



12th Meeting of ICA-AP Regional Assembly

**Hotel: The Ashok, New Delhi
18th November 2016**

AGENDA NOTES



**International
Co-operative
Alliance
Asia and Pacific**

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International
Co-operative
Alliance
Asia and Pacific

12th MEETING OF ICA-AP REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

New Delhi: 18th November 2016 {09:00~17:30}

AGENDA NOTES

AGENDA ITEM 01 : OPENING REMARKS

Following the joint opening ceremony of Cooperative Forum and Regional Assembly on 17th November, the 12th meeting of ICA-AP Regional Assembly will be officially opened on 18th November. Mr. Li Chunsheng, President of ICA-Asia and Pacific will chair the ICA Regional Assembly.

AGENDA ITEM 02 : APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Delegates will be requested to formally approve the Agenda.

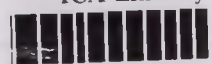
AGENDA ITEM 03 : CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 11TH MEETING HELD IN BALI ON 19TH SEPTEMBER 2014

The Minutes of the 11th Meeting of ICA Regional Assembly held in Bali (Indonesia) on 19th September 2014 (Annexure-1) was circulated to all the delegates and member organizations. No suggestions/observations/amendments have been received. The minutes may be confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM 04 : PERUSAL OF MINUTES OF ICA-AP REGIONAL BOARD MEETINGS SINCE LAST REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Since the last Regional Assembly, three meetings of the Regional Board were held. The confirmed minutes of the three meetings are enclosed (Annexure-2). Necessary follow-up action on these minutes has already been taken. The delegates of the Regional Assembly may kindly peruse.

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AGENDA ITEM 05 : ICA-AP FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2014 AND 2015

ICA-AP Financial Report for January to December 2014

DESCRIPTION (All amounts are in US Dollars)	BUDGET 2014	ACTUAL Jan-Dec.
Income:		
Total Subscription Re-distribution	381,860	341,529
Administrative Contribution	55,000	55,097
Other Income (RA Registration Fee)	50,000	61,912
TOTAL	486,860	458,538
Expenses:		
Personnel Expenses	250,500	191,885
Travel Expenses	85,500	45,080
Premises & General Office Expenses	37,500	72,938
IT and Telecommunication	27,500	9,806
External Services (including audit fee)	17,360	28,402
Meeting Expenses	38,500	42,458
Specific Project	10,000	15,115
Contribution to Malaysian Business Office	20,000	20,000
TOTAL	486,860	425,684
SURPLUS	0	32,854

Financial Report of MBO for January to December 2014

Development Partner	Budget	Actual
ICA-Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP)	20,000	854
All China Federation of Supply & Marketing Coops	20,000	14,510
ANGKASA-Malaysia	20,000	17,828
Japanese Consumers Coop Union (JCCU)	11,617	3,935
National Agricultural Coop Federation-Korea	22,370	18,768

ICA-AP Financial Report for January to December 2015

DESCRIPTION (All amounts are in US Dollars)	BUDGET 2014	ACTUAL Jan-Dec.
<u>Income:</u>		
Total Subscription Re-distribution	390,650	388,200
Administrative Contribution	54,000	43,000
Other Income (RA Registration Fee)	0	-
TOTAL	444,650	431,200
<u>Expenses:</u>		
Personnel Expenses	220,000	216,723
Travel Expenses	75,000	91,196
Premises & General Office Expenses	63,050	40,672
Printing and Distribution	6,500	4,712
IT and Telecommunication	12,600	5,419
External Services (including audit fee)	32,500	34,449
Other Expenses	4,500	52
Specific Project	10,500	1,455
Contribution to Malaysian Business Office	20,000	15,000
Support to Nepal and Vanuatu	0	25,000
TOTAL	444,650	434,678
Excess Expenditure over income	0	(3,478)

Financial Report of MBO for January to December 2015

Development Partner	Budget	Actual
All China Fed of Supply & Marketing Coops-China	66,629	66,629
National Agricultural Coop Federation-Korea	20,000	21,843
Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union-Japan	50,000	27,173
ANGKASA-Malaysia	7,835	7,835
ICA-Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP)	15,000	750

AGENDA ITEM 06 : ICA MEMBERSHIP SITUATION IN ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

The following 13 organizations have joined ICA since the last Regional Assembly in Bali (Indonesia) in September 2014.

1. Dure Consumers Cooperative Union (DCCU), Republic of Korea.
2. Office of Cooperative Societies (OCS-PNG), Papua New Guinea.
3. Office of Registrar of Cooperatives and Business Development Services (ORCBDS), Vanuatu.
4. Supervision & Coordination Central Union of Rural and Agricultural Cooperatives-SCURA, Iran.
5. Maldives Fishermen's Association, Maldives.
6. Philippines Cooperative Center (PCC), Philippines.
7. Bangladesh Samabaya Bank Limited (BSBL), Bangladesh.
8. Cooperative Societies Council (KSC), Saudi Arabia.
9. Federation of Peoples' Sustainable Development Cooperatives (FPSDC), Philippines.
10. Vietnam National Industrial Handicraft & Commercial Coop Enterprises Association. (VICCA), Vietnam.
11. Korea Federation of Workers Cooperatives (KFWC), Korea.
12. Business Council of Cooperatives and Mutuals, Australia.
13. National Confederation of Cooperatives of Timor Leste (CNCTL), Timor Leste.

The following two organizations have ceased to be members of ICA due to non-payment of subscription fee.

1. Central Union for Cooperative Initiative in Israel (CUCII), Israel.
2. Republican Union of Consumer Societies (RUCS), Tajikistan.

The following two organizations from Israel have been moved to European region with effect from 1st January 2016 as per global board decision.

1. Coop Israel
2. Kibbutz Movement

The following two organizations have been admitted into the membership of ICA, but not yet paid their subscription fees;

1. Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), Philippines.
2. Palestinian Agricultural Cooperative Union (PACU), Palestine.

The following four organizations have applied for membership of ICA.

1. Sharjah Cooperative Society (SCS), United Arab Emirates.
2. MASS-SPECC Cooperative Development Center, Philippines.
3. National Labour Cooperatives Federation of India Limited (NLCF), India.
4. Nasinu Land Purchase & Housing Cooperative Limited, Fiji.

The current total ICA-Asia and Pacific membership is **92** organizations from **28** countries.

AGENDA ITEM 07 : APPROVAL OF ICA-AP STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2017-2020

The current ICA-AP Strategic Plan runs till end of 2016. A new strategic plan for the period 2017 to 2020 needs to be prepared and put for approval to the Assembly. The strategy needs to be aligned with the ICA global strategy, recommendations from the regional consultations, and inputs from regional board members and staff. A visioning exercise was carried out with board members on 16th June in which inputs provided by the board members (through their response to questions sent ahead of the meeting) were discussed and priority areas identified. Dr. Ganesh Prabhu, Professor Strategy from the Institute of Rural Management, Bangalore was the external consultant for the exercise. The proposed ICA-AP Strategic Plan for 2017-2020 is being discussed at the Regional Board meeting on 15th November. A copy of the Strategic Plan is enclosed (Annexure-3).

AGENDA ITEM 08 : ELECTION OF ICA-AP REGIONAL BOARD FOR 2016-2020

The term of office of the current Regional Board will be over by November 2016. According to ICA-AP Rules, the Regional Assembly shall elect a maximum of eleven members to the Regional Board for the next four years.

The ICA-AP secretariat had written to member organizations to propose nominees for election to the Regional Board. The twelve (12) nominations received by the ICA-AP are placed below. The Regional Assembly shall elect eleven (11) board members including the President and two Vice Presidents at its meeting in New Delhi (India) on 18th November 2016.

S.#	Name of the Member	Country	Position/Organization
1	Mr. Li Chunsheng	China	Vice President, ACFSMC
2	Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav	India	Chairman, KRIBHCO & NCUI
3	Mr. A.M. Nurdin Halid	Indonesia	President, DEKOPIN
4	Mr. Alireza Gharagozlou	Iran	Deputy of Economic, ICC
5	Ms. Chitose Arai	Japan	Vice President, JCCU
6	Mr. Byeong Won Kim	Korea	Chairman, NACF
7	Dato Abdul Fattah Hj Abdullah	Malaysia	President, ANGKASA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Keshav Prasad Badal	Nepal	Chairman, NCF
<input type="checkbox"/>	Atty. Adolfo Ibanez	Philippines	Chairperson, NATCCO
10	Mr. Kwek Kok Kwong	Singapore	Chairman, SNCF
11	Mr. W. Lalith A. Peiris	Sri Lanka	President, NCC
12	Mr. Vo Kim Cu	Vietnam	President, VCA

The vote details of ICA members in Asia-Pacific region are attached (Annexure-4).

AGENDA ITEM 09 : CO-OPTION OF CHAIR OF ICA-AP WOMEN COMMITTEE TO REGIONAL BOARD

Since 2012, the regional board has very limited representation of women on the board. Given the importance the region places on participation of women in cooperatives and representation of women in leadership position across all levels, including the board; the absence of women on the board is glaring. The AP region has active engagement of women cooperators and very active Women Committee.

The Regional Board meeting held in Colombo unanimously approved the co-option of Women's Committee Chair to the ICA-AP Regional Board without voting right. The regional assembly may approve the proposal.

AGENDA ITEM 10 : APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF ICA-AP COMMITTEE ON COOPERATIVE RESEARCH

The nature of research is different from other Committees of ICA. The committee needs to be represented by researchers and practitioners in the field. The current Rules of ICA require nominations from members which limits participation. The Research Committee proposed the following articles to be amended to make the committee more active and engaged.

Article 3 : Membership

Membership base of the research committee is to be enhanced and open to researchers who are still with the research institutions, research institutions and colleges where the research in cooperation is still being pursued. If the membership of this Committee is limited to the members of ICA (this perhaps is uniformly applicable to all ICA Committees), the purpose will stand defeated. This is research in "cooperation", which the members seldom follow. The members, if at all have to go for research; they will do it in the direction of their "core" business. If the research in "Cooperation" is to be followed, the Committee has to encourage researchers from various institutions and look forward to making them members at nominal fees or at "no fee".

We see day by day, the youth is delineating itself from "cooperation" and cooperative activities. Unless we create avenues for youth to come to ICA activities, such as Committee meetings and assemblies, and show to them as to what cooperatives and ICA are doing to make this world more meaningful for humanity, they will not know the worth of ICA.

Article 6: Meetings

The meeting of the committee is proposed to be held at least biannually, instead of every year, because we need lots of time and resources to convene the meeting annually. As the members are in constant touch through email with each other, it would be advisable to convene the meeting once in two years, which will coincide with the Regional Assembly. Whenever required, a Skype discussion can be arranged by the RO.

Article 8: Officers

Slight change in this is needed, as follows:

The Secretariat of the Committee shall be at the office of the ICA-AP and the Secretary shall be an officer appointed/nominated by the Regional Director of ICA-AP.

Article 9 : Finance

The research and research activities obviously need funds. The Committee should be permitted to raise funds. Besides, the researchers have no means to meet out their travel expense. For example, in India, their parent institutions seldom allow researchers to take such travel.

In view of the above, the Regional Assembly of ICA-AP is requested to approve the amendments in the Constitution of the ICA-AP Committee on Cooperative Research. The ICA-AP Committee on Cooperative Research at its meeting to be held on 15th November will approve the amendments in the Article No. 3, 6, 8 & 9 of the Constitution, as below.

**ICA-AP Committee on Cooperative Research
Suggested Amendments to Constitution**

EXISTING	TO BE AMENDED
<p>The Committee shall consist of persons working in the field of research in the member-organization of the ICA in the region. Each member-organization of the ICA-AP would be entitled to nominate suitable persons in the committee.</p> <p>Non-member of ICA can attend the Committee Meeting provided it obtains the approval from the concerned member-organization of ICA and also accepts the objects of the ICA and the Committee.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 3: MEMBERSHIP</p> <p>The Committee shall consist of persons working in the field of research within or in collaboration with the member-organization of the ICA in the region. Each member organization of the ICA-AP would be entitled to nominate a maximum of two suitable persons in the committee.</p> <p><i>Individual researchers and Research Institutes/Universities can become Associate Members subject to approval of the Committee. They are entitled to attend the meetings of the Committee but will not have voting rights.</i></p> <p>The duly constituted committee will co-opt two eminent researchers from Asia-Pacific region.</p> <p>Non-member of ICA may attend the Committee Meeting as observers, with the prior approval from the Chairperson of the Committee.</p>
<p>ARTICLE 6: MEETINGS</p> <p>The meetings of the Committee shall be held at least once every year. At the time of the Regional Assembly, the Committee shall hold a meeting/seminar;</p> <p>The meetings of the Committee shall be conducted in English. Participants requiring interpretation in any other language may be accompanied by personal interpreters at their own cost;</p> <p>The Regional Director and/or his/her nominee and members of the Regional Board shall be entitled to attend the meetings of the Committee;</p>	<p>ARTICLE 6: MEETINGS</p> <p>The meetings of the Committee shall be held at least biannually. At the time of the Regional Assembly, the Committee shall hold a meeting/seminar;</p> <p>The meetings of the Committee shall be conducted in English. Participants requiring interpretation in any other language may be accompanied by personal interpreters at their own cost;</p> <p>The Regional Director and/or his/her nominee and members of the Regional Board shall be entitled to attend the meetings of the Committee;</p>

<p>The member shall serve on the Committee for a period of four years; Each member attending the meeting shall have one vote; Observers from non-member organizations may be invited to the Committee meetings through the concerned national member organizations of ICA. Non-member organizations may here refer to institutions/organizations engaged in or interested in the field of Cooperative Research. The Committee shall have the powers to frame its own rules of procedures and conduct for approval by the Regional Assembly; and The quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall consist of 5 member countries/organizations.</p>	<p>The member shall serve on the Committee for a period of four years; Each member attending the meeting shall have one vote; Observers from non-member organizations may be invited to the Committee meetings through the concerned national member organizations of ICA. Non-member organizations may here refer to institutions/organizations engaged in or interested in the field of Cooperative Research. The Committee shall have the powers to frame its own rules of procedures and conduct for approval by the Regional Assembly; and The quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall consist of 5 member countries/organizations</p>
<p>ARTICLE 8: OFFICERS The Committee shall elect a Chairperson and a Vice Chairperson. Their term of office shall be four years (RA to RA). Retiring officers shall be eligible for re-election. The Officer in charge of the Committee at the ICA-AP will function as Secretary of the Committee. The Secretary shall be responsible for the operational and administrative work of the Committee; and In the case of both the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson not being present at the meeting, the Committee shall elect a Chairperson from among the members present for conducting the meeting.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 8: OFFICERS The Committee shall elect a Chairperson and a Vice Chairperson. Their term of office shall be four years (RA to RA). Retiring officers shall be eligible for re-election. The Secretariat of the Committee shall be at the office of the ICA-AP and the Secretary shall be an officer appointed/nominated by the Regional Director of ICA-AP. The Secretary shall be responsible for the operational and administrative work of the Committee; and In the case of both the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson not being present at the meeting, the Committee shall elect a Chairperson from among the members present for conducting the meeting.</p>
<p>ARTICLE 9: FINANCE The work and the meetings of the Committee shall be on a self-financing basis; and The financial year of the Committee shall be one calendar year.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 9: FINANCE The work and the meetings of the Committee shall be on a self-financing basis; and The financial year of the Committee shall be one calendar year. Individual and Institutional Associate Members shall contribute US \$ 50 and 200 per annum respectively. The Secretary to the Committee will accept such contributions and maintain the same in the office of ICA-AP. Such accounts will be operated subject to consent of the Chairman of the committee and as per the rules of ICA-AP. The committee will also be entitled to approach other bodies involved in Research or have funds available for the purpose of research, for contributions, grants, aid and support the activities of the Committee.</p>

AGENDA ITEM 11: FORMATION OF ICA-AP COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND BUSINESS

We have been conducting workshops on Cooperative-to-Cooperative (C2C) Trade and lots of ideas are emerging (trade portal, directory for coop products, e-commerce, etc). For a more concerted action, it is necessary to have a Committee on Trade and Business.

The regional board approved the Constitution of the ICA-AP Committee on Trade and Business which is enclosed (Annexure-5). The regional assembly may approve it.

AGENDA ITEM 12: UPDATE ON EUROPEAN UNION (EU) PROJECT

EU Project “Co-operatives in Development: People-Centered Businesses in Action”

Kick-off Meeting

Kick-off meeting in Brussels: The kick-off meeting gave staff from all regions involved in the project the opportunity to interact with each other, get to know the implementation process and the international team better. The meeting gave an overview of the project aims, results and activities, and financial plan for the duration of the project. The work of the Alliance will be spearheaded by a Strategy Unit comprising of the Regional Directors and the Director General; the Coordination Unit comprising of staff from Central Project Unit and Cooperatives Europe; and the Programme Unit comprising of regional staff. The overall supervision will be ensured by the Grant Oversight Committee comprising of the global board members of the Alliance.

Mapping

COPAC-FAO-ICA-ILO Multi-stakeholder Workshop on Statistics and Co-operatives, 5-6 April 2016, Rome, Italy: Participants discussed various issues and reached common understanding and agreement on a roadmap for developing statistics on cooperatives. Those in attendance came from national statistics offices, national governments in charge of promoting cooperatives, the national and international cooperative movements, international institutions and the research community.

Policy Process

SAARC Directors consultative meeting, 11 July 2016, Kathmandu, Nepal: Following up its consultation with the SAARC secretariat on ‘ways to integrate the agenda of cooperatives within the SAARC development agenda’, the ICA-AP met with the directors of member states of SAARC on 11 July 2016. The objective was for ICA-AP to get introduced to the SAARC system, its programs and priorities. ICA-AP introduced its activities and priorities to SAARC Directors. A SAARC regional workshop focused on cooperatives will be held soon. NCF-Nepal will liaise with the Ministry of Cooperatives in Nepal to propose the workshop to the SAARC Secretariat.

Thematic Training

Institutional Strengthening of the ICA through a visioning exercise for ICA-AP regional board members and Regional Director, 16th June 2016, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Bilateral Meeting

EU Delegation to India, New Delhi, India and EU Delegation to Nepal, Kathmandu: ICA-AP met with the EU Delegation to India and Nepal to share information on the work of the respective organizations and discuss possible synergies in future.

EU Delegation to Sri Lanka and Maldives, August 24, 2016 Colombo, Sri Lanka: Key items discussed were the ICA-EU partnership in form of the EU Project, current situation of Alliance membership in the Asia Pacific region, the recent initiative carried out on industrial and service co-operatives in India and Sri Lanka, engagement of youth in the co-operative movement and possible collaborations between the two offices in future.

MSG Cooperatives Policy Workshop, September 19, 2016 Honiara, Solomon Islands: Melanesia, which includes the island nations of the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Fiji, and FLNKS, is an important regional partner in the Asia Pacific region and cooperatives have a major role to play in the development of the region. ICA Asia and Pacific was represented at the recent Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG) Co-operative Development meeting by the General Manager of ICA member, the Business Council of Co-operatives and Mutuals, the national apex body for cooperatives in Australia. Emphasis was placed on the need to engage with the ICA, noting the large number of important networking and trade events held by the regional office and the head office.

Bilateral Conferences

Youth Panel on Co-operative Policy, September 23, 2016 Bali, Indonesia: A multilateral seminar titled, Youth Panel on Co-operative Policy. The youth panel was moderated by Mr. Balu Iyer, Regional Director, ICA-AP and saw the participation of Ms. Teepee Gile, Founder-Red Roots Artists Co-operative, Philippines; Mr. Ilham Nasai, DEKOPIN-Indonesia; Mr. Sangay Rinchen, Founder- Happy Green Co-operatives, Bhutan; Mr. Francois Hastir, Credit and Mutuals Canada; Mr. Sebastien Chaillou, solidarité étudiante, France; Dr. Sukesh Zamwar, CMD, Buldana Urban Credit Co-operative Ltd., India and Ms. Caroline Sekyewa, Project Manager, Africa Unit of the Partnership. The panel emphasized the importance of youth as future members and leaders in the cooperative movement. Asia Pacific region comprises of 60% of the global youth population and to realize Agenda 2030 of the Sustainable Development Goals and the vision set out in the ICA Blueprint for a Co-operative Decade, the panel agreed to actively engage youth in the co-operative movement. The outcome document – Asia Pacific Youth Statement was adopted on 23 September 2016.

Knowledge Sharing Workshop

Stakeholder Meeting on Collective Entrepreneurship, 18-19 August, Kozhikode, India: The two-day stakeholders' meeting on collective entrepreneurship was organized at the UL Cyber Park. The meeting was aimed at providing a platform for sharing expert knowledge on industrial, artisanal and service-provider co-operatives in India in particular and south Asia, in general. The meeting largely focused on 'workers' co-operatives to learn about their ownership and management models as well as 'social' co-operatives and the role they can play in building a sustainable society. The meeting was attended by key stakeholders from the labour co-operative movement of India, the International Labour Organization (Colombo), Action Aid India, among co-operative apex organizations. ICA-AP proposed to undertake a report on the status of industrial, artisanal and service-provider co-operatives in India share the same at a regional workshop during the ICA-AP Regional Assembly in New Delhi in November this year.

Thematic Research

Industrial & Service Sector Co-operatives, India and Sri Lanka (on-going).

Global Co-operative Development Meetings

Cooperatives and Mutuals in International Development–How Can We Do More and Better Together? October 10, 2016, Quebec, Canada: Cooperatives and Mutuals contribute to sustainable development at international level through projects and programs helping people to organize themselves using the cooperative model and principles. Collectively, the global cooperative movement deploys significant resources to lift people out of poverty, to empower local communities and to improve the lives of billions across the globe. Nevertheless, cooperative development organizations are not yet taking full advantage of potential synergies and remain often in competition, among themselves and with other organizations, for access to funding to support their initiatives. The aim of this specific meeting was to bring Cooperative Organizations active in International Development together and to share achievements, identify courses of action to facilitate collaboration and explore possible partnerships.

Knowledge Sharing Workshop

Workshop on Industrial and Service Co-operatives, November 16, 2016, New Delhi, India: Follow up to the meeting on collective entrepreneurship in August 2016.

Regional Co-operative Development Meetings

Co-operative Forum on Co-operatives for a Sustainable Future, November 17, New Delhi, India:

AGENDA ITEM 13 : STATUS OF ICA-AP MALAYSIA BUSINESS OFFICE

The Malaysia Business Office (MBO) has been active for close to three years now. The Office is fully functional and four seconded staff from All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives, Malaysian National Cooperative Movement (ANGKASA), Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union, and National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Korea are in place. The office has been registered as a Society and has an operational bank account.

The strategic objectives for the MBO are as follows:

- Increase business interactions and exchanges between co-operatives in the region;
- Promote 'Co-operative Trade' strategically by modes of fair trade and B-2-B platform through internet;
- Promote technical exchanges and assistance in IT technology in the forms of workshop and training;
- Transfer technical and managerial know-how especially in business areas of 'Resource Recycling' and 'Renewal Energy' business; and
- Promote cultural exchanges of youth co-operators in the region.

The activities of the Malaysian Business Office (MBO) are reported under ICA-AP activities.

AGENDA ITEM 14 : REPORTS FROM ICA-AP SECTORAL/THEMATIC COMMITTEES

The Chairperson of the following ICA-AP Sectoral/Thematic Committees will present their report before the Regional Assembly.

1. *ICA-AP Committee on Agriculture*
2. *ICA-AP Committee on Consumer*
3. *ICA-AP Committee on Credit and Banking*
4. *ICA-AP Committee on HRD*
5. *ICA-AP Committee on Research*
6. *ICA-AP Committee on Women*
7. *ICA-AP Committee on Youth*
8. *ICA-AP Committee on Forestry*
9. *ICA-AP Committee on University/Campus*

AGENDA ITEM 15 : REPORT OF THE 9TH COOPERATIVE FORUM ON "CO-OPERATIVES : THE POWER TO ACT FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE"

The 9th Cooperative Forum will be held on 17th November 2016 a day before the Regional Assembly. The Forum will have presentations by eminent cooperative experts and leaders on the theme, "**Co-operatives : The Power to Act for a Sustainable Future**". The deliberations at the Forum will help delegates have a deeper insight into the most relevant and crucial contextual issues important to cooperatives. We expect around 300 international participants to attend the Cooperative Forum, besides a large number of local participants.

A brief report will be presented at the Regional Assembly on 18th November by the Forum Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 16: ANY OTHER BUSINESS MATTERS

AGENDA ITEM 17: CONSIDERATION OF VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT ICA-AP REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

AGENDA ITEM 18: CLOSING REMARKS

Annexure-1

MINUTES OF THE 11TH MEETING OF ICA-AP REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Bali (Indonesia): 19th September 2014

AGENDA ITEM 01 : OPENING REMARKS

The joint opening ceremony of the 11th ICA-AP Regional Assembly and 8th Cooperative Forum was held at Bali International Conference Center (BICC) in the morning of 18th September 2014 which was attended by more than 900 cooperators. His Excellency Dr. Syarifuddin Hasan, Honorable Minister of Cooperative Small and Medium Enterprises, Republic of Indonesia, was the chief guest. Dame Pauline Green, ICA President; Mr. Li Chunsheng, President of ICA-AP; and Mr. H.A.M. Nurdin Halid, President of DEKOPIN (The Indonesian Cooperative Council) delivered their special addresses at the opening ceremony. Mr. Balasubramanian (Balu) Iyer, Regional Director of ICA-AP proposed a vote of thanks.

Subsequent to the deliberations at the ICA Regional Cooperative Forum, the 11th Meeting of ICA-AP Regional Assembly was held at BICC, Bali (Indonesia) on 19th September. 313 participants from 21 countries and two international organizations attended the Regional Assembly.

Mr. **Li Chunsheng**, President, ICA-AP and being the Chairman of ICA-AP Regional Assembly opened the meeting and welcomed all the members and special invitees. He expressed his happiness for the participation of most of the member organizations' representatives at the Regional Assembly in Bali. He also thanked Dame Pauline Green, ICA President and Mr. Charles Gould, ICA Director General for their presence.

AGENDA ITEM 02 : APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Li Chunsheng asked the members if they had any comments on the Agenda. The Agenda, which was circulated at the meeting, was unanimously approved.

AGENDA ITEM 03 : INTRODUCTION OF NEW REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Mr. Charles Gould introduced **Mr. Balasubramanian (Balu) G. Iyer** as the new Regional Director of ICA-AP with effect from 1st April 2014 to the delegates of the Regional Assembly. He explained the application process adopted by the ICA for the benefit of delegates. He said that Mr. Balu is an Indian and working in San Francisco as Director of Asia Foundation. Mr. Balu has not spent more time in the cooperatives, but very diplomatic, strategist, financial management and got supervisory experiences.

Mr. Balu Iyer addressed the members and committed to serve ICA on the lines of the Strategic Objectives set for the ICA. Mr. Balu further said that he took his MBA from Indian Institute of Rural Management (IRMA) and an ardent follower of the cooperative movement. He further said that he will follow the good work done by Dr. Choi.

AGENDA ITEM 04 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 10TH MEETING HELD IN KOBE ON 29TH NOVEMBER 2012

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that the minutes of the 10th Meeting of the ICA-AP Regional Assembly held in Kobe (Japan) on 29th November 2012 were circulated to all the delegates/member organizations and no comments/suggestions/amendments were received. The minutes were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM 05 : PERUSAL OF MINUTES OF ICA-AP REGIONAL BOARD MEETINGS SINCE LAST REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Since last Regional Assembly, three meetings of the Regional Board were held. The confirmed minutes of the three meetings were circulated at the Regional Assembly. Necessary follow-up action on these minutes had already been taken. The delegates of the RA endorsed the minutes of the Regional Board.

AGENDA ITEM 06 : ICA-AP FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2012-2014

Mr. Balu Iyer presented the ICA-AP financial report for the years 2012 to 2014. He informed the members that there was a small surplus during the years 2012 and 2013. He also presented the financial report for the period January to June 2014. He informed the members that we are on the right track and hoped to have some surplus at the end of 2014 also. The report was unanimously accepted by the RA.

Mr. Li Chunsheng said that the financial situation of Asia-Pacific region was very good and hoped it would be better in the coming years.

All members expressed happiness with regard to the outstanding performance and positive financial results of ICA-AP.

AGENDA ITEM 07 : ICA MEMBERSHIP SITUATION IN ASIA PACIFIC REGION

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that nine organizations had joined ICA since the last Regional Assembly in Kobe in November 2012.

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that seven organizations had ceased to be members of ICA due to non-payment of subscription fee. He also said that four organizations have applied for membership of ICA. The current total ICA-AP membership was 83 member organizations from 25 countries.

Mr. Li Chunsheng said that the membership of our region was increasing very fast comparing with other regions. The members appreciated the efforts made by ICA-AP in expanding the membership base of ICA in the Asia-Pacific region.

AGENDA ITEM 08 : PRESENTATION ON ICA BLUEPRINT FOR A COOPERATIVE DECADE BY ICA DIRECTOR GENERAL

Mr. Charles Gould, Director General of International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), made a presentation on "ICA Blueprint for a Cooperative Decade" which was approved at the ICA Extraordinary General Assembly in Manchester on 31st October 2012. He said that cooperatives operate in every sector of society and in every country. Sometimes, however, it can be difficult to differentiate a cooperative from other form of business - this is why the Blueprint for a Cooperative Decade is encouraging greater visibility for the cooperative model. He further said that 75 countries are using the coop marquee. The delegates thanked Mr. Charles Gould for his presentation.

AGENDA ITEM 09 : REPORT OF THE 1ST ASIA-PACIFIC COOPERATIVE REGISTRARS' CONFERENCE HELD IN MALAYSIA

Mr. Balu Iyer presented the brief report of the 1th Asia-Pacific Cooperative Registrars' Conference held in Malaysia on 10-11 December 2013. He also presented the Conference Resolution adopted

by the Conference on 11th December for the benefit of the members. He further said that the ICA-AP has brought out the full report of the Registrars' Conference in printed form.

AGENDA ITEM 10 : STATUS OF ICA-AP MALAYSIA BUSINESS OFFICE

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that the Malaysia Business Office (MBO) has been active for close to a year now. It was officially inaugurated in August 2013. The office has been registered as "**ICA-AP Malaysia Branch**" under Cooperative Society Act. He further said that the Office is fully functional and four seconded staff from All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives (ACFSMC); Malaysian National Cooperative Movement (ANGKASA); Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union (JCCU); and National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Korea (NACF) are in place. The office has been registered as a Society and has an operational bank account.

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that the Strategic Objectives for the MBO are: (a) Increase business interactions and exchanges between co-operatives in the region; (b) Promote 'Co-operative Trade' strategically by modes of fair trade and B-2-B platform through internet; (c) Promote technical exchanges and assistance in IT technology in the forms of workshop and training; (d) Transfer technical and managerial know-how especially in business areas of 'Resource Recycling' and 'Renewal Energy' business; and (e) Promote cultural exchanges of youth co-operators in the region.

Mr. Balu Iyer further said that the focus is benefit to members, but it will take time. He said that the duration of the seconding staff should be minimum three years. Continuity should be there so that plans can be made for longer period. We have to be clear about their work. We should achieve something at the end of the term. Recycling has to be worked out and we are open to ideas. MBO is for the region and the ideas should come from the members in our region. He also presented the activities carried out and activities planned by the MBO.

Mr. Vitoon Naewpanit informed the meeting that a MOU will be signing between CLT and ANGKASA soon and CLT is interested to sponsor a staff member to work at the MBO and a decision will be taken in this regard very soon.

AGENDA ITEM 11 : REPORTS FROM ICA-AP SECTORAL/THEMATIC COMMITTEES

Agriculture Committee : The 40th meeting of the ICA-AP Committee on Agriculture was held on 16th September at BICC, Bali, in conjunction with the 11th Regional Assembly. 19 members from China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, and Palestine attended the meeting.

The Committee acknowledged the importance of the UN International Year of Family Farming (IYFF). The Chairman laid special emphasis upon the celebration of the IYFF as it was an opportunity to raise the profile of family farming and small holder farmers. It was a platform to highlight the potential that family farmers have to eradicate hunger, preserve natural resources and promote sustainable development. He urged members to attend the seminar to be organized by ICAO the following day to share and exchange their experiences.

The Committee approved the membership of the Nepal Agricultural Cooperative Central federation Limited (NACCFL). The participants from China and the Philippines made a request to become members of the Committee. The participants from Indonesia, Nepal, Malaysia, Palestine, and the Philippines reported about agricultural cooperatives in their respective countries. The Chairman invited members to send a plan of proposed activities for the coming two years and a proposal to host the next meeting. The dates of the next meeting will be confirmed after deliberation by the Chairman and the Secretariat.

Consumer Committee: The 48th meeting of the ICA-AP Committee on Consumer Cooperation was held on 17th September at BICC. Nine members and 19 observers from eight countries attended the meeting. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Haruyoshi Amano, Chairperson of the Committee.

The meeting commenced with an opening address by Mr. Haruyoshi Amano, Chairperson of the committee. The Secretary of the Committee presented the Activity Report since last meeting in Singapore (2013) and Activity Plan for next year (2014-2015). The Committee members then made presentations of their recent activities and business results, which were followed by active and fruitful discussions.

The meeting was followed by election of the Office Bearers of the Committee. Mr. Haruyoshi Amano of JCCU, Japan was re-elected as Chairperson for another term of four years. Mr. Poh Leong Sim of NTUC FairPrice, Singapore and Mr. D.S.K. Pathirana of COOPFED, Sri Lanka were elected as Vice-Chairpersons unanimously. The next Committee meeting is scheduled to be held in 2015 in Malaysia.

In conjunction with the Consumer Committee meeting, a seminar on Environmental Protection was also held. The guest speakers for the seminar were Ms. Desi Kusumadewi, Director, Indonesian Office of Roundtable of Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) and Mr. Jung Won-Gak, Chairperson of iCOOP Cooperative Development Centre. Ms. Kusumadewi gave an "Overview of RSPO" during which she covered the current situation of consumption and production of palm oil in the world, environmental and social issues related to palm oil, and certification system of RSPO.

Mr. Jung made a presentation on "Business and Activity of iCOOP Korea for Environmental Protection". The presentation included background of iCOOP Korea, eco-friendly agricultural food business and practices of iCOOP Korea - such as protecting Korean native wheat, paddy, wetland conservation activities, and participation of consumers' in environmental movement.

Credit and Banking Committee: The 12th meeting of ICA-AP Committee on Credit and Banking (RCBA) was held in the afternoon of 16th September at BICC. Four members and 20 observers from eight countries attended the meeting. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Sivadasan Nair, Chairman of Credit and Banking Committee. The members made presentation on "Current Scenario of Cooperative Banking" in their respective countries and shared the policy environment best practices as well as constraints.

A presentation on Capitalization – Challenges of Cooperative Banks was made by Drs. Robby Tulus and Mr. B.D. Sharma. Members unanimously emphasized the need for innovations in the capitalization on cooperative banks, came up with the following recommendations: (a) Cooperative banks need to function as fullfledged universal banks to provide all kinds of financial services to their members/customers and to take advantages of opportunities in an evolving market; (b) Cooperative banks and credit unions generally face difficulties in raising adequate capital funds to match regulatory requirements as they cannot sell shares in the market like commercial banks; (c) Cooperative banks need to adopt innovative practices in raising capital to avoid the risk of demutualisation for meeting capital requirements; and (d) Following are the options appeared feasible for raising capital - Making cash rich cooperatives in other sectors also to contribute to the equity of Cooperative banks; Increased members participation in equity by way of enhanced ratio of equity linkages for availing credit facilities; Cooperative banks to focus on good governance based on members needs and sufficient surpluses to attract additional capital and reward the same; Another option suggested was to transfer the banking function to a subsidiary company owned by the cooperative by holding controlling equity. Such a company can also raise additional capital from the market like commercial banks.

The committee after detailed deliberations finalised the following activities for the next two years: (a) Asia Pacific Credit & banking committee should conduct a critical on cooperative banking

situation in Asia-Pacific region; (b) Following the study a reconciliation of the situation should be done based on the critical study; and (c) A workshop should be organized to discuss the report and prepare future action plan. The meeting authorized the Chair and the ICA-AP Secretariat to decide about the date and venue of the next meeting of the Committee.

HRD Committee: The 26th meeting of the ICA-AP Committee on Human Resource Development (HRD) was held in the forenoon of 17th September at Bali International Conference Center (BICC) from 09:00 to 12:30 hours. 9 members and 30 observers from 5 countries attended the meeting. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Bhagwati Prasad, Chairman of the HRD Committee.

Dr. Dinesh, Chief Executive of National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) gave an update on GHRD Networking for the benefit of the members. He said that the HRD Committee entrusted the work of developing a portal on training to NCUI with the condition that the financial liability is to be met by the NCUI. This portal was initially launched in February 2007 at VMNICM in Pune. But, for the last 5 years not much work has been done on this portal due to various reasons. Recently, the portal has been shifted to NCUI premises. He further said that NCUI is in the process of changing the portal and a consultant has been appointed and the portal will be operative again from October 2014 onwards. Presentation of country reports on initiatives on HRD was made by the members from India, Iran and Sri Lanka.

Mr. Bhagwati Prasad thereafter introduced the topic of the Seminar and said Good Governance is about the processes for making and implementing decisions in such manner that leads to achieving desired objectives. It's not about making 'correct' decisions, but about the best possible process for making those decisions. Good decision-making processes, and therefore good governance, share several characteristics: participation, rule of law, transparency, responsiveness, consensus-oriented, equity and inclusiveness, effectiveness and efficiency and accountability.

The following three presentations were made at the meeting by experts highlighting on various aspects of Good Governance with Focus on HRD for the benefit of participants of the event from the region: (a) Good Governance Issues and Challenges in Cooperatives by Ms. Norbiha Kasmuri, Training Officer, Cooperative Governance and Law Center, Cooperative College of Malaysia; (b) Human Resource Development is key to Good Governance Practices by Mr. Jose Romeo Ebron, Chairman, NATCCO, Philippines; and (c) Cooperative Principles and Values are Basic to the Good Governance in Cooperatives by Mr. K. K. Ravindran, Managing Director, National Coop Agricultural & Rural Development Banks' Federation, India.

The meeting unanimously elected **Dr. Dinesh**, Chief Executive of NCUI as Chair and **Mr. Jose Romeo Ebron**, Chairman of NATCCO as Vice Chair of the HRD Committee for the next four years. The meeting unanimously decided the theme of the next seminar to be held in 2015 as "**HRD as a Tool for Improving Performance in Cooperatives**". The NCUI agreed to host the next seminar/meeting in India in 2015. The Chairman was authorized to decide about the venue and dates in consultation with the ICA-AP Regional Director.

Research Committee: The 9th Research Conference was held on 16th September in BICC. 39 participants from China, India, Japan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Nepal, New Zealand, Philippines and Sri Lanka attended the Conference. The Conference was chaired by Dr. G.N. Saxena who praised the Research Committee for its commendable performance over the years and for holding research conferences every year. He called upon researchers to make purposive and valuable contributions to the co-operative sector.

Mr. Akira Kurimoto, Vice Chairperson of the Committee praised and recounted the history of the activities of the Research Committee beginning from 2000 until the last seminar held at the University of Mysore in India. He also explained the various international research events and forthcoming research projects.

The keynote address was delivered by Prof. Morris Altman from Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand on "Cooperative Organizations as an Engine of Equitable Rural Economic Development". He talked about the critical and contemporary challenges of cooperatives in the context of changes in the global economy. This was followed by presentation and discussion of eight papers based on the theme of the seminar "ICA Blueprint for Cooperative Decade" (a) participation; (b) sustainability; (c) identity; (d) legal framework; and (e) capital.

The Conference ended with concluding remarks by Balu Iyer, Regional Director of ICA-AP. He highlighted the importance of research and said that ICA-AP Office will provide all possible assistance to the Committee. The next Research Conference would be held in Pune (India) in 2015.

The 2nd meeting of the ICA-AP Committee on Co-operative Research was attended by members from India, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand and Sri Lanka. Dr. Y. Dongre advised that, membership of Research Committee should be increased and youth researchers should be encouraged to participate by offering them scholarships. The existing Steering Committee will continue to function for the next two years along with Prof. Morris Altman from New Zealand. The Steering Committee consists of 7 members; five from India and one each from Japan and New Zealand.

Women's Committee: The 9th meeting of the ICA-AP Committee on Women was held on 16th September at BICC. Eight members (out of 11) and 14 observers from nine countries attended the meeting. The meeting was presided over by Ms. Mashako Shinbo, Chairperson of the Women's Committee. She extended a warm welcome to the members and the observers. Mr. Balu Iyer, Regional Director of ICA-AP also attended the opening of the meeting. The Committee members discussed the proceedings of the last meeting and the changes incorporated since then. The Secretary presented the 'Action Taken Report' and enumerated the activities that have been completed.

The meeting elected Ms. Masako Shinbo, as Chairperson of the ICA-AP Committee on Women and Ms. Maria Elena Limocon, as Vice Chair. After this the Secretary reported on the progress of the Resource Guide for Advanced Training of Cooperatives on Entrepreneurship Development of Women and Gender Equality.

One of the major topics of concern at the meeting was the need to increase membership of the Committee. Several members offered suggestions and expressed their views. The Committee also proposed and approved the work plan for 2015. The members and participants attending the meeting were encouraged to bring forth their ideas and exchange valuable information. This was followed by presentation of country reports by members from India, Vietnam, Malaysia and Japan.

Mr. Balu Iyer in closing the meeting praised the committee for its commendable efforts to empower women and gender mainstream in cooperatives. He expressed his enthusiasm to support the activities of the Women Committee to encourage more participation of women. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled to be held in India in 2016 in conjunction with the Regional Assembly.

The **8th ICA-AP Regional Women's Forum** was held on 17th September focused on the theme "Gender Mainstreaming in Cooperatives for Sustainable Development". The Forum was attended by 40 women and men cooperators from eight countries. The members of the Committee presented five papers. Ms. Savitri Singh opened the Forum by welcoming the participants and giving a brief introduction to ICA-AP Regional Women's Forum, its purpose and objectives. The Forum was graced by Ms. Masako Shinbo, Chairperson of the ICA-AP Committee on Women and the Special Guest for the event was Dame Pauline Green, ICA President. Ms. Maria Elena Limocon, Vice Chair of Women's Committee delivered the vote of thanks and expressed her gratitude to all guests and participants.

Dame Pauline Green made a presentation on "Gender Mainstreaming in Cooperatives for Sustainable Development". She briefly introduced ICA and its work on sustainable development and explained the situation of women's participation in cooperatives through data from some countries. She was passionate about her stand for empowering women.

The Keynote speech was given by Mr. Peter Van Rooij, Director, International Labour Organization (ILO), Indonesia on the theme "Gender Mainstreaming in Cooperatives for Sustainable Development." Other speakers at the Forum were Dr. Robby Tulus, former Regional Director of ICA-AP, Ms. Keiko Okawara, Chairperson of the National Association of Women of Japan Agriculture Cooperatives Group and Ms. Maria Elena Limocon, Vice Chair of Women's Committee, Philippines. A stimulating group discussion was also held on the topic "How to overcome cultural and legal barriers towards gender equality in coops".

Youth Committee: The 7th meeting of the ICA-AP Committee on Youth Co-operation was held on 17th September on the theme "Financial Literacy for youth". The meeting was attended by 17 members (11 men and 6 women) from Bhutan, China, India, Malaysia and Indonesia. In addition, observers from Iran and Palestine also participated and contributed to the deliberations.

The Chairperson, Dr. Sukesh Zamwar, presided over the meeting, and updated the Committee members about the activities of ICYC during the past years. He went on to lay emphasis on how important it is to understand the judicious use of money by youth for nation building. He said that youth needed to practice the habit of being thrifty as this would save them from being a victim of consumerism and ensure a sustainable future for the society.

During the meeting, video presentations and messages sent by Ms. Anna Gabriella Buffa, ICA Global Youth Chair and Mr. Mumshad Ali Khan, Member-ICYC were played. Ms. Buffa's video presentation featured Mr. Ernesto Guevara, Manager of Training, Caja Popular, Mexico who brought out the features of credit cooperatives for youth and the work undertaken by his organization in Mexico. Ms. Buffa highlighted the role of the Global Youth Network and the slow, yet steady progress it was making towards formalizing the association.

The Chairperson launched the new look of the ICYC website (www.youth-asiapacific.coop). He also welcomed Mr. Balu Iyer, Regional Director of ICA-AP as honorary member of the Committee. Mr. Iyer assured his support and congratulated members on the success achieved during the World Conference on Youth 2014 and talked about commitment of ICA in promoting youth in cooperatives. The meeting tentatively decided to meet in Malaysia in 2015 and work closely with the Global Youth Network.

University/Campus Coops Committee: The 6th meeting of the ICA-AP Committee on University/Campus Cooperatives was held on 17th September at BCCI, Bali. Ten members from seven countries (India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand) attended the meeting. Members contesting for the elections read out their respective plans and introduced themselves. Since the candidates were unopposed, ballot style voting did not take place.

Results are as follows for the board: Chairperson-Prof. Furuta from NFUCA-Japan; Vice Chairpersons-Professor Park from KUCF-Korea and Dr. Azlan from ANGKASA-Malaysia. The Committee members agreed that Professor Zeny would be a Co-secretary along with Professor Dongre while Mr. P. Santosh Kumar will be the Secretary from ICA-AP.

Dr. Sukesh Zamwar, Chairperson of the ICYC introduced himself and the plans of the ICYC to collaborate with ICUC. The next meeting of the ICUC will mark 20 years of the Committee work and the members agreed to meet in Thailand in October/November 2015 and allow members of the ICYC to join the celebrations as well.

AGENDA ITEM 12 : REPORT OF THE 8TH COOPERATIVE FORUM ON COOPS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA & PACIFIC

Mr. Balu Iyer presented a brief report of the 8th Cooperative Forum on "Cooperatives for Sustainable Development in Asia and Pacific" held in Bali on 18th September.

The 11th Regional Assembly adopted the Bali Resolution of the 8th Cooperative Forum on "Cooperatives for Sustainable Development in Asia and Pacific". It recognized the relevance of sustainable development goals and the need to position cooperatives in the post-2015 global development agenda. The 8th Cooperative Forum resolved to assess and measure the contribution of cooperatives, invest in technology, education, and training of its members to increase participation and initiate activities at national and as well as local level focused on achieving inclusive and democratic sustainable development. It also called upon national governments, inter-governmental agencies and other stake holders to recognize cooperatives as representatives of a significant section of the population and to work with their national, regional and global cooperative movements in achieving the sustainable development goals. The Assembly urged national cooperative movements to call on their governments to revise cooperative laws and policies according to the internationally recognized definition and work closely with ICA to lobby the international community to recognize the role of cooperatives in achieving the sustainable development goals.

Professor I. Wayan Windia of Udayana University and an expert on Subak Agriculture Management System in Bali delivered the keynote speech on the "Role of Cooperatives in Sustainable Development of Local Communities". Mr. Charles Gould, Director General of ICA; Cooperative Leaders from Indonesia, India, Philippines, Mongolia, Iran, Japan, Kenya and international experts from Maseno University, European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprises and ILO-Indonesia presented papers and participated in panel discussions.

The Cooperative Forum deliberated on the following topics which led to adoption of the Bali Resolution. (a) Evidences of Sustainable Socio-Economic-Environmental Growth through Cooperative in the Region; (b) Role of Data, Research and Innovation in Sustainable Development; and (c) Panel discussion and open Forum on the topic - Cooperatives Build a Sustainable Society. The Regional Assembly adopted the Bali Resolution which is appended below.

Resolution on "Role of Cooperatives in Sustainable Development"

The 8th Asia Pacific Cooperative Forum, representative of the ICA in the Asia and Pacific and the cooperative movements therein; having met during the 11th Regional Assembly of the ICA Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP) from 16–19 September 2014 at Bali, Indonesia, while

- recognizing the relevance of Sustainable Development Goals and the importance of positioning co-operatives in the Post-2015 Global Development Agenda;
- reaffirming the International Co-operative Identity Statement and its promotion in theory and practice at all levels of co-operative education and training systems;
- realizing the significance of the ICA Blueprint for a Co-operative Decade and its themes as indicators in the development of co-operatives in the 21st Century, and in achieving sustainable development while articulating the concern of co-operatives for the community;
- noting the contribution of co-operative enterprises in ethical and value based business practices and the role of the global co-operative movement in promotion of Sustainable Development Goals;

- appreciating the inherent ability of co-operative enterprises in mainstreaming women, youth and marginalized sections of the society and in creating equal opportunity for all; and
- Conscious of inadequate enabling legal, policy and regulatory environment for co-operatives and the resultant constraints in realization of the complete potential of people-based economic enterprises in Asia Pacific region.

hereby resolve with the spirit of cooperation to

1. commit to assess and measure the contribution of co-operatives while increasing the body of co-operative research and knowledge by efficient data collection and management, to enable dissemination of information on co-operatives and sustain sovereign support of national governments and other stakeholders;
2. invest in technology, education and training for members, staff, management and board to increase participation, service and competitiveness of co-operative enterprises in realizing their inherent sustainable nature;
3. initiate activities at national and local level, focusing on achieving inclusive and democratic sustainable development through increased member participation with greater focus on women, youth and other marginalized persons, while addressing their socio, economic, cultural and environmental needs and aspirations;
4. call upon national governments, inter-governmental agencies and other stakeholders to recognize co-operatives as representative of a significant section of the population, and to work in co-operation with the national, regional and global co-operative movements in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by pledging support, integrating resources and implementing joint strategies in developing co-operatives in sectors vital for sustainable development such as clean energy, marine/ocean resources etc.;
5. urge national cooperative movements to call on their governments to revise cooperative laws and policies in conformity with internationally recognized definition, meaning and scope of cooperative enterprises, to participate in the global cooperative movement as a significant institutional partner and; and
6. work closely with the Alliance (ICA) to identify responses of co-operatives to each of the Sustainable Development Goals to be adopted by the international community, and create an enabling atmosphere for co-operatives to play a larger role in realizing the goals so adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 13 : ANY OTHER BUSINESS MATTERS

Nothing was discussed under this Agenda.

AGENDA ITEM 14 : CONSIDERATION OF VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT ICA-AP REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that at the last RA India had expressed their interest to hold the RA in India in 2016.

Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, President of National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) offered to host the 2016 Regional Assembly in India. He extended a warm welcome to the delegates to attend the RA in India in 2016. He also thanked DEKOPIN for their kind hospitality.

The meeting unanimously accepted the offer of NCUI. The dates and venue would be decided in consultation with NCUI. The RA thanked NCUI for agreeing to host the ICA-AP events in 2016 in India.

AGENDA ITEM 15 : CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked the members for coming and attending the meeting. He appreciated the excellent arrangements made by the host organization, DEKOPIN (the Indonesian Cooperative Council) for the meetings in Bali.

Mr. Balu Iyer said that a total of 14 different meetings were held in Bali from 16th to 19th September and he thanked the DEKOPIN for making excellent arrangements and the kind hospitality.

The RA proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Balu Iyer and his staff for carrying out the ICA-AP's work with success. The RA also thanked Dame Pauline Green, ICA President and Mr. Charles Gould, ICA Director General for coming and spending their valuable time.

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

Annexure-2

Minutes of the ICA-AP Regional Board Meeting

Singapore: 29th March 2015

The meeting of the ICA-AP Regional Board was held at Pan Pacific Hotel on Sunday, 29th March 2015 from 09:00 to 13:45 hours. Following members attended the meeting:

1. Mr. Li Chunsheng, ACFSMC, China - Chairperson
2. Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, NCUI, India - Vice Chair
3. Mr. H.A.M. Nurdin Halid, DEKOPIN, Indonesia - Vice Chair
4. Mr. Akira Banzai, JA-ZENCHU, Japan - Member
5. Mr. Won Byung Choi, NACF, Korea - Member
6. Dato Hj Abdul Fattah Hj Abdullah, ANGKASA, Malaysia - Member
7. Mr. Jose Romeo B. Ebron, NATCCO, Philippines - Member
8. Mr. Chan Tee Seng, SNCF, Singapore - Member
9. Ms. Dolly Goh, SNCF, Singapore - Alternate Member
10. Mr. W. Lalith A. Peiris, NCC, Sri Lanka - Member
11. Mr. Nguyen Van Thinh, VCA, Vietnam - Alternate Member
12. Dr. Sukesh Zamwar, BUCC, India - Youth Representative
13. Mr. Seah Kian Peng, ICA Global Board Member, SNCF, Singapore
14. Mr. Zhang Wangshu, ACFSMC, China - Observer
15. Mr. Jin Zhang, ACFSMC, China - Interpreter
16. Dr. Bijender Singh, NAFSCOB, India - Observer
17. Mr. Agung Sudjatmoko, DEKOPIN, Indonesia - Observer
18. Mr. Nachrowi Ramli, DEKOPIN, Indonesia - Observer
19. Mr. Ilham Nasai, DEKOPIN, Indonesia - Interpreter
20. Mr. Daisuke Shishido, JA-ZENCHU, Japan - Observer
21. Mr. Kenki Maeda, JA-ZENCHU, Japan - Observer
22. Ms. Yuri Sunaba, JA-ZENCHU, Japan - Interpreter
23. Ms. Tamami Sekine, JA-ZENCHU, Japan - Interpreter
24. Mr. Beom-seok Lee, NACF, Korea - Observer
25. Mr. Gwangseog Hong, NACF, Korea - Observer
26. Ms. Jina Kim, NACF, Korea - Interpreter
27. Hj. Kamarudin Ismail, ANGKASA, Malaysia - Observer
28. Mr. Sazali Abd Hamid, ANGKASA, Malaysia - Observer
29. Mr. Nasir Khan Yahaya, ANGKASA, Malaysia - Observer
30. Dr. Sunil Silva, NCC, Sri Lanka - Observer
31. Mr. Mr. B.G. Alahakoon, NCC, Sri Lanka - Observer
32. Mr. K.K.D.G. Dissanayake, NCC, Sri Lanka - Observer
33. Mr. G.G. Dayasumana, NCC, Sri Lanka - Observer
34. Ms. Tran Thu Hang, VCA, Vietnam - Interpreter
35. Dame Pauline Green, President, ICA
36. Mr. Charles Gould, Director, General, ICA
37. Mr. Balasubramanian (Balu) Iyer, RD, ICA-AP, New Delhi
38. Mr. K. Sethu Madhavan, ICA-AP, New Delhi
39. Ms. Zhang Xiaohong, ICA-AP Malaysian Business Office.

Absent : Mr. Vitoon Naewpanit, CLT, Thailand - Member

Agenda Item-01 : Opening Remarks

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Li Chunsheng, Chairman of the ICA-AP Regional Board. At the outset, Mr. Li Chunsheng informed the meeting about the death of Mr. Lee Kuan Yew, Founder Prime Minister of Singapore on 23rd March 2015 and offered his condolences to the people of Singapore. He extended a warm welcome to the members for coming to Singapore and thanked Dame Pauline

Green, ICA President and Mr. Charles Gould, ICA Director General for coming to the meeting. He also thanked SNCF for hosting the regional and global board meetings in Singapore.

Mr. Seah Kian Peng, ICA global board member from Singapore, welcomed the board members on behalf of SNCF. He said that Ms. Dolly Goh had prepared a very good program for the board members and it had to be cancelled at the last moment due to the sudden death of Mr. Lee Kuan Yew. He wished all the board members a comfortable stay in Singapore.

Dame Pauline Green said that advocacy on "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is very important. In the coming months it will be important for all cooperatives to advocate on the inclusion of cooperatives in the SDGs. We will be sending a message regarding this to the global board members and request Mr. Li to send it to the regional board members. We are also advocating with the G20 countries as they control 84% of the global GDP. I also request members who have not paid their subscription to do so. Payment of subscription on time is important as it enables us to continue our work."

Agenda Item-02 : Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Li Chunsheng invited views and comments of the members on the Agenda. There were none and the agenda of the meeting was unanimously approved.

Agenda Item-03 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting held in Bali on 16th September 2014

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that the minutes of the Regional Board meeting held in Bali (Indonesia) on 16th September 2014 were circulated to the members.

Mr. Banzai proposed the following corrections to the minutes: (a) The names of two interpreters (Ms. Yuri Sunaba and Ms. Minako Kawahata) be included; (b) Agenda Item-5, 2nd para, after CHF 381,860 should read as, which was 20,000 less than that in 2013; (c) Agenda Item-6, 4th para, 2nd line before the meeting, global board should be added; (d) The last line should read as, He also requested that the progress be reported at the regional or global board meeting; (e) Agenda Item-10, 4th para, 1st line should read as "Mr. Yaguchi proposed that, (1) the term of office of ICA-AP President from one country should be for a maximum of two terms; and (2) the election rules of the President, Vice President and Board Members should be clarified"; (f) 6th para should start as, Mr. Nurdin Halid said that the election rules should be decided in advance; (g) Dr. Yadav said that the board meeting should decide the election rules and deadline for payment of subscription; and (h) Mr. Vitoon Naewpanit said "we need rules to operate".

With the above changes, the minutes were confirmed.

Agenda Item-04 : Ratification of substitute member from Malaysia (Dato Hj. Abdul Fattah Hj. Abdullah, President, ANGKASA)

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that ANGKASA (Malaysian National Cooperative Movement) had nominated their current President Dato Hj. Abdul Fattah Hj. Abdullah in place of Prof Dr. Mohd. Ali Baharum. The meeting unanimously ratified the substitute member from Malaysia. Dato Hj. Abdul Fattah thanked the Regional Board for ratifying his name.

Agenda Item-05 : ICA-AP Activities Report for September to December 2014

Mr. Balu Iyer presented the ICA-AP Activities Report for the period September to December 2014. He further said that, "I am at the ICA-AP for almost one year now and thanked the members for their support. I was able to visit most of the countries in the region and look forward to visiting other countries this year".

Mr. Li said that the initiatives carried out were good and thanked the Regional Director and his staff for conducting many important activities during 2014.

Agenda Item-06 : ICA-AP Financial Report for January to December 2014

Mr. Balu Iyer presented the ICA-AP Financial Report for 1st January to 31st December 2014. He said that there was a surplus of US\$ 32,854 which would be used for work in 2015. From 2014 onwards all figures are in US\$. He further said that the income is taken based on estimation of subscription at the beginning of the year and actual is a reflection of the amount received. Also there will be variation in the exchange rate.

Mr. Li said that financial situation of our region is good when compared with other regions of ICA.

Agenda Item-07 : ICA-AP Budget and Activity Plan for 2015

Mr. Balu Iyer presented the ICA-AP Budget and Activity Plan for 2015. He said that some activities are based on the needs of the region and some are routine activities. The preparatory meeting for the Ministers' Conference would be held in Jakarta in September 2015. The C2C workshop would be held in July in Vietnam.

Mr. Balu Iyer further said that there was a natural disaster in Vanuatu recently. The cooperative there will assess the situation and send us a proposal. He requested the members to help them.

Agenda Item-8: ICA-AP Membership Situation

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that four organizations (Dure Consumers Cooperative Union (DCCU), Republic of Korea; Office of Cooperative Societies (OCS-PNG), Papua New Guinea; Office of Registrar of Cooperatives and Business Development Services (ORCBDS), Vanuatu; and Supervision and Coordination Central Union of Rural and Agricultural Cooperatives (SCURA), Iran) have been admitted into ICA; two organizations (Central Union for Cooperative Initiative in Israel, Israel; and Republican Union of Consumer Societies (RUCS), Tajikistan) have ceased to be the members of ICA due to non-payment of subscription fee; and three organizations (Maldives Fishermen's Association, Maldives; Federation of Peoples' Sustainable Development Cooperatives (FPSDC), Philippines; and Philippines Cooperative Center (PCC), Philippines) have applied for membership of ICA. The current total ICA-Asia and Pacific membership is **85** member organizations from **26** countries.

The Consultant appointed by ICA global office to carry out a study in Central Asia has submitted her report. The objective of the study was to produce a report on the cooperative movement in Central Asia and potential members in this region for the ICA. At present ICA had only two members in Central Asia.

Dame Pauline Green informed the meeting that government departments are now eligible to become associate members of ICA. We changed the rules recently as our aim is to promote cooperatives all parts of the world.

Mr. Choi said that DCCU in Korea has been admitted as a member of ICA. There are many organizations in Korea and we are not sure whether they are following the cooperative identity statement and their size is also very small.

Mr. Balu Iyer said, "I appreciate your comments. ICA sends the Application Form to those who are interested to become a member. All existing members in the particular country are consulted before accepting any new member. Normally, we use the following sentence – If we do not receive a reply within the stipulated time, we will assume that you support the application. Perhaps this clause can be reworded by the Membership Committee in future."

Mr. Choi further said that, "We receive a status when you become a member of ICA. So we are having frustration. I am emphasizing that more investigation should be done in future before accepting a new member. I am not aware of this organization."

Mr. Ebron said that he fully supports the membership application of Philippines Cooperative Center (PCC) which is the apex body of cooperatives in the Philippines.

Mr. Nurdin Halid said that ICA should make consultations with the apex organizations and try to get some kind of recommendation letter from the existing organizations.

Dr. Yadav said that only national level cooperative organizations registered under Cooperative Societies Act should be allowed to become a member of ICA. If apex organization is not recommended, they should not be considered for membership of ICA.

Dame Pauline Green said that "most countries do not have national apex organizations. The rules of ICA for admitting new members are very clear. I understand the frustration of Mr. Choi. NACF is a long standing member of ICA".

Agenda Item-09 : Israel's Request to Move from Asia-Pacific Region to European Region

Mr. Balu Iyer said that three documents have been circulated on this subject for the benefit of the members. The ICA global Membership Committee wants our opinion on Israel's request before they consult the European region.

Dame Pauline Green said that, "one group wants to stay with AP while the other group with Europe. This is a long standing issue. Another issue is Taiwan. From a cooperative point of view, they are closer to the European region. There is credibility to Israel's request."

Mr. Nurdin Halid said that "recently a delegation from DEKOPIN visited Jordan and Palestine cooperatives. One of the requests from Palestine was recognition of Palestine as a full member of ICA".

Mr. Choi said that "I think the request of Israel needs a lot of consideration from us. Instead of taking a decision now, we should look at what other international organizations are doing."

Dame Pauline Green said that "We have good relations with Palestine and Israel cooperatives. There are good cooperatives. We support the Middle-East. I do not want this issue as an Israel-Palestine issue".

Mr. Balu Iyer said that a number of international organizations based in Israel are in the European region and we should get the decision of all the board members in this regard.

Dr. Sukesh, Mr. Halid, Mr. Choi, Mr. Ebron, Mr. Peiris and Mr. Nguyen suggested that Israel should be in our region. Dr. Yadav remained neutral.

Mr. Banzai said that "What is important to us is the cooperative principle. There may be historical reasons for Israel in our region. We should look at what other world bodies are doing. We must take a conscious decision. We have to consider Israel's request in the entirety".

Mr. Abdul Fattah said that we believe in open and voluntary membership. We used to have persons from Israel attending the programs in our region. Malaysia has got diplomatic relations with Israel.

Mr. Nurdin Halid said that if we agree to Israel's request, the relationship between Israel and other countries will get worse. Perhaps they can have dual membership.

Dame Pauline Green said that the bye-laws are open on this issue. We do not know how the countries were allocated to each region. We will take this issue to the ICA Membership Committee.

Mr. Li said that "I respect most members' opinion. It is very hard for us to make a final decision. Tomorrow afternoon the Membership Committee of ICA will be meeting. I think they should remain with the AP region".

Agenda Item-10: Progress Report on the ICA-AP Representative Office in Malaysia (MBO)

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that the MBO has been active for two years now. The Office is fully functional and four seconded staff from ACFSMC), ANGKASA, JCCU, and NACF are in place. The office has been registered as a Society and has an operational bank account. He thanked all the four sponsoring organizations for their support.

Mr. Balu Iyer also thanked Mr. Lee and Mr. Ge who went back to their respective organizations for their dedicated service. He also thanked Ms. Hellen and Mr. Ju for taking their positions. He further said "ANGKASA has agreed to sponsor two staff members. Two days back we had a meeting and it was agreed that a Coordinator would be appointed from ANGKASA. There is a proposal from CORC-Iran to send their delegation to Malaysia to study the banking system of Malaysia".

Agenda Item-11 : Revision of Rules for Election of ICA-AP Regional Board and ICA-AP President

Mr. Balu Iyer said that at the Regional Board meeting held in Bali on 16th September 2014, two proposals were put forward in regard to election of President and procedures for regional board elections.

Proposal-1: President shall not be elected from one country for more than two consecutive terms. The reason behind this was that persons from other countries should be given the opportunity.

Proposal-2: A procedure to be established for the election of Regional President (Chairperson), Vice Presidents (Vice Chairpersons) and board members. The existing rules of ICA-AP say, "*There shall be a regional board of 11 persons consisting of a Chairperson, two Vice Chairpersons and eight members elected by the Regional Assembly. Not more than one person from one country can be elected to the Regional Board*".

He said that subsequent to the meeting, a Committee comprising of Mr. Li Chunsheng, Chairperson; Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadav, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Nurudin Halid, Vice Chairperson; and Mr. Balu Iyer, Regional Director was set up to look into the proposals, study existing rules in the Asia Pacific (AP) region and across other regional offices, and present a set of recommendations.

Recommendation-1: The President/ Chairperson is the chief representative of the region and presides over the Regional Assembly (RA) and the Regional Board. He serves as the link between the RA and the Board. The President also represents the region as Vice-President on the Global Board. Given the importance of this position it is necessary the position is contested and the person has full backing and confidence of the RA. **The President shall hold office only for two consecutive terms from one country. The President is elected directly by the RA.**

Recommendation-2: The election procedure, while not clearly stated, followed in the last Regional Assembly in 2012 in Kobe, mirrored the global board, in that the Board, Vice Chairpersons and President/ Chairperson were elected by the Regional Assembly. However, communication of the process before the election and conduct of elections were different and there was lot of confusion caused by last minute payment of subscriptions and lack of clarity on number of votes a member was entitled. *The election procedure for the Asia Pacific region will be clearly articulated along the lines of global board elections, ahead of the 2016 Regional Assembly elections, to make clear nomination procedure, subscription payments, order of elections etc.* The procedures will be communicated ahead of time and all efforts made to ensure there is transparency in the process. **First election of board members by the RA. This is to be followed by election for President and Vice President's by the RA from candidates among the board members. In the Vice Presidents election, the candidate getting maximum number of votes will be declared as first Vice President and the other as second Vice President.**

Recommendation-3: The AP region has active engagement of women cooperators and very active

Women Committee. However, there is hardly any representation of women on the Regional Board. **It is recommended to have one representative from the Women (Gender) Committee be co-opted to the Regional Board.**

Recommendation-4: The AP region contributes a significant amount to the ICA subscription pool, larger members provide additional resources (staff time and financially), and the Regional Office also gets (and has the potential) money from donors. Oversight is needed from the board on ensuring integrity of the Regional Office's financial statements; compliance with legal and regulatory requirements regarding financial disclosure; the performance of Regional Office internal audit function and audit reports. The oversight function gains more importance as there are now two offices (Delhi and Malaysia) to oversee. **It is recommended that an Audit and Risk Committee be constituted either from among the board members or from the Regional Assembly.**

Mr. Banzai thanked the Committee for bringing up the recommendations. He said "I support recommendation-1. When it will be started? Regarding recommendation-2, there will be two separate elections. That is not good. The President is elected by direct vote. On the other hand, in parliamentary election MPs are elected first and then the President is elected by the MPs. We should follow what the global organization is doing. Vice Presidents can be selected by the President from the board members. We support recommendation-3. We are not very supportive of recommendation-4. This will create more Committees".

Mr. Choi said that limiting term is undemocratic and he was against this. We should follow ICA rules.

Dr. Yadav said that he supports recommendation-3 without voting rights. Regarding recommendation-4, he said preference may be given to those countries whose members have not got a chance on the Board. He further said that there should be some cutoff date for clearing the subscription dues.

Mr. Abdul Fattah said that we should not fix any term limit. We support direct election for all the three posts. Fixing a quota is not a very good practice. We support recommendation-4.

Mr. Ebron said that it is better to simplify the elections to the President, Vice Presidents and board members. There should be a term limit for President. I am also proposing election for Audit and Risk Committee.

Mr. Lalith Peiris supported all the four recommendations proposed by the Committee.

Mr. Halid said that for President and Vice Presidents election, he will take this to his board and this issue can be taken into account and placed at the next meeting.

Mr. Choi said that "I disagree to recommendation-1. If it is offered, it should be applicable to all posts (President, Vice Presidents and board members). It should also apply to the Global President. If the person is capable, he should be allowed to continue as many times. While deciding this, we should find out what other regions are doing."

Dr. Sukesh supported all the four recommendations proposed by the Committee. He further said that all regions should have unanimity.

Mr. Banzai said that the process to be followed should be explained first.

Mr. Balu Iyer said that after Regional Board's approval, we should get the approval of Regional Assembly and then the ratification of ICA General Assembly. He further said that there are no uniform rules for elections.

Mr. Li said that we should now make the final decision. Since different views have been expressed by the regional board members, we should get the opinion of all member organizations in the region before taking a final decision.

Mr. Banzai said that the candidate should be elected according to merit. For example, in JA-ZENCHU, the President should not stand for more than two terms.

Mr. Balu Iyer said that we should take a vote now.

Mr. Choi said that more discussion is required before taking a final decision.

Dr. Sukesh suggested that we should consult all the ICA members in our region.

Dame Pauline Green said "This is a very important issue for the members. Many issues came up in this meeting. Serious and sensitive issues are involved. Take more time carefully before taking a final decision."

Since there was no consensus on this issue, the meeting finally decided to consult all the ICA members in Asia-Pacific region through a questionnaire and put the results at the next board meeting in Turkey.

Mr. Banzai suggested that before sending the Questionnaire to member organizations, it is better to send the questionnaire to the regional board members for their inputs.

Agenda Item-12 : Engaging Regional Board Members in ICA-AP Committees

Mr. Balu Iyer presented a brief note on engaging Regional Board Members in ICA-AP Committees which consisted of the following: (a) Audit and Risk Committee; (b) Membership; (c) Regional Development; and (d) Regional Board-Global Board relationship.

Mr. Banzai suggested that we are not for forming different committees. It is not a good idea.

Mr. Li said that "It is a good idea. Our members and staff have an important role in Asia-Pacific affairs. I suggest that more concrete proposal should be put forward to the members. What problem our cooperative movement is facing. The regional office should prepare substantial concrete proposals for practice."

Agenda Item-13 : 10th Cooperative Ministers' Conference

Mr. Nurdin Halid informed the meeting that the Minister for Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of Indonesia, has agreed to host the 10th Cooperative Ministers' Conference in Jakarta in April 2016. He also circulated a letter from the Minister in this regard.

Mr. Balu Iyer thanked the Indonesian Government for hosting the Conference. He said we need the continued full support of DEKOPIN for coordination with the ministry for smooth conduct of the Conference.

Agenda Item-14 : Other Business Matters Arising

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that he visited Sri Lanka in last November. The Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka had agreed to host a workshop on "Development of Fisheries Cooperatives in SAARC Countries" in March 2015. However, due to political reasons and elections, we had to postpone the workshop.

Dame Pauline Green informed the meeting that the G-20 Conference would be taking place in Turkey after the ICA General Assembly. She requested the members to register early as there would be heavy demand on the hotels.

Agenda Item-15 : Date and Place of Next Meeting

It was decided to hold the next Regional Board meeting in Turkey in November 2015 in conjunction with the ICA General Assembly.

Agenda Item-16 : Closing Remarks

Mr. Li thanked the members for their kind support in conducting the meeting very smoothly. He also thanked SNCF and ICA-AP for making excellent arrangements for the meeting.

Mr. Balu Iyer thanked SNCF for making excellent arrangements for the meeting and the hospitality provided to the board members.

Dame Pauline Green said that the inter-governmental negotiations on 21-24 April at the UN will focus on Means of Implementation of Post 2015 Development Agenda. She requested the members to solicit their government's permanent representatives to the UN to recognize cooperatives during the negotiations.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Minutes of the ICA-AP Regional Board Meeting

Antalya: 9th November 2015

The meeting of the ICA-AP Regional Board was held at Maritim Pine Beach Hotel on Monday, 9th November 2015 from 09:00 to 13:15 hours. Following members attended the meeting:

1. Mr. Li Chunsheng, ACFSMC, China - Chairperson
2. Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, NCUI, India – Vice Chair
3. Mr. H.A.M. Nurdin Halid, DEKOPIN, Indonesia – Vice Chair
4. Mr. Akira Banzai, JA-ZENCHU, Japan – Member
5. Mr. Seok-ju Kang, NACF, Korea – Alternate Member
6. Dato Hj Abdul Fattah Hj Abdullah, ANGKASA, Malaysia – Member
7. Ms. Divina C. Quemi, NATCCO, Philippines – Member
8. Ms. Dolly Goh, SNCF, Singapore – Alternate Member
9. Mr. Nguyen Dac Thang, VCA, Vietnam – Alternate Member
10. Mr. Seah Kian Peng, ICA Global Board Member, SNCF, Singapore-ObsERVER
11. Mr. Zhang Wangshu, ACFSMC, China – Observer
12. Mr. Li Shun, ACFSMC, China – Interpreter
13. Ms. Wang Jinzhi, ACFSMC, China – Observer
14. Dr. Dinesh, NCUI, India – Observer
15. Mr. Ilham Nasai, DEKOPIN, Indonesia – Interpreter
16. Mr. Kenki Maeda, JA-ZENCHU, Japan – Observer
17. Ms. Ayako Nakata, JA-ZENCHU, Japan – Observer
18. Ms. Kazuko Yoshida, JA-ZENCHU, Japan – Interpreter
19. Ms. Michiko Sekino, JA-ZENCHU, Japan – Interpreter
20. Hj. Kamarudin Ismail, ANGKASA, Malaysia – Observer
21. Mr. Nasir Khan Yahaya, ANGKASA, Malaysia – Observer
22. Mr. Keshav Prasad Badal, NCF, Nepal – Observer
23. Mr. Ramesh Prasad Pokhrel, NCBL, Nepal – Observer
24. Ms. Tran Thu Hang, VCA, Vietnam – Interpreter
25. Mr. Balasubramanian (Balu) Iyer, RD, ICA-AP, New Delhi
26. Mr. K. Sethu Madhavan, ICA-AP, New Delhi
27. Ms. Savitri Singh, ICA-AP, New Delhi.

Absent: Mr. Vitoon Naewpanit, CLT, Thailand – Member
Mr. W. Lalith A. Peiris, NCC, Sri Lanka – Member
Dr. Sukesh Zamwar, BUCC, India – Youth Representative

Agenda Item-01 : Opening Remarks

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Li Chunsheng, Chairman of the ICA-AP Regional Board. At the outset, Mr. Li Chunsheng extended a warm welcome to the members to Antalya and thanked them for attending the meeting.

Agenda Item-02 : Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Li Chunsheng invited views and comments on the Agenda. There were none and the Agenda was unanimously approved.

Agenda Item-03 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting held in Singapore on 29th March 2015

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that the minutes of the Regional Board meeting held in Singapore on 29th March 2015 were circulated to the members.

Mr. Li Chunsheng invited comments from the members on the minutes. Since there were none, the minutes were confirmed.

**Agenda Item-04 : Ratification of new member from the Philippines
(Ms. Divina C. Quemi, Chairperson, NATCCO)**

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that NATCCO had nominated their current Chairperson Ms. Divina C. Quemi in place of Mr. Jose Romeo B. Ebron. The meeting unanimously ratified the new member from the Philippines. Ms. Quemi thanked the Regional Board for ratifying her name.

Agenda Item-05 : ICA-AP Activities Report for January to October 2015

Mr. Balu Iyer presented the ICA-AP Activities Report for the period January to October 2015. He said that in preparation for the Ministers' Conference, a Regional Consultation of High Ranking Government Officials and Cooperative Leaders from the ASEAN ++ countries was held in Jakarta (Indonesia) on 1-2 October. The 2nd Regional Consultation for the SAARC region would be held in Kathmandu (Nepal) on 14-15 December. He said that he was trying to attend the Third GCC Cooperative Meeting in Kuwait in January. A Critical Study of issues facing cooperatives in the region would be carried out and Dr. Robby Tulus has been engaged for this purpose.

ICA collected close to US\$ 1 million for the Nepal Earthquake relief; out of this, a significant amount was donated by the Japan Agricultural Cooperatives. IFFCO also sent a lot of relief materials in kind. Across the board, there was generous support from members. Two installments of funds have been sent to NCF and NACCFL in Nepal and the third installment would be sent to them soon.

The 2014 Annual Report was circulated at the meeting. Mr. Iyer said that the report includes impressions and experiences of participants who have attended trainings, workshops and seminars. In order to speed up information to members, ICA-AP has started publishing a monthly e-Newsletter. He requested board members to send articles to include in the e-Newsletter.

Mr. Nurdin Halid informed the meeting that a delegation of cooperators from Jordan and Palestine visited Indonesia recently. The purpose of the visit was coop tourism and human resource development.

Mr. Li said that about 20 different activities have been carried out by the regional office. He thanked the Regional Director and his staff for carrying out many important activities in 2015. He also thanked DEKOPIN for holding the Regional Consultation.

Agenda Item-06 : ICA-AP Financial Report for January to June 2015

Mr. Balu Iyer presented the ICA-AP Financial Report for the period 1st January to 30th June 2015. He said that AP region was doing well and within its budget. The financial report of MBO will be reported after December since very little has been spent until now. The Nepal earthquake contribution will also be reported at the end of the year.

Mr. Li said that financial situation of our region was good when compared with other regions of ICA.

Agenda Item-07 : ICA-AP Activity Plan for 2016

Mr. Balu Iyer presented the ICA-AP Activity Plan for 2016. He said that in addition to the routine activities, the following will be carried out in 2016: (a) Tagatay+20 3rd Regional Conference on Status of Women in Asia and Pacific; (b) Focused Dialogue between six countries in Asia and the Pacific – what is happening in Asia and how we can cooperate with Australia/New Zealand; (c) 10th Asia-Pacific Cooperative Ministers' Conference; (d) 12th ICA-AP Regional Assembly–youth and research will be focused; and (e) ICA-AP Strategic Plan for 2017-20. Another activity could be ASEAN-European dialogue. He further said that global ICA is trying to get a project from EU and all regions are involved in it. This is very early stage now.

Dr. Yadav said that Training of Trainers for Management Capacity Building of Women for Cooperative Development may be held in India since the venue has not been confirmed yet.

Mr. Halid said that the venue of the Ministers' Conference would be either Makassar or Jakarta; the ministry's preference is Makassar. Mr. Balu said that we were talking about Jakarta only so far and the Memorandum of Understanding has been signed accordingly. He added that the Ministers' Conference should be a focused one and not be held in conjunction with any other event. Mr. Halid said that Makassar has got direct international flights from Singapore and Malaysia. However, DEKOPIN's first preference is Jakarta. Mr. Seah said that since the ministers are very busy the venue should be finalized as soon as possible and to have more participation.

Mr. Banzai said that the Ministers' Conference, Regional Assembly and Coop Forum are very important events for Japan.

Ms. Quemi said that she is interested in the training course on Green and Renewable Energy and wanted to get more details in advance. Mr. Balu said that the details including venue, date, sponsor, etc. will be published in the e-newsletter in advance.

Ms. Dolly said that progress of the recommendations of the last Ministers' Conference should be sent to the ministers. This will help the ministers to decide about their participation.

Mr. Li concluded that we had a good discussion about the activities to be carried out in 2016. A lot of thoughts have gone into the preparation of this plan. There are three important activities to be carried out in 2016 – Ministers' Conference; Regional Assembly/Coop Forum and Trade Exhibition (C2C).

Agenda Item-08 : ICA-AP Budget for 2016

Mr. Balu Iyer presented the ICA-AP Budget for 2016. He said that this budget would be re-worked once the EU project is approved.

Ms. Dolly said that Admin contribution has been mentioned as US\$ 55,000, but in the notes provided the total works out only 38,000. Mr. Balu said that we will look into this error and rectify it accordingly.

Mr. Banzai said that for easy reference it is better to include the previous year's budget also.

On a query, Mr. Balu informed the meeting that the EU budget will be divided into five parts (4 regions and global ICA) and available from 2016 onwards for a period of five years.

Agenda Item-9 : ICA-AP Membership Situation

Mr. Sethu informed the meeting that since the last board meeting in Singapore, two organizations - Maldives Fishermen's Association (MFA); Philippines Cooperative Center (PCC) have been admitted into ICA. Six organizations - Bangladesh Samabaya Bank Limited, Bangladesh; Korea Federation of Worker Cooperatives, Korea; Federation of Peoples' Sustainable Development Cooperatives, Philippines; Cooperative Societies Council, Saudi Arabia; Vietnam National Industrial Handicraft and Commercial Cooperative Enterprises Association, Vietnam; and Sharjah Cooperative Society, UAE have applied for membership of ICA. The current total ICA-Asia and Pacific membership is **87** organizations from **27** countries.

Mr. Balu said that we should go on trying to increase the membership of ICA and requested the help of board members in this regard.

Mr. Li said that the membership situation in our region is very good and it is steadily increasing. He further said that "I visited Kuwait last year and they wanted to set up an institute in Kuwait".

Ms. Quemi wanted to know whether ICA was not going for a national organization in one country. Mr. Balu said that any cooperative organization is eligible to become a member of ICA, but the existing member organizations are always consulted before taking a final decision by the Membership Committee.

Agenda Item-10 : Israel's Request to Change Regional Membership

Mr. Balu said that we discussed this issue in detail at the last board meeting in Singapore. A letter received from Coop Israel in this regard was included in the board papers. The global board discussed this issue again at its meeting in Buenos Aires and put the issue to vote. Majority of the board members consented to Israel's request to move to the European region with effect from 1st January 2016.

Agenda Item-11 : Revision of ICA-AP Rules: Summary of Responses Received from Members re term limit for President

Mr. Balu said that at the Regional Board meeting held in Bali on 16th September 2014, term limit for ICA-AP President and election procedures came up for discussion. Accordingly, a Working Group comprising of Mr. Li Chunsheng, Mr. Nurdin Halid, Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav and Mr. Balu Iyer was set up. They looked into the proposals and made recommendations to the Regional Board. These were discussed at the Regional Board meeting in Singapore on 29th March 2015. Given the importance of the issues, the Board felt it was important to get the opinion of all members to help them make an informed decision.

The Regional Office prepared a draft questionnaire that was discussed by the Working Group at its meeting in Nantong (China) in June 2015. In this meeting it was decided to focus the questionnaire on term limit of the President. Accordingly, the questionnaire was sent to 71 members and responses received from 65 members (92%). He thanked Sethu for the vigorous follow-up with the members and wanted Board's opinion to go ahead.

Mr. Li said that some members are not agreeable to term limits for ICA-AP President and he got many phone calls and e-mails in this regard. He further said that this will set a precedent for other regions also and hence this issue should be considered very carefully. Also, the change has to be approved by the Regional Assembly and then ratified by the General Assembly. The election of new ICA President is taking place now. We should consult with the new ICA President on this matter. We can find a way so that this issue can be finalized at the Regional Assembly in November 2016.

Ms. Quemi was of the opinion that we should not fix any term limit for ICA-AP President.

Mr. Seok-Ju Kang said that it is better to elect the President in a democratic way and not impose any term limit.

Dato Fattah said that he agreed with the proposal to postpone this issue. Our first priority is to increase membership. It is better we consult the new President and other regions to have a standard procedures.

Dr. Yadav said that, "This is a sensitive issue and at the same time we should have clear rules and regulations which are more democratic and transparent to avoid any kind of criticism. Since the Working Group has been formed, questionnaire prepared and sent, 57 member organizations agreed, it will give a bad name if it is delayed at this stage. In that case, the questionnaire should not have been circulated".

Mr. Banzai said that "I agree with Dr. Yadav. The results show that members want a change. We should change it now".

Mr. Halid said that "I understand the views of India and Japan. The election of ICA-AP President is important. I suggest that this issue may be discussed at the next Regional Assembly. My view is that we should elect the ICA-AP President in a more transparent way. We should also wait for the election of new ICA President".

Mr. Seah said that "I have no interest in this issue. I am speaking as Chair of the Election Committee and board member of ICA. This is an important matter. The responses of members should be taken

into account. Having said that, I do not understand why the questionnaire was sent. From which country the ICA-AP President comes is not an issue. It should be the best person. So I do not want to put any term limit. A new President will be elected soon and it is better to get his/her views since this may be applicable to all regions”.

Dr. Yadav said that “The whole issue has got two dimensions. We should have clear, transparent election rules. Previously, there was no deadline for paying the subscription fees, etc. Soon we will have a new President. We may call a meeting especially for this purpose with the President. This meeting should also discuss the election rules”.

Mr. Seah said that “I fully agree with Dr. Yadav. We have prepared a good process for the President of ICA and this can be taken into account”.

Mr. Banzai said that “Based on the decision taken in March, we forwarded the questionnaire to member organizations in a democratic way. This matter was fully discussed in March and we have the results here. Having term limit is also a democratic way since many people get a chance. Term limit is a way of promoting democracy”.

Mr. Balu said that as per the decision of the regional board, the questionnaire was prepared and sent out. He further said that each region follows their own rules. The board takes the decision, and our role is to implement it. Two issues are involved here – the election process (how it is followed) and the other is term limit for President.

Mr. Thang said that the capability of the President should be taken into account. We are following ICA strategic plan, so we should follow ICA election rules. So the election strategy and election rules should be discussed at the next Regional Assembly.

Ms. Dolly said that “We received the questionnaire. We should follow the ICA guidelines. The process is very important”.

Mr. Banzai said that we have already received the members’ views through the questionnaire.

Dato Fattah said that we are not rejecting the views of the members; just postpone this issue at the moment. Whatever decision you take here will have an impact on other ICA members.

Mr. Seah said that the regional board has to take a decision now. Majority of the board members are not agreeable to term limit.

Mr. Li said that we should have more transparent rules. The Working Group may continue working and submit its report in consultation with the new ICA President.

Mr. Banzai said that “why we should consult the new President since each region is following its own rules”.

Dr. Yadav suggested that “we can take this issue to the new ICA President and put up to the next board meeting”.

Mr. Seah said that “the Working Group may consider the views expressed by the members here and put up its final views to the next board meeting. Consultation with the new ICA President is okay, but the decision of the Working Group should be final”.

Agenda Item-12 : ICA-AP Strategic Plan for 2017-2020

Mr. Balu informed the meeting that the current ICA-AP Strategic Plan runs till end of 2016. A new strategic plan for the period 2017 to 2010 needs to be prepared. He requested that at the next board meeting time be allotted for a visioning exercise to be facilitated by an external consultant.

Dr. Yadav said that it is a good idea and supported the use of a consultant. Mr. Li concurred.

It was decided to have a two hours session for the vision exercise at the next regional board meeting.

Agenda Item-13 : Formation of ICA-AP Committee on Trade & Business

Mr. Balu said that we have been conducting workshops on Cooperative-to-Cooperative (C2C) Trade and lots of ideas are emerging (trade portal, directory for coop products, e-commerce, etc). For more concerted action, it is necessary to have a Committee on Trade and Business.

Dato Fattah said that it is easy to monitor if we have a Committee on Trade and Business. Mr. Halid also supported the idea of establishing such a Committee.

Mr. Banzai said that world population is increasing and lack of food is creating problems in many countries. Many cooperators from the region are coming to Japan to study Japanese agriculture. There is need to improve agriculture technology.

Mr. Li requested ICA-AP to make the preparations for the establishment of a Committee on Trade and Business and put up the proposal at the next board meeting for approval.

Agenda Item-14 : 10th Asia-Pacific Cooperative Ministers' Conference

Mr. Nurdin Halid informed the meeting that the 10th Cooperative Ministers' Conference would be held in Indonesia from 25-29 April 2016. A final decision about the venue (Jakarta or Makassar) and dates would be taken by the end of November in consultation with the Ministry of Co-operatives and SMEs. He informed the members about the regional consultation for ASEAN region that was held in Jakarta on 1-2 October.

Mr. Balu Iyer thanked the Indonesian Government for hosting the Conference. He said that we need the continued full support of DEKOPIN for coordination with the ministry for smooth conduct of the conference.

Agenda Item-15 : 12th ICA-AP Regional Assembly and Related Events

Dr. Yadav informed the meeting that 12th ICA-AP Regional Assembly and Related Events would be held at the Ashoka Hotel in New Delhi, India, from 15th to 19th November 2016. He requested the board members and cooperators to attend the Regional Assembly in large numbers. He assured the members that the Indian movement would put its best efforts to host a successful Regional Assembly. He was hopeful that the Prime Minister of India would grace the Assembly. He said that there were plans to hold a 'cooperative mela (fair)' in conjunction with the Regional Assembly.

Mr. Balu thanked DEKOPIN and NCUI for hosting these two big events.

Agenda Item-16 : Presentation of Relief and Re-construction Work in Nepal being undertaken by NCF and others

Mr. Keshav Prasad Badal, Chairman of National Cooperative Federation of Nepal (NCF/N) made a presentation on relief and reconstruction work undertaken by his organization. He informed the meeting that the devastating 7.8 magnitude earthquake that struck on 25th April affected 14 districts. 8,969 lives were lost, 22,321 people injured, 2,688 houses destroyed, and 3,777 houses partially damaged. The co-operative sector was badly affected with 1,080 lives lost, 1,446 injured, 518 buildings destroyed, and losses of more than 608 million rupees.

Mr. Banzai said that the JA group had collected 52 million yen (0.5 million US dollars) for the Nepal earthquake victims and that the Vice President of JA ZENCHU would be visiting Kathmandu on 23-24 November to hand over the funds.

Agenda Item-17 : Other Business Matters Arising

Mr. Balu informed the meeting that the next ICA General Assembly would be hosted by the Malaysian National Cooperative Movement (ANGKASA) in Kuala Lumpur in 2017.

Agenda Item-18 : Date and Place of Next Meeting

It was decided to hold the next Regional Board meeting in Jakarta in April 2016 in conjunction with the 10th Asia-Pacific Cooperative Ministers' Conference.

Agenda Item-19 : Closing Remarks

Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked the members for their kind support in conducting the meeting very smoothly. Mr. Balu Iyer also thanked the members for their active participation and discussions.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Minutes of the ICA-AP Regional Board Meeting

Colombo: 16th June 2016

The meeting of the ICA-AP Regional Board was held at Galadari Hotel in Colombo on Thursday, 16th June 2016 from 09:00 to 13:15 hours. Following members attended the meeting:

01. Mr. Li Chunsheng, ACFSMC, China – Chairperson
02. Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, NCUI, India - Vice Chair
03. Mr. Agung Sudjatmoko, DEKOPIN, Indonesia – Alternate Member
04. Mr. Akira Banzai, JA-ZENCHU, Japan – Member
05. Mr. Won-Byung Choi, NACF, Korea – Member
06. Dato Abdul Fattah Abdullah, ANGKASA, Malaysia – Member
07. Atty. Adolfo Ibanez, NATCCO, Philippines – Member
08. Mr. Chan Tee Seng, SNCF, Singapore – Member
09. Mr. W. Lalith A. Peiris, NCC, Sri Lanka – Member
10. Mr. Vo Kim Cu, VCA, Vietnam – Member
11. Dr. Sukesh Zamwar, BUCCS, India – Youth Representative
12. Mr. Zhang Wangshu, ACFSMC, China – Observer
13. Ms. Zhang Xiao Hong, ACFSMC, China – Interpreter
14. Mr. Ilham Nasai, DEKOPIN, Indonesia – Interpreter
15. Dr. Bijender Singh, NAFSCOB, India - Observer
16. Mr. Kenki Maeda, JC-Soken, Japan – Observer
17. Ms. Ayako Nakata, JC-Soken, Japan – Observer
18. Ms. Yuri Sunaba, Japanese Interpreter
19. Ms. Shiho Kawamura, Japanese Interpreter
20. Mr. Gwangseog Hong, NACF, Korea – Interpreter
21. Mr. Shaik Ismail Md. Allapichay, ANGKASA, Malaysia – Observer
22. Mr. Kamarudin bin Ismail, ANGKASA, Malaysia - Observer
23. Mr. Nasir Khan Yahaya, ANGKASA, Malaysia – Observer
24. Mr. Abdullah Shakir, MFA, Maldives - Observer
25. Mr. Kwek Kok Kwong, SNCF, Singapore – Observer
26. Dr. Sunil Silva, NCC, Sri Lanka – Observer
27. Ms. Tran Thu Hang, VCA, Vietnam – Observer
28. Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu Hao, VCA, Vietnam – Interpreter
29. Mr. Balu Iyer, RD, ICA-AP, New Delhi.
30. Mr. K. Sethu Madhavan, ICA-AP, New Delhi
31. Dr. Ganesh N. Prabhu, IIMB, India – Vision Exercise Facilitator

Absent : Mr. Vitoon Naewpanit, CLT, Thailand – Member

Agenda Item-01: Opening Remarks

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Li Chunsheng, Chairman of the ICA-AP Regional Board. At the outset, Mr. Li Chunsheng extended a warm welcome to the members to Colombo and thanked them for attending the meeting. He also thanked the National Cooperative Council (NCC) of Sri Lanka for hosting the meeting in Colombo.

Mr. W. Lalith A. Peiris, President of NCC, welcomed the members on behalf of the Sri Lankan cooperative movement. He informed the meeting that the recent flood in Sri Lanka had done lot of damages. He apologized for any lapses in arrangement and wished the members a pleasant and comfortable stay in Sri Lanka.

Agenda Item-02: Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Li Chunsheng invited views and comments on the Agenda. There were none and the Agenda was unanimously approved.

Agenda Item-03 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting held in Antalya on 9th November 2015

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that the minutes of the Regional Board meeting held in Antalya (Turkey) on 9th November 2015 were circulated to the members.

Mr. Li Chunsheng invited comments from the members on the minutes. Mr. Banzai proposed that under Agenda Item-7: ICA-AP Activity Plan for 2016, para 4 should read as "Mr. Banzai said that the activity plan should have the situation surrounding us and the priorities." The minutes were unanimously confirmed with the above correction.

Agenda Item-04 : Ratification of new members from the Philippines (Atty. Adolfo Ibanez, Chairperson, NATCCO) and Vietnam (Mr. Vo Kim Cu, President, VCA).

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that NATCCO had nominated their current Chairperson Atty. Adolfo Ibanez in place of Ms. Divina C. Quemi and VCA had nominated their current President Mr. Vo Kim Cu in place of Mr. Dao Xuan Can. The meeting unanimously ratified the new members from the Philippines and Vietnam respectively.

Atty. Adolfo Ibanez thanked the Regional Board for ratifying his name. He said that "Coop NATCCO Party had got two seats in the recently held parliamentary elections and we have got a political arm. I am looking forward to a stronger cooperation with board members in our region".

Mr. Vo Kim Cu thanked the Regional Board for ratifying his name and said that he will try to contribute substantially to the Board. He added "We are going to restructure the cooperative movement. I would like to hear and learn from experiences. The next Cooperative Ministers' Conference will be hosted by VCA in Vietnam in April 2017."

Mr. Chan Tee Seng informed the meeting that there would be a leadership change in the SNCF. He introduced the new Chairman of SNCF, Mr. Kwek Kok Kwong, who will take over in September 2016.

Agenda Item-05 : ICA-AP Activities Report for October 2015-April 2016

Mr. Balu Iyer thanked the members for taking their valuable time to be in Colombo for the board meeting and also NCC for making all the arrangements. He further said that, "This is a comprehensive board meeting. The Head of ILO-Sri Lanka, Mr. Donglin Li, will be making a presentation on Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka at 12:30. In the afternoon there will be a vision exercise on ICA-AP Strategic Plan for 2017-2020 facilitated by Dr. Ganesh N. Prabhu, Professor, IIMB from 2:30 to 5:30. He thanked the members for sending their priorities. In the evening there will be a reception with the Hon'ble Minister, Government officials, cooperative leaders and our members. Tomorrow there will be a field visit to Galle Cooperative Hospital.

Mr. Balu then presented the ICA-AP Activities Report for the period October 2015 to April 2016. He thanked the members for hosting various activities in the region. He said that "Ms. Monique visited three countries recently (Japan, Korea and China) and presented her vision for ICA to these countries. New Chairman of NACF was very much impressed about the visits. Ms. Monique requested me to convey her best wishes for the board meeting."

Mr. Balu informed the meeting that the postponed minister's conference would now be held in Hanoi (Vietnam) in April 2017. The 12th ICA-AP Regional Assembly and related events would be held in New Delhi (India) from 15-19 November 2016. He sought the support of board members for the following three activities: (a) Youth Summit in Bali in September (got good financial support from ANGKASA and ACFSMC); (b) International Cooperative Day (ICD) on 2nd July (theme: sustainable development - global office and regional office have already sent details to members); and (c) details of ICD celebrations held in your countries for inclusion in the monthly e-newsletter.

Mr. Li said that about 17 different activities have been carried out by the regional office. He thanked the Regional Director and his staff for carrying out many important activities during this period.

Agenda Item-06 : ICA-AP Financial Report for 1st January to 31st December 2015

Mr. Balu Iyer presented the ICA-AP Financial Report for the period 1st January to 31st December 2015. He said that there was a small deficit of US\$ 3,478 due to financial contribution to Nepal earthquake and Vanuatu cyclone. Otherwise, AP region was doing well and within its budget. The financial report of MBO was also presented to the meeting separately.

On a query from Mr. Banzai, Mr. Balu said that previous years' surpluses are available on global budget. The funds are meant for our region, but kept in the global account.

Mr. Li said that the deficit was very small when compared with other regions. He further said that we should encourage more members to join ICA and trade between coops should be increased in the future.

Agenda Item-07 : ICA-AP Membership Situation

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that since the last board meeting in Antalya, six organizations - Bangladesh Samabaya Bank Limited, Bangladesh; Cooperative Societies Council, Saudi Arabia; Federation of Peoples' Sustainable Development Cooperatives, Philippines; Korea Federation of Worker Cooperatives, Korea; Vietnam National Industrial Handicraft and Commercial Cooperative Enterprises Association, Vietnam; and Business Council of Cooperatives and Mutuals, Australia have been admitted into ICA. The National Confederation of Cooperatives of Timor Leste (CNCTL) has been admitted, but not paid the first subscription fee. Two organizations - Sharjah Cooperative Society, UAE and Cooperative Development Authority, Philippines - have applied for membership of ICA and we are awaiting their bye-laws. The following two organizations from Israel have been moved to Europe region with effect from 1st January 2016 as per global board decision (a) Coop Israel; and (b) Kibbutz Movement. The current total ICA-Asia and Pacific membership is **91** organizations from **27** countries.

Mr. Balu said that we should go on trying to increase the membership. He thanked the members for paying the subscription on time and requested who have not paid their subscription to do so at the earliest.

Mr. Li said that the membership situation in our region is okay. In future we should encourage more members from the Gulf countries to join ICA.

Agenda Item-08 : Proposed Election Procedures for ICA-AP Board Election in New Delhi on 18th November 2016

Mr. Balu Iyer said that in November we have to elect a new board. At the Regional Board meeting held in Bali on 16th September 2014 the term limit for ICA-AP President and election procedures were discussed. Following which, a Working Group comprising of Mr. Li Chunsheng, Mr. Nurdin Halid, Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav and Mr. Balu Iyer was set up to look into the proposals and make recommendations to the Regional Board. These were discussed at the Regional Board meeting in Singapore on 29th March 2015. Given the importance of the issues, the Board felt it was necessary to get the opinion of all members to help them make an informed decision.

The Regional Office prepared a draft questionnaire that was discussed by the Working Group at its meeting in Nantong (China) in June 2015. In this meeting it was decided to focus the questionnaire on term limit of the President. Accordingly, the questionnaire was sent to 71 members and responses received from 65 members (92%).

At the regional board meeting in Antalya the response was discussed and it was decided that the term limit of ICA-AP President should be taken up by the new board. The need for transparent and clear

election procedures for the board meeting in New Delhi in November 2016 was re-iterated. The Working Group met in Bangkok in February and worked on the proposed election procedures have been prepared.

Mr. Balu informed the meeting that the Secretariat has developed an electronic voting system and wanted to demonstrate it to the board.

Mr. Banzai said that specific rule number should be mentioned wherever, "as per ICA-AP rules" are mentioned in the election procedures.

Dr. Yadav suggested that the details of Election Questionnaire-Response Sheet should be sent to the members for their information.

Many members suggested that para 4.3 (The election of the board members is the first order of election followed by Vice Presidents and President) should be taken out from the election procedures since it is a repetition.

Atty. Adolfo suggested the following additional point: "Any incumbent member of the Regional Board interested to be elected as Vice President or President, as the case may be, shall signify verbally to the Regional Assembly of his/her intention to run before the actual conduct of the election. A regional board member can only seek for one position, either as Vice President or President."

In addition to the above, the members also proposed some minor corrections on the election procedures and requested the secretariat to incorporate the changes and issue the revised election procedures for the board election in New Delhi in November 2016.

Mr. Banzai reminded the board members about the term limit of ICA-AP President. He hoped all the members understood the results of the survey and the new Board in November will take a decision based on the member survey. He wanted all members to honour the decision of the member organizations.

Mr. Balu said that as per the decision of the regional board, the questionnaire was prepared and sent out. We should pass on all the information about the term limit of ICA-AP President to the new board.

Mr. Balu made a demonstration about the electronic voting system developed by ICA-AP to get a sense of its working. The members felt the electronic voting system looked good and unanimously approved it for the board election in New Delhi.

Agenda Item-09: ICA-EU Project: Cooperatives in Development

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that in March 2016, ICA and the European Commission signed a Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA) in Brussels for a global development program to benefit and advance the cooperative sector worldwide. Titled "Cooperatives in Development – people-centered businesses in action", the program is to run until 31 August 2020. The program is co-funded by the European Union as part of its commitment to support Civil Society Organizations active in development. The action will strengthen the ICA to build stronger global development policy coordination with the regions and countries. The action will improve the capacities and skills of all members of the ICA network for political dialogue and as a vehicle to obtain enabling environments for the cooperative movement. Political dialogue with governments, EU delegations and international institutions will aim at efficient monitoring of legislation, regulations and operational themes affecting cooperatives. The eight result areas are as:

1. Result 1: The capacity of the International Cooperative Alliance to represent and provide services is strengthened.
2. Result 2: The knowledge on the cooperative model and the legal framework for cooperatives in Latin America, Africa and Asia-Pacific has improved.

3. Result 3: The technical, institutional and political capacity of the national member federations is strengthened.
4. Result 4: The networking activities of cooperative organizations active in development at regional and global level are enhanced.
5. Result 5: The advocacy intervention and the political dialogue at global, regional and national levels are supported and strengthened.
6. Result 6: New alliances with CSO actors at national, regional and global levels are set up and existing cooperation with CSO actors is strengthened.
7. Result 7: A joint visibility strategy of the cooperative federations is developed and implemented.
8. Result 8: A system for efficient and effective project implementation, communication, visibility, monitoring and evaluation is established.

Agenda Item-10 : ICA-AP Strategic Plan for 2017-2020

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that the current ICA-AP Strategic Plan runs till end of 2016. A new strategic plan for the period 2017 to 2020 needs to be prepared. The strategy needs to be aligned with the ICA Global Strategy, recommendations from the Regional Consultations, and input from regional board members and staff. The exercise to be carried out today afternoon will discuss the input provided by the board members (through their response to questions sent ahead of the meeting) and identify the priority areas. Dr. Ganesh Prabhu, Professor Strategy from the Institute of Rural Management, Bangalore will take us through the exercise.

Agenda Item-11 : Nomination of two members to Coop Law Committee

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that the two representatives on the global Cooperative Law Committee, Dr. Chan-Ho Choi and Prof. Yuan Peng, have not been active. We need to have two new replacements.

The CVs of four candidates were circulated ahead of the board meeting. After discussions, the meeting approved the following two persons to the Cooperative Law Committee: (1) Dr. Bhagwati Prasad, Vice Chairman, Cooperative House Building & Finance Corporation Limited, Lucknow, India; and (2) Mr. Untung Tri Basuki, Secretary General National Commission of Human Rights, Republic of Indonesia.

Mr. Li requested the Regional Office to convey the decision of the Board to the Coop Law Committee and concerned persons.

Agenda Item-12 : Co-option of Women's Committee Chair to ICA-AP Regional Board

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that till November 2012, Ms. Hitomi Tanaka from JCCU, who was representative from Japan to the Regional Board and also the Chair of the Women Committee, was the Vice Chair (as decided by the Standing Committee/Regional Board). In the 2012 elections in Kobe, Ms. Amneris G. Gabriel from NATTCO, Philippines, who was elected as regional board member, contested for the Vice Chair but was narrowly defeated.

Since 2012, the regional board has very limited representation of women on the board. Given the importance the region places on participation of women in cooperatives and representation of women in leadership position across all levels, including the board; the absence of women on the board is glaring. The AP region has active engagement of women cooperators and very active Women Committee.

The meeting unanimously approved the co-option of Women's Committee Chair to the ICA-AP Regional Board.

Agenda Item-13 : Engaging Regional Board Members to ICA-AP Committees

Mr. Balu Iyer informed the meeting that the ICA Regional Board comprises of 11 members who bring rich experience from diverse sectors and from across a range of countries - from the developed to the developing and those in between. The rules of the Regional Board require the Board members to meet once a year, though they have been meeting at least twice a year. The board meetings are more routine in nature, with items on the agenda being taken up, discussed and approved. There is neither much interaction among Board members between meetings nor engagement with the Regional Office on a substantive level. While there are six members from the region on the Global Board, there is not much interaction that happens between the regional and global board.

Mr. Balu proposed the setting up of the following three Committees: (a) Audit and Risk; (b) Membership; and (c) Regional Development.

The Board members agreed to be part of the above Committees whenever there is a need.

Agenda Item-14 : Formation of ICA-AP Committee on Trade & Business

Mr. Balu said that we have been conducting workshops on Cooperative-to-Cooperative (C2C) Trade and lots of ideas are emerging (trade portal, directory for coop products, e-commerce, etc). For a more concerted action, it is necessary to have a Committee on Trade and Business.

The members approved the Constitution of the ICA-AP Committee on Trade and Business with the following change.

Article-8: Officers, 2nd para: The Officer in charge of the Committee at the **MBO** will function as Secretary of the Committee. The Secretary shall be responsible for the operational and administrative work of the Committee.

Mr. Li requested ICA-AP to make the above correction in the Constitution and put up to the next Regional Assembly for its approval.

Agenda Item-15 : 12th ICA-AP Regional Assembly and Related Events

Dr. Yadav informed the meeting that 12th ICA-AP Regional Assembly and related events will be held at Hotel Ashok in New Delhi (India) from 15th to 19th November 2016. He was hopeful that the Prime Minister of India would grace the Assembly. He requested the board members and cooperators to attend the Regional Assembly in large numbers. He assured the members that the Indian movement would put its best efforts to host a successful Regional Assembly.

Mr. Balu informed the meeting that the RA website (www.newdelhi2016.coop) has been set up and all details are available there. He further said that November is a tourist season and requested members to register early and make hotel reservations.

Mr. Li said that our registration fee is very reasonable in comparison with global office and other regional offices.

Agenda Item-16: Other Business Matters Arising

Mr. Banzai suggested that the Agenda should indicate whether it is for approval, discussion, consideration, information, etc. so that the members can understand it very well.

Agenda Item-17: Date and Place of Next Meeting

It was decided to hold the next Regional Board meeting in New Delhi on 15th November 2016 in conjunction with the 12th ICA-AP Regional Assembly.

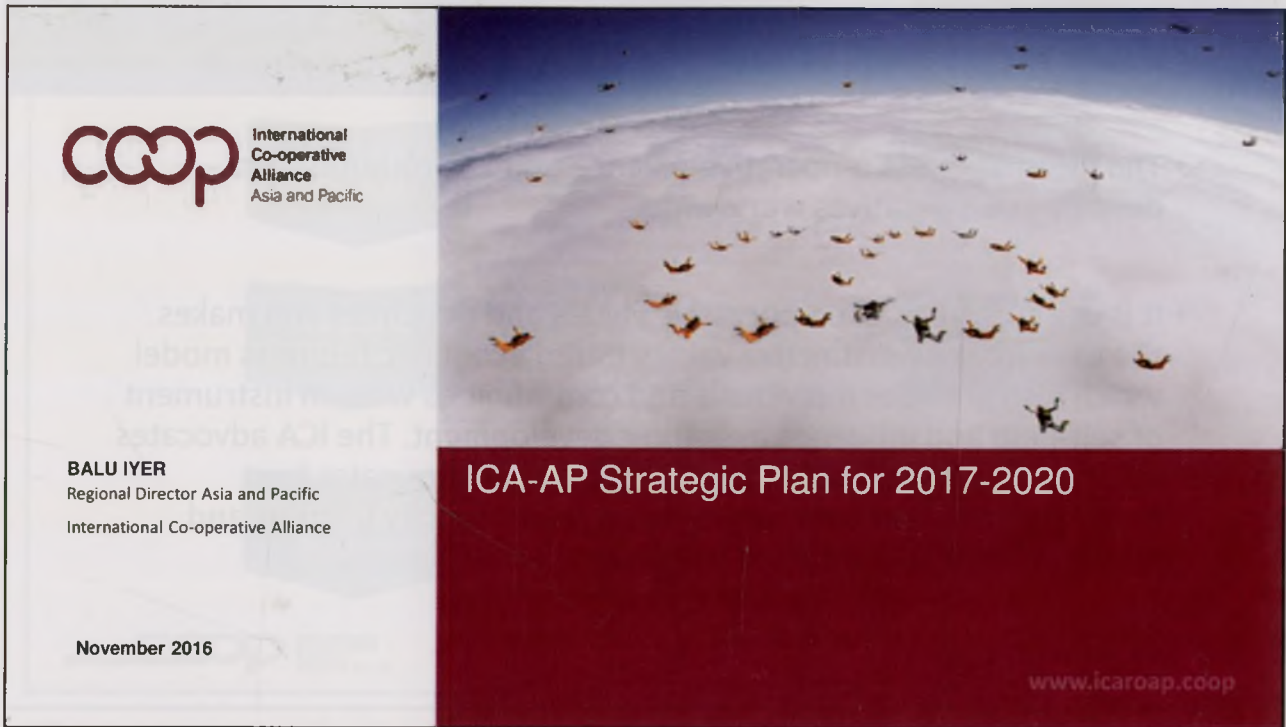
Agenda Item-18: Closing Remarks

Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked the members for their kind support in conducting the meeting very smoothly. He also thanked the NCC of Sri Lanka for hosting the meeting.

Mr. Balu also thanked the members for their active participation and engagement in the discussions.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Annexure-3



coop International
Co-operative
Alliance
Asia and Pacific

BALU IYER
Regional Director Asia and Pacific
International Co-operative Alliance

November 2016

ICA-AP Strategic Plan for 2017-2020

www.icaoap.coop

Vision

To be prized as the organization of reference which provides an effective and efficient global voice and forum for knowledge, expertise and coordinated action for and about co-operatives.

Mission

- The International Co-operative Alliance unites, promotes, and develops co-operatives worldwide.
- It is the custodian of co-operative values and principles and makes the case for their distinctive values-based economic business model which also provides individuals and communities with an instrument of self-help and influence over their development. The ICA advocates the interests and success of co-operatives, disseminates best practices and know-how, strengthens their capacity building and monitors their performance and progress over time



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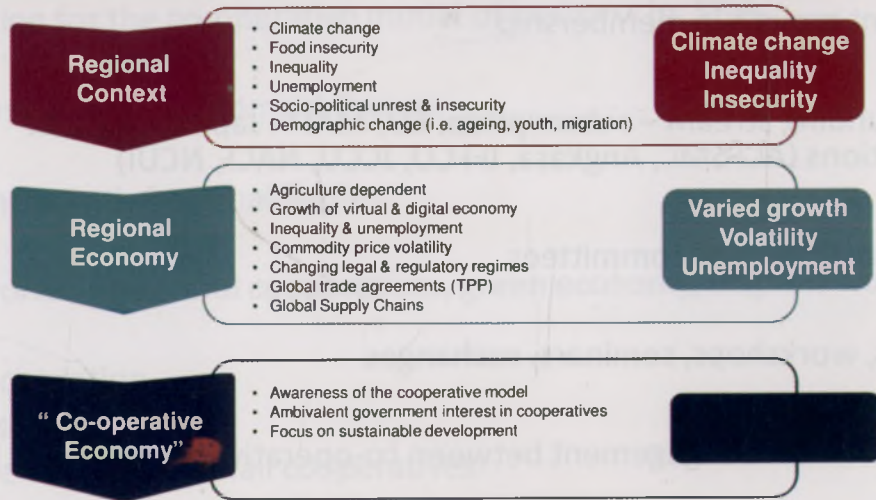
Process of Engagement

- Regional Consultation – ASEAN, GCC, SAARC
- Visioning exercise – Board and Staff (input)
- Committee input – Women, Youth, Research
- Women's conference – Clark City, Philippines
- Youth Summit – Bali, Indonesia
- Strategy of ICA
- ICA Blueprint for a Cooperative Decade
- Sustainable Development Goals

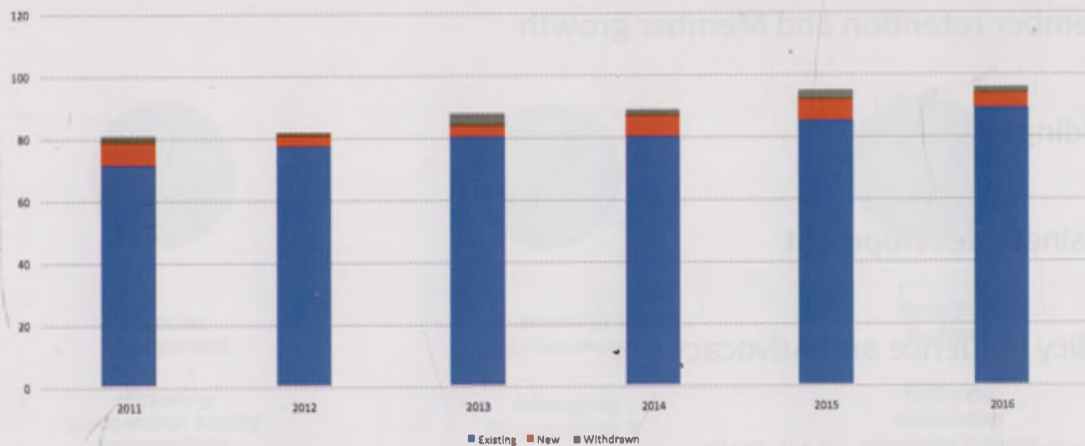


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The Regional Context



Membership Growth Across the Years



State of ICA-AP in the Region

Consistent growth in membership

Steady funding stream – subscription, EU, MAFF- Japan, Member organizations (ACFSMC, Angkasa, IFFCO, JCCU, NACF, NCUI)

Active functioning of committees

Trainings, workshops, seminars, exchanges

Nascent business engagement between co-operatives



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Challenges

Member retention and Member growth

Adding value

Business development

Policy influence and Advocacy

Communication and Visibility



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Emerging Opportunities

Recognition for the co-operative model of business in SDGs

European Union Development Project

Engagement with Regional Bodies

Aging, worker and social cooperatives, green economy, migrant workers

Inter-cooperation

- Cross-sectoral
- Between large and small cooperatives
- Between countries and regions



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When we exist?

UNITE

•Member
Engagement

•Fostering
co-operation among
co-operatives

PROMOTE

Leadership &
Commitment

Advocating
Co-operatives &
Communicating
our Value

DEVELOP

Growth &
Solidity

Fostering
sustainable
prosperity through
co-operatives



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Strategic Priorities

Advancing the Co-operative Movement

Building Business Linkages

Promoting Cooperative Engagement

Developing Resources

Engaging Institutions



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Advancing the Alliance - – membership, identity, partnerships

Members – Value that we are adding? Alignment with their priorities

Increase Membership – How are we going to engage?

Promote Co-operative Identity

Update co-operatives database – donor and support agencies
(research, education, technical)

Create - Top 100 Asia Pacific/ Top 10 in each country

Position with ASEAN, SAARC, GCC, MSG



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Building Business Linkages - – facilitate trade and trade networks

Cooperative Trade Network Forum

Promote cooperative products – statistics, exhibitions, promotions

Co-operative Rating (?)/ Cooperative brand

New avenues – FairTrade, Halal certification, cluster development

E-trade, e-commerce, collaborative platforms

Start-up support



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Cooperative Engagement – supportive, new approaches

Closer integration with Regional Committees

Advance resolutions from Regional Consultations, Ministerial Conferences

Gender Advancement

Youth Engagement

Research - Critical Study, SHG federations, legal, advance new forms of cooperative

Aging, worker and social cooperatives, green economy, migrant workers

Inter-cooperation

- Cross-sectoral
- Between large and small cooperatives
- Between countries and regions



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Developing Resources

Human – internal and external

Technical – skill development

Financial stability

Apex organization – capacity enhancement

Capacity to advocate



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Engaging Institutions

Build Networks - Parliamentarian, Registrars

**Engagement with International Agencies
(ILO, EU, FAO, WeEffect, DGRV) and Regional Networks**

**Build cooperative curriculum – bring together universities and
colleges/ tailor specific trainings**

**Government – create enabling environment; align with schemes –
tie-up (work with Apex members)**



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Finances

Subscription from members

MAFF – Japan (possible continuation; albeit at reduced levels)

EU - Cooperatives in Development – People-centred businesses in action
(March 2016 – August 2020)

Member organizations

Joint approaches to funding – Regional Bodies



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Key Metrics

Growth in membership/ Retention of members

Concrete Business connections developed

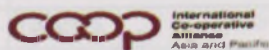
Impact of activities carried out with members

Engagements established with regional bodies

Promote identity, enhance visibility

Advocacy

Publications



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Annexure-4

VOTE DETAILS OF ICA-AP MEMBERS-2016

Status	Country	Name of the Member Organization	Number of Votes
Associate	Australia	Business Council of Cooperatives and Mutuals (BCCM)	-
Member	Australia	Capricorn Society Limited (CSL)	2
Member	Australia	Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited (CBH Group)	2
Member	angladesh	National Coop Union of Bangladesh (Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union-BJSU)*	12
Member	angladesh	Bangladesh Samabaya Bank Limited (BSBL)	2
Associate	Bhutan	Department of Agricultural Marketing and Cooperatives (DAMC)	-
Member	China	All China Federation of Handicraft & Industrial Co-operatives (ACFHIC)	5
Member	China	All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives (ACFSMC)	12
Associate	China	Coop Global Sourcing Limited (CGS)*	-
Associate	China	International Committee for Promotion of Chinese Industrial Coops (ICIC)	-
Member	India	Buldana Urban Cooperative Credit Society Limited (BUCCS)	1
Member	India	Co-operative House Building & Finance Corporation Limited (CHBFC)	1
Member	India	Indian Farm Forestry Development Co-operative Limited (IFFDC)	1
Member	India	Indian Farmers Fertilizer Co-operative Limited (IFFCO)	12
Member	India	Krishak Bharati Co-operative Limited (KRIBHCO)	1
Member	India	National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED)	1
Member	India	National Co-op Agricultural & Rural Development Banks Federation (NCARDBF)	1
Member	India	National Co-operative Consumers Federation Limited (NCCF)*	1
Associate	India	National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC)	-
Member	India	National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI)	3
Member	India	National Fedn of Farmers Procurement, Processing & Retailing Coops (NACOF)	1
Member	India	National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Limited (FISHCOPFED)	1
Member	India	National Federation of State Co-operative Banks Ltd. (NAFSCOB)	1
Member	Indonesia	Indonesian Co-operative Council (DEKOPIN)	12
Associate	Iran	Central Organization for Rural Co-operatives (CORC)	-
Member	Iran	Central Union of Iran Animal Farmers (CUIAF)*	3
Member	Iran	Central Union of Rural & Agricultural Co-operatives of Iran (CURACI)	7
Member	Iran	Iran Central Chamber of Co-operatives (ICC)	11
Member	Iran	Iran Oilseeds & Vegetable Oil Processing Factories Co-operative (FARDA COOP)	1
Member	Iran	Plshgaman Cooperative Union (PCU)	2

Member	Iran	Supervision & Coordination of Central Union of Rural Agril Coops (SCURA)	1
Associate	Iran	Tose'e Ta'avon Bank (T.T. BANK)	-
Member	Japan	Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives (JA-ZENCHU)	3
Member	Japan	IE-NO-HIKARI Association (Association for Education & Publication on Agril Coops)	1
Associate	Japan	Japan Cooperative Insurance Association Inc. (JCIA)	-
Member	Japan	Japan Workers' Co-operative Union (JWCU)	1
Member	Japan	Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union (JCCU)	4
Member	Japan	Japanese Health and Welfare Co-operative Federation (HeW Co-op Japan)	1
Member	Japan	National Association of Labour Banks (NALB)	1
Member	Japan	National Federation of Agricultural Co-operative Associations (ZEN-NOH)	3
Member	Japan	National Federation of Fisheries Co-operatives Associations (JF ZENGYOREN)	1
Member	Japan	National Federation of Forest Owners' Co-op Associations (ZENMORI REN)	1
Member	Japan	National Federation of University Co-operative Associations (NFUCA)	1
Member	Japan	National Federation of Workers & Consumers Insurance Co-ops (ZENROSAL)	1
Member	Japan	National Mutual Insurance Federation of Agricultural Co-ops (ZENKYOREN)	3
Member	Japan	The Japan Agricultural News (NIHON-NOGYO-SHIMBUN)	1
Member	Japan	The NORINCHUKIN Bank (NORINCHUKIN)	3
Member	Kazakhstan	Union of Consumer Societies of the Republic of Kazakhstan (UCSRK)	2
Associate	Korea	Dure Consumers' Cooperative Union (DCCU)	-
Member	Korea	iCOOP Solidarity of Consumer Co-operatives (iCOOP Korea)	1
Associate	Korea	Korea Federation of University Cooperative (KFUC)	-
Member	Korea	Korean Federation of Community Credit Co-operatives (KFCCC)	6
Member	Korea	Korean National Federation of Fisheries Co-operatives (NFFC)	1
Member	Korea	National Agricultural Co-operative Federation (NACF)	10
Member	Korea	National Credit Union Federation of Korea (NACUFOK)	5
Member	Korea	National Forestry Co-operatives Federation (NFCF)	1
Member	Korea	Korea Federation of Worker Cooperatives (KFWC)	1
Member	Kuwait	Union of Consumer Co-operative Societies (UCCS)	4
Associate	Malaysia	Co-operative College of Malaysia (CCM)	-
Member	Malaysia	Malaysian National Co-operative Movement (ANGKASA)	10
Member	Malaysia	National Land Finance Co-operative Society Limited (NLFCS)	3
Associate	Maldives	Maldives Fishermen's Association (MFA)	-
Member	Mongolia	Mongolia National Co-operative Alliance (MNCA)	2
Member	Mongolia	National Association of Mongolian Agricultural Co-operatives (NAMAC)	4

Member	Myanmar	Union of Myanmar Central Co-operative Society Limited (CCS)	6
Member	Nepal	National Cooperative Bank Limited (NCBL)	2
Associate	Nepal	National Co-operative Development Board (NCDB)	-
Member	Nepal	National Co-operative Federation of Nepal (NCF)	9
Member	Nepal	Nepal Agricultural Co-operative Central Federation Limited (NACCFL)	4
Member	New Zealand	Co-operative Business New Zealand (CBNZ)	4
Member	Pakistan	Karachi Co-operative Housing Societies Union Limited (KCHSU)	5
Associate	Palestine	Economic and Social Development Center of Palestine (ESDC)	-
Associate	Papua New Guinea	Office of Cooperative Societies of Papua New Guinea (OCSPNG)*	-
Member	Philippines	Cooperative Union of the Philippines (CUP)*	9
Member	Philippines	Federation of Peoples' Sustainable Development Cooperative (FPSDC)	2
Member	Philippines	National Confederation of Co-operatives (NATCCO)	4
Member	Philippines	Philippines Cooperative Center (PCC)	8
Member	Philippines	VICTO National Co-op Federation and Development Center (VICTO National)	2
Associate	Saudi Arabia	Cooperative Societies Council (CSC)	-
Member	Singapore	Singapore National Co-operative Federation Limited (SNCF)	6
Member	Sri Lanka	Federation of Thrift and Credit Cooperative Societies Ltd. (SANASA)	5
Member	Sri Lanka	Kotikawatta Thrift and Credit Co-operative Society Limited (KTCCS)	2
Member	Sri Lanka	National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka (NCCSL)	9
Associate	Sri Lanka	National Fisheries Federation (NFF)*	-
Associate	Sri Lanka	National Institute of Co-operative Development (NICD)	-
Member	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka Consumer Co-operative Societies Federation Ltd. (COOPFED)*	9
Member	Thailand	Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions (ACCU)	1
Member	Thailand	The Co-operative League of Thailand (CLT)*	11
Member	Timor Leste	National Confederation of Cooperatives of Timor Leste (CNCTL)	2
Associate	Vanuatu	Office of the Registrar of Coops and Business Development Services (ORCBDS)*	-
Member	Vietnam	Vietnam Co-operative Alliance (VCA)	10
Member	Vietnam	Vietnam National Indl Handicraft & Commercial Coop Enterprises Association- vicca	3
	18.10.2016	Total Number of Votes	285

* Subscription fee not paid

74	Full Members
18	Associate Members
28	Countries

Annexure-5

Constitution of ICA-AP Committee on Trade and Business

Preamble

This Committee is a Committee of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and Pacific. The Committee shall work in accordance with the aims and objects of the ICA and the general policy of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific.

Article 1: Name

The name of the Committee shall be "**ICA-AP COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND BUSINESS**". It will be referred to hereinafter as the "Committee".

Article 2: Overall Aim

The overall aim of the Committee shall be to promote the development of sound and effective trade and business and to develop appropriate policies and programs. In this respect, the Committee will undertake suitable advocacy work and formulate viable strategies from time to time in order to build up the trade sector.

Article 3: Membership

The Committee shall consist of persons/organizations working in the field of trade and business in the member-organization of the ICA in the region. Each member-organization of the ICA-AP would be entitled to nominate a maximum of two persons relating to trade and business sector, in the committee.

Non-member of ICA can attend the Committee meetings provided he/she obtains the approval from the concerned member-organization of ICA and also accepts the objects of the ICA and the Committee.

Article 4: Functions

The functions of the Committee shall be as follows:

- to review periodically the progress made in the field of trade and business coops and to initiate necessary action;
- to promote the growth and development of trade and business cooperatives in the region;
- to assist in the strengthening, reconstruction and rehabilitation of the existing trade and business cooperatives in the region;
- to recommend policies and common lines of action in the field of trade and business and to initiate implementation;
- to make recommendations and undertake professional steps for improving managerial competitiveness and operational efficiency of trade and business cooperatives in the Region;
- to promote systematic dissemination of information and exchange of experiences/ best practices in respect of the trade and business cooperatives;

- to suggest and initiate programmes of member activities and undertake appropriate measures for developing active participation of members in the management of trade and business cooperatives;
- to survey the problems which concern the cooperatives in the field of trade and business, in order to ascertain which problems are common to these cooperatives as a whole, and formulate recommendations for the solutions of these problems;
- to carry out any other activities which are incidental or conducive to the promotion of the aims and the objectives of the Committee.

Article-5: Activities

For dynamic growth of the trade and business cooperative sector in Asia-Pacific region and to influence the policy-makers to give due recognition to trade and business cooperatives in the policy/legislative framework of the countries, the Committee may undertake various activities/programs in accordance with the functions as well as objectives of the Committee. If needed, the Committee may decide to raise funds to increase its activities/programs.

Article-6: Meetings

- The meetings of the Committee shall be held at least once every year. At the time of the Regional Assembly, the Committee shall hold a meeting;
- The meetings of the Committee shall be conducted in English. Participants requiring interpretation in any other language may be accompanied by personal interpreters at their own cost;
- The Regional Director and/or his/her nominee and members of the Regional Board shall be entitled to attend the meetings of the Committee;
- The members shall serve on the Committee for a period of four years;
- Each member attending the meeting shall have one vote;
- Observers from non-member organizations may be invited to the Committee meetings, through the concerned national member organizations of ICA. Non-member organizations may here refer to institutions/organizations engaged in or interested in the field of trade and business.
- The Committee shall have the powers to frame its own rules of procedures and conduct for approval by the Regional Assembly; and
- The quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall consist of five (5) member countries/organizations.

Article-7: Working of the Committee

The Committee will work within the ICA Strategic Plan and will submit annual work plan/budget to the Regional Director.

Article-8: Officers

- The Committee shall elect a Chairperson and a Vice Chairperson. Their term of office shall be four years (RA to RA). Retiring officers shall be eligible for re-election;

- The Officer in charge of the Committee at the MBO will function as Secretary of the Committee. The Secretary shall be responsible for the operational and administrative work of the Committee; and
- In the case of both the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson not being present at the meeting, the Committee shall elect a Chairperson from among the members present for conducting the meeting.

Article-9: Finance

- The work and the meetings of the Committee shall be on a self-financing basis;
- The financial year of the Committee shall be one calendar year.

Article-10: Office

The office of the Committee shall be at the ICA-AP MBO in Malaysia or at such place as may be decided by the Committee with the approval of the Regional Assembly.

Article 11: Report to ICA Regional Assembly

The Committee shall submit a report of its activities to the ICA Regional Assembly.

Article 12: Relationship with Member Organisations

The members of the Committee will keep the Committee informed of all significant developments in the field of trade and business in their respective countries.

Article 13: Working Groups

The Committee may constitute a technical development unit or working group, as may be necessary, to deal with specific issues and problems and these groups may meet as and when required.

Article 14: Amendments

Any amendments to the Constitution of the Committee shall be by a decision of two thirds of all the members eligible to vote and present in the meeting. Amendments thus adopted shall come into force after they are approved by the ICA Regional Assembly.

Article-15: Dissolution

The Committee may be dissolved by the decision of three quarters majority of those attending the meeting.

ICA Co-operative Identity Statement

DEFINITION

A Co-operative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise.

VALUES

Co-operatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, Co-operative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

PRINCIPLES

The Principles of Co-operation are guidelines by which Co-operatives put their values into practice.

First Principle: Voluntary and Open Membership: Co-operatives are voluntary organisations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

Second Principle: Democratic Member Control: Co-operatives are democratic organisations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women, serving as elected representatives, are accountable to the membership. In primary Co-operatives, members have equal voting rights [one member one vote], and Co-operatives at other levels are also organised in a democratic manner.

Third Principle: Member Economic Participation: Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their Co-operative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the Co-operative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing their Co-operative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the Co-operative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

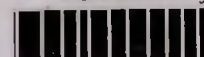
Fourth Principle: Autonomy and Independence: Co-operatives are autonomous, self-help organisations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organisations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their Co-operative autonomy.

Fifth Principle: Education, Training and Information: Co-operative provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees, so that they can contribute effectively to the development of their Co-operatives. They inform the general public – particularly young people and opinion leaders – about the nature and benefits of Co-operation.

Sixth Principle: Co-operation among Co-operatives: Co-operatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the Co-operative Movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

Seventh Principle: Concern for the Community: Co-operatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.

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