organisation. Now you can go to government and say we want to pay for RO, we want you to pay for a core staff, we want you to assure that all projects will be located in New Delhi or Malaysia in future. If you try to become more efficient you have to be a bit pragmatic about your approach. It is always a risk when you try to support structures from the beginning. If you start from the thinking of now we have an RC, now we should have a RO because of that, that may be difficult. We have to prove that the way we work is most efficient. Now the decision to have a Trade Project located, where is that decision taken, how is it taken, what influence has the donor when it comes to deciding where it should be located? This is a part of the problems and I think you have to realise that your power comes from the skill, the good advice you can give. Your power comes from finding out from the region, its needs and for the RC to define what we ought to do and how to attract donors. The donors will have to go to their governments. So where the decision is made is often difficult to know for sure, because there are many links in the chain of decision making. It is not easy when you have huge development tasks, where you can discuss how to make money and where to use it. I think it is good to discuss about a development fund being created here. It is not an easy job. It is necessary to understand these matters when you discuss your power here, and where it comes from. I believe that you should be strong, try to be as firm as possible and I do not want to take away any self confidence in your attempt to organise this structure of financing development in Asia."

04.14 Mrs. Armi Zainuddin said : 'The issue that we are discussing today is a very delicate one and therefore there is a need for considerable serious thought and considerable time to discuss this matter in detail because there are still questions which need to be answered, there are still clarifications which need to be made especially on the status of the sub-office, the so-called sub-offices in the region. In addition to that I would like to note the comments given by Mr. Yamaguchi which is very important for us to think about seriously, and whatever decisions we are able to make on this restructuring of offices, we should not forget that the RO and its sub-offices should be part and parcel of the whole organisational structure. Now I have a question to ask regarding the Cooperative Trade Office in KL. There are some Councillors who are not aware about this and therefore there is some confusion to that effect. There is the same confusion regarding the financing of the office. It was said that the local cooperatives in the country where this office is to be located would have to finance the operational costs of the office. If this is so, I think, this has to be clarified to the Councillors. We have to decide on our role, on our effectiveness as RCs vis-a-vis the office and the development in the region. If we are really effective we could influence the development of the movements in the region and therefore the question of the amendment of the constitution may not be necessary at all. I may be wrong, but we have to analyse ourselves here whether we have done our role in accordance to what we are supposed to and if we have not how shall we improve on it, how can we be more effective, so that our contribution can

influence the development in the region. I agree, for all purposes and intents, with Mr. Yamaguchi that the RO and its sub offices should be part and parcel of the whole ICA organisational structure because the establishment of the branches comes from the Headquarters and we should maintain that, and the aspect of our solidarity should not be questioned, as solidarity there must be in the cooperative movement as a whole.

04.15 Mr. Yahya Suryanegara : "I was little bit confused and surprised because suddenly in the meeting there was a kind of impression that ideas were arising in our midst to separate the RO from the HO. This has never been discussed before, not in KL, not in Bangkok, not in New Delhi. What we are talking about is the effectiveness of RO - based on common interests and common problems. In that context we were thinking whether it is more effective to have more and more ROO. At that stage, KL was mentioned, so that that office will be more effective. It would focus on common problems and common interests where several Asian countries will be sitting there and discussing these common interests and problems. The idea is to help the effectiveness of the organisation - the ICA organisation as a whole - to be more effective internationally. Secondly, we were thinking about communication. We were thinking that communication also may be one of the problems as to why the RO was felt as not too effective and all these discussions was raised in our best intentions after the evaluation on the existence of the ICA RO for 25 years. There was no idea of separating RO from the HO. The second problem that has been raised is about funding. I think this is quite a separate problem from the first one. The first one was how to make a RO more effective. Separation was never on the cards. This is not very healthy and nobody wants to separate this. There is a what is called the solidarity of the organisation, we are speaking of the ICA as one organisation. I hope that this issue of separation will not spread. It is not healthy. The second question, the question of effectiveness and efficiency is of more importance compared to the funding problems. Then I think we can decide to have one office. The idea is not to have two offices. We do not want to separate the activities from the ICA central office. I was surprised to hear our host today from Japan telling that they have contributed so much to the central office, and that they want the bigger part of the money to go back to Asia. Why this kind of issue was raised in this meeting? To my understanding it should be raised at the Central Committee Meeting in Europe because Japan is also a member of the Executive Committee. So it should be decided there."

04.16 The Chairman said : "We are probably still discussing from different premises, still not coming to a meeting point simply because we are not still very thorough on the issue involved. We have mixed it up with many other issues and so a bit of confusion exists. For the time being I think let us come down to certain conclusions arising from what Bruce Thordarson has already stated and then in the meantime let me reply to some of the queries that have been raised before I pass on to Bruce and also to the president if he wants to make further elaborations.

I follow what my friend Fukuda and Yamaguchi raised, and Yahya has raised a question on this. We have to be careful with these kind of things. When we become a member of an organisation, we accept the objects of the organisation. To attain the objectives we may have to make certain contributions. We do not make any condition on the subscription that is made. How the funds are to be used and whether we must have a greater say in the management and the running of the ICA itself...I think to say that funds should come back to us is an issue that we have to consider and discuss at a different level. It will not seem reasonable to say that the subscription should go back to a particular region. The responsibility would be to maintain an ICA office, as effective and efficient as possible. In this whole issue we cannot take a very narrow approach and temper the sentiments of various kinds as we are all interested in development. The main reason for a RO is right from the first day it was meant for development. The ICA is a body for solidarity of the international cooperative movement.

Now Mr. Fukuda raised three questions, one on budget, two possible offices and was there any specific proposal from the EXSubCo yesterday. I will answer the last two. The EXSubCo has agreed with the proposal made by Mr. Thordarson that we have a RO in New Delhi, and the Cooptrade Office in KL and this we have for about a year and see how things develop before any discussion or decisions about expanding or elaborating on various other activities in other parts of the region. That was basically what was said and this is the consensus because if we go on discussing this we are not going to come to any conclusion and we would like to see something happening and best thing is to accept this as it was said.

As regards two possible Regional Offices - after decisions were taken in New Delhi there was confusion over the terms solidarity - the term solidarity meant one office, one council and one Asian region. There was some confusion. What happened in ICA Executive and at the Secretariat level was not followed through in the decision that was taken in New Delhi.

As regards the Cooptrade Office issue which was raised by Armi - this project is wholly funded by the SCC, Malaysia's support for it is in various forms to facilitate and assist wherever and whenever possible and give whatever it can and it has worked well in that manner.

May I now come to the point that we accept the structure of a RO in New Delhi with a core staff of six and project managers and an ICA office involved in Cooptrade in KL subject to further developments as things happen. We accept this for submission to the Executive and the Central Committee and we defer any further consideration on any other matter including the Regional Development Fund until the next Council Meeting.

04.17 The President, ICA, Mr. Lars Marcus, then added : "The question was raised about the status of the office in KL. The decision

on the nomenclature is not taken by the Executive. My opinion is that we should call offices as ICA offices. For you it means that since you are Councillors representing the region this office will be under your Council, but the question of how it should cooperate with the RO in New Delhi is a question more of a practical nature. We would have to have a pragmatic approach. I do not think we should call it a "sub office".

04.18 Mr. Bruce Thordarson, Associate Director, ICA, said :
"I think it is important to point out that during the last 10 years 1975-85, the ICA HO contributed the equivalent in Sw.Fr. of 977,000 which is roughly USD 500,000. In 1985 this amount has increased drastically. The HO contributed 243,000 Sw.Fr. or over USD 100,000 and when you add up the contribution that ICA Geneva made to the 3 ROs it was approaching 40 per cent of the ICA's total subscription income. It has rapidly become clear that this is no longer sustainable for ICA and that the ICA contribution coming from HO's subscription income which is the only source of income ICA Geneva has must be reduced, if ICA is to survive. The President told the EXSubCO yesterday the hard financial facts facing the ICA.

In 1984, the ICA central deficit was 250,000 Sw.Fr., approximately Sw.Fr. 500,000 in 1985 and in 1986 the deficit may be as high as Sw.Fr. 900,000. If that trend were to continue there is no doubt that by the end of next year the ICA would be a bankrupt organisation and these are the hard financial facts with which the Executive Committee has to deal during the course of the year.

This led to a decision by the ICA Executive Committee that in 1987 the deficit must end and the budget in Geneva must be balanced. In other words, we must cut the deficit of almost 1 million Sw.Fr. to zero. This has led to substantial cost reductions in Geneva. When Mr. Beasley became Director of ICA in 1984 the staff was approximately 24 people. As of January 1, 1987, the staff in Geneva will be only 11 people. This is very much in line with the comments made by Mr. Yamaguchi yesterday that ICA must get its own house in order. At the same time however it is clear that ICA cannot in the future be regarded as a donor for development purposes as has been the case in the past.

The budget which has been given to the development programme of ICA for 1987 is as follows : It would be the amount to cover my salaries and that is all in Geneva - no secretary, no travel, nothing else. In addition there will be Sw.Fr. 10,000 available for each of the 3 ROs and that is the extent of the contribution which ICA is able to make to its development programme in 1987 if the budget has to be balanced. I think we have to be realistic and to say that in the future there is no likelihood of substantial changes from this situation. The era is over when ICA could from its subscription income be a donor.

Now we have a mandate from our Executive Committee to improve and expand the ICA's Development Programme. I think it is clear that the only way to do so is for ICA to become a generator of resources, not a contributor to resources, but a generator, a catalyst, and to some extent it has already been doing that. If you look at the financial figures during the last 10 years, 1975-85, ICA generated from the SCC 12 million Sw.fr. which was used for development in this region. In addition, as has been indicated earlier, the Japanese Government will now be contributing 400,000 USD per year to ICA for a Training Programme in Asia.

There are many organisations around the world which are interested in supporting cooperative development through an existing structure which are well administered and have the capacity to monitor, supervise and implement programmes and we feel therefore that there is great potential for ICA to mobilise substantial additional financial resources from the development agencies around the world. To summarise the situation therefore I would say that the amount coming from ICA Geneva channel must \downarrow drastically in the future, but we fully anticipate the amount which will be generated and mobilized by the efforts of the ICA will increase substantially.

As far as the RO in New Delhi itself is concerned, we have been doing some budgeting to see what can be sustained in 1987 and if you take a core staff of 6 people which I described earlier, the budget total to sustain six people is 1.6 million rupees. The key question is how to get this 1.6 million rupees. It was clear at the outset of this financial year that outside support was going to be necessary if the office was to survive. Early in the year we approached the Indian Movement to see if it might be able to cover the entire deficit which we foresee for the office. This was a large contribution we were asking of the Indian Movement at a time when they had already increased their contribution by five times and they were not responding positively to our request. That led us to the reluctant decision that there was no alternative but to sell Bonow House in New Delhi. This decision was made reluctantly by everybody in ICA who had long association with Bonow House but I must inform you that it had the full support of the SCC and the Swedish Government. They fully agreed with the assessment of the ICA Executive Committee that ICA could not be in the property owning business. We must be flexible. We must respond to opportunities as they emerge. We have now sold the building or at least there has been very firm offer which has been accepted. The buyer is the National Cooperative Development Corporation of India which sent its offer to the NCUI approximately two weeks ago and the NCUI recommended the offer to us and it was accepted by our Executive. The sale price is 22.1 million rupees which is slightly over USD 1.75 million. We are very happy with the buyer which is a member of the cooperative family in India and the building will remain within the cooperative community for use in training and development. We are happy with the sale price which is a very good price and we were delighted that the NCUI has offered to receive and maintain the ICA library. The NCUI has a library and they will be taking over the books and we hope some of the library staff as well. Finally, we are very

happy that the NCUI has offered accommodation space to the RO within their office complex in New Delhi. This is highly desirable from our point of view because the RO should of course be as close to its member as possible in a host country. The NCUI has even offered subsidised rent for the ICA and this gives a very strong position to begin operations next year. We are hoping that it will be possible for the RO to be in its new quarters by January 1st, 1987. The final development I should add is that Mr. V.P. Singh has offered to head a committee working with the RO to examine the tax implications of the sale. If we do not have tax planning it is possible that upto 50 per cent of the sale proceeds might be paid to the Government of India. We would like to avoid this depletion of the fund if possible. I hope Mr. V.P. Singh will be working with our staff to see if there is any possibility in seeking exemption either through political appeal to the government or through various other technical means. This might delay the physical sale of the building but we hope it will not delay the restructuring of the office and the move to new quarters.

Now as far as the budget for the next year is concerned - how to raise 1.6 million rupees? On an average members within the region contribute 100,000 rupees per year to the RO. The SCC contribution to administration for this year is 375,000 rupees. The Training project sponsored by the Japanese Government contains a provision for administration recovery to the implementing organisation, amounting to 350,000 rupees. As I indicated the NCUI has offered subsidised space. We estimate that the normal cost of renting space that we need for six people plus project staff would be around INR 600,000 and NCUI has agreed to provide space at approximately 1/3rd subsidy which means, for recovery purposes, we could add 200,000 to this budget. The ICA Executive Committee has promised 10,000 Sw.fr. to each RO. This is not a large amount, but is moral support. It is approximately 70,000 rupees. The shortfall will be 500,000 rupees to cover the operating costs next year. We will therefore propose that that amount be covered by the proceeds generated from the sale of the building either directly from the capital fund or interest accrued from the investment of the fund. This then could be the way by which ICA office could be sustained next year. We realise that this is going to be a difficult object to reach. It requires support from many people in many ways. We have to find ways to generate adequate funds to enable ICA to maintain its presence. If the presence is there we are confident that there will be several organisations to support project activities through the office which would be of benefit to the region.

We are planning a week long planning exercise in the New Delhi office in November this year to sit down with the RO personnel and our donor organisations, and possibly the Chairman of the RC to examine ICA's programme for next year and its budget, and, that will be also the opportunity to introduce major changes to our project activities that we wish in line with what I indicated, which we feel ICA should be taking, in order to make the biggest impact on the cooperative development in the region."

04.19 Gen Lozada, Regional Councillor for the Philippines, then intervened. "I have a couple of practical points/questions to ask Mr. Thordarson. You said that ICA should become generator of resources instead of just a donor. Have you considered the possible assistance coming from Italy, Denmark and Canada? How about USA? Do we have some investments there? ICA should engage in business investment to generate some funds."

04.20 Mr. Bruce Thordarson replied : "As far as other donors are concerned, we are already in contact with the Canadian Government about the possibility of a major programme of support to Asia through RO to strengthen the apex organisations here. We will continue these discussions with Canada. With other organisations including U.S there will be a meeting of the donors prior to the Central Committee Meeting in Basel in the hope of generating additional support. Again we know it takes time for a new organisation to come in. Already this year we see some new organisations on the horizon and we will be pursuing them actively."

04.21 The President, ICA, said : "No, we have no income generating business activities and I do not think we should engage in such. That is a very complicated area for the ICA. We are selling some posters for peace and I think these are very good posters. However that will not change the general financial situation of the ICA."

04.22 Mr. Mohd Yahya Suryanegara : "How to make ICA a catalyst? Also, what is really expected from donor countries, from us, from the cooperative movement in Asia?"

04.23 The President replied : "I expect every member organisation in each of the OECD countries to take contact with their cooperative colleagues and members in the ICA from the same country and to find out how they can support cooperative development. Such a process is already on its way. The Swedish Cooperatives have been providing development support for over 25 years. The Royal Society of Norway has been supporting the Abidjan office for 5 years. Denmark this year has started the Danish Cooperative Centre. I have met with the Foreign Minister of Italy together with cooperatives both Catholic and left wing and they have formed a joint group to take on responsibility for development in the Mediterranean area. Now we hope that this example will spread. The Japanese example is well known. The US has its own programme - USAID has direct contact with the developing countries. If we can make a good effort I think we can channel much more money to ICA activities. Sweden is only using 10 per cent of its budget for development aid through ICA and that gives ICA a very good help, but it does not solve all the problems. I expect that within the next year we could have may be one or two more, may be Finland, France. These countries have invited all the cooperative leaders to come with proposals for cooperative projects through ICA, but there was no action in France. This is the way we are trying to work from the ICA."

04.24 Open Asian Conference : The Chairman informed the meeting that there was poor response to the Open Asian Conference that had been planned. The Council decided to postpone this conference to a better time when there would be a better response.

05. Agenda Item No. 5 : Letters and Reports from non-attending members

The Secretary read out letters/telex received from non-attending members from Australia, Bangladesh, China and Sri Lanka. This was noted by the Council.

06. Agenda Item No. 6 : Confirmation of cooptation to the EXSubCo - Mr. Iwao Yamaguchi, Japan

The Council confirmed the cooptation to the EXSubCo of Mr. Iwao Yamaguchi from Japan in place of Mr. Roland Tay of Singapore.

07. Agenda Item No. 7 : Report by Regional Councillors on "Recent Changes, Trends and Developments in their Cooperative Movements"

07.01 Each Regional Councillor circulated a statement regarding recent changes, trends and developments of the cooperative movement in his country on the basis of the new proforma provided. The following countries highlighted some of the more important developments :

07.02 Mrs. Armi Zainuddin, Regional Councillor for Malaysia, highlighted the following aspects of cooperative development in Malaysia :

- i. The increasing focus on youth and in particular the school cooperative sector. There was encouraging progress in this field.
- ii. New initiatives had been made also in assisting rural community based cooperatives especially handicrafts.
- iii. There was increasing emphasis on enhancing women's involvement in cooperatives - two project proposals had been drawn up in the sector of women and small holders cooperatives - assistance was sought through IDA to support these efforts.
- iv. The Cooperative College of Malaysia had expanded and diversified their training programmes, which included also several courses for training of trainers.

07.03 Mrs. Nelia Chavez, Regional Councillor for Philippines, draw attention to the following developments :

- i. In view of the not very satisfactory experience of the cooperatives in regard to credit supply and management, a Research Study had been undertaken with a view to developing an integrated Cooperative Financing Programme. The approaches include emphasis on training for cooperative staff, extension work among members for generating savings and better credit utilisation and management.

At present 29 Rural Banks are functioning very well, in spite of many obstacles. They are now working with the Bureau of Cooperative Development.
- ii. The Cooperative Union of the Philippines (CUP) had taken the necessary initiatives to get tax exemption for the cooperatives and have been able to restore this privilege.
- iii. The CUP had set up a Task Force on Cooperative Legislation with a view to rationalising the Cooperative Legal System.

The main recommendations of the Task Force were :

- to include a clause/paragraph about cooperation in the constitution of the country.
 - consolidation of all cooperatives under one cooperative law, and
 - the establishment of a Cooperative Authority to cover all types of cooperatives.
- iv. The CUP had been able to hold the first Cooperative Congress in the Philippines and this had been quite a success.
 - v. The CUP had also completed a Multi-Sectoral Conference between the private and government sector cooperatives.
 - vi. The Philippines also endorsed the need expressed by Malaysia for ICA support for women's activities.

07.04 The President, ICA, in an intervention expressed his appreciation about the matters reported on and the progress made, but was of the view, that at a forum like the Regional Council, there should be frank and an open reporting which should include also the problems, mistakes and failures as these would serve as valuable experiences from which all could learn.

He referred to the European situation where there were many fora for discussion on cooperatives - but one suddenly find the French Cooperatives failing with many not knowing the reasons for such failure.

He emphasized that cooperatives are cooperatives in business, and one has to operate in a very highly competitive market situation and hence arises the need to take stock based on realistic assessments, facts and figures.

08. Agenda Item No. 8 : Chairman's Report to the RC

The Chairman said that the last ExSubCO Meeting in Jakarta decided to recommend the cooptation of Mr. V.P. Singh into the Executive Committee of the ICA. This had been done. He offered his congratulations and best wishes to Mr. V.P. Singh. He also said that another member from China had been coopted into the Executive. There were now four members in the Executive Committee from Asia. So representation is quite strong at this point of time. The Central Committee of the ICA would be meeting in Basel and that is where most of the discussions and policy decisions can be taken. We find that during the Central Committee Meetings very poor representation takes place from the developing countries and that is where we lose out in voicing our needs and our feelings.

09. Agenda Item No. 9 : Reports on the activities of the Specialised Committees

09.01 The Secretary informed the meeting that a document which consists of all the reports of the Specialised Committees which have been functioning for the last year had been already circulated.

09.02 On behalf of the Consumer Sub-Committee, Mr. K. Katsuo, Chairman, briefly highlighted the activities of the Sub-Committee.

The Chairman mentioned that in KL nucleus of a training centre for staff of supermarket has been established and at the base of that training centre is a small mini store which would also be used for on the job training.

09.03 On behalf of the Agricultural Sub-Committee, Gen Lozada briefly mentioned about the activities carried out by the Agricultural Committee. He was happy that the Training Programme with Japanese Government assistance was well in hand and thanked CUAC/IDACA for the initiatives they had taken in this regard.

09.04 The Secretary informed the RC that all other Committees, other than the Trade Committee, had not met, because of financial constraints. The Trade Committee was one of the more active Committees of the RC, and that they would meet once again in October in 1985. The details of that sector activity were provided in the detailed report

submitted. He informed also that an evaluation of the Trade Project was scheduled for October/November 1986 and that the general expectation was that SCC would further support this project.

He also mentioned that tentatively the Fisheries Sub-Committee was scheduled to meet in Penang, Malaysia, on 26-27 November, 1986, and the Credit and Banking Committee was also planning to meet possibly in Thailand and that the secretariat was working on these aspects.

10. Agenda Item No. 10 : Report on Regional Office Activities

The activities undertaken by the RO as reported in the documents during the year was noted by the Council.

11. Agenda Item No. 11 : Report on IDACA Activities

11.01 The information given in the agenda notes was noted by the Council.

11.02 Gen Lozada : expressed his deep appreciation and gratitude to the CUAC/IDACA for arranging for a Special Course for Strengthening of Agricultural Cooperatives Management under the collaboration between Japan and the Philippines which was scheduled to take place during October 5 to November 4. Eight out of the 13 participants were coming from the Philippines, and he was deeply grateful to CUAC/IDACA for this opportunity.

12. Agenda Item No. 12 : Plan of Activities 1986-87 - RO/IDACA

12.01 The Secretary mentioned that ICA RO activities were being programmed on the basis of needs identified and on the basis of available donor support. There are four areas in which we have donor support from the SCC for our activities. These are Agriculture, Consumer, Member Education (CEMAS/FED) and for Trade.

12.02 Re ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar for 1986, that programme was now substituted by the Japanese Government supported Training Programme for Strengthening Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia for which invitations for nominations had already been sent out and the course would commence in November in New Delhi.

12.03 He informed the meeting that the RO was working on the proposal to hold a Regional Seminar on Cooperative Dairy Development. Discussions had already been held with the NCUI in India, who would contact the NDDB soon, and the activity will take place around February/March 1987.

12.04 The RO informed the meeting that the activity provided for under the heading 'Study on Development of Rural Poor through Cooperatives' would be carried out during early 1987 and that the countries selected were the Philippines and Bangladesh.

12.05 In regard to Consumer Activities, the RD referred to the matters mentioned by Gen Lozada in regard to the Retail Management Training Courses. He emphasized that in keeping with ICA's new policy on activities, the RD would come in where the request is for resource input in situations of pilot programmes like Training of Trainers and that it was not the intention to get involved in training programmes for salesmen etc at different levels, regional or district or village level. However, the ICA would assist in the two activities planned in the Philippines.

12.06 The RD informed the meeting that the work planned under CEMAS Activities were being carried out but that there was some set back as a result of Dr. Vir being ill. However, the planned activities would be carried out.

As regards the Development Coordination Unit, perspective planning in collaboration with the member countries would be a priority area, while some training programmes on project identification and formulation would be undertaken during the year.

12.07 He also mentioned that the proposed Workshop on Prawn Breeding and Fish Farming, suggested by Thailand and Malaysia, could not be carried out for lack of funds. The activity could cost around Rupees 300,000 inclusive of airfare and board and lodging costs. If a host organisation bore a part of the board and lodging costs, then the activity cost could be reduced, but the airfare costs for around 15 participants would be around Rs.150,000/-.

The Chairman then suggested that an attempt should be made to carry out this activity on the basis of self help and mutual help and suggested that the RD should write to all members seeking their support.

12.08 Mr. K. Fujimoto, Managing Director of IDACA, in his intervention regretted that he was not able to place before the RC, the plan of activities as was customary. He said that these would be made available as soon as they were ready. He also referred to a regular annual regional programme which IDACA used to arrange for 25 Asian cooperators in collaboration with ICA and with ICA bearing part of the airfare costs. He enquired whether this could should be continued and whether ICA would be able to support part of the airfare costs. The RC was of the view that the course should be continued and that ICA should explore the possibility of getting funding from SCC to support this activity. It was also decided that each member organisation would examine their own possibilities to bear part of this cost. This programme would be in addition to the already mentioned Japanese Government supported Training Programme. Mr. Fujimoto informed the RC that the Japanese sponsored Thailand Agricultural Cooperative Programme was well on its way. He informed the meeting also that the next IDACA Reunion would be in Malaysia in early 1987. Gen Lozada expressed the hope that an IDACA Reunion Programme would be held in the Philippines very early

13. Agenda Item No. 13 : New Proposals (i) Regional Mutual Assistance Revolving Fund, (ii) Data Bank at ICA RO, (iii) Study Mission on NCOs, (iv) Working Group on Tourism, (v) "Hall of Honour", (vi) Role of RC and ExSubCo.

13.01 Regional Mutual Assistance Revolving Fund

The Secretary briefly outlined the ideas behind the setting up of this fund which had developed over about two or three years. The main idea was that this fund would be a continuing fund in the ICA RO, with which member organisations which had difficulties in supporting the travel of their delegates to important meetings/seminars etc. would be supported. He informed the meeting that the RO had got the consent of the HO to keep this fund on a continuing basis, thus obviating the need to close the books in this regard as at 30th June or 31st December - but that now it could be carried over into the next year. The fund was initiated with the generous contribution made by the Malaysian Cooperatives in a sum of M\$ 7500/- and the balance now stood around USD 2,000/-.

The RC after a brief discussion agreed that the fund was very useful and all members should come forward to support the fund. It was agreed that where necessary discussions would be held in the home situation with concerned persons and that all member organisations would do their best to support the fund.

13.02 Data Bank at ICA RO

The Secretary gave some detail about the proposal to set up a Data Bank at RO. The idea emerged from the discussions held at the recently held Agricultural Committee meeting in Bangkok. Since then the RO had written to all member organisations to ascertain the present situation in each country about data collection and collation. However, the response had been poor.

The overall general situation was that in most countries data relating to cooperatives were collected and collated by the respective Government Departments, but there were very few cooperative organisations themselves collecting data. It was also found that very often the data available was at least 2 or 3 years old. While admitting the need for ICA, both at HO and RO levels to be the best source of information about cooperatives, it was recognised that the ICA would have to depend on the information base, set up and maintained at the level of the member affiliates, and unless this information base and the attendant infrastructure to support such information base were available, the setting up of a Data Bank at ICA HO or RO level would not be meaningful. It was also mentioned that the ROO now through their perspective planning exercises were updating their information base in respect of member countries. However, if the idea of a Data Bank was accepted, then the RO should approach it on a Project Basis, with

adequate funding from various sources, and building up the national base in 3 or 4 selected countries in the first instance. The RC having considered the proposal in detail was of the view that each member country should focus more attention on data collection and collation and that the idea of setting up a Data Bank at the RC level be postponed for the present.

13.03 Study Mission on NCDs

The Secretary drew attention of the RC to Annex 7 of the Agenda Notes which contained the proposal made by Gen Lozada of the Philippines. The study as proposed would be of use to all member countries. The RC agreed that the study would be useful. The Associate Director undertook to discuss the possibility of support to this project from the Canadian Cooperatives.

13.04 Working Group on Tourism

The RC approved the integration of the Working Group on Tourism of the RC with the Specialised Committee on Trade & Industry as an interim measure.

13.05 "Hall of Honour"

The Chairman introduced the idea to the RC and explained that there was a need to have some form of recognising the outstanding services rendered by individuals to Cooperative Development effort in the Region. He mentioned that the Regional Council would be the best constituted body to make such awards. The RC was in agreement with the proposal and suggested that suitable guidelines be framed and be submitted to the next ExSubCo meeting.

13.06 Role of RC and ExSubCo

This item had already been discussed in detail by the RC.

In discussing the above matters under Agenda Item 13 Mr. Fukuda was of the view that more detailed information about the proposals should be submitted to the Councillors to enable them to come prepared for discussion. This observation was noted with appreciation.

14. Agenda Item No. 14 : Relations with Member Organisations in the Region

The information given in the agenda notes was noted.

15. Agenda Item No. 15 : Relations with International Organisations

The information given in the agenda notes was noted.

The Chairman asked as to what happened to the seminar to be held in collaboration with the FAO.

The Secretary informed that there was a communication from APRACA saying that they have had some problems of funding and they have suggested that the whole idea of the joint meeting that was discussed be put off till they are able to discuss with their bureaucracy, little indefinite at the moment.

Chairman : I have been approached by the International Organisation of Consumers Unions (IOCU) and they would like to have a Consumer Protection Guidelines Policy Workshop in conjunction with cooperative organisations/consumer cooperatives in particular. So in my discussions I have said that we would be prepared to consider and work together with this Union subject to further details to be arrived at. They would like to organise a regional seminar on this subject and they believe and accept that cooperative organisations should be supported and guided also in some manner by the consumer unions. I would refer this to RO and further correspondence would take with the RO.

16. Agenda Item No. 16 : Venue and Date of the next meeting

Two venues were proposed at the meeting namely Pakistan and Singapore. As Pakistan would not be able to host the next meeting, Singapore was approached. The representative from Singapore, Mr. Aloysius Teo, mentioned that Singapore would give the matter due consideration if further details could be given.

17.01 Mr. Fukuda : We have been expanding our scope of activities in the consumer cooperative sector. However, the private retail shops and the oil companies have opposed the consumer cooperatives from over 10 years ago and the Labour Democratic Party applied brakes on our expansion. Consumer Cooperatives in Japan are widely supported by the entire community and we are expanding. We are engaged in a wide scope of activities to improve our services further. We held a rally of 14,000 people on April 8. At that time we were privileged to have a message of support from the ICA Central Committee and from others. I believe it is irrational to oppose the expansion of consumer cooperatives. Therefore I would like to ask for the kind support of the RC in this regard. The President, Mr. Marcus, has already voiced his kind support to us through a message and continues to do whatever he can to help as ICA President. I would ask every one here in the RC also to give us their support as well.

Chairman : We pass a resolution supporting the JCCU and that the resolution be drafted by the Secretary and forwarded

to the relevant authorities on behalf of this RC that represents the Asian Cooperative Movement.

17.02 Mr. Riazuddin Ahmed, Councillor from Pakistan, wanted to know whether the timing of the RC could be adjusted. The need arose because, a few weeks after the RC Meeting, the Central Committee Meeting came up and this sometimes caused problems, both in regard to being out once again, and also in regard to finances. If the time gap was larger, then it would be more advantageous. The Chairman agreed to look into this and do what was best.

17.03 The Chairman then mentioned that it had been brought to his notice that the Regional Director, Mr. Rajaguru, would be leaving the services of the ICA around June 1987 and that he would like to use this opportunity to express his thanks and the thanks of the Regional Council for the services rendered by Mr. Rajaguru.

He said : "I think he has become a very well known personality and sometimes when you talk of the New Delhi office you talk of Rajaguru. He has become a symbol of the RC for Asia. Much has been said about him, much will be said about him. He has a wealth of experience that we would still like to tap though he may not continue with us in this direct manner. One of the things that we did discuss was how to get all that information, knowledge and experience that Mr. Rajaguru possesses. He is like a walking cooperative encyclopedia in this region. So we must extract that from him. One of the suggestions was that we should ask him to write a book or commission him to write a book on all the various experiences particularly of the various regions that many of us have not had access to. I think each of you share this view about him. He is one person who knows every other leader in this region."

He expressed the hope that Mr. Rajaguru would continue to be in contact with the cooperators in the region and assist in cooperative development. He added : "I think this Council should pass a resolution and record that a scroll be presented to him for his services and may be he should be the first to be considered for the hall of honour. Let me on my own behalf and on behalf of this Council express our very deep and sincere appreciation to you and wish you the best in the future and that you have a long and happy future."

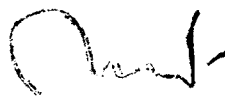
Mr. Rajaguru in his response thanked the Chairman, RC and the Regional Councillors for the very kind sentiments expressed and for their appreciation of his work. He said that he was happy that the ICA gave him an opportunity to get to know better the cooperatives in Asia and also elsewhere. It had been a challenging and a soul satisfying experience for him. He was very grateful for all the courtesies shown and the tremendous support he had from the Regional Councillors, various cooperative leaders, both non-governmental and governmental, and above all, the fact that he could count them as

: 30 :

friends worldwide. While thanking the Chairman and the Regional Councillors for their appreciation of his work, he wished the RC all success for the future.

He took the opportunity also to thank the CUAC/IDACA and the Japanese Cooperatives for hosting the Regional Council and for the excellent arrangements made and the facilities and hospitality extended.

The meeting then concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



New Delhi
17 October, 1986

R.B. Rajaguru
Secretary - ICA Regional Council

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VOTE OF CONDOLENCE

The Regional Council for South-East Asia at its 28th Meeting held in IDACA, Tokyo, Japan, on the 8th of September 1986 expressed its deep shock and sorrow at the sad and sudden demise of Mr. Ellie Anangisye, ICA's Regional Director for East, Central and southern Africa, who was a very dear friend, a committed cooperator and a dynamic leader, who was able in his short time as Regional Director to win the confidence and trust of all those whom he came into contact with.

The meeting deplored this irreparable loss and resolved that the heartfelt condolences of the Councillors and the cooperators in Asia be conveyed to members of the bereaved family and also took the opportunity to wish them all courage and strength in this hour of need and stress.

May he attain eternal peace.

VOTE OF CONDOLENCE

The Regional Council at its 28th Meeting in IDACA, Tokyo, Japan, on the 8th September expressed its deep sorrow at the sudden demise of Mr. George Chua, Chairman of the Singapore National Cooperative Federation. The Council noted that Mr. George Chua was a dynamic leader who had committed his whole life for the betterment of the living standards of people with limited means. The Council also had looked forward with great interest to meet Mr. Chua at this particular Regional Council Meeting but unfortunately fate decided otherwise.

While deeply lamenting the sad loss the Council sought that the heartfelt condolences of the Councillors and all the cooperators in Asia be conveyed to the members of the bereaved family and also wished them courage and strength in their hour of need and stress.

May he attain eternal peace.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT TO JAPANESE CONSUMER COOPERATIVES
BY ICA'S SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGIONAL COUNCIL

The International Cooperative Alliance's Regional Council for South-East Asia at its 28th Meeting held at IDACA, Machida-shi, Tokyo, Japan, on the 8th September 1986 :

1. Congratulated the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union (JCCU) and its affiliates for the long and dedicated service rendered by them to their membership and to the general community, through a large network of primary consumer cooperatives, supermarkets and departmental stores, by providing them with a large range of quality consumer goods and services at competitive prices and by acting as a market leader and countervailing force in the highly competitive consumer retail trading sector,
2. Deeply appreciated the international role played by the JCCU and its affiliates in assisting consumer cooperatives in Asia to diversify and strengthen their efforts and services and in assisting them to work towards developing a consumer cooperative movement in their respective countries,
3. Was deeply perturbed and shocked by the news about the problems faced by the consumer cooperatives in Japan and the obstacles placed before them by institutional and other sources which sought to prevent their efforts to expand their outlets and to

increase the range of services rendered through their various shops, to their membership and the general community,

4. Unanimously resolved that the continuing efforts made by the JCCU and its affiliates to improve and expand their services, and to increase their membership and clientele, should be given the fullest support by all cooperators and all others concerned with community development and community welfare and consequently urged the government and other concerned authorities in Japan to fully support and encourage the efforts of the JCCU and its affiliates in their attempts to better serve the interests of the Japanese consumer, and

5. pledged their whole hearted solidarity and support to the JCCU and its affiliates in their continuing struggle in the field of consumer cooperative activity.

R.B. Rajaguru
Secretary - Regional Council
Regional Director, ICA RO

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AGENDA NOTES

*ICA Council
for South-East Asia*

TWENTYEIGHTH MEETING

Venue IDACA, TOKYO (JAPAN)

Dates 8TH & 9TH SEPTEMBER 1986



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

AGENDA FOR THE 28TH REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
IDACA, TOKYO (JAPAN) : 8TH & 9TH SEPT 1986

1. Welcome by host organisation
2. Introductory Remarks - Chairman, President/Director, ICA, SCC Representative, RD
3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 27th Meeting
4. Matters arising out of the Minutes
5. Letters and Reports from non-attending Members
6. Confirmation of Cooptation to the ExSubCo
- Mr. Iwao Yamaguchi, Japan.
7. Report by Regional Councillors on "Recent Changes, Trends and Developments in their Cooperative Movements"
8. Chairman's Report to the Regional Council
9. Reports on the activities of the Specialised Committees
10. Report on Regional Office Activities
11. Report on IDACA Activities
12. Plan of Activities for 1986-87 - R.O
- IDACA
13. New Proposals -
 - i) Regional Mutual Assistance Revolving Fund
 - ii) Data Bank at ICA RD
 - iii) Study Mission on NCOs
 - iv) Working Group on Tourism
 - v) "Hall of Honour"
 - vi) Role of RC and ExSubCo
14. Relations with Member Organisations in the Region
15. Relations with International Organisations
16. Venue and Date of the Next Meeting
17. Any other Matter with the permission of the Chair
18. Vote of Thanks to the Chair

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Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome by host organisation

The President of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives will extend a welcome to the Councillors on behalf of the Japanese Cooperative Movement.

Agenda Item No. 2 : Introductory Remarks

- i. Remarks by the Chairman
- ii. Remarks by the President, ICA
- iii. Remarks by the Director, ICA
- iv. Remarks by SCC Representative
- v. Remarks by Regional Director

Agenda Item No. 3 : Confirmation of the Minutes of 27th Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were circulated to all the members. The minutes may be confirmed.

For minutes, please see Annex 1 to these notes.

Agenda Item No. 4 : Matters arising out of the Minutes

An upto date statement covering (i) Restructuring of the Regional Office, (ii) Sale of Bonow House, (iii) Open Asian Conference, will be made at the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 5 : Letters and Reports from non-attending members

The Secretary will table letters and reports, if any, received from Councillors who are unable to attend the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 6 : Confirmation of Cooptation to
the Executive Sub-Committee
- Mr. Iwao Yamaguchi, Japan

The Executive ~~Sub-Committee~~ decided to coopt Mr. Iwao Yamaguchi, Regional Councillor from Japan, in place of Mr. Roland Tay, Regional Councillor for Singapore, who had ceased to be a member of the Executive Sub-Committee.

The Regional Council may confirm this cooptation to the Executive Sub-Committee of the Regional Council.

Agenda Item No. 7 : Report by Regional Councillors on
"Recent Changes, Trends and
Developments in their Cooperative
Movements"

Each Regional Councillor will table a written report on the recent changes, trends and developments in their cooperative movements on the basis of the new format provided by the RO.

It is suggested that Councillors bring with them to the meeting 40 copies of the written statement for circulation.

Agenda Item No. 8 : Chairman's Report to the
Regional Council

Agenda Item No. 9 : Reports on the activities of the Specialised Committees

Please see Annex 3 for a detailed report.

Agenda Item No. 10 : Report on Regional Office Activities

Please see Annex 4.

Agenda Item No. 11 : Report on IDACA Activities

Please see Annex 5.

Agenda Item No. 12 : Plan of Activities for 1986-87 - RO - IDACA

please see Annex 6 A - ICA RO
Annex 6 B - IDACA

Agenda Item No. 13 : New Proposals - (i) Regional Mutual Assistance Revolving Fund, (ii) Data Bank at ICA RO, (iii) Study Mission on NCOs, (iv) Working Group on Tourism, (v) "Hall of Honour"

(i) Regional Mutual Assistance Revolving Fund

This proposal has been before the Regional Council for some time. The intention is that this Fund should be built up at the Regional Office level, with contributions from the member organisations in the Region. The Fund would be used for specified purposes only - e.g. to assist a member organisation with airfare support to send a delegate to attend an important meeting.

The Council may decide on the way in which the Funds are to be contributed and the use of such funds.

(ii) Data Bank at ICA RO

It is becoming increasingly necessary to have an updated Data Bank which will assist development activities.

At present each of the member countries and the respective member organisations do collect and collate data of all types, but these are not easily available to those concerned with development planning.

The idea is for a systematic data Bank to be built up at the Regional Office, with data obtained on a pre-agreed format, so that all members can have easy access to such data, and such data is easily available in development planning situations.

The ICA RO has already written to member organisations for preliminary information in this regard.

The RC would like to examine the proposal and confirm whether they feel that such a data bank would be useful to be set up at the RO.

(iii) Study Mission on NCOs

Please see Annex 7. This is a proposal made by Gen Lozada, President of the Cooperative Union of the Philippines, and he will explain this further, to enable the RC to make a decision in this regard.

(iv) Working Group on Tourism

The formation of the above working group was endorsed by the RC at its 27th Meeting in New Delhi in 1985.

There has been a ~~subsequent~~ proposal brought up at the Specialised Committee on Trade and Industry (SCTI) that this working group should form a part of, or work along with the SCTI.

There are others of the view that this should be a special focus.

The RC would like to make a final decision in this regard.

(v) "Hall of Honour"

This is a proposal by the Chairman, RC - the intention is that the Regional Council should develop a practice of identifying those who have played a significant role in supporting, developing and strengthening cooperatives in the Asian Region, and that such distinguished cooperators should be appropriately "honoured" by the Regional Council.

The Chairman RC will give more details in this regard.

If the proposal is approved by the RC, it would be necessary to work out appropriate guidelines in this regard. Perhaps a sub-committee of Regional Councillors could be set up for this purpose.

(vi) Role of RC and Executive Sub-Committee

The document in this regard was circulated by the Chairman at the 27th Meeting of the RC. A copy of the document is available at Annex 9. The Chairman will give further details at the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 14 : Relations with Member Organisations in the Region

As in the past, the RO was in constant touch with the member organisations in the region through correspondence, personal visits etc. As a result of the new approaches adopted for regional work, there have been more contacts made by way of study missions, consultancy missions, and perspective planning exercises, there is a continuing contact and a flow of information between the member countries themselves and the Regional Office and the member countries.

Agenda Item No. 15 : Relations with International Organisations

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

UN/ESCAP

- i. The Cooperative League of Thailand represented the ICA RO at the 3rd Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development held at Bangkok, Thailand, from 9th to 15th October 1985.
- ii. The Cooperative League of Thailand also represented the ICA RO at the 6th Session of the UN/ESCAP Committee on Agricultural Development, held at Bangkok, Thailand, from 1st to 7th October 1985.

ILO

The Regional Director acted as a Resource Person at the ILO Policy Makers Conference held at Colombo, Sri Lanka, from 28th February to 1st March 1986.

FAO

The National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka was requested to represent the ICA RO at the 18th FAO's Regional Conference held at Colombo, Sri Lanka, from 8th to 17th July 1986.

Close contact is being maintained between the ILO and FAO Regional Offices in Bangkok and the Regional Office.

Others

The Regional Director attended a Consultation on Innovative Approaches for Cooperative Development in Asia held by the Coady International Institute of St. Xavier's University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada, from 30th September to 11th October 1985.

Agenda Item No. 16 : Venue and Date of the next Meeting

The venue and date of the next meeting of the Regional Council will be decided at the time of the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 17 : Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

Agenda Item No. 18 : Vote of thanks to the Chair

28TH REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING, IDACA, TOKYO /JAPAN

A n n e x e s

- Annex 1 : Minutes of the 27th Meeting of the Regional Council held in New Delhi on 21-22 August 1985.
- Annex 2 : Chairman's Report
- Annex 3 : Reports on the activities of the Specialised Committees
- Annex 4 : Report on RO Activities
- Annex 5 : Report on IDACA Activities
- Annex 6 A : plan of Activities for 1986-87 - ICA RO
- 6 B : plan of Activities for 1986-87 - IDACA
- Annex 7 : Study Mission on NCOO - Document presented by Gen. Lozada, President, CUP.
- Annex 8 : Venue and Dates of Regional Council Meetings held to date.
- Annex 9 : Composition and functions of the ICA Regional Council and the Executive Sub-Committee

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TWENTYSEVENTH MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST
ASIA HELD AT NEW DELHI, INDIA, ON 21ST & 22ND AUGUST 1985

Inauguration Ceremony of the 27th Meeting
of the ICA Council for South-East Asia

1. The inauguration ceremony of the 27th Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia was held at the premises of the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) in New Delhi on 21st August 1985. The ceremonial meeting was chaired by Mr. Tapeswar Singh, President, NCUI. Besides the members of the Council, the President and Director of the ICA, there was a large and representative gathering of cooperators from the Indian Cooperative Movement who also attended the meeting. The Chief Guest was His Excellency Mr. Balram Jakhar, Speaker of Lok Sabha (Lower House of Indian Parliament). The inaugural session was also addressed by Mr. Lars Marcus, President of the ICA, Mr. Robert Beasley, Director of the ICA, Mr. R. Mathimugan, Chairman, Regional Council and Mr. Rai Singh, Chief Executive of the NCUI, who delivered the welcome address.

2 (i) Mr. R. Mathimugan, Chairman of the Regional Council in his address briefly enumerated the activities undertaken by the Regional Council and thanked the Indian cooperators for their continuing support to the Regional Office. He was of the view that there was a need to strengthen the roles played by the specialised committees of the Regional Council and also to look at the changes necessary in the Region to meet the demands of the future.

(ii) Mr. R. Beasley, Director, ICA in his address thanked the Indian Movement for the arrangements made and the hospitality extended and went on to briefly enumerate the various steps taken at the Head Office level to service the requirements of the members. Many changes had been initiated and he was confident that the ICA would be able to play a more effective role in the future.

(iii) Mr. Lars Marcus, President of the ICA, in his address thanked the Indian Movement for the hospitality and support extended and went on to outline the Policy decisions of the ICA, as endorsed by the Hamburg Congress and emphasized the need for ICA Secretariat to be better organised so that the ICA could do a better job. He briefly referred to the Danonau Programme and also the need for greater financial resources to carry out the programme effectively. He was hopeful that the Regional Council would work out useful strategies to accelerate development and to strengthen the ICA.

3. Mr. Tapeswar Singh in his address extended a very warm welcome to the Regional Councillors both to the 27th Meeting of the ICA Regional Council for South-East Asia and to the Jawaharlal Nehru Cooperative Complex. He said "The Regional Office and Education Centre also completes 25 years of its outstanding service to the cooperative movement in the Region. On behalf of the Indian Cooperative Movement, I would like to express our solidarity with the ICA on its 90th birthday and the Regional Office on its Silver Jubilee.....In fact we

we were very fortunate to have our first prime Minister the late Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru to be associated with the opening of the Regional Office and Education Centre. The late Mrs. Indira Gandhi was herself very active in voluntary organisations and when the ICA approached her to accept the Honorary Presidentship of the Regional Council, she readily agreed to this assignment and gave her support and guidance.... Outstanding cooperators like Prof. D.G. Karve, Sir V.T. Krishnamachari and Mr. B. Venkatappiah functioned as Chairmen during the most crucial early years and nurtured the Regional Office to its present stature. We were fortunate that outstanding leaders like the late Dr. Mauritz Bonow created consciousness among Swedish cooperators to assist their less advantaged brethren in the developing countries... I would be failing in my duty if I do not pay tribute to the Swedish Cooperative Movement and its leaders including Mr. Lars Marcus who fortunately is at the helm of affairs in the ICA and would guide its destiny to new heights. I am also very happy that we have as Director of the ICA a very experienced and mature cooperator from one of the world's strong cooperative movements viz. of the USA. I am sure that notwithstanding some temporary financial problems the ICA would continue to grow and would continue to render valuable service to cooperative movements all over the world and particularly in the developing countries. It is unique in the history of world organisations that the Alliance has remained united irrespective of world wars and inspite of differing political and economic systems.... I am informed that the Alliance is considering the restructuring of the Regional Office at New Delhi. It is my and the Indian Movement's firm view that this unfortunate step would ultimately weaken the unity of the Asian Cooperative Movement which has been steadily built up all these years by the good offices of the ICA RO, New Delhi. I would therefore impress upon ICA and the Regional Councillors to ensure that the existing arrangement is strengthened rather than frittered away which has been acquired after tremendous ground work and under the able guidance of such eminent cooperators like Dr. M. Bonow of Sweden, the late prof. D.G. Karve of India and the late Mr. Husumi of Japan..."

He expressed his confidence that this meeting would strengthen the solidarity of South-East Asian Cooperative Movements.

His Excellency Shri Balram Jakhar, Speaker of the Lok Sabha, in his very stimulating extempore inaugural address, exhorted the cooperators to work with commitment and dedication, if they were really concerned with cooperative development. He emphasised the need to get more and more member participation for which meaningful steps to motivate the member were necessary. He concluded by reminding the audience that without member involvement and member responsibility towards the cooperative, a cooperative can at best be only a weak institutional framework.

Mr. Kamaluddin Ahmed, Chairman of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India and a Member for India on the Regional Council proposed a vote of thanks.

MINUTES of the 27th Regional Council Meeting
held in New Delhi on 21st & 22nd August 1985

The 27th Meeting of the ICA Regional Council for South-East Asia was held at the premises of the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) on 21st and 22nd August 1985 under the Chairmanship of Mr. R. Mathimugan, Regional Councillor from Malaysia and Chairman of the Regional Council.

The following were present:

Members

1. Mr. R. Mathimugan, Chairman & Member for Malaysia
2. Mr. Quazi Abdus Salam, Member for Bangladesh
3. Mr. A.K.M. Awal, Member for Bangladesh
4. Mr. V.P. Singh, Member for India
5. Mr. Kamaluddin Ahmed, Member for India
6. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia
7. Mr. Moh. Yahya Suryanagara, Member for Indonesia
8. Mr. Shiro Futagami, Alternate Member for Japan
9. Mr. K. Katsube, Alternate Member for Japan
10. Mr. Ki Won Suh, Member for Korea
11. Mr. Wahiduddin Wahab, Alternate Member for Malaysia
12. Gen. A.S. Lozada, Member for the Philippines
13. Mr. Agustin Kilayko, Member for the Philippines
14. Mr. A.J. Hendricks, Member for Singapore
15. Mr. Roland Tay, Member for Singapore
16. Mr. M.R.B. Daswatte, Member for Sri Lanka
17. Mr. Chern Bamrungwong, Member for Thailand

Secretary : Mr. R.B. Rajaguru
Regional Director, ICA RO

ICA Hq. : 1. Mr. Lars Marcus
President
2. Mr. Robert Beasley
Director
3. Ms. Martha McCabe
Administrative Assistant to Director ICA

ICA RO : 1. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
2. Dr. D. Vir, Jt. Director (Education)
3. Mr. M.K. Puri, Jt. Director & Specialist in
Consumer Cooperation

Observers - India

1. Mr. J.B.L. Khachi, Member, Governing Council, NCUI
2. Mr. Rai Singh, IAS, Chief Executive, NCUI
3. Mr. G.K. Sharma, Managing Director, NAFED
4. Mr. Veer pal Singh, Member, Governing Council, NCUI
5. Mr. Taposhwar Singh, President, NCUI
6. Mr. Nirmal Bose, Member, Governing Council, NCUI

In attendance : Mr. Prem Kumar, personal Assistant to Regional Director,
ICA RO, New Delhi

Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome

Mr. Tapeswar Singh, president, NCUI, extended a warm welcome to the Councillors on behalf of the Indian Cooperative Movement. He said, "This meeting is very crucial, as you are going to discuss a very important subject of restructuring the ICA ROEC for South-East Asia. I have already expressed my view point on behalf of the Indian Cooperative Movement during the inaugural session. I may re-emphasize that to us ICA RO is more than a mere organisation or an administrative office. It is a forum to strengthen the solidarity of South-East Asian Cooperative Movements..... Changes in the modern world are inevitable. But changes have to be based on certain principles and ideology. We have to see whether these changes will fulfil our objective. I think even today strengthening of solidarity among South-East Asian Cooperative Movements still remains a valid objective of the ICA RO. With the implementation of the plan for restructuring, as contemplated now, I am afraid, the well defined objectives will be diluted and lost. I would therefore very keenly plead with this august body to kindly have a thorough analysis of the situation. please do not hurry on this issue. Adopt a very considerate, pragmatic and rational approach..... Another aspect to which I would like to draw the attention of this august body is that it should discuss some ways and means to strengthen the ICA RO. Let Cooperative Movements of the Region take increasing responsibility in sharing the costs of running this office. It is necessary that we should break our dependence on outside agencies. I may assure you that the Indian Cooperative Movement will do its best in this respect. The Council should evolve some concrete plan of action. Cooperatives also have to meet the challenges of the coming 21st century. I hope that this council will evolve some broad guidelines for cooperatives in this regard. I wish the council meeting every success."

Mr. R. Mathimugan, Chairman of the Regional Council, expressed his happiness that they were able to hold the 27th Regional Council Meeting in cooperative premises. He thanked the NCUI for the excellent facilities provided by the NCUI and was hopeful that meeting in cooperative premises would help them better to define the goals and objectives for cooperative development in the Region. He mentioned that that Regional Council Meeting was called well in advance of the original date which was in November, because of the need to acquaint members of the council of the decisions being made and the changes being contemplated by the Executive Committee. He would invite the president and the Director to brief the council in this regard and it would be the responsibility of the council to express its views on those matters and also to develop suitable strategies to ensure a positive approach. He referred also to impending structural and staff changes and emphasised the need to ensure that those affected were given fair and just compensation.

He extended a welcome to both the president and director of the ICA and hoped that there would be very good discussions and decisions at the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 2 : Introductory Remarks

Mr. Lars Marcus, President of the ICA, expressed his happiness to be with the leaders of the movements in the Region and went on to emphasize the role of leadership. He referred to Dr. Mauritz Bonow whose name had been mentioned several times at that meeting and went on to emphasize that he was fortunate in that he was able to carry on the great heritage bequeathed by the illustrious Bonow.

The President reiterated that the role of the leaders was an important one and that all those leaders of the various movements present should endeavour to play their roles effectively to ensure the growth of their respective movements in the Region.

Mr. Robert Beasley, Director of the ICA in his brief address appreciated the arrangements that were made for the meeting, and went on to emphasize the need for change to meet the problems of the future. He said he would be most happy if the Councillors would clearly indicate their responses to the proposals that would be made and that he was hopeful if the decisions for change could be made together.

Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, in his remarks thanked the National Cooperative Union of India and its leadership and staff for their efforts in making excellent arrangements for the meeting. He also extended a warm welcome to the Regional Councillors who notwithstanding the very short notice, had all turned up for the meeting except for Australia and Pakistan.

He also took the opportunity of thanking the president and the Director and also Ms. Martha McCabe for their presence. He hoped that the deliberations that would be undertaken during the next two days and the decisions made would help in strengthening the development of the cooperative movements in the Region.

Agenda Item No. 3 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the 26th Meeting

The Minutes of the 26th Meeting of the ICA Regional Council held on 8th November 1984 in Bangkok, Thailand, which had been circulated earlier, were confirmed with two minor corrections from Members for Bangladesh and Thailand.

The Regional Council confirmed the cooptation of Mr. V.P. Singh as an Executive Sub-Committee Member (agenda item 7(ii)).

Agenda Item No. 4 : Letters and Reports from non-attending members

The Secretary read out the letters received from the Cooperative Federation of Australia, the NACF, Korea and the Pakistan Cooperative Union regretting their inability to attend. He read out also a Telex from ANGKASA, Malaysia which nominated Mr. Wahiduddin Wahab as the alternate member for Mrs. Armi Zainuddin, Regional Councillor.

He informed the meeting also that Mr. B. Genberg, Director, SCC, had expressed his regrets at not being able to attend the Regional Council Meeting.

Agenda Item No. 5 : Report on "Recent Changes, Trends and Developments in the respective Cooperative Movements"

At the request of the Chairman, each member present made a brief statement on the recent changes, trends and developments of the cooperative movement in his country. The Chairman suggested that this item should not form part of the business meeting. A format could be sent by RO to the various member organisations, which would avoid long reports and one day before the RC meeting, these reports could be presented at a meeting for in-depth discussion.

Bangladesh

- A new Cooperative Enactment has been promulgated as an Ordinance. Among others this ordinance provides for the following:
 - All elected directors must retire after two years. Earlier it was after 3 years.
 - A director can be elected for 3 consecutive terms. After that he must be out of office for at least one year.
 - If the Government grants or guarantees a loan for more than 500,000 Tk, 1/3rd of the Board of Directors would be nominated by the Government.
 - A Cooperative Insurance Society has been formed to cover both life and general.

India

- During the year 1984-85, agricultural produce marketed was worth 25,660 million.
- The turnover of marketing cooperatives on account of marketing of produce of the farmers, supply of production requisites like chemicals and supply of essential consumer articles reached the level of Rs.54,994 million in 1983-84.
- In the seventh five year plan, attempt is being made in each state to amend the act so as to restore democratic character - a small committee has already been constituted.
- Attempts being made to consolidate the sugar sector, dairy sector, and the housing sector.
- Government gives high priority to cooperatives - cooperatives will look after the public distribution system.

Indonesia

- Indonesian Cooperative Movement had set up a joint office in collaboration with the Cooperative Business International of CLUSA.

Japan

Consumer

- The Japanese Consumer Cooperative Union (JCCU) would be collaborating with the ICA RO in hosting a Regional Seminar in Super Market Cooperatives and on University Cooperatives.
- The annual turnover of consumer cooperatives had gone upto US \$250/-.
- The membership in Consumer Cooperatives had gone upto 9 million and would increase to 10 million by end 1985.
- The role of Han group had increased considerably.
- the number of coop brand goods has increased; Coop brand goods have less chemicals, do less advertising and are relatively cheaper.
- consumer cooperatives were now establishing direct contact with Farmers' Cooperatives with a view to better understanding and collaboration.
- The consumer cooperatives sent a large number of lady cooperators to Hiroshima and Nagasaki to take part in the 40th Anniversary of Atom Bomb demonstrations and to pray for peace and no Nuclear warfare.
- UNICEF work being undertaken by the consumer cooperatives - a mission already sent to Bangladesh.
- There is increasing pressure on consumer cooperatives. The Liberal Democratic party is pressing for limiting cooperative activities to members only.
- An appeal to assist consumer cooperatives being made to all members of parliament.

Agriculture

- The Council was informed that the 17th National Congress of Agricultural Cooperators would be held in October. The Regional Councillor went on to explain the procedure adopted in these triennial congresses to ensure that the opinions of the village level ultimately reach the national level, through primary level, district and provincial level and finally national level meetings.

Rep. of Korea

- The national economy had a growth rate of 7.6% in South Korea. The NACF achieved much progress. Banking business increased by 19%. The 15th anniversary of NACF would be in 1986.

Philippines

- Serious problems faced by the cooperatives, as Tax exemption had been done away with.
- Many cooperatives becoming non-viable.
- A massive campaign being conducted by CUP to get the law rescinded.
- A National Dialogue with Assemblymen being arranged. Would request the Regional Director to participate in the Dialogue, on 16th and 17th September.

Singapore

- A new Service Society - Premier Security Cooperative Society started as a joint venture between two thrift and credit cooperatives (the police and Government Servants). $\frac{3}{4}$
- Two National Workshops to focus attention on
 - i) Towards 1990
 - ii) Youth Cooperatives.
- The SNCF has been appointed by the Registrar as an approved Auditor to provide External Audit Services to other cooperatives.

Sri Lanka

- No significant change.
- The Coconut Producers Union has commenced Export of Desiccated Coconut with the Assistance of the ICA/SCC Coop. Trade Project.

Thailand

- The number of employees in Cooperatives has gone beyond 11,000. They need security and better service conditions. The CLT is working on this.
- The rule regarding maximum subscription by members to CLT has been increased from Baht 5,000 to Baht 10,000/-.
- The bye-laws of the ACFT have been changed to enable provincial Unions to become its members.

- New water users' cooperatives are being set up in the irrigated areas - these are separate from the Agricultural Cooperatives.
- Rural Electricity Cooperatives are being set up with the support of the National Energy Authority.
- A process of restructuring^{of} agricultural cooperatives with World Bank assistance is on going.
- A "Total Development" oriented technical assistance programme is being supported by the Japanese Agricultural Cooperatives on a 1985-88 framework.
- A Revision of the existing cooperative law is under consideration.

Agenda Item No. 6 : Report from the Regional office on (i) Administration, (ii) Activities, (iii) Technical Assistance and Consultancies, (iv) Publications, Library and Clearing House Service, (v) Functions for balance period 1985-86

The information given in the agenda notes was noted.

At this stage, the Chairman handed over a contribution from the Malaysian Cooperative Movement specifically from the Cooperative Central Bank in a sum of US \$10,121.45 to the President, ICA for use in meeting the various problems faced by the Regional Office in New Delhi.

The president thanked the Chairman and appreciated this gesture.

The Chairman thereafter took up item 9 of the agenda.

Agenda Item No. 9 : Discussion on Restructuring of ICA Regional Offices and the need for greater financial support from the Region

The Chairman invited the president and the Director of the ICA to brief the meeting in regard to recent thinking and developments within the ICA.

Mr. Lars Marcus, President of the ICA, expressed his happiness in being able to attend the Regional Council Meeting. Explaining the developments, the President of the ICA said that discussions on the restructuring have been going on in the headquarters for quite some time. In this connection he mentioned that the ICA Headquarters was working on the idea of setting up a separate Development Agency which would have its own Board of Directors or Committee of Management and which committee would consist of also representatives from the various Regional Councils plus also from the ICA Executive and the ICA

Headquarters. Mr. Marcus said that several new members have joined the ICA and that the demands on the ICA were very many and that there were increasing demands for separate Regional Offices in Latin America, in the Arabic speaking regions of the Middle East and in North Africa and possibly also in Central America.

He informed the Council that most discussions on restructuring in the Executive Committee centred around the report submitted to the last ICA Congress by Mr. Yvon Dancau, Vice president of the ICA. He said that specialised committees of the ICA could be more effective to meet the demands made on the ICA by the new members.

In view of the increasing need for institutional bases for development activity he was of the view that the kind of Regional Offices that were set up several decades ago could no longer be set up and that the need was for smaller Regional Offices with a greater regional awareness which could be in closer contact with the membership than at present. In respect of Asia he said that there could possibly be two or three or four Regional Offices, but that for a start they would like to have two Regional Offices, one in New Delhi and one located at Kuala Lumpur. He informed the Council that the process of restructuring the ICA would be implemented in a period of three years.

He also mentioned the role that the Regional Councils and the Specialised Committees could play in strengthening member contact and in responding to member needs and was of the view that the time had come to establish ICA as a strong organisation capable of handling development work effectively. He added that in future the Regional Offices would be having a lighter staff structure with heavier responsibilities to the Regional Councils. He said that the restructuring suggested would have the following five proposals from ICA Headquarters on which he sought the endorsement of the Council. The proposals were (i) restructuring and reducing the size of the Regional Office in New Delhi, (ii) to implement plans which would lead to ICA not to own property or be a landlord of property and premises, (iii) to set up a new Regional Office in Kuala Lumpur, (iv) to support the concept of a new Development Agency, and (v) to advise the President and the Director in regard to the existing staff of the Regional Office in New Delhi.

The meeting was also addressed by Mr. Robert L. Beasley, Director of the ICA. He informed the meeting that due to reduction of funding from SCC sources, a review of the Budget of the ICA was done and that a study was undertaken on the restructuring of the ICA set up. The report of the study was presented to the ICA Executive Committee at its meeting in February 1985 which was followed by meetings with management consultants and Regional Directors in April/May 1985.

He emphasized the fact that there was a need for greater member involvement and member relations programmes and that he at the ICA Headquarters was working on the document which would eventually help in establishing a Development Agency with a separate Development Director in charge of development activity. A separate Development Board having representations from the Executive Committee, the Regional Councils and the donors would be formed to look after the developmental requirements of the movements. He also appealed to the Council to formally endorse the proposed restructuring.

The President and the Director explained that the proposals were considered at length at the Executive Sub-Committee of the ICA Regional Council at its meeting held on 20th August in the ICA RO premises and said that the ESC had decided to recommend the endorsement to the full Council.

The Chairman said that the SCC had indicated about four years back its intention to reduce its support to Regional Offices and the movements in the Region had not taken serious note of it. He said that it was a pity that this matter was not discussed seriously at the last two Regional Council Meetings. Now SCC's reduced support has become a reality forcing the ICA to take drastic steps to restructure its regional offices including reduction of staff. The Chairman said that though the members are not directly affected, this would affect the staff who were serving them for more than 20 years.

The Council discussed the proposals at length and felt that in view of the situations explained by the ICA authorities, the reduction of staff had become necessary. It appealed to the ICA authorities to give just and fair compensation to the staff who may be affected by the restructuring and subsequent redundancy. The Council sought more clarification as regards opening more Regional Offices.

The president of the ICA explained that it was proposed to open two or three Regional Offices for the Asian Region. The RO in Delhi would look after India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal and that another office in Kuala Lumpur may be opened to service the movements in the far east. He said that with the coming in of China and North Korea into the membership of the ICA, the Region had grown in size and two offices may serve the members better. He also said that the proposal had been discussed and approved by the ESC at its meeting held on 20th August.

There was much discussion among the Regional Councillors in regard to the proposal to divide Asia into two regions, and there was no unanimity.

The Chairman suggested that in view of the ESC decision made the previous day, perhaps the other countries not represented at the ESC could express their views.

However, notwithstanding the decision of the ESC, where India also was represented, the members for India emphasized that the unity of the Asian Cooperative Movement should not be tampered with and the split of the region should be avoided. One Regional Office, irrespective of where the office was located, should serve the entire Region and the Asian solidarity should not be damaged. In the Asian context it was premature to go for division.

The member from the Philippines was of the view that the proposal should be carefully considered before a decision was made and therefore suggested that the decision be put off for the next day.

Mr. Katsube, the alternate member for Japan was of the view that dividing the Region would be difficult. He was of the view that the new members like China and North Korea also should be consulted prior

to division. He was of the view that one main Regional Office with two sub-offices would adequately serve the needs of the Region.

The president of the ICA in^a brief intervention at this stage said that "when we discuss future regional offices and the regional structure of the ICA we must be very careful not to create too much bureaucracy. "We have to be sure that the office operates. When I hear about Head Office and sub-offices I can see some difficulties. We want to have decentralisation - it is risky to get too much dependent and to wait for answers and communications. A sub-office in Delhi is a surprising proposal".

Mr. Yahya, member for Indonesia said that he appreciated the idea of Mr. V.P. Singh for unity - that was a very good idea from the cooperative point of view. Unity was the best - Concerning efficiency, effectiveness, financial support, he said we should make decisions which would best support the Regional Office.

Mr. Salam, member for Bangladesh said that they believed in international brotherhood and in the unity of the South-East Asian /the Region. The Regional Council should be one and/same as before.

Mr. Daswatta, Regional Councillor for Sri Lanka was of the view that the unity of the movements must be maintained but that if decisions had already been made, there was no point in discussing.

Mr. Ki Won Suh, member for Korea was of the view that political relations between different countries should be analysed before taking a decision about dividing the Region. If the Region was divided, he and his organisation would find it difficult to help the whole of Asia which they were doing now.

Summing up the discussions, the Chairman said that different viewpoints had been expressed by the Regional Councillors and that the president and the director could convey these views to the Executive and make appropriate decisions.

Agenda Item No. 7 : (i) Report by Chairman, Executive Sub-Committee
(ii) Filling of vacancy in Executive Sub-Committee

(i) The Chairman explained briefly the activities undertaken by the ESC since its inauguration in Bangkok in November 1984 and draw attention to the Chairman's Report which was circulated to all present and pointed out that the ESC's focus of attention was (i) the development programmes of the ICA, (ii) its relation and impact on the region, (iii) restructuring of the Regional Offices and especially the problems arising out of such restructuring in the New Delhi office, (iv) intensified development work through existing and other Regional Offices for the Region, and (v) the role of Regional Councils/Executive Sub-Committee and the Specialised Sub-Committees and their relationships with the Headquarters and the Specialised Sub-Committees at the Headquarter level. (re 7(ii) - please see under item 3).

Agenda Item No. 8 : Report of activities of Specialised Sub-Committees

The secretaries of the specialised sub-Committees on Consumer, Agriculture, and the Chairman of the Trade sub-Committee reported to the Council the decisions and recommendations arrived at the sub-Committee meetings held in Kuala Lumpur.

Gen. Lozada, Chairman of the specialised Committee on Agriculture referred to the proposed study mission and the need for the preparation of "position papers" to facilitate the work of the study missions.

He informed the Regional Council also of the steps taken by the Committee and the RO in regard to filling the post of specialist in Agriculture in the RO.

The Secretary of the Consumer Committee informed the Regional Council that Mr. Katsuba would henceforth be the Chairman of the specialised Committee on Consumer. He informed the Regional Council also about the proposed study missions and the action taken to constitute the study team.

The Chairman of the Trade Committee mentioned that no formal meeting could be held due to poor attendance and lack of quorum but that action would be pursued to improve inter-cooperative international trade.

The Regional Councillor for Sri Lanka mentioned that the Coconut Producers Cooperative Union had with the assistance of the ICA/SCC Cooptrade project shipped a consignment of Dried Coconuts to Europe and that they were hopeful that this trade would continue.

- Agenda Item No. 10 : (i) Constitution, Scope and powers of the Regional Council and the ESC
(ii) Setting up of a Regional Development Fund, and
(iii) Setting up a working group on tourism

(i) A paper on the subject prepared by the Chairman was circulated among the members. Discussion was postponed for a future meeting.

(ii) Regional Development Fund - The Chairman mentioned that he had already had discussion with the President and the Director and had some informal discussions at the Executive Committee about the setting up of a Regional Development Fund and that the discussions had been inconclusive. However, in view of the fact that a Development Agency was being set up it was felt that possibly this was an aspect that could be taken up with the new Development Agency once it was established at ICA HQ.

The Chairman also informed the meeting of the discussions he had had while in Argentina at a meeting of the International Liaison Committee on Cooperative Thrift and Credit which maintained that each region should be setting up their own regional banks as some of the larger banks like INGEBA were not likely to be of much assistance to

the developing countries. He informed the meeting that he would pursue the matter further with the ICA Headquarters and the Executive Committee.

(iii) Working Group on Tourism - The Regional Council endorsed the view that a Working Group on Tourism should be set up. The secretariat was asked to initiate work on the formation of a Working Group.

Members felt that insurance cooperatives were strong in Malaysia, Japan and the Rep. of Korea and requests for technical assistance were received from movements in the Region. A Working Group on Cooperative Insurance, it was felt, could also be formed within the Region. This proposal was accepted by the Council.

Agenda Item No. 11 : programme of Activities for 1986-87

The Council noted that the following activities would be carried out during the year 1985-86:

- i. Regional seminar on processing of Agricultural produce by Cooperatives for increasing returns to farmers, Tokyo, Japan.
- ii. Regional seminar on Consumer Cooperation, Tokyo, Japan, and
- iii. Some activities under CEMAS.

The Council endorsed the view of the chairman that priority areas of need for the Region should be determined by the Regional Council and not by donors. The Chairman referred to the fact that, on the basis of priorities expressed by the SCC, only the specialised Committees on Agriculture, Consumer and Trade had held their meetings - the other specialised committees which had great relevance to development work in the region, viz. Fisheries, Education and Training, Credit and Banking, had not been able to hold their meetings. The Chairman mentioned that every attempt should be made to hold meetings of these specialised committees early and to work out a programme of action.

The Secretary informed the Council that there were a large number of activities which were approved by the Council in November 1984 for action in 1985-86 which would not be undertaken due to lack of funds. However, he was of the view that the Regional Councillors could indicate their priorities and that if and when funding was available, the activities would be undertaken in accordance with indicated priorities.

The Regional Council entrusted the ESC with the task of determining priorities in this regard.

Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management - The Secretary referred to the OAC which had been held regularly on a self-financing basis and inquired from the council whether the activity could be continued. The Chairman was of the view that the OAC was an important event. It enhanced solidarity and unity more than anything else. He

was of the view that the DAC should continue to be held on a regular basis as before and that the theme for the next meeting could be decided by the ESC after the Central Committee Meeting in Washington. He said that he would invite the Japanese and the Koreans for the next ESC. The main thing was to decide on a venue for the next Open Asian Conference.

The member for Sri Lanka, extended an invitation to host the next Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management some time in October 1986. The Council accepted the invitation.

The Council also decided that the programme of activities for the year 1986-87 could be finalised after the final decision on reorganisation and restructuring of the Regional Office is taken.

Agenda Item No. 12 : Relations with (i) Member organisations in the Region, (ii) International Organisations

The information given in the agenda notes was noted.

Agenda Item No. 13 : Any other matter with the ~~permission~~ permission of the chair

1. Creation of a Development Fund by the ICA
2. Problems of Finance for National Cooperative Unions

These two proposals were received by the RO from the National Cooperative Union of Pakistan. As the member for Pakistan could not attend the meeting, it was decided to put off these items.

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

The Cooperative Movement of Australia confirmed its invitation to the Regional Council to hold its 28th Meeting in Australia in 1986.

The Member for Bangladesh also extended an invitation to the Council to hold its meeting in Bangladesh. The venue was to be decided on after decisions re restructuring were finalised.

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

The Chairman in his concluding remarks drew the attention of the Council to the role that cooperative movements could play in situations of natural calamities like droughts, floods, typhoons, etc. He was of the view that this was one area which movements should be thinking about. He also mentioned the death of Mr. P. Ramaswamy, Chairman and Chief Executive of the Singapore National Cooperative Federation. The Council passed a vote of condolence.

He thanked the members of the Council for a very useful meeting and also thanked Shri Tapeshwar Singh, president, NCUI and all his colleagues and officers and also the staff of the ICA RO for their support.

--: 16 :-

Mr. Khachi, Observer from India, in responding to the t
Chairman's thanks, thanked the Regional Council for accepting the
Indian invitation to hold the 27th Meeting in New Delhi and
emphasized that India stood for the unity and integrity of Asia and
that they were hopeful that every effort would be made to maintain
the unity of Asia.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.



R.B. Rajaguru
Secretary
ICA Regional Council

New Delhi
September 25, 1985.

vn/
791/9/85

**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 East, Post Box No. 7011, New Delhi-110065, India. Telephone 63-5123, 63-5319. Telegrams "Interallia" New Delhi. Telex No. 31-61425 DICA IN.

Your ref.

Our ref.

4.10.1/4.0

June 13, 1986

TO ALL MEMBER-ORGANISATIONS IN THE REGION

Dear Cooperator:

Re : Rectification of errors - ICA RO Report on Activities 1985

We would like to draw your kind attention to page 48 Appendix F which deals with "Members of ICA Council for South East Asia 1985" and we would like you to kindly note the following change in respect of the detail appearing under Mr. R. Mathimugan, Chairman, Regional Council. Please read the statement as follows : Mr. R. Mathimugan, Chairman, Regional Council - Vice-President (Planning & Development) of the Cooperative Union of Malaysia.

Due to an oversight we have failed to include in the contents of the Report details in respect of recent changes, trends and developments in the cooperative scene in Malaysia. Please refer to item 1.2 pp 1-5 and please read the following along with the recent changes and trends in other countries :-

MALAYSIA

- Malaysian Cooperative Consumers Society Limited (MCCS) launched the first KOMART (Cooperative Market) Supermarket inviting equity participation from local level cooperatives. As at end of 1985, a total of four KOMART retail outlets consisting of supermarkets and minimarkets were in operation throughout the country.
- Cooperative Central Bank Limited (CCB) became the first cooperative financial institution in the country to introduce Automated Teller Machines (ATM) known as "Coop Teller".
- MCCS entered a new dimension in cooperative consumerism when it launched PROKOP (Product of Cooperative) brand of home electrical appliances thus becoming one of the few cooperatives in this Region to have its own brand of consumer durables.

CCB sponsored for the first time two secondary school students for a three-week summer gathering of student cooperators at the Cooperative College, Stanford Hall, Loughborough, England as it

strongly believes that the future of the cooperative movement in the country depends on the younger generation. Similarly, another two students were sponsored by the Cooperative Development Department and the Malaysian Multipurpose Cooperative Society Limited (Koperasi Serbaguna Malaysia Berhad) for this programme.

- The Federation of Housing Cooperative Society Limited (FHC) launched its first major housing project on a 38 acre site consisting of 656 units of low cost flats, medium cost houses, double storey link houses, three storey shophouses and light industrial units.
- The Cooperative Development Department has been entrusted with the responsibility of promoting and establishing District Development Cooperatives (Koperasi Pembangunan Daerah - KPD) and Cottage Industry Cooperatives (Koperasi Industri Kampung - KIK) throughout the country.

The objectives of KPDs are as follows:

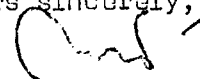
- (a) prevent the outflow of surplus from the rural sector to the urban areas and encourage reinvestment of these surpluses in economic activities in the rural sector towards stimulating further rural development;
- (b) encourage and contribute towards a more equitable distribution of income among the rural population; and
- (c) rejuvenate the spirit of 'gotong-royong' (cooperation) and stimulate entrepreneurship among the rural population..

As at end of 1985, a total of 22 KPDs were established throughout the country. An ambitious plan is afoot to establish another 58 KPDs, covering the entire 80 districts in Malaysia, within 1986.

KIKs, another brainchild of the Ministry of National and Rural Development i.e. the ministry charged with the responsibility of promoting cooperative development, are geared towards developing the cottage and handicraft industry. As at end of 1985, there were 20 KIKs throughout the country and another 12 are earmarked to be formed in 1986.

With cooperative greetings,

Yours sincerely,



R.B. Rajaguru
Regional Director

Annex 2

Chairman's Report

A statement will be made at the meeting.

.....

Annex 3

Reports on the activities of the Specialised Committees

A document will be circulated at the meeting.

ICA REGIONAL OFFICE FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Report for the period July 1985 to
June 1986

1. General

01.01 The ICA Regional Office & Education Centre for South-East Asia underwent some structural and other changes during the year as decided by the ICA Executive Committee. The office will now be the ICA Regional Office for South-East Asia. The Education Centre part has been dropped.

In its work programme the RO will now focus more on project oriented activities.

With the admission of China and the Democratic Republic of Korea to the membership of the ICA, the Regional Office now serves seventeen countries, (including Nepal and Afghanistan which are not yet ICA members). The total number of member organisations being served is now 41.

01.01.01 The main areas of emphasis of the Regional Office are as follows :

1. Agricultural Cooperative Development
2. Consumer Cooperative Development
3. Cooperative Trade Development
4. Cooperative Education and Training Development through CEMAS and FED
5. Assisting National Cooperative Organisations in identifying needs, project formulation and perspective planning.
6. Information & Member Relations Activities

01.01.02 The first four activities are carried out on the basis of projects supported by the SCC, with a Project Advisor in charge of each activity. (As yet no project advisor is available for the Agricultural Project).

The developmental assistance programme to NCOO, also supported by SCC, is coordinated by the Development Coordination Unit, which has a Regional Development Officer, and a Cooperative Development Advisor.

The information and member relations activities are serviced by the Information Unit.

The overall coordination and monitoring and control of RO activities is done through the Management Unit under the overall supervision of the Regional Director.

01.02 The Regional Council

The twenty-seventh meeting of the Regional Council for South-East Asia was held in New Delhi on the 21st and 22nd August 1985 and was attended by representatives from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The President and Director of the ICA also attended this meeting.

The main focus of the RC meeting were the proposals made by ICA Hq re the reorganisation and restructuring of Regional Offices, which entailed a reduction of staff and also the possibility of setting up more regional offices in the region. The Regional Council endorsed the proposal to reduce staff, but emphasized the need for adequate compensation being paid to the redundant staff. On the question of setting up more Regional Offices in Asia, opinions were diverse and the issue remained inconclusive.

The Council approved the following activities for 1985-86 :

- i. A Regional Seminar on Processing of Agricultural Produce by Cooperatives for Increasing Return to Farmers
- ii. A Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation
- iii. Several CEMAS/FED Workshops and Follow-up Activities
- iv. An Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management

01.03 The Executive Sub-Committee of the Regional Council

The Executive Sub-Committee met twice during the year, once on 20th August 1985 in New Delhi, immediately before the Regional

up priority plans of action.

The second meeting was held in May 1986 in Bangkok and reviewed the reports of the Study Missions carried out by the Regional Office in Malaysia and Thailand and the proposed follow up action. The Committee was of the view that further study missions should be undertaken in other countries in the region.

The Committee also expressed great satisfaction for the Japanese support in around USD 400,000 provided to the ICA to carry out an Agricultural Cooperative Training Project.

01.04.02 The Consumer Sub-Committee

The Consumer Sub-Committee met twice during the period in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in July 1985 and in May 1986 in Singapore. The Study Mission on Consumer Cooperation in Thailand and the Philippines carried out in November 1985, technical assistance to Consumer Cooperative Federation in Thailand, technical assistance to selected cooperative supermarkets in India and Thailand, and consultancy services to the Cooperative Union of the Philippines for strengthening of Consumer Coop Movement in the Philippines were some of the activities carried in this field. The assistance given by the SCC, JCCU in carrying out several of the above activities were appreciated by the Committee.

01.04.03 The Sub-Committee on Inter Cooperative Trade for South-East Asia

The Sub-Committee on Inter Cooperative Trade for South-East Asia met twice, in July 1985 and March 1986. The encouraging efforts and results achieved by the Inter Coop Trade Project of the ICA based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, was noted. It was decided to carry out an evaluation of the project some time in 1986.

01.04.04 The other Sub-Committees on Cooperative Credit and Banking, Fisheries, and Education could not meet during the year due to lack of financial support from the donor agencies and inability of cooperative movements to send their representatives on a self-financing basis.

01.05 Staff

01.05.01 Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education) was assigned to the post of Regional Development Officer.

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Council Meeting and once in Jakarta, Indonesia, on the 19th and 20th June, 1986.

There have been two changes in the composition of the Executive Sub-Committee during the period - Mr. A.T. Poostie, Regional Councillor for Australia was replaced by Mr. V.P. Singh, Regional Councillor for India, and Mr. Roland Tay, Regional Councillor for Singapore was replaced by Mr. Iwao Yamaguchi from Japan.

The Executive Sub-Committee has paid special emphasis on the strengthening of the Specialised Committees of the RC and on ensuring continuing member involvement in identification of needs and perspective planning.

It has worked towards greater regional cooperation and has emphasized the need for in country surveys, setting up of a Data Bank at the RC to service the member countries, setting up of Regional Development Fund to support weak member organisations, and also the promotion of inter cooperative trade.

Another important aspect emphasized by the Executive Sub-Committee was the need for greater self reliance in the region, and the proposed Regional Development Fund will greatly help progress in this direction.

An ongoing concern of the Executive Sub-Committee has been its very role and the role of the Regional Councils and it is the expressed view of the Executive Sub-Committee that if there is to be greater involvement and a move towards greater self reliance, there is a need for the Executive Sub-Committee and the Regional Council to have a role which is not merely advisory.

01.04 Specialised Sub-Committees

01.04.01 The Specialised Sub-Committee for Agriculture

The Committee has held two meetings during the period under review.

The first meeting was held in Kuala Lumpur in July 1985 - and was mainly concerned with identifying needs of member countries and in drawing

Mr. Sten Dahl joined the services of the ICA RO as Cooperative Development Advisor.

Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (Publications & Public Relations) left the services of the ICA in early July 1985.

Dr. Daman Prakash was released on no-pay to work with an ILO Project in Indonesia.

01.05.02 The following twelve staff members were declared redundant effective 1st April, 1986 :

Dr. Daman Prakash, Education Officer
Mr. Ashok Kandhari, Personal Secretary
Mr. Gurcharan Singh, Personal Secretary
Mr. Vinay Nagpal, Personal Secretary
Mr. Balam Singh, Receptionist/Census Assistant
Mr. Sri Ram, Accounts Assistant
Mrs. Anjali Adhikari, Typist
Mr. Jawahar Lal, Peon
Mr. Ramesh Parmar, Peon
Mr. P.S. Negi, Driver
Mr. Rama Shanker, Attendant/Watchman
Mr. H.D. Pandey, Cook

We wish to record with high appreciation the loyal and dedicated services they have rendered during their services with the ICA.

02. Activities Completed During the Year

02.01 The newly set up DCU has assisted India and Thailand in formulating projects in the fields of Fisheries and Dairy Development.

Several other project proposals received in the RO have been processed and efforts are being made through ICA Hq and the RO to locate donors.

The DCU also prepared new formats for quarterly and half yearly reporting, as also for project formulation.

02.02 Activities completed in the field of agricultural cooperation in the year are :

02.02.01 A Regional Seminar on Agro-Processing held in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural cooperatives and the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA) in Japan from 26th August to 14 September 1985, for eighteen participants from eight countries. Action plans for development of agro-processing in their

respective countries were formulated by the participants.

02.02.02 An ICA Study Mission on Perspective and Project Planning for agricultural cooperative sector in Malaysia and Thailand was carried out : in Malaysia from 13th to 27th April 1986 and in Thailand from 28th April to 9th May 1986.

In Malaysia, the Mission focussed its attention towards the needs of small paddy farmers and the role of farmers associations while in Thailand special attention was paid to the needs of small farmers and the dairying sector.

The representatives of the Thai and Malaysian movements in the Agricultural Sub-committee appreciated the study mission's work in their intervention during the meeting.

02.03 Consumer Cooperative Development Project

Activities carried out were :

02.03.01 A Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation held in Japan in collaboration with the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union and the National Federation of University Cooperatives Association of Japan from 20th August to 10th September 1985, attended by 22 participants from eight member countries. The seminar was divided into two groups - one group studied supermarket operations in Japan while the other studied the working of the university coops in Japan.

02.03.02 A note on the working of the Sub-committee and the activities undertaken was presented to the main Consumer Committee meeting held in Washington on 12th October 1985.

02.03.03 A Study Mission to identify areas and activities needing external assistance for further development of consumer cooperative movements in Thailand and the Philippines was carried out from 3rd to 10th November 1985 in Thailand and from 11th to 17th November 1985 in the Philippines. The report of the Study Team together with its recommendations was supplied to the ICA, SCC and member movements in Thailand and the Philippines. The members from these two countries appreciated the efforts of the Team Members.

02.03.04 A Study Mission to Malaysia and Singapore was carried out from 12th to 26th March in Singapore and from 27th to 30th March 1986. The report of this has been submitted to the SCC, ICA and the member organisations in the two countries.

02.03.05 The RO assisted the Indian Consumer Cooperative Federation in a seminar held in Madras, India, from 24th to 26th October 1985 which examined the lessons learnt from the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Movement and their application to the Indian situations.

02.03.06 A note on the objectives and activities of the ICA Sub-committee on Consumer Cooperation was presented by its Chairman, Mr. K. Katsube (Japan) to the joint meeting of the ICA Consumer and Women Committees held in Japan from 10th to 15th April 1986.

02.03.07 Consultancy services were provided by the project adviser to the Nakorn Swan Consumers Cooperative and Chiangmai Cooperative Supermarket in Thailand and the National Consumers Cooperative Federation of Thailand. The consultancy included the reorganisation of grocery shop into a supermarket and in the areas of inventory control and financial management and for developing efficiency norms.

02.04 Cooptrade Project

02.04.01 Out of the sixteen identified project areas for commodity export three have so far succeeded in exporting. Rattan furniture from cooperative (Philippines) to non-cooperative (Denmark), desiccated coconut from cooperatives in Sri Lanka to non-cooperative importer in France, export to rice from cooperatives (Thailand) to cooperative importer in Singapore; the total value of business transactions exceeded US\$1 million during the year.

02.04.02 Cooptrade Project has been active in seven countries in the region. Several missions were carried out in these countries, viz. India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines.

During the first quarter of 1986, the project carried out the second phase of a consultancy programme for the Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Thailand.

Follow-up, planning and consultancy preparation mission were undertaken in the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Penang (Malaysia) and Singapore during the first quarter.

02.04.03 Recently an order for 1 MT coriander seed from MCCS Trading Division, Malaysia, was placed with the Maharashtra Cooperative Marketing Federation, India, through the initiative of the Cooptrade Project. This would be first coop trade in spices under the Cooptrade Project.

02.04.04 The Sri Lanka Coconut Union has exported 36 containers of dedicated coconut to France, 20000 units of fresh coconuts to Mauritius, 4000 metric tons of copra poonac to West Germany, totalling a value of \$700,000. Coconut union would become a leading exporter of coconut products in Sri Lanka provided their international division is reorganised and strengthened.

02.04.05 1500 metric tons of rice have been exported by the Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Thailand to Hong Kong and Singapore. Efforts are being made to export rice to the Middle East and to Malaysia and also other commodities, like coffee and beans.

02.04.06 The Malaysian Consumer Cooperative Society (MCCS) Trading Division was assisted to develop a furniture programme based on rubber wood both for local markets and export.

02.04.07 A sample of knit-wear from cooperatives in Indonesia has been sent to KF, Sweden to explore the possibility of export. Similarly export of ready made garments (shirts) are under discussion with MCCS, Malaysia.

02.04.08 An evaluation of the Cooptrade Project would be undertaken during the course of 1986.

02.05 Coop Education Project (CEMAS)

02.05.01 Field Education Development (FED) Approaches.

The strategy for carrying out CEMAS FED approaches in the region was changed during the year to overcome shortcomings in the previous approaches. The present strategy is based on a project approach in each country rather than on the macro approach relied on earlier where the strategy involved the training of trainers with the hope that the trained trainers will translate and adapt the material and then proceed to training field workers.

The new strategy includes (a) a FED Introductory Meeting of policy makers and functionaries who are informed of the methodology and the potential, (ii) the acceptance of the member country concerned of the translation of the material, (iii) selection of local trainers and field workers from selected societies for the workshop, (iv) getting local resource persons to assist in workshop (v) approaching the workshop not on a consultancy or skill development approach, and (vi) a meeting of representatives and coop functionaries along with course participants to familiarise the recipient societies of the use and potential of FED Methodology.

We are hopeful that this strategy will accelerate member involvement and awareness in the short-run.

02.05.02 Three introductory meetings were held - one in Sri Lanka on 31st January, one in Nepal on 16th March and one in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on the 25th June 1986.

02.05.03 A national workshop on CEMAS Field Education Development (FED) Approach was carried out in Sri Lanka from 5th to 15th May 1986.

The ICA HQ CEMAS Review Meeting in early June was attended by the Regional Director.

02.05.04 Consultative assistance was given to the National Cooperative Development Corporation of India (NCDC) in training cooperative trainers in FED Approach and Technology from 1st to 14th August 1985 and in training cooperative education field workers in Orissa State, India, from 25th to 31st December 1985.

02.05.05 National level committees on Cooperative Education were formed in Sri Lanka, Nepal and the Philippines for follow-up and implementation of FED Approaches in selected primary cooperative societies.

FED training package was translated by the member movements in Sri Lanka and Indonesia in their local languages for use in FED workshops.

02.06 Information Unit

The activities of RO in the field of public relations and publicity; publications; library and documentation services; and the clearing house function of CEMAS, hitherto provided separately were all merged into one unit called the Information Unit which was set up in January 1986.

02.06.01 Publications/Publicity

The following publications/publicity material were brought out during the year :

1. Report on Activities, 1985.
2. ICA Regional Bulletin, April/July 1985, October 1985 issues.
3. ICA Regional Bulletin, January/April 1986 issue (in press)
4. Indian Cooperative Laws vis-a-vis Cooperative Principles by Mr. P.E. Weeraman, R.C. Dwivedi and P. Sheshadri.
5. Readingly in Agricultural Cooperative Marketing (in press).

02.06.02 Library and Documentation Services

The number of volumes including new additions to the library in 1985 reached 16,475. The number of booklets the library has at present is 6000. The library continues to do on-going activities, like help to cooperators, cooperative organisations, students and scholars in their research and reference work, accessioning, cataloguing, press clipping services, documentation of articles/material produced on cooperation in the different sectors and preparatory work connected with the documentation bulletin and bibliography of cooperative literature.

In-service training for a period of six weeks was provided to the Librarian of the Centre for Cooperative Development Training, Nepal. The programme was arranged at the request of ILO Project in Nepal.

Cooperative League of USA (CLUSA), New Delhi office, was assisted in reorganising their library.

Basic material for NAFED sponsored study on the "Indian Cooperative Movement through the Press" was provided through newspaper clipping files. Study report is to be published in volumes. Clippings maintained in the library since 1962 have provided rich resource material for the Study.

Dr. S.K. Saxena, former Director of the ICA, was provided with reference assistance for his Study of "National Cooperative Development Corporation, India, for the point of view of its relevance to other developing countries".

NAFED was provided with literature on curriculum development for their courses. Doctoral scholars registered with the library and member organisations continue to receive assistance for use of library and material reference services.

The Information Unit does not have a special approved vote for the year and works within the framework of the general establishment. However, it is likely that costs of this Unit will be covered by an unspent vote of 1984-85.

02.06.03 Public Relations

More than 500 visitors - students of post-graduate level course in Cooperation, trainees of National Centre of Cooperative Education of the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), youth leaders, delegation from Nepal, Malaysia and other cooperators - visited the Regional Office during the period and were briefed about the role and functions of the Regional Office for South-East Asia.

Several films from our Film Library were loaned to cooperative training colleges and institutions in India to support their training programmes.

03. PROJECTS

03.01 A project for Enhancing Income Generating Activities among agricultural cooperative members' housewives in Yasothon Province, Thailand, was continued to be supported by the ICA through its Cooperative Development Fund in 1985. Some support from the ILO Cooptrade Project, then based in Bangkok, was also available. The project works in close collaboration with the Cooperative League of Thailand and the Cooperative Promotion Department of Thailand. The project now covers seven agricultural cooperative areas involving over 1500 housewives. The project has been able to render some useful services to the housewives of members like improving skills in designs

and production; improving marketing situation; and supply of raw materials; making finance readily available through a Revolving Fund and providing effective means of supplementing family income; and involving women in the effective participation in the committees of agricultural cooperatives. The last evaluation done in April 1985 had indicated steady increase in family income of member housewives associated with the project.

03.02 The project on income generating activities of women members of multipurpose cooperative societies in Sri Lanka was accepted for funding by the Cooperative Union of Canada and an agreement has been entered into with the NCC for support for a year. The project has three integrated programmes to ensure employment and supplementary incomes for the families - (i) skills formation among young women needing assistance; (ii) channelling the skills developed towards income generating activities; and (iii) development of appropriate agro-based industries to utilise available skills with the concerned MPCs taking on the initiatives. The project is on-going.

04. OTHER ACTIVITIES

04.01 The Regional Office collaborated with the IDACA, Japan, in the organisation and conduct of a Re-union Meeting of former participants to IDACA seminars from Sri Lanka. Many papers were presented by the participants on the usefulness of IDACA seminars in their day to day work.

04.02 The Japanese National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations was assisted in the selection of participants from the region for their annual regional seminar on Fisheries Cooperatives held in August 22 to September 4, 1985. Participants from India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand attended the seminar.

04.03 The Regional Director attended a Consultation on Innovative Approaches for Cooperative Development in Asia held by the Coady International Institute of St. Xavier's University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada, from 30th September to 11th October 1985. Fourteen specialist consultants from six Asian countries, with diverse background took part in the Consultation. The Consultation reviewed many innovative approaches which were essentially people based with external stimulator playing the role of facilitator and also identified many roles that the coops at various levels could play in the developmental effort.

04.04 Collaboration with UN governmental agencies and non-governmental agencies functioning in the region in the field of Cooperation was continued to be maintained.

04.05 The Regional Director attended the ILO Policy Makers Conference held in Sri Lanka in the month of February 1986.

04.06 The Regional Director was requested to address the parliamentarians from the Philippines at a meeting convened by the Cooperative Union of the Philippines in Manila in September 1985 to stress the need to restore tax exemption facilities to Filipino cooperatives. As a result of the efforts made by the CUP, tax exemption facilities were restored to the cooperative recently.

05. CONCLUSION

Due to uncertainties prevailing in the ICA RO about restructuring and reorganisation and lack of budgetary support for certain activities, like the Information Unit and Women's Activities, the position with regard to some member needs still remains unfulfilled. Notwithstanding these uncertainties, the Regional Office was able to carry out most of the activities programmed and approved by the ICA Council for South-East Asia for which financial support was available.

Planning exercises on a three year perspective plan frame was carried out by the staff in consultation with the consultants from the SCC and a three year frame has now been worked out.

It is expected that one or two project activities may be located in certain other countries in the region.

Overall, it is gratifying to note that the efforts being made by the RO, the Regional Council and its specialised committees, are leading towards greater regional cooperation and solidarity, as evinced by:

- (i) the on-going support programme provided by the JCU and Nada Kobe Consumers Coop in Japan, to train annually selected persons from selected countries in supermarketing and cooperative supermarket management;
- (ii) the offer^{of} the Malaysian Cooperative Central Bank to assist Thailand and the Philippines to develop cooperative banking systems;
- (iii) the offer from the NAFED, India to Thailand to train their agricultural cooperative staff in marketing strategies, grain handling, etc.; and
- (iv) the offer to the ICA by the Japanese Agricultural Cooperatives (CUAC) and the Japanese Government to support a training programme for Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia over a possible five year period.

This indeed is a most encouraging development and it is our hope that the Regional Office will continue to play a catalytic role in strengthening cooperative performance both within the member countries as also within the region.

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International Cooperative Alliance

Contributions to the funds of RO from the member organisations

The RO is glad to report that the following member organisations have contributed the amounts mentioned against their names to the funds of the RO during the financial year 1985-86

<u>Name of the member organisations</u>	<u>Contributions paid(INR)</u>	
1. Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union, Bangladesh		9,750.00
2. Japanese Joint Committee on Cooperatives - Japan		57,669.47
3. National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, Republic of Korea		13,865.23
4. Cooperative Central Bank, Malaysia		123,307.79
- Special contribution(US\$10,121.45)	INR 121,457.40	
- plus difference in exchange rate	INR 1,850.39	
	<u>INR 123,307.79</u>	
5. ICA Members in Malaysia	INR 10,000.00	20,000.00
MCIS additional contribution	INR 10,000.00	
	<u>INR 20,000.00</u>	
6. National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka		10,000.00
	Total.....	<u>234,592.49</u>

Concessions of the Government of India

The foreign experts attached to the RO 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 for the encouragement and continuing support provided.

1. Training Programmes from June 1985 to May 1986

1) General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under the Colombo Plan

Together with ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar and Voluntary Training Courses such as Training Course for cooperators from selected countries and IDACA's Special Training Course, IDACA originally conceived this course as the core of IDACA training programmes and the most fitting of all IDACA training programmes among the government's group training programmes which were worked out as part of the government's technical cooperation with developing countries. This was discussed between CUAC and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

In this way, this course was given a definite status and came to be held regularly every year.

Since this is one of the basic training courses held at IDACA, the course aims at providing participants with an opportunity to learn Japanese experiences in the making of multi-purpose agricultural cooperative movement. Therefore, this course is not intended chiefly to upgrade participants technical skills or expertise, but rather to provide them with a general perspective on how Japanese agricultural cooperative movement as a whole is operated through offering lectures and study visits to the local primary societies.

As for the expenses necessary for implementation of the course, JICA met the costs of airfare, board and lodging, daily allowances and miscellaneous other expenses.

Period: May 22 - July 7, 1985

No. of persons 18 (mainly middle level government
who attended: officers in charge of cooperatives)

Countries that participated: 17
Brazil(2), Burma(1), Colombia(1),
Egypt(1), Fiji(1), Grenada(1),
India(1), Indonesia(1), Kenya(1),
Malaysia(1), Morocco(1), Nepal(1),
Paraguay(1), Sri Lanka(1), Sudan
(1), Tanzania(1), Thailand(1)

Place of study visit: Isshi-cho and Horie primary agri-
cultural cooperative societies
in Tokushima prefecture

Ohtawara-shi and Mookashi-Nakamura
primary agricultural cooperative
societies in Tochigi prefecture

2) 13th RECA Seminar

On the basis of the agreemtn between the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organization (AARRO) and CUAC, the RECA Seminar has been held twice in every three years since 1969 with the participation of government leaders of AARRO member countries under the theme of "The role played by agricultural cooperatives in the development of Japanese agriculture". This year the main theme of the 13th RECA Seminar is "Long term planning by coope-ratives".

Up to 1984, the RECA Seminar has been held 12 times with the participation of a total of 177 persons.

The duration of the seminar was extended to three weeks.
from this time.

Period: July 14 - August 4, 1985

No. of persons who attended: 18

Countries that participated: 15
R.O.China(1), Egypt(1), Ethiopia(1),
Ghana(1), India(2), Jordan(1),
R.O.Korea(1), Kenya(1), Libya(1),
Malaysia(1), Mauritius(1),
Philippines(1), Sudan(1), Syria(1),
PDR Yemen(1)

Place of study visit: Shiroyishi are primary agricultural
cooperative society in Saga pre-
fecture

Minamihata primary agricultural
cooperative society in Saga pre-
fecture

3) ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar

This seminar is one of the traditional seminars/courses at IDACA together with the aforementioned Colombo Plan Training Course. The institute has been carrying out the training since 1965, with a view to stepping up its ties with ICA ROEC.

Participants were selected from among member cooperatives of ICA ROEC in South-East Asian regions and the seminar lasts for three weeks and the theme in 1985 was on " Processing of Agricultural Produce by Cooperative for Increasing Returns to Farmers " .

Period:	August 26 - September 14, 1985
No. of persons who attended:	19 1 ICA ROEC secretariat
Countries that participated:	8 Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand
Place of study visit:	Azumi, Nakano-shi and Shiojiri-shi primary agricultural cooperative societies in Nagano prefecture

4) Training Course for Thais on the Agricultural Development Project

At first this course was given as orientation as a training course for officials and employees of Thai agricultural cooperatives to enable them to help develop agricultural cooperative organizations in their country and it was brought to the fore as a bilateral agricultural cooperative activity to be carried out under the Japan-Thai Maize Agreement. And IDACA was commissioned by then National Purchasing Federation of Agricultural Cooperative Associations (present Zennoh) to handle the project training course.

Later on, however, with the inauguration of the JICA assisting the project training course as an undertaking commissioned by JICA.

This course focuses on the training of people to assist in the greater development of agricultural cooperatives. Because of this, the participants are confined to rural leaders working at grass-root level. This course is seminar to the CACCC of Brazil, unique in that the lectures are given in their mother tongue, Thai. JICA bore the costs of airfares, board and lodging, daily allowances and miscellaneous other expenses. It was the last year for this course.

Period:	October 17 - November 16, 1985
No. of persons who attended:	5
Country that participated:	Thailand
Place of study visit:	Oukuma and Ichihazama primary agricultural cooperative societies in Miyagi prefecture

5) Training Course for the Cooperators from Selected Countries

It was in 1975 that the first course was started with the financial assistances from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries for the implementation of the course.

Thanks to the ministry's support, CUAC/IDACA could begin to provide a training course in the name of " Cooperation Project for Overseas Agricultural Cooperatives ", with the number of countries from which to accept participants annually confined to two, which belong to member organizations of ICA. The countries which have sent participants to IDACA so far amount to eight.

The duration of the course lasts for one month. This course is designed mainly for providing participants with an opportunity to study Japanese experiences on the overall activities, the business and management undertaken by agricultural cooperatives in Japan, thereby making experiences learned from Japanese movement fully utilize for the development of agricultural cooperative movement in the respective countries.

Period: October 17 - November 16, 1985
No. of persons who attended: 13
(The Philippines 8 India 5)
Countries that participated: 2
Place of study visit: Oukuma and Ichihazama primary agricultural cooperative societies in Miyagi prefecture

Training Course for Cooperativa Agricola de Cotia Cooperativa Central (CACCC) in Brazil

According to an agreement between CUAC and CACCC, a training programme was held in April 1985 for the duration of about 30 days at IDACA with a view to having them acquire knowledge and an idea about Japanese experiences in the making of multi-purpose agricultural cooperative movement with a special reference to organizational and business operational aspects.

The course was designed for the councillors of CACCC, officials and employees of CACCC. The number of participants was five.

CACCC bore the international airfare, while CUAC met various other expenses such as board and lodging, domestic transportation and other incidental expenses during their stay.

Period: March 30 - April 28, 1986
No. of persons who attended: 5
Country that participated: Brazil
Place of study visit: Anjo city and Higashichita primary agricultural cooperative societies in Aichi prefecture

Training Programme for National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Korea (NACF)

This is one of the memorandum training based on the agreement between NACF and CUAC.

The course was tailored for middle level employees of NACF to upgrade and enrich knowledge and experiences by studying the theories and practical implementation of the Japanese agricultural cooperative movement.

The theme of the course was "The Regional Agricultural Cooperative Development" and participants learned how it is being evolved in Japan, especially on ways to draw up and implement the promotion plan. NACF met the costs of direct expenses related to the training such as board & lodging and travel expenses during study visit for participants, while incidental expenses such as lecturer's allowances, other miscellaneous expenses during the seminar were borne by the Japanese organization concerned.

Period:	April 6 - 17, 1986
No. of persons who attended:	11 employees of NACF middle level cadre
Country that participated:	Rep. of Korea
Place of study visit:	Kumihama-cho and Ayabe-shi and Kameoka-shi primary agricultural cooperative societies in Kyoto prefecture

8) Follow-up and Re-union Programme of IDACA

The 9th Reunion took place in Sri Lanka for two weeks from Jan. 18 to 31, 1986. The reunion was sponsored jointly by the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka and CUAC/IDACA in collaboration with ICA ROEC.

The meetings were held in Colombo and Kandy and attended by 34 ex-participants.

The objectives of the reunion were as follows;

- (1) To evaluate and grasp whether the courses/seminars at IDACA have been relevant to their needs or not by hearing from the former participants, thereby making the future programmes of the IDACA training further improved.

- (2) To know how the experiences gained from Japanese movement have been utilized in the country.
- (3) To identify the problems they are faced with in promoting the cooperative movement and to exchange views for the solution of the problems.
- (4) To see how and under what circumstances they are engaged in their works by visiting their working places.
- (5) To get them acquainted with the latest development in the agricultural cooperative movement in Japan.
- (6) Last but not least, to refresh the friendship and mutual understandings between Japan and respective countries in the field of agricultural cooperative movement.

Some Other Noteworthy Information

Publication of IDACA News

IDACA News is published twice a year in order to keep closer contact with ex-participants, alumni association and so on in the overseas countries.

The news is circulated directly to about 2,200 people who participated in the training at IDACA.

IDACA News No. 38, No. 39 were published.

Agenda Item No. 12: Plan of Activities for 1986-87 - ICA RO

TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAMME FOR JULY 1986 - JUNE 1987

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INTRODUCTION

This work programme for 1986-87 represents the outcome of a planning exercise by the Regional Office staff assisted by two ICA/SCC Consultants. The plans are to a large extent based on priorities drawn up by the Regional Council and by the specialised Technical Sub-committees. They also reflect the decision taken by the ICA with regard to the orientation, structure and financing of the regional activities.

Less emphasis than in earlier years has been put on regional training activities. Instead the programme focuses on activities aimed at assisting members in project identification and formulation and on consultancy and other technical support to cooperatives in the region.

I. AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Objectives

The objectives of the ICA support to the agricultural cooperative sector are :

- to initiate agricultural coop development projects in member countries in the region in accordance with the specific needs of each country;
- to strengthen primary cooperatives to provide marketing, inputs supply, seasonal credit, farm guidance and processing services to small-scale farmers;
- to establish/strengthen linkages between primaries and their federations (and promote establishment of such federations in countries where they don't exist) in order to create a structure for development support to primary societies; and
- to review and make recommendations to government authorities on policy issues in order to create a policy environment conducive to the development of farmers' cooperatives, e.g. with regard to agricultural policy and marketing, the role of cooperatives in promoting agricultural development, etc.

Organisation

Since the beginning of the 1985-86 financial year, the Agricultural Project has been without the support of a Regional Agricultural Officer. The Regional Office will take contacts with the member organisations in the region with the view to soliciting personnel and financial assistance for the agricultural project. For the purpose of this plan, it is assumed that an expert from one of the movements in the region will be available with effect from 1st October 1986.

plans for 1986-87

1. perspective planning

The perspective planning exercise will be carried out in two countries which have prepared and sent position papers to the Regional Office. It is proposed to select the two countries from among Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Thailand. The perspective planning exercise would cover fact findings on pertinent cooperative aspects including government and movement policies, structures, management, scope of activities and future potentials, and based on that, recommendations of policies for the purpose of removing obstacles and facilitating cooperative growth. The exercise would also outline specific feasible project proposals.

Every effort would be made to coordinate with ongoing and future development projects financed from other sources.

2. Regional Training Course on Coop Dairy Development

The objective of the Course is to study the success of AMUL Dairy Scheme in India and to consider ways of developing cooperative dairying for the purpose of increasing milk production and farmers' incomes in the Region. The participants (about 20) will be managers of coop dairies in the Region. The main objective will be to define the problems and suggest solutions pertaining to coop dairy activities in the respective countries on which new organisational,

management and operational models could be evolved. Tentatively the venue will be Anand where AMUL Dairy is located and the course will be carried out in collaboration with the National Cooperative Union of India and with the support of the National Dairy Development Board.

3. ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar 1986

It is proposed to organise the above seminar from 29th July to 9th August 1986 in Tokyo, Japan. About 20 participants from agricultural cooperatives in the region will be selected to participate in the seminar. The theme of the seminar will be "Measures for Strengthening Bases of Organisation and Business in Primary Agricultural Cooperatives".

The programme will concentrate on study of experiences of organising members' organisations in agricultural cooperatives in Japan for the purpose of improving farm management, better living and recreation activities for members as well as land improvement and water utilisation programmes.

Field studies will also be arranged.

4. Development of Rural Poor Through Cooperatives

The need for establishing an approach to improve the income and standard of living of small and poor farm families through cooperatives has been emphasised by the sub-committee on Agriculture.

One country in the region will be assisted in formulating two projects for cooperative agricultural production, processing and marketing.

It is also planned to assist a member organisation in another country to study two selected areas for the purpose of formulating income-generating coop projects for small-farm families. The intention is to focus such coop efforts on local resources and materials as well as keeping in mind the roles of women and youth in such projects. Subject to the concurrence of the member organisation it is proposed to carry out the above exercise in Pakistan and Malaysia respectively.

5. Promotion of Dairy Cooperatives

A consultancy in-depth study on Coop Dairy Development will be carried out in Thailand. The aim is to produce a concrete project plan for cooperative dairy development in accordance with the priorities determined during the study.

6. Meeting of the Sub-committee on Agriculture

The Sub-committee will meet to review progress of the Agriculture Project, to draw up priorities and plans for future development of agricultural cooperatives and to promote regional cooperation among agric. cooperative movements in the Region.

7. Agricultural Expert

Member organisations in the Region will be approached to secure the services of an Agricultural Expert from one of the member countries and also to cover the costs of the Expert.

II. CONSUMER COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Objectives

The overall objective of the ICA support to consumer cooperatives in the region is to promote the emergence of a viable consumer cooperative structure so as to improve the retail trade services, especially to the poor segments of the population who at present are not adequately served by the existing commercial distributive trade enterprises in most member countries.

The operational objectives of the ICA support programme are :

- to provide technical assistance and training so as to improve the managerial and operational efficiency of consumer cooperatives in the region;
- to identify areas of technical and financial assistance needed by member cooperatives, to formulate consumer coop development projects and to assist in mobilising donor support for implementation of such projects;
- to promote exchange of experience and mutual support between consumer cooperatives in the region, especially between the more developed movements and those in need of support; and
- to maintain a dialogue with government authorities with the view to influencing legislative and related issues which affect the welfare of consumers and the possibilities of consumer cooperatives to operate successfully.

Plans for 1986-87

1. Assistance by the RO Consumer Specialist to the Coop Union of the Philippines for strengthening of the Consumer Cooperative Movement.

This activity will comprise a study of a few consumer coop societies in different regions of the country so as to identify areas of weakness and inadequate performance. Discussions on findings of the survey will be held with coop leaders and government officers to formulate specific recommendations for strengthening of the Movement.

2. Technical Assistance to national programmes of training in cooperative retail management in the Philippines.

The Cooperative Union of the Philippines will organise two workshops of a duration of one week each for approximately 50 senior employees of consumer cooperatives. The topic will be cooperative retail management. The ICA support will be in form of services of the RO Consumer Specialist to serve as a resource person.

3. Technical Assistance to national programmes of training to cooperative retail management in Thailand.

The Cooperative League of Thailand and the Consumer Coop Federation of Thailand will organise workshops on Cooperative Retail Management - one week each for 25 participants in Chiangmai and Bangkok. The RO Consumer Specialist will assist as a resource person.

4. Promotion and Development of Regional Warehousing in India

The activity consists of two parts : (i) On-the-job training in regional warehousing of two persons, preferably in Sweden, and (ii) appointment of a technical mission consisting of representatives of the RO, National Consumers Coop Federation and the Tamil Nadu State Federation and an external consultant with experience of the Swedish system to evaluate the operations of regional warehouses at Madras and Coimbatore.

5. Technical Assistance to training programmes in Cooperative Retail Management in India.

The RO will provide technical assistance in the form of services of their Consumer Specialist at three programmes of one week's duration each.

6. Consultancy Service to NCCF of India to improve the performance of the wholesale sector.

A team consisting of an external consultant and a representative of NCCF will undertake a study of a duration of eight weeks to study

the performance of cooperative wholesale sector. The RD Consumer Specialist will participate in crucial discussions on findings at state and national level.

7. Meeting of the Technical Sub-committee on Consumer Cooperation.

The Sub-committee will meet to review progress of the consumer project and to draw plans and priorities for future development of the sector.

III. COOPTRADE PROJECT

Objectives

The objectives of the project are summarised as follows :

- Cooptrade aims at development of true cooperatives into efficient exporters of cooperative products. This includes an understanding of the elements involved in international trade, an ability to develop products, production techniques and distribution channels in accordance with buyers' requirements, and development of long-term trade contacts;
- Cooptrade aims at initiating and contributing to organisation of coordinating functions for cooperative trade development within national apex organisations in order to streamline information and communications on trade aspects with cooperative organisations at all levels; and
- Cooptrade also aims at a recognition of cooperative exporters by coop buyers in industrialised countries which will generate an increased awareness of and interest for trade development with cooperatives in developing countries. In measurable terms, a favourable cost/benefit ratio between Cooptrade inputs and returns in terms of income generating trading activities by beneficiaries will be aimed at.

Organisation of the Project

The Cooptrade Project will continue to operate from Kuala Lumpur with a project staff of one Trade Adviser, an Assistant and a part-time Secretary.

Plans for 1986-87

More emphasis will be put on efforts aiming at establishment of national cooperative trade committees and on development of their capability to promote and manage international cooperative trade ventures in their respective countries. The ultimate objective is to equip them to take over, at the national level, the promotional activities now performed by the Cooptrade project Office. Similarly, the Regional Sub-committee on Trade and Industry will be activated in order to ensure their full involvement in drawing up the priorities for the activities of the project. The national cooperative trade committees and the members of the sub-committee should become the operational link between their respective countries and the Cooptrade Office.

1. Sub-committee on Trade and Industry

The sub-committee will meet at least once during the year to review implementation of the project and to draw priorities and plans for its future activities.

2. External consultancy Services

Cooperative producers identified to have a potential for international trade will in some cases require assistance in product development, introduction of improved quality control and production techniques, marketing, etc. External consultants may be required for that purpose. It is expected that two such consultancies will take place during 1986-87.

3. Information and Promotion Material

The Cooptrade Project will during the year publish an information brochure on its objectives and activities. A catalogue on cooperatives with an import/export potential will also be issued.

4. Establishment of joint ventures between producers in the region and importers

A number of such joint ventures are presently being explored, e.g. between KOBENA in Malaysia and CLUSA with regard to furniture making, using local timber (rubber trees) as raw material. The Cooptrade Office will prepare the initial plans for joint ventures and establish contacts between local producers and importers. Assistance by external consultants may in some cases be required for feasibility studies.

IV. COOP EDUCATION MATERIALS ADVISORY SERVICE (CEMAS)

Objectives

The main objective of CEMAS is to contribute to the improvement of materials and methods for cooperative education in developing countries with particular reference to the needs of members, committee members and staff of primary societies.

The main activity components of CEMAS are :

- The clearing house service which aims at promoting exchange of education materials and information between cooperative educators/trainers working at field level;
- production of a range of publications recommended by field workers; and
- The Field Education Development (FED) programme designed to provide coop field workers with a systematic approach to identifying and analysing performance problems in cooperatives and designing appropriate solutions.

As far as the field operations in the region are concerned, FED is the most important activity component.

plans for 1986-87

1. Introduction of FED programme and conduct of FED Workshops

The FED programme is planned to be introduced in Bangladesh and Malaysia during the year. In each country a workshop of a duration of three weeks will be conducted by the CEMAS Officer. The last week of the workshop will be aimed at discussing and drawing a plan for national implementation of FED and reviewing the needs for national adaptation of the FED Approach and Material and the procedures for modification of that material.

The workshops will be preceded by an introduction of the FED concept to cooperative policy makers in the recipient countries so as to ensure that FED and other approaches are accepted by the policy makers for national implementation.

2. Adaptation of FED Material and Production of Supplementary Material

In some cases, the FED Material as such is not applicable to the national situations and there may therefore be a need to revise and adapt some of the material. Production of supplementary material on specific issues is also necessary.

3. Follow-up Activities

In countries where FED workshops have been conducted, viz. India, Indonesia and the Philippines, the CEMAS Officer will carry out follow-up work and provide needed consultancy service in order to ensure that the national implementation is progressing as per plan. Three countries will be assisted.

4. Liaison and collaboration with other organisations and institutions.

This activity comprises introduction of CEMAS and FED by the CEMAS Officer to cooperative training institutions and liaison with organisations such as ILO/MATCOM.

V. DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION UNIT

Functions of the Unit

A new unit called 'Development Coordination Unit' has been established within the Regional Office with the following main functions :

- Assist cooperatives in project identification and preparation and in submission of project proposals to donor agencies;
- provide planning and research training to staff of member cooperatives;
- carry out surveys and planning assignments in activity areas within which the officers have the necessary competence;
- in the case of external consultants being used, prepare terms of reference, participate in selection of consultants, monitor progress and results of consultants' work, and ensure that appropriate follow-up action is taken;
- coordinate preparation of annual and quarterly work plans and progress reports for the activities of the Regional Office;
- design and implement a work planning and reporting system for monitoring of the performance and impact of RO developmental activities and carry out internal evaluations of development activities; and
- operate a documentation system for monitoring of cooperative development trends in member countries.

The Unit consists of a Regional Development Officer (RDO) and a Cooperative Development Adviser (CDA).

Plans for 1986 -87

1. Improvement of the capability of national cooperative organisations in project identification and planning.

It is proposed to carry out this activity in respect of Indonesia and Bangladesh. Approximately 15 coop planning and research officers from each country will undergo training in basic project identification and planning techniques in one week national workshops.

Immediately after each workshop, the participants will carry out 2-3 planning assignments in their respective countries with a view to formulating development projects for submission to external donors or other financing institutions. The RDO and CDA will provide guidance to the participants. The purpose of this activity will thus not only to provide training but also to ensure that the training results in immediate project identification and planning.

The staff of the DCU will function as facilitators at the workshop and as leaders of the planning exercise, assisted by a locally recruited resource person.

2. Design and submission of projects to donor agencies

A number of project requests have been submitted by member organisations to the RC during the last one or two years. These requests in most cases need further processing and rewriting as they don't contain the necessary data to qualify for external donor consideration. The DCU will scrutinise, modify and up-date these requests. Some of them can be scrutinised and modified through a desk exercise with additional data submitted by the applicant organisations. In other cases it will be necessary for the Unit to appraise the feasibility of the requests through field visits or to draw on the services of externally recruited consultants for that purpose. Two such feasibility studies are planned to be executed by the RDO and the CDA in 1986-87. Consultants will be commissioned for two additional studies.

3. Establishment of a documentation system (data bank) for monitoring of coop development trends in member countries

The objective of this activity is to create a data base in the RC in order to facilitate cooperative development planning and monitoring. The work tasks planned for 1986-87 are design of the system for collection and analysis of data, and collection and compilation of data available in progress reports and other documents submitted by member organisations.

4. Coordination of Development Projects

The DCU will, in accordance with its terms of reference, coordinate the preparation of the annual and quarterly plans and reports for the activities of the Regional Office. For that purpose the DCU will be represented in the meetings of the technical sub-committees in their planning and review meetings.

VI. FISHERIES COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Background and objectives

Practically all countries in the region have a good potential for fisheries development and for development of aquaculture. Fishermen constitute nearly five per cent of the population in the region and are generally among the economically and socially disadvantaged groups. Development of fisheries cooperatives to provide marketing, supply, credit and processing and other services has in most countries been slow.

In order to contribute to strengthening of such cooperatives, the RO plans to intensify its efforts in the fisheries sector. A separate Fisheries Project is planned to be initiated. The objectives of the project are :

- to strengthen the organisational structure and operational capability of fisheries cooperatives at national and local level to enable them to provide marketing, supply, credit and other services required by small-scale fishermen;
- to promote aquaculture; and
- generally, to increase the income level of the fishermen population through measures which increase the productivity of the fishing effort, e.g. better fishing boats and equipment.

Organisation

The fisheries project can be made fully operational only if funds can be made available by a member organisation in the region or by an external donor for financing of a fisheries expert and operational expenditure.

Plans for 1986-87

1. Workshop on prawn Breeding and Fish Farming

This sub-regional workshop was originally included in the plans for 1985-86, but could not be held due to non-availability of funds. The workshop is now planned to be held during 1986-87. Participants will be drawn from amongst staff of active fisheries cooperatives involved in aquaculture.

2. Project identification and preparation

During the above workshop, two countries will be selected for preparation of concrete development projects in the field of aquaculture. One staff member of the Development Coordination Unit, together with national resource persons and an external subject expert will undertake the project identification and planning exercise. This is expected to result in submission of funding requests to donors and financing institutions.

3. Fisheries Sub-committee Meeting

The meeting will be held to promote fishery cooperative development in the region and to suggest priorities and plans for the development of this sector.

VII. INFORMATION UNIT

The library and documentation on the one hand and publication unit on the other have hitherto been seen as separate activities. Both these activities will be combined to constitute the Information Unit.

VIII. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. National workshops to promote women's involvement in cooperatives.

Three such workshops are expected to be held for one week each. 25 persons will participate in each workshop. The objectives of the workshops will be as follows :

- to share experiences from countries where such programmes have been successfully carried out;
- to motivate the member organisations to initiate projects involving women in coop development; and
- to motivate women to participate actively in coop and allied activities.

2. State and Cooperatives

The objectives of this activity are to establish to what extent the national cooperative organisations have an influence on the coop policy-making in the government, to create discussions within the organisation on the relationship between the state and the coop movement and to reinforce national activities to achieve amendments in cooperative laws.

Such activities can be seen in two phases where in the first phases where in the first phase the Regional Director discusses with national organisations to identify needs and in the second phase consultants may assist the National Member Organisation (NMO) to undertake activities which will have an impact on the relations between the NMC and the state.

AGENDA ITEM No. 12 : Plan of Activities for 1986-87 - IDACA

1) General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under the Colombo Plan

Together with ICA, CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar and Voluntary Training Courses such as Training Course for cooperators from selected countries and IDACA's Special Training Course, IDACA originally conceived this course as the core of IDACA training programmes and the most fitting of all IDACA training programmes among the government's group training programmes which were worked out as a part of the government's technical cooperation with developing countries. This course is conducted in a close collaboration with CUAC and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

In this way, this course was given a definite status and came to be held regularly every year.

Since this is one of the basic training courses being held at IDACA, the course aims at providing participants with an opportunity to learn Japanese experiences in the makings of multi-purpose agricultural cooperative movement. Therefore, this course is not intended chiefly to upgrade participants technical skills or expertise, but rather to provide them with a general perspective on how Japanese agricultural cooperative movement as a whole is operated through offering lectures and study visits.

As for the expenses necessary for implementation of the course JICA met the costs of airfare, board and lodging, daily allowances and other expenses.

Period:	May 12 - July 5
No. of persons who attended:	14 (mainly middle level government officers in charge of cooperatives)
Countries that participated:	13 Bolivia(1), Brazil(1), Burma(1), Colombia(1), Egypt(1), Fiji(1), Nepal(1), Nicaragua(1), Nigeria(1), Paraguay(1), Philippines(1), Sri Lanka(1), Tanzania(2)

Place of study visit: Tatebayashi city and Maebashi-Haga
Primary Agricultural Cooperative
Societies in Gunma Prefecture

Miyakonojo and Koyu Primary Agri-
cultural Cooperative Societies in
Miyazaki Prefecture

2) Training Course for Thai Counter-parts on the Agricultural
Cooperative Development Project

This training course has been started since 1984 after the completion of the former Training Course for Thais on the Agricultural Development for which the training was given to the cooperators serving at the different levels of the agricultural cooperative organizations. This Thai counter-parts course is a project training commissioned by J.I.C.A. aiming at assisting the Thai government (Cooperative Promotion Department) in the fostering and development of the agricultural cooperatives in Thailand. So it is designed primarily for those who are directly involved in the project and working closely with the Japanese experts as counterpart.

The purpose of the training is therefore to get the counterparts familiarize themselves with the actual working of the Japanese agricultural cooperatives, thereby contributing to facilitate them to understand advices and information given by the Japanese experts stationed in Thailand. One of the features of the course is that it is in principle, conducted in the vernacular language.

JICA will meet such expenses as international airfares, board and lodging, daily allowances and so on.

Period:	October 5 - November 10, 1986
No. of persons attending:	5 (Tentative)
Participating country:	Thailand
Place of study visit:	Yamaguchi Prefecture

3) Training Course for the Cooperators from Selected Countries

It was in 1975 that the first course was started with financial assistances from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries for the implementation of the course.

Thanks to the ministry's support, CUAC/IDACA could begin to provide a training course in the name of " cooperation project for overseas agricultural cooperatives ", with the number of countries from which to accept participants annually confined to two, which belong to member organizations of ICA. The count-

The duration of the course lasts for one month. This course is designed mainly for providing participants with an opportunity to study Japanese experiences on the overall activities, the business and management undertaken by agricultural cooperatives in Japan, thereby making experiences learned from Japanese movement fully utilize for the development of agricultural cooperative movement in the respective countries.

Period:	October 5 - November 4, 1986
No. of persons attending:	13 (The Philippines 8 India 5)
Participating countries:	2
Place of study visit:	Not decided

4) Special Training Course for Counter Parts of Agricultural Development Projects by JICA (Newly established)

This is the training course designed primarily for counter-parts of the ongoing projects being conducted by the Japan International Cooperative Agency (JICA). Participants are selected among the counter-parts of JICA projects in developing country who are keen on studying the Japanese agricultural cooperative movement. This is a new training course which is organized at the request of JICA and it aims to provide the counter parts with an opportunity to gain an information and knowledge on the workings of the agricultural cooperative movement in Japan. All the necessary expenses will be borne by JICA.

Period:	November 17 - December 17, 1986
No. of persons attending:	10
Participating country:	Not decided yet
Place of study visit:	Kumamoto Prefecture

5) ICA Long-term Training Course (Newly established)

Details of the course are still under negotiation with ICA.

Period:	1st March - 30th April 1987
No. of persons attending:	15
Participating countries:	Not decided
Place of study visit:	Shiga and Kouchi Prefectures

6) Training Course for Cooperativa Agricola de Cotia Cooperativa Central (CACCC) in Brazil

According to an agreement between CUAC and CACCC, a training programme is planned to be held in April 1987 for the duration of 30 days at IDACA with a view to having them acquire knowledge and an idea about Japanese experiences in the making of multi-purpose agricultural cooperative movement with a special reference to organizational and business operational aspects.

The course is designed for councillors of CACCC, officials and employees of CACCC. The number of participants is five.

CACCC is to bear international airfare, while CUAC will cover various other expenses such as board and lodging, domestic transportation and other incidental expenses during their stay.

Period:	Not decided yet
No. of persons attending:	5
Participating country:	Brazil
Place of study visit:	Not decided yet

7) Training Programme for National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Korea (NACF)

This is one of the memorandum training based on the agreement memorandum between NACF and CUAC.

The course was tailored for middle level employees of NACF to upgrade and enrich their knowledge and experiences by studying the theories and practical implementation of the Japanese agricultural cooperative movement.

NACF is to meet the costs of direct expenses related to the training such as board and lodging and travel expenses during study visit for participants, while incidental expenses such as lecturer's allowances, miscellaneous expenses of Japanese attendants during the seminar are borne by Japanese organization.

Period:	2 weeks May 1987
No. of persons attending:	Employees of NACF middle level cadre
Participating country:	Rep. of Korea
Place of study visit:	Not decided yet

8) General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under the Colombo Plan

This is the oldest and a traditional course which IDACA has been conducting since the founding of the institute. It has been held every year without any interruption as a part of the government technical cooperation programmes.

IDACA has been entrusted with implementation of the course which should otherwise be conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

This is the only training course at IDACA organized on the government to government basis in which participants will be exposed to the workings of the multi-purpose agricultural cooperative movement in Japan.

As for the expenses necessary for implementation of the course, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is to meet the costs of airfare, board and lodging, daily allowances and miscellaneous other expenses.

The participating countries, place of study visit and the number of participants attending are not decided yet.

Period: May 1987 - July 1987

9) Reunion and Follow-up Seminar

It is planned to hold reunion and follow-up seminar with the ex-participants of IDACA from Jan. to Feb. 1987 in Malaysia. Details are yet to be decided through negotiations with ANGKASA, ICA Regional Office and the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives.

Some Other Noteworthy Information (Tentative)

(1) Holding of the opening ceremony of the new IDACA facility

IDACA moved from Setagaya to Takao in Machida city on 24th March 1986. In the memorial celebration of the establishment of new facility, an event is being planned by inviting representatives from ICA and the cooperative movements in the region in the 1st week of September in 1986.

(2) Publication of IDACA News

IDACA News is published twice a year in order to maintain closer contact with ex-participants, alumni association and related agencies in the overseas countries.

IDACA News No. 41, No. 42 will be published this fiscal year

Programme from July 1987 to June 1988 is not decided yet.



Cooperative Union of the Philippines Inc.

CABLE: Comphill

Annex 7

- I. Proposal : Study Mission on National Cooperative Organizations
- I. Proponent : Cooperative Union of the Philippines
- I. Background and Justification :

Cooperatives in the coverage area of the Regional Council for South-East Asia are growing with laudable speed and national organizations are being established to insure that these cooperatives are not only serviced for the over-all development and direction of the national movements, but also to safeguard and insure that the ideology, philosophy and principles of cooperation which are the foundations that preserve and stabilize the universal cooperative movements are upheld.

Various countries, however, adopt practices and procedures they believe most suited to their peculiar needs, situations and projections. To this extent, national cooperative organizations are reflections of the adopted principles of the movements and the over-all adherence or absence of such adherence, to the fundamental doctrines and principles of universal cooperation.

Time and again, the International Cooperative Alliance has taken serious steps to examine, re-evaluate and promulgate or tolerate the variations in the various movements. Despite this practical appreciation and approach, the ICA has frequently called for adherence to the fundamental cooperative philosophy and principles, regardless of the modifications in practice.

To people outside the movement, and to some degree, even those in the movement, changes in the practical application of cooperative principles are creating some confusion and, consequently, national governments or their departments, are making decisions and definitions relative to cooperatives, that depart in serious ways from the fundamental cooperative philosophy and principles. Thus, some pseudo-cooperatives are being organized, on several instances with the support, or as part, of government programmes.

If consideration is earnestly given to the fact that many organizations, both in the United Nations and Non-Government Organizations, are providing assistance to cooperatives and to non-coopera-

tive organizations engaged in cooperative development, then it follows that organizations claiming to be cooperatives when in reality they are not, are being subsidised by these benevolent organizations. This is tragic considering that real or genuine cooperatives are in dire need of assistance.

It becomes imperative, then, that decisions should be made by the ICA or the Regional Council for SEA, to define what genuine cooperative organizations are and to set up standards for recognizing and assisting only these cooperatives. A Study Mission should be organized to evaluate the various national cooperative organizations and, to some degree the cooperatives on various levels, to determine their actual status vis-a-vis the Principles and Practices of Cooperation. The national situations that brought about the variations in the national cooperative organizations' structures, policies, directions, and programmes should be looked into to determine the factors and forces that led to these kinds of national cooperative organizations.

IV. Composition :

The Study Mission shall be composed of such members as the Executive Committee, the ICA, RC, or the Funding Agency will determine, to be assisted by such staffs as maybe deemed necessary.

V. Coverage :

All national organizations within the jurisdiction of the RC for SEA will be subject of the Study Mission.

VI. Implementing Organization/Responsibility :

The Executive Committee of the RC shall have the responsibility to implement this Study Mission. It shall call on the ICA and the RC for assistance in whatever form. Member organizations of the ICA in SEA will be asked to provide such assistance and collaboration in their respective countries to insure a comprehensive conduct of the Mission, specifically in providing staff assistance, a meeting place, contact with government ministries or departments, and knowledgeable cooperative leaders.

VII. Terms of Reference :

-3-

The Study Mission shall :

1. identify the various national cooperative organizations (NCO), study their structures and functions within the movement;
2. determine the national situations that influenced or mandated the formation, functions, and directions of the NCO;
3. evaluate the relationships of the NCOs within the movement and the government ministries, departments or agencies;
4. determine the bases or observance of the cooperative principles and practices in these countries as they relate to the ICA declarations;
5. recommend actions to correct serious variations or departures, if any, that contravene the accepted ICA principles on cooperation;
6. suggest areas where the ICA principles can be adopted to avoid any confusion or questions on the status of cooperatives or their organizations; and
7. formulate structures, functions and practices that the NCOs can adopt or use as guides.

VIII. Duration of the Mission :

The Mission will conduct at least one week of its study in each country covered by this Mission. Before the start of the study, the Mission will also spend one week for perspective planning, and another week for the formulation of its report after the completion of the Mission.

IX. Funding :

The ICA RO will be requested to provide the main funding of the Study Mission. The Executive Committee, however, may seek funding assistance from any source, such as the SCC, etc.

Member organizations maybe asked to absorb certain costs within their country, such as lodging, meals and internal transport.

X. Timetable :

The Study Mission maybe implemented at a time that will make the results of the Mission available to the Executive Committee of the RC in its next meeting.



ARCADIO S. LOZADA
President, C U P
16 June, 1986

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	Tohran, Iran	March 1-2, 1969
Eleventh	Seoul, Rep of Korea	May 8-9, 1970
Twelveth	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
Twentythird	Seoul, Rep of Korea	October 29-30, 1981
Twentyfourth	Manila, Philippines	November 11-12, 1982
Twentyfifth	Tokyo, Japan	November 2-5, 1983
Twentysixth	Bangkok, Thailand	November 8, 1984
Twentyseventh	New Delhi, India	August 21-22, 1985

THE COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ICA REGIONAL COUNCIL
AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PREAMBLE

In accordance with article 4(h) the ICA may establish regional offices supervised by Regional Councils acting under the authority of the ICA Executive Committee. Each Regional Office may have an Regional Executive Officer appointed by the Director of the ICA in consultation with the Regional Council and responsible for :

- (a) Coordination of cooperative development efforts within the region and promotion of exchanges of experiences.
- (b) Project identification, formulation, preparation and evaluation.
- (c) Promotion of the establishment and development of national cooperative apex organisations based on local cooperatives.
- (d) Organisations of seminars and conferences on specific subjects including support for programmes aiming at the involvement of women and youth in cooperative activities.

GOVERNMENT OF THE REGIONAL OFFICE

- The authorities of the Regional Office shall be the Regional Council and the Executive Committee.
- The Regional Council shall have supreme authority on all matters pertaining to cooperative development policy of the Regional Office.
- The Regional Council shall derive its powers from the governing bodies of the ICA (mother body).

International Cooperative Alliance

- 2 -

REGIONAL COUNCIL

The Regional Council shall consist of two representatives elected from member organisations of the ICA from within each country.

- The Regional Council shall be convened at least once a year. An extraordinary meeting of the Council may be convened at the request of two-thirds of the members of the Regional Office or on recommendation of the ICA mother body.
- The Regional Council shall have the following powers :
 - To elect the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Regional Council who shall hold office for a period of four years.
 - To elect the Executive Committee of the Regional Office
 - To approve the report of Executive Committee on the work of the Regional Office since the previous council meetings
 - To establish policy and development programmes of the Regional Office
 - To amend the rules by a majority of two-thirds of the votes presented
 - To confirm the appointment of the Regional Executive Officer of the Regional Office
 - To determine the amount of money which members should pay as subscriptions to the Regional Office
 - To confirm agreements which impose permanent obligations upon the Regional Office.
 - To discuss reports and problems of common interest regarding cooperative development in the region and to adopt resolutions, declaration and appeals for adoption of common strategies and solutions.

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- To establish Technical committees whose members would mainly be derived from national specialised organisations which will provide technical advice to the council.
- To establish or accept Regional Cooperative Organisations in furtherance of cooperative development
- To organise interregional activities and cooperation for solidarity and cooperative development.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and four other members elected by the Regional Council. No one country shall have more than one representative in the Executive.
- The Executive Committee may invite participation on a non voting basis specialists or other useful persons or representatives from advanced movement in the region to enhance or facilitate its work.

- To appoint the Regional Director and Senior Staff in consultation with the ICA HQ.
- The Chairman of the Regional Council shall also be the Chairman of the Executive.
- Members of the Executive Committee shall hold Office for a period of four years, from one ICA Congress to another.
- The main tasks of the committee shall be :
- To implement policy and to work out strategies and plans for the implementation of cooperative development programmes of the Regional Office.
- To draw up the budget for confirmation by the Regional Council.
- To supervise the Regional Executive between meetings of the Regional Council.
- To prepare the agenda for the regional council meetings.
- To deal with all issues referred to it by the Regional Council.
- Meet at least twice a year inbetween Regional Council Meetings.

CHAIRMAN

- The Chairman of the Regional Office shall be elected through secret ballot by the Regional Council and shall hold Office for a period of four years.
- He shall preside over the meetings of the ICA Regional Council and Executive Committee.
- He shall represent the Regional Council in ICA meetings and at any other international forum.

THE REGIONAL EO

- The Regional EO shall administer and control all the affairs of the Regional Office in accordance with guidelines provided by the Regional Council and the Executive Committee and the ICA HQ. He shall have the following duties and obligations :
- The RD shall consult with the Chairman on all important matters pertaining to the work of the RO.
- To control the use of the finances according to the provisions of the budget.

- To ensure that personnel and all resources available at the Regional Office are effectively deployed for the interest of the Cooperative Movement in the Region.
- To submit periodical reports and budgets to the Executive Committee and Regional Council and the ICA Director.
- To maintain good relations between ICA and its members.
- To assist Cooperative Movements in the Region to evolve sound policies and to implement programmes approved by the Regional Council.
- To act as Technical Adviser and Secretary at the Regional Council and Executive Committee.
- To perform any other duties and functions as required by the Regional Council, Executive Committee and the ICA Director.

CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the ICA Regional Council shall cease :

- (a) By voluntary resignation, notice of which shall be given by the organisation concerned at least three months before the end of the financial year of ICA.
- (b) By non-payment of subscriptions any organisation which in two successive years has not paid its subscription, nor made a specific request for leniency which has been approved by the Regional Council shall be removed from the list of members.

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