

**ICA Council
for South-East Asia**

23/10/81

23rd Meeting

Venue Seoul, Korea

Dates 29-30 Oct.1981



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

International Cooperative Alliance
43, Friends Colony
New Delhi-65, India.

TWENTYTHIRD MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST
ASIA HELD AT SEOUL, KOREA, ON 29TH & 30TH OCTOBER, 1981

Inauguration Ceremony of the 23rd Meeting
of the ICA Council for South-East Asia

1. The inauguration ceremony of the 23rd Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia and its various Sub-Committees was held at the Koreana Hotel, Seoul (Korea), on 27th October 1981 at 10.30 a.m. The meeting was attended by a large and representative gathering of cooperators and government officials. In the absence of H.E. Mr. Koh Kun, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea, H.E. Mr. Kang In Hee, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, was the Chief Guest and read the Congratulatory Address of the Minister.
2. Hon. Mr. Duck-Yong Rhee, Chairman and President, National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, in his Opening Address welcomed the distinguished Regional Councillors and said that he was happy that the NACF was able to host the 23rd Meeting of the Regional Council. He briefly explained the reorganisation that was taking place in agricultural cooperatives, especially the conversion from three tier to a two tier system. He was hopeful that the deliberations of the Council will give a new emphasis and a new direction to the activities of the ICA ROEC.
3. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, ICA ROEC, in his address thanked the Chairman & President of NACF for the kind invitation extended to the Regional Council to hold the 23rd Meeting in Seoul, Korea. He also thanked the NACF and its staff for the excellent arrangements made and for their very generous hospitality. He also conveyed the warm greetings of the Director, ICA, Dr. Saenger, to the NACF and to the Regional Councillors and said that the Director wished the meeting every success. He thanked also the Presidents and staff of the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives and the National Livestock Cooperatives Federation for their presence and the kind hospitality extended to the Regional Councillors. He went on to say that the problems facing the cooperatives in many countries in Asia were very many, and was hopeful that the Regional Councillors would be able to address themselves to these urgent problems - such as the role of governments vis-a-vis cooperatives, the manpower problems in cooperatives, the problem of member relations and strengthening of cooperatives, the problem of

cooperatives not being able to help those in actual need such as the small farmer, the landless labourer and artisan, and provide valuable guidelines to the secretariat for activities for the coming year. He thanked the cooperative movement in Korea for the continuing support they have provided to the ICA ROEC and particularly the NACF and the NFFC who had hosted several seminars and study visits in the recent past. He was hopeful that the National Livestock Cooperatives Federation would also be able to join in the ranks of their colleagues and support the ROEC activities. He thanked Mr. Melts Jonsson of the SCC for his kind presence and for the SCC and the Swedish cooperators for the enormous support they were providing for the development of cooperatives in the Region. He thanked also Mr. GOLF Akaby, Project Director of the ILO/SIDA Cooptrace Project for his presence and expressed the hope that the work done by that project will help to develop more inter-cooperative international trade. While thanking the Regional Councillors and the member-organisations for their continuing support, he expressed the hope that the deliberations of the meeting would be fruitful and would help in formulating activity programmes as would help improve the performance capability of the cooperatives in the Region.

4. H.E. Mr. Koh Kun, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, said in his Congratulatory Address "agricultural development owed much to the activities of the cooperatives. They have made a great contribution towards the productivity boost in that area and the increase in farming household income. In a bid to raise the economic and social status of the farming population, the Korean government extends positive support to the agricultural community movement". He extended a warm welcome to the Councillors and wished their deliberations every success.

5. Mr. J.M. Ramani, Director (Education), ICA ROEC, in his vote of thanks said "It is my privilege to express on behalf of the ICA ROEC our profound gratitude to our host of this 23rd Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia. They have shouldered an enormous responsibility in hosting this important meeting and in doing so I am informed that they have also had the valuable collaboration with the NFFC and NLCF. This is the 21st year of the ICA ROEC and we are entering the third decade. We are in a sense entering adulthood and in doing this we will be facing great many challenges. I am sure the deliberations of this Council will make a very valuable contribution in meeting the challenges that have been outlined to us by the previous speakers. In expressing my thanks to the Korean Movement I would also like to stress the very close collaboration we have had over all these years with the NACF and more recently with the NFFC. We have been arranging one week study visits every year for participants who take part in the joint ICA/CIAC/IDACA Seminar and I may assure you, Mr. President, that these visits have been found exceedingly valuable

by the participants of these seminars and they have made valuable contributions to their own movements on their return home. We also had the privilege of learning from the fisheries cooperative movement very recently when we had a seminar in March this year. I would thank H.E. Mr. Duck-Yong Rhee, President of MACF, who has been very kind to invite this meeting to Korea and who has very graciously arranged a very fine atmosphere for our meeting and the fine arrangements for our deliberations. I would also thank the Council members who have taken time out of their busy schedule to spend on us in Korea and as in the past help us with their very valuable guidance in developing inter cooperative collaboration and the movements in the region and in helping us to formulate our work programme."

Minutes of the Twentythird Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia held at Seoul (Korea) on 29th & 30th October, 1981

6. The 23rd Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia was held at Koreana Hotel Seoul (Korea), on 29th and 30th October, 1981.

7. The following were present :

1. Mr. Youn Koo Lee, Chairman & Member for Korea
2. Mr. Tapeswar Singh, Member for India
3. Mr. R.G. Tiwari, Member for India
4. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia
5. Mr. Djoko Basuki, member for Indonesia
6. Mr. Morimasa Kunii, Member for Japan
7. Mr. Shunji Tsuboi, Alternate Member for Japan
8. Mr. Won-Ho Suh, Member for Korea
9. Dato N.A. Kulrajjan, Member for Malaysia
10. Prof. Dr. A. Kahar, Member for Malaysia
11. Brig. Gen. A.S. Lozada, Member for Philippines
12. Mr. C.M.R. Bogullagama, Member for Sri Lanka
13. Mr. Derek da Silva, Alternate Member for Sri Lanka
14. Mr. Teerawit Klunsap, Alternate Member for Thailand
15. Mr. Vichien Inthachat, Member for Thailand

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

Special Invitees : 1. Dr. Jin Hwan Park, Dean, Agricultural Cooperative Junior College, Seoul.
 2. Dr. S.K. Saxena, SCC
 3. Mr. Malte Jonsson, SCC
 4. Mr. K. Fujimoro, Managing Director, IDACA, Tokyo
 5. Mr. Rolf Akeby, ILO/SIDA Cooptraue Project

Observers : 1. Mr. Chong Thin Huatt, Malaysia
 2. Mr. Haji Aziz Mchd. Ibrahim, Malaysia
 3. Mr. Abdul Manar Abdul Majid, Malaysia
 4. Mr. Anan Chamnarkit, Thailand
 5. Mr. M. J. Khan, India

ICA ROEC Staff : 1. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
 2. Dr. D. Vaj, Joint Director (Education)
 3. Mr. L. Gunawardana, Joint Director (PPR)
 4. Mr. M.K. Pari, Joint Director (YAT)

In attendance: 1. Mr. H. Terunuma, IDACA, Tokyo
 2. Mr. Masanoro Konno, CIAC, Tokyo
 3. Mr. Prem Kumar, ICA ROEC, New Delhi.

Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome

8. Mr. Youn Koo Lee, General Manager, Research Department NACF, in his welcome address said: "It gives me great pleasure to be here this afternoon to welcome you on behalf of the Korean National Agricultural Cooperative Federation. I would like to say that it is our great honour to host this important meeting of the ICA Regional Council for South-East Asia in collaboration with the ICA Regional Office & Education Centre. It is my firm belief that, with your long experiences and knowledge of the cooperative movement in the Region of South-East Asia, this meeting will come up with useful guidelines for the future ICA activities in the Region. I hope that all the arrangements made by us for this meeting are satisfactory to all of you. I wish that you will have a most enjoyable stay in our country."

Agenda Item No. 2 : Remarks by the Regional Director

9. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, said: "Let me on behalf of the ICA ROEC extend a very warm welcome to each one of you distinguished Regional Councilors to this 23rd Meeting. I would like to take this opportunity also to welcome to our midst Dr. S.K. Saxena who was our Director for quite a long time and who is now the Senior Consultant to the Swedish Cooperative Centre, also Mr. Malte Jonsson from the SCC and Mr. Rolf Akeby from the ILO/SIDA Cooptrade Project. I am sure you would have seen the very heavy agenda which we hope to go through and perhaps you have already received our communication in regard to matters that we would like to raise under "Any other matters", some of these we would have already circulated and there would be a further document circulated also by Mr. M.J. Shah who is a special invitee to the meeting from the National Federation of Industrial Cooperatives of India.

10. During the course of this meeting it is our intention to place before you a report on the activities conducted by the ROEC since the last meeting of the Regional Council and we are also placing before you a programme of activities for 1982-83 on which we would like

your deliberations and counsel. As mentioned by Mr. Maite Jonsson, there is the possibility in regard to joint ventures in cooperative activities which could find financing so long as the member organisations are willing to do the basic home work in regard to the projects they are interested in. We are also happy that we have with us in this meeting the representative from IDACA, Mr. K. Fujimoto, who is the Managing Director of IDACA, who is the coordinating link for our training activities with the CLC and during the course of the meeting the Japanese delegation will place before you the programmes of activities which are proposed by IDACA. As we go on we will be able to give much more detail in regard to the proposed activities and activities already done. We from the secretariat look forward to your very wise counsel in determining the priorities for activities in the Region and for strategies for our own activities for the development of cooperatives in the region."

Agenda Item No. 3 : Election of Chairman

11. As is the usual practice, Mr. Youn Koo Lee, Member for Korea, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Council till the holding of the next Council Meeting.

Agenda Item No. 4 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the 22nd Meeting

12. The Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the ICA Regional Council held on 15th and 16th November 1980 at Colombo, which had been circulated earlier, were confirmed.

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

13. The Secretary informed the meeting of three letters received by ROEC in respect of non-attendance at the Regional Council Meeting.

1. Mr. I.H. Hunter, Member for Australia - due to process of restructuring that is going on in Australia that he found it difficult to attend the meeting. He had conveyed his regards and best wishes for the meeting.

2. Mr. Joseph Edward & Mr. Roland Tay Titt Hin, Members for Singapore - regretted their inability to attend the meeting.

3. Mr. Ali Hossain, Member for Bangladesh - the BJSU informed that due to forthcoming elections in the country, Mr. Ali Hossain was unable to attend the meeting.

Evaluation of ROEC Activities

14. The Secretary, sought the permission of the meeting to take up first the item in the Agenda which referred to Evaluation of ROEC Activities. He informed the meeting that the ICA in collaboration with the SCC had set up a team headed by Dr. Saxena to evaluate the ICA activities. He referred to the previous evaluation done around 1975 and the Experts' Consultation held thereafter which set guidelines for future ROEC activities and was hopeful that the present evaluation would help us clarify our priorities and decide on more effective approaches to cooperative development. He outlined briefly some of the more important steps taken since 1975 - viz. in setting up of SEASPECT, the focus on Training Methodology and Techniques, the development of Education Materials, the focus on Women, the emergence of the Teacher Training Project and the Consumer Education Project in Sri Lanka. He also mentioned the continuing interest in the Open Asian Conferences and also the developments arising out of the Research Study on Cooperatives and Small Farmer Development. He requested Dr. Saxena, the Team Leader, and Mr. Malte Jonsson, to make their observations in this regard.

15. Dr. S.K. Saxena, SCC - I would like first of all to thank you and through you the Regional Councillors as well as our Korean hosts for all the facilities and courtesies which have been extended to me and more particularly the fact that this item has been taken earlier on the agenda which will give me a bit more time to get a feedback from you. I might also take this opportunity for apologising for any inconvenience caused by my late arrival on which I had no control. He referred to the four main leads for Evaluation - the terms of reference of the evaluation which were given on page 2 of the Regional Council Agenda. He said the basic focus of the evaluation was not to sit in judgement, not to prove or disapprove, but to improve. That was the basic focus. Also to see how the work of the ROEC could be made more relevant to the needs of the member organisations. He said: "You might ask what is the reason that so soon after 1975 we are undertaking the evaluation at this stage and I think the sponsors, ICA and SCC, would give two reasons. First is simply that from time to time organisations have evaluation to see if there are any specific needs which have not been included or any point of emphasis which ought to be undertaken by the organisation and, secondly and more importantly, the reason that the pace of change in the cooperative movements is so fast that there is always a risk that an institution might get behind with the pace of changes. These are the two reasons. The methodology to be adopted is one of questionnaires, interviews with a number of people, visits to some of the actual educational activities and getting extensive reports from those movements which are not going to be visited. Incidentally, the movements which are to be visited because of the factor of time are: the Filipino Movement, the Sri Lanka Movement and the Indian Movement. All this is in addition to detail and in-depth discussions with the ROEC people as well as selected participants, about five or

many countries as we visit.

16. The team consists of Mr. Karl Fogelstrom who is from Coop.Movement of Finland and who has had very considerable experience of the cooperative movement in Africa, myself and in the case of Asia an Asian cooperator who is still to be selected and in the case of East Africa an African cooperator who is also to be selected. I should mention that Mr. Fogelstrom has already attended and participated in the Regional Council Meeting for East Africa some months ago and we should of course be comparing our notes.

17. The submission of very professional recommendations are to be done by the end of February 1982. A much more considered version of the report will be made available later on and finally I would like to say that I have a simple and small questionnaire which I would like to circulate to all members present here and will be most grateful if this could be filled in and given to me by the time the meeting ends tomorrow."

18. Mr. Malte Jonsson, SCC, said: "I would like to add that the SCC/SIDA places great importance to this evaluation. SIDA's policy during the last few years has been to work more with NGOs in their technical assistance programmes. The total technical assistance given from SIDA is in the range of 1,000 million U.S. Dollars and out of this cooperative technical assistance from SIDA is in the range of 20 million U.S. Dollars and part of it is of course channelled through SCC. I am mentioning this in view of the interest of SIDA to support NGOs directly. This is the policy which started little more than a year ago. Now SIDA contributes 100 per cent through SCC to the ICA ROEC activities. Therefore this evaluation is of great importance to us as explained already by Dr. Saxena. Maybe, it will also show us about the possibilities of how to support better cooperative development both in Asia and Africa."

(A questionnaire pertaining to the evaluation was distributed to the Regional Councillors).

Agenda Item No. 6 : Talk on "Development of Primary Agricultural Cooperatives in Korea"

19. Dr. Jin Hwan Park, Dean, Agricultural Cooperative Junior College of the NACF, gave a talk on "Development of Primary Agricultural Cooperatives in Korea" which was very highly appreciated by the Councillors. An interesting and useful discussion followed.

A copy of the talk was circulated among the members and others present at the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 7 : Report on "Recent Changes, Trends and Developments of Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia" by the Councillors

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

Thailand

- development programmes have been directed towards building up an integrated cooperative system by strengthening the links between credit, supply of agricultural inputs, agricultural production and marketing.
- steps taken to upgrade and strengthen the management capabilities of the agricultural cooperatives in poor financial condition.
- acceleration of cooperative education and training.
- strengthening of operational efficiency and expansion of activities of consumers cooperatives, thrift and credit cooperatives and service cooperatives.
- increase of foreign aid in assisting and fostering the growth of cooperatives, particularly in the field of agricultural cooperatives.

Sri Lanka

- acceptance by the government of the Devanayagam Report - one of the recommendations of which was the setting up of an Advisory Council to advise the government and the ministry on cooperative policy. This advisory committee has been appointed.
- setting up of a coordinating committee to formulate policy on cooperative education and training.
- establishment of a national institute for cooperative management.
- integration of Women's Project with the NCC activities.
- revival of the credit cooperative movement.

India

- cooperative is a state subject. The Central Government provides guidelines, but the State Governments have enacted their own rules and laws. There was always some controversy in following different rules in the States. Some State Governments are amending their laws in accordance with the Central Government guidelines.

- agricultural credit programme is rapidly increasing. Agricultural marketing activities increasing. Producers were being given much more incentives through the local cooperative marketing society either at the mandi level or at the block level.
- in the consumer movement steps were being taken to cater to the requirements of consumers not only in the urban sector but also the rural sector.

Mr. R.G. Tiwari, Councillor from India, added : "I feel both at the central level of the ICA and the South-East Asian Advisory Council level they are confining their activities to the physical achievements of the cooperative movement. After formulating certain principles for the movement, ideology and objectives, I think it was absolutely necessary both for the global leaders as well as the regional leaders to find out whether the principles and ideology are being maintained as part of the movement in the countries concerned. There is a constant erosion of the basic content of the cooperative movement, the content of democratic character. I think such an important aspect of the movement is not being taken care of by the collective wisdom of this council, neither here nor at the central level. If you want the movement to survive we have to either modify the rules which govern the present conditions or to find ways and means by which the objectives and ideologies and principles of cooperatives could be safeguarded and not eroded. I am not making reference to any particular country or government but this is the general trend. In the name of the assistance to cooperative movement governments have no alternative in these developing countries than to use the cooperatives. They want to use the cooperatives for developmental programmes to improve the socio-economic conditions of the people because there are no other agencies existing. In order to achieve these objectives they assist the cooperatives with funds. Along with the funds there are strings attached and they want to control cooperatives in the manner in which they like. The cooperatives in this region are almost turned into an agency of the government. I will have absolutely no objection if we do it in that manner because the government programmes and the cooperative principles are identical in nature but we have to find out a proper procedure or appropriate collective thinking as to what changes we should introduce in the existing pattern and content and spirit of cooperation to suit the existing requirements of the people and the government. I suggest that a study of the Democratic Content of the Cooperative Movement in the Region should be undertaken."

The statement made by Mr. Tiwari was noted.

Philippines

- inclusion of cooperative development as part of the economic development plan of the government.
- cooperative marketing project to develop a cooperative marketing system through the integration of credit extension, production and marketing of farm produce.

- unification of the cooperative movement.
- transfer of responsibility of the government's cooperative development programme from the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development to the Ministry of Agriculture.
- creation of the National Food Authority (NFA).
- starting of Kilusang Kaluhayan Sa Kamulayan (KKK) - the national livelihood movement.

Malaysia

- new cooperative ventures in cooperative printing, rubber and palm oil processing, establishment of mini estates of palm oil and rubber, and the consolidation of the batik manufacturers.
- venturing into manufacture of chemicals and pesticides, hotel and catering and through joint venture enterprises to move into car assembling and lucrative trade in tourist and travel agency.
- setting up of a Consortium of Cooperatives which is aimed primarily at venturing even more in those areas where the cooperatives could not participate with much impact or effect.
- in the 4th Malaysia Plan beginning 1981 to 1985, it is expected that about 30,000 housing units are to be constructed by various cooperative housing societies.

Indonesia

- tendency towards a greater involvement and participatory activities of members
- a junior Minister for Cooperatives appointed.
- government assistance and guidance seem to lead to governments control or interference, but through democratization of organisation and management, government involvement gradually reduced to guidance on infrastructures only. State interference is mostly to break across sectoral barriers.
- with the commencement of the Third Five Year Development Plan, secondary cooperatives were gradually involved in guidance and development activities, like channelling of fertilizers, pesticides, marketing of agricultural products, channelling of consumer goods.
- building up of the Cooperative Academy for Western Indonesia in Bandung, the cooperative movement collected a sum of Rupiah 200 million in 1980.
- meaningful economic activities - rice processing and marketing, channelling of agricultural inputs, marketing of other agricultural products like copra, rubber, pepper, cloves marketing, rural electricity supply and supply of consumer goods. Cooperatives have also commenced handling sugarcane.

JapanAgriculture

- business depression affects seriously the operation of agricultural cooperatives.
- farm household economy suffered due to damages caused to large crops by a cool summer.
- conversion plans for paddy fields to other crops.
- deterioration of farm household economy affected the agricultural cooperative management.
- over-supply of agricultural and livestock production has been stabilized relatively due to the decreased amount of imported farm products.
- Japanese agricultural cooperative movement now meets with the government on necessary policies and measures for realizing the national plan.
- cooperative credit business is now being computerised.
- number of full time farmers in Japan is increasing.
- further rationalisation of the management structure of cooperatives is being undertaken.

Consumer

- number of members was around 6.7 million.
- total turnover was around 4.6 billion U.S. Dollars - this was an increase of about 10 - 15 per cent.
- cooperatives were facing very strong competition from small and medium scale traders.

Korea

- celebration of the 20th anniversary of the founding of multipurpose agricultural cooperatives on 15 August, 1981.
- amendment of the Agricultural Cooperative Law in 1981, thus reorganising the agricultural cooperatives into two-tiered system of Primary Cooperatives and the NACF, reforming former City or County Cooperatives as branch offices of the NACF.
- introduction of indirect election system for the appointment of presidents of Primary Cooperatives and Special Cooperatives.
- formulation of Five Year Primary Cooperatives Development Plan to develop primary cooperatives into member farmers-oriented ones.

Agenda Item No. : 8 Administration

Contributions to the funds of the ROEC

21. The Secretary reported that as per the decisions of the Regional Council Meeting held at Tehran, it was decided to raise funds regularly to assist ROEC activities and based on this decision, the ROEC received a total contribution of Rs.80,732.26 for the financial year 1980-81.

22. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia, informed the meeting that his organisation, namely, the Dewan Koperasi Indonesia, had sent its contributions to ROEC amounting to £ 255/- which had not been included. The Secretary undertook to look into this and requested the member to supply the ROEC with necessary details of the despatch and the bank through which the money was sent.

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

23. The Secretary reported that for the year 1980-81 an amount of £ 355/- was collected by the ROEC in respect of the work done by the Sub-Committee on Agriculture.

Concessions by the Government of India

24. The Secretary placed on record the deep appreciation of ICA to the Government of India for the facilities and concessions granted to the expatriate persons working in the ROEC.

Staff Matters

25. The following were reported :

1. Mr. Peter Massey, Cook, retired on 30th June 1981. Mr. Massey had worked with the ICA since 1962.
2. Mr. P.E. Lannhagen returned to Sweden in July 1981 after completing his assignment of 3 years with ROEC.
3. Dr. G. Ojha has been given further extension upto 31 March, 1982 to work with the Small Farmer Research Study.
4. Mr. Daman Prakash has been granted one year no pay leave to work with the ILO as Expert in Training Aids, Organisation of Production Unit and Production of Material at Jakarta, Indonesia.

Agenda Item No. 9 : Education Centre

Review of Education Activities

26. The Council noted the following activities carried out by the Education Centre for the period August 1980 to July 1981 :

Regional Seminars and Conferences

1. Role of Cooperatives in Modernisation of Agriculture, Tokyo (Japan), 25 August to 12 September 1980.
2. Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with Special Reference to Export Trade, New Delhi (India), 24 November to 2 December, 1980.
3. Cattle Feed Raw Materials Conference, Bangkok (Thailand), 27-30 April, 1981.
4. Organisation and Development of Fishery Cooperatives, Seoul (Korea), 16-30 March, 1981.
5. Course for Principals and Senior Teachers of National Cooperative Training Institutions in South-East Asia, Colombo (19-26 April) and Stockholm (27 April to 22 May, 1981).
6. Third Meeting of the South-East Asian Specialists' Group on Cooperative Training (SEASPECT), Kandy (Sri Lanka), 24 April, 1981.
7. Fellowship Programme for Cooperative Teachers, India and Sri Lanka, 2 February to 30 April 1981.
8. Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation, Kuala Lumpur/Singapore, 7-24 May, 1981.
9. Enhancing Women's Participation in Cooperative Activities, Kandy (Sri Lanka), 9-30 September, 1980.
10. Sub-Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press and Publicity, Bangkok (Thailand), 27 April to 6 May, 1981.
11. Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers, Los Banos (Philippines), 14-29 April, 1981.

National Seminars/Courses

1. Better Living Activities through Agricultural Cooperatives, Sri Lanka, 14-19 July 1980.
2. Better Living Activities through Agricultural Cooperatives Thailand, 12-17 January 1981.
3. Management of Agricultural Cooperatives Bangladesh, 14-20 February 1981.

4. Course in Credit, Supply and Marketing for Afghanistan India, 26 November to 2 January 1981.
5. Fishery Cooperatives' Seminar
Malaysia, 23-27 February, 1981
6. Course in Cooperative Education Methods and Audio Visual Technique.
Thailand, 13-24 July, 1980.
7. Course in Case Method of Teaching for Cooperative Teachers
Philippines, 6 October to 5 November, 1980.
8. Workshop on Cooperative Retail Management
Malaysia, 6-18 October, 1980.
9. Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS) - Information given in the agenda was noted by the Council.
10. Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers in Sri Lanka &
11. Project for Women's Consumer Education and Information through Cooperatives in Sri Lanka

Information given in the agenda notes on these two projects was noted by the Council. The D(E) informed that both these projects have been subjected to both internal and external evaluations and the reports of both the evaluations were very positive.

12. Consultative and Allied Services

Information given in the agenda was noted. The D(E) made a special mention of the consultancy service rendered to the Phranakorn Cooperative Store Ltd., Bangkok, to study their leakage problem and to help them to solve their leakage difficulties.

27. Dr. Saxena raised the question of ICA ROEC organising courses etc. for non-member countries. It was pointed out that over the past several years the ROEC had been working with Nepal and more recently with Afghanistan. The general view was that such activities should be viewed as supportive activities and which would eventually lead these countries into the ICA's membership. Mr. Rolf Akeby indicated that on his recent visit to Burma, inquiries were made there in regard to joining ICA. This information was warmly received.

Proposed Programme of Activities, July 1982 - June 1983

28. The D(E) presented the programme of activities the ICA ROEC proposed to carry out during the year. The Council approved the following activities scheduled for the period July 1982 to June 1983 :-

1. ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar in Japan

Venue	:	Toky , Japan
Duration	:	3 weeks in September 1982 preceded by one week study visits in Korea
Participants	:	25

29. The title of the Seminar would be "ICA Regional Seminar on Multipurpose Agricultural Cooperatives with special reference to activities of Agricultural Cooperative Women's Associations".

2. International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia

30. The next International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation would be held in Sweden in the spring of 1983. The participants will be from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Pre-Seminars would be held in these countries to select suitable participants. In view of the recommendation of the Consumer Committee that participants from Thailand, Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore, who had already attended first International Seminar, be given some representation, it was agreed that a few such would be included - the participants to be selected after a sub-regional seminar provided all costs of such seminar were borne by the participants themselves - or if such a seminar could not be organised the selection would be done in consultation with the member organisations.

3. Regional Meeting of Presidents and Secretaries of National Committees of Women Cooperators

Venue	:	Philippines or Sri Lanka
Duration	:	10 days
Participants	:	About 18-20

31. The members for Philippines and Sri Lanka agreed to host the seminar in their countries.

4. Regional Course in Cooperative Management

Venue	:	Pune, India
Duration	:	January-March 1983
Participants	:	25

32. The D(E) said that the SEASPECT had suggested that the trainers also need training in management and therefore they have suggested

~~that the trainers also need training in management and therefore they have suggested that this course be held. The SEMSPECT e tting has already worked a curriculum for this course.~~

2. Regional Seminar on Manpower Management and Cooperative Development

Venue : Malaysia (Angkasa)
 Duration : 3 weeks (between January & March 1983)
 Participant : 25

3. Sub-Regional Seminar on Strengthening National Cooperative Organisations

Venue : Open
 Duration : 3 weeks (2nd half of 1982)
 Participants : 20 (from Afghanistan, Australia, India, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand)

33. The Secretary informed the meeting that the ICA ROEC will negotiate with member organisations regarding the venue for this seminar. He said that another Sub-Regional Seminar could be held in 1983 for the remaining countries.

7. ICA/ILO Pilot Seminar on the Training Pack on Advanced Marketing and International Trade

Venue : New Delhi
 Duration : 2 weeks (between 1st November and 15th December, 1982)
 Participants : 15

8. Commodity Conference on Spices

Venue : Sri Lanka
 Duration : 1 week
 Participants : 15

34. The ICA ROEC will negotiate with the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka re the dates etc.

9. Sub-Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press and Publicity

Venue : Sri Lanka
 Duration : 2 weeks
 Participants : 20 (from India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka)

10. Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers

Venue : India
 Duration : 4 weeks
 Participants : 20 (from India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan)

11. Top Level Cooperative Leaders' Conference

35. The D(E) informed the Council that the Top Level Leaders' Conference which was earlier proposed by the Council would now be held in Tokyo in collaboration with the CUAC who had kindly agreed to host this important function. This would be held in November 1983 - more detail would be given at the next Regional Council Meeting.

National Seminars & Consultative Services

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

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

<u>Philippines</u>	:	Cooperative Policy and Development Seminar on Better Living Activities Consumer Cooperation
<u>Sri Lanka</u>	:	Cooperative Credit Cooperative Fisheries
<u>Thailand</u>	:	Consumer Cooperation
<u>Malaysia (Angkasa)</u>	:	Seminar on School Cooperatives Seminar on Better Living Activities Consumer Cooperation
<u>India</u>	:	Industrial Cooperative Seminar
<u>Indonesia</u>	:	Industrial Cooperative Seminar Women's Seminar Consumer Cooperation

38. The D(E) said that subject to availability of time the ROEC would try to assist the member-organisations in organising these seminars.

CEMAS

39. Dr. D. Vir informed the Council that a new Project Director, Mr. Bo Engstrom had been appointed in CEMAS, ICA London, who will be visiting South-East Asia some time next year between February-March. He will get acquainted with the local situation and then there will be detailed discussions about the project in the field of local cooperative education.

Teachers Training Project in Sri Lanka

40. The project will be continued for a further period.

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

41. The project will be continued for a further period.

Women's Cooperative Education Project in India

42. The SCC has agreed in principle to assist this project.

Project for Enhancing Income-generating activities of Cooperative Members' Housewives, Thailand

43. The SCC had already made available funds for this project and the project was on stream.

Possibility of starting projects in other countries

44. It was once again pointed out that there were possibilities of further project assistance if the member organisations could identify suitable areas and write up a useful background note. Mr. Malte Jonsson confirmed that SCC would be most interested in supporting projects. If the suggestions are made, the ICA/SCC could even undertake the feasibility studies.

Dr. Saxena was of the view that there was a need to strengthen the member organisations' capability to undertake identification and formulation of project proposals.

45. Mr. R.G. Tiwari raised the question of the proper use of seminar experiences and material and the need for the ICA ROEC to keep close contact with the member organisations to ensure this. It was agreed that the responsibility for follow up lay entirely on the national movements, but constant review would be desirable.

46. Gen. Lozada asked about the rationale behind any restrictions for selection of participants for the ICA seminars. It was pointed out that there were various kinds of activities - e.g. policy level conferences, experts' conferences and technical meetings. For such activities there would be no age limit. But in case of seminars which were broadly training courses, the upper age limit has been fixed at 50 because we find after that people are exceedingly resistant to getting training with regard to new skills etc. Besides, this gives them ample time to use their learning before they retire from active service. Gen. Lozada suggested that it would be necessary to have some flexibility in certain situations.

Agenda Item No. 10 : Technical Assistance and Trade Sector

Technical Assistance

47. The JD (TAT) informed the meeting that consultancy services were rendered to the following organisations by the ROEC :

1. Phranakorn Cooperative Store, Bangkok (Thailand)
2. Super Palangka, Manila (Philippines)
3. Federation of Consumers Cooperative Societies of Thailand

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

1. Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union : (i) in the field of consumer education among women, and (ii) for support to income generating activities in rural cooperatives.
2. National Cooperative Union of India - Women's Cooperative Education Project.
3. Cooperative League of Thailand - Women's Cooperative Education Project.

The third was already operative, number two would get operative soon while the BJSU proposals were under close study.

Trade

49. The JD (TAT) informed that in the field of promotion of cooperative trade, the ROEC collaborated very closely with the ILO/SIDA Cooptrade Project and that the following two events were conducted by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with the concerned national organisations :

1. Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade", New Delhi (India)
2. Commodity Conference on Cattle Feed Raw materials, Bangkok (Thailand).

50. The recommendations on these two activities have been discussed in the Sub-Committee for Trade and a separate report will be given later.

51. All the requests received in the ROEC regarding promotion of trade have been referred either to Cooptrade Project or to Intragra (Economic Bureau of the ICA Committee of Agriculture in Paris).

Continuation of ILO/SIDA Cooptrade Project L, ICA ROEC

52. JD (TAT) reported that a meeting was held to discuss about the proposal for continuation of the ILO/SIDA Cooptrade Project after the financial assistance to the project is withdrawn by the ILO. A meeting was held at Bangkok in June this year between ILO Cooptrade Team Leader, Director of the SCC and the Regional Director, ICA ROEC. The discussions are proceeding.

Agenda Item No. 11 : Publications, Public Relations and Library Section.

Publications

53. The JD (PPR) informed the Council that the following publications had been brought out by the ROEC during the previous year :

- i. Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management, Kuala Lumpur
- ii. How to Improve Effectiveness of National Cooperative Organisations - Report and Papers
- iii. Better Living Activities through Cooperatives (Mimeo)
- iv. Role of Cooperatives in Modernisation of Agriculture (Mimeo)
- v. Amalgamation of Primary Agricultural Cooperatives - The Japanese Experience
- vi. ICA in South-East Asia - publicity folder
- vii. Speech No. 20 : Thrift and Credit Cooperatives in a Changing World.

Publicity

54. The JD (PPR) reported that the ROEC continued to publish the Regional Bulletin quarterly.

Collection of Cooperative News

55. The JD (PPR) said that there had been some improvement in the collection of cooperative news from the region due to setting up of Regional Press Working Party. The members of this Working Party were acting as Liaison Officers in the respective countries and the flow of news had improved.

Press Releases - information given in the agenda was noted.

Sub-Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press & Publicity - The JD (PPR) said that this had been reported by D(E) under Education Centre agenda.

Library - information given in the agenda notes was noted.

56. The Council noted the information given in the agenda notes under Supply and Exchange of Literature, Liaison and Promotion Activities, Promotion and Consultative Services, Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers.

Publications Programme for 1981-82

57. The Council noted that the following publications would be brought out during the year 1981-82 :-

1. Enhancing Women's Participation in Cooperative Activities
2. Report of Sub-Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press and Publicity, Bangkok (Thailand)
3. Report of Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers, Philippines.
4. Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management - report and papers - Philippines, 1981.
5. Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation - report and papers
6. Agricultural Cooperative Credit - report and papers
7. Collection of Case Studies on Agricultural Cooperatives in the Region
8. Cooperative Management Case Book
9. Speeches on Cooperation
10. The ICA Regional Bulletin will be issued quarterly during the year
11. Adult Psychology & Educational Methods (selected papers)

Agenda Item No. 12 : IDACH Activities

58. The Council noted the activities carried out by IDACH for the period 1980-81:-

Training Programmes

1. Training Programme for Thais on Agricultural Development Project, June 24 to July 23, 1980.
2. ICA Regional Seminar on "Role of Cooperatives in Modernisation of Agriculture", August 24 to September 13, 1980.

3. Training Course for the Cooperatives for Selected Countries, September 17 to October 16, 1981.
4. Training Course for Cooperativa Agricola de Cocia (CAC) in Brazil, September 24 to October 24, 1980.
5. Refresher Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under Colombo Plan, November 6 to December 10, 1980.
6. General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under Colombo Plan June 1 to July 3, 1981.

Survey Project - information given in the agenda was noted.

Follow-up and Re-union Programme of IDACA

59. In 1980, a follow-up and re-union programme was conducted in India for three weeks from January 20 to February 8, 1980.

Programme of Activities, 1982

60. The Council noted the proposed activities of IDACA during 1982:-

1. Training Programme for Thai on Agricultural Development Project
2. ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar on "Multipurpose Agricultural Cooperatives with special reference to activities of Agricultural Cooperative Women's Associations", September 1982.
3. Training Course for the Cooperators from Selected Countries
4. IDACA's Special Training Course
5. Training Programme for NACF, Korea, March 1982.
6. Training Course for Cooperativa Agricola de Cocia Cooperativa Central (CACCC) in Brazil, April 1982.
7. General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under Colombo Plan, May 1982.
8. Follow-up and Re-union Programme of IDACA, Indonesia, February 1982.

61. Mr. K. Fujimoto, Managing Director, IDACA, made the following observations:-

1. We started IDACA Special Seminar with joint budgeting with CUAC from this year. Looking at the participants from India, almost all of them are officials of state or national level cooperative organisations. We hope that the next participating country will send middle level employees of cooperatives to meet the original purpose of starting this seminar.

2. The Training Course for the Cooperators from Selected Countries is conducted by subsidy of budget from Ministry of Agriculture

Forestry and Fisheries. The significance of this Course is to invite non-governmental cooperators. However, in the past course participants who were governmental officers were included. We suggest that from next year the member organisations should nominate only non-governmental cooperators.

3. When the member countries of the region apply to IDACA for organising seminars etc., they are requested to send their applications to ICA ROEC and CUAC of Japan too. IDACA itself is not in a position to hold independent seminars according to the Memorandum of Understanding reached between CUAC and ICA ROEC.

62. Mr. Bogollayama, Councillor for Sri Lanka, thanked IDACA and the CUAC for the special seminars held for Sri Lankan cooperators and requested that this facility be extended.

63. Mr. Fujimoto pointed out that these special seminars were conducted and selection of countries made in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. The normal period was three consecutive years. The countries now chosen were Indonesia and Malaysia - so others would have to wait their turn.

Agenda Item No. 14 : Decisions and Recommendations of the Sub-Committees of the Regional Council - Agriculture, Fisheries, Consumer, Trade

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

65. Sub-Committee on Agriculture

1. The Agricultural Sub-Committee for South-East Asia met on 29th October, 1981, under the chairmanship of Mr. R.G. Tiwari, India. The meeting was attended by representatives of eight countries, namely, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

2. The Agricultural Sub-Committee noted the work done by the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre in the field of better living activities through agricultural cooperatives.

3. After consideration of the evaluation report on Seminars on agricultural cooperation held in Sweden and in the region the Sub-Committee expressed the view that an international seminar on agricultural cooperation should be held in Sweden more frequently. It was proposed that a seminar on agricultural cooperatives be held in Sweden for cooperators from the region in 1982. Mr. Malte Jonsson of the SCC said that it may not be possible to hold a seminar as early as 1982.

The Sub-Committee expressed its appreciation to Sweden, Japan and Republic of Korea for hosting the seminars.

4. Publication on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing : The Sub-Committee endorsed the proposal to bring out a comprehensive publication on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing and the Sub-Committee members said that their organisations would take steps to provide the ICA ROEC with articles for the publication.

66. Sub-Committee on Fisheries

1. ICA Sub-Committee for Cooperative Fisheries met on 28th October 1961 under the Chairmanship of Mr. Aziz Ibrahim, Malaysia. Representatives of Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand attended.

2. The Sub-Committee noted the holding of the Regional Seminar on Development and Organisation of Fishery Cooperatives in the Republic of Korea followed by study visits in Japan. It expressed its appreciation to the NFFC of the Republic of Korea for hosting the Seminar and to Japan for collaborating with the ICA in organising the study visits.

The Sub-Committee felt that similar seminars should be organised more frequently. The Sub-Committee endorsed the recommendations of the Regional Seminar.

3. The Sub-Committee noted the holding of Regional Seminar in Japan for Fishery Cooperatives and expressed its appreciation to the Fishery Federation of Japan for organising Training Programme for the Fishery Cooperatives from the Region.

4. The Sub-Committee decided that ICA ROEC should negotiate with the NFFC of Korea the possibility of organising study visits in Korea for the participants of the annual Fishery Seminar in Japan.

5. The Chairman informed that the F&O will be holding a seminar for Fishery Cooperative in Rome in 1962. He suggested that the member-organisations of the ICA approach their respective governments and try to include cooperators in their country delegations.

67. Sub-Committee on Trade

The ICA Trade Development Sub-Committee met in Seoul on 27th October 1961 under the Chairmanship of Dato V.K. Kularajah of Malaysia.

The meeting was attended by representatives from seven countries in the region, namely, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Mr. Malte Jonsson from the Swedish Cooperative Centre

and Mr. Rolf Akeby, Team Leader of ILO/SIDA Cooptrade Project were present as special invitees.

1. The Sub-Committee noted with interest the various recommendations made by the ICA Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade", held in New Delhi in December 1980 and the ICA Commodity Conference on Cattle-feed Raw-materials, held in Bangkok in April 1981.

2. The Sub-Committee recommended to member movements in the region for their serious consideration the need for setting up a specialized export organisation at the national level in any one of the three alternative forms suggested by Mr. Chong-Hyun Baik of the NACF in his paper presented before the meeting.

3. The Sub-Committee agreed that in the absence of a specialised organisation at the national level it was difficult not only to coordinate domestic efforts in the field of foreign trade it was also difficult for the ICA ROEC and other outside agencies to collaborate effectively and to pursue any follow-up action with member movements regarding the promotion and development of cooperative international trade. It was, therefore, recommended by the Sub-Committee that the National Apex Organisation in each country should constitute a Trade Promotion Group to review and coordinate efforts in regard to foreign trade activities in each country.

4. The Sub-Committee was informed by Mr. Malte Jonsson of the Swedish Cooperative Centre that the SCC had already employed in their office in Stockholm an Expert in Foreign Trade to advise and assist cooperative movements in the developing countries in promoting their international trade.

5. The Sub-Committee was further informed by Mr. Malte Jonsson that SCC was considering to provide to the ICA Regional Office in New Delhi the services of an expert in International Trade very shortly.

68. Sub-Committee on Consumer Cooperation

The Consumer Committee for South-East Asia met on 28th October 1981 under the Chairmanship of Mr. Chong Thin, Huatt, General Manager, Malaysian Cooperative Supermarket Society.

The meeting was attended by representatives from eight countries, namely, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

1. The Committee pointed out that in view of the rapid economic growth in many of the developing countries in the region the process of rationalisation of retail trade had already set in in a big way in many of these countries and that the private trade was trying to establish a strong-hold in the distributive trade by setting up

a large number of supermarkets and department stores. To enable the cooperatives to meet this challenge there was an urgent need for increasing significantly facilities of training for employees of Consumer Cooperatives. The Committee, therefore, urged upon the ICA ROEC to request the SCC to provide increased training facilities in Consumer Cooperation in Sweden for participants from South-East Asian countries. The Committee recommended that SCC should arrange at least one seminar in Sweden in every two years for employees of consumer cooperative from this region.

2. The Committee recommended to the ICA ROEC to approach the SCC to advance the next International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation for this region from spring 1983 to autumn 1982.

The Committee further recommended to ICA ROEC that the selection of participants for the next International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation should also include a few participants from the Asean countries besides those from India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

3. The Committee placed on record their grateful thanks to the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Union, the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives in Japan, and IDACA for conducting a Regional Seminar in Tokyo on the Development of Consumer Cooperatives in South-East Asia.

4. The Committee endorsed recommendations of the ICA Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation held in Malaysia and Singapore in May 1981 and particularly supported their recommendation for setting up a model Regional Warehouse in the region with technical and financial assistance from the Swedish Cooperative Centre.

5. The Committee endorsed the recommendations of the ICA Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation held in Tokyo in September 1981 and requested the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Union to lend more active support and guidance for the promotion and development of effective and sound consumer cooperative movements in countries of this region. The Committee requested the Japanese Cooperative Movement to provide facilities for on-the-job training to professional employees of consumer cooperatives and to arrange, at least, one Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in alternate years for participants from Asian countries.

6. The Committee recommended that all member movements in the region should evolve an appropriate strategy for the promotion and development of effective consumers cooperative movements in their respective countries.

7. The Committee agreed on the Consumer Policy for developing countries in South-East Asian Region as proposed in the paper presented by the Secretariat. It was further agreed that each member movement in the Region should work out a detailed consumer programme for their respective country within the general guidelines provided in the paper.

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

69. The Council was informed that the ICA ROEC was maintaining very close links with the member organisations. The Secretary requested the members to inform him where any particular attention was necessary.

Small Farmers Research Study

70. The Secretary informed the Council that the Research Study was over, and that the final reports in respect of the individual country concerned and the overall study were being prepared. These would be presented at a Technical Meeting in Sri Lanka in February 1962. It was hoped that subsequent to this Technical Meeting we would be able to provide some guidelines in regard to the methodologies of intervention in respect of the Small Farmer and the Cooperatives and we are hopeful that this effort will lead to a greater involvement of the cooperatives in regard to the needs of the small farmer.

Buy a Bucket of Water Programme

71. Information given in the agenda was noted. The Secretary said that four countries were involved in this region, namely, Sri Lanka, Philippines, India and Thailand. In Sri Lanka there are 18 wells being constructed by the Women's Project out of which 13 were completed. There were also 11 more projects being done by the NCC and about 8 of them were now complete. In Thailand there were 5 projects, out of which 6 are complete or in the process of completion. In the Philippines there were 9 projects. Except for one which had struck rock, others were in the process of completion. In India there were 17 projects. It was hoped that by the end of this year they would be ready. With the completion of all these wells, the funds available with ICA London for this programme were more or less exhausted. This would have to be considered as a completed project. There was no possibility for further funding under this Programme.

Agenda Item No. 15 : Relations with International Organisations

72. The information given in the agenda was noted. The Secretary expressed his thanks to the member organisations in Bangladesh and Thailand for representing the ICA at various U.N. and ESCAP meetings during the year.

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

73. The Secretary informed the Council that the Singapore National Cooperative Union who were to have hosted the Regional Council Meeting in 1982 had conveyed their inability to do so. It would therefore be appropriate if offers to host the 24th meeting are made. He also mentioned that the venue for 1983 was Tokyo at the invitation of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan where they will host the Regional Council Meeting and also the Top Level Cooperative Leaders' Conference.

74. Gen. Luzada mentioned that they were exploring the possibility of hosting the Regional Council Meeting in 1982 in the Philippines in October/November and that they would communicate with the ROEC in due course.

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

75. Mr. R.G. Tiwari proposed that in view of the great expansion of cooperatives in the field of small industries in many countries of Asia the Regional Council should constitute a committee for industrial cooperative in South-East Asia. After some discussion this was endorsed by the meeting.

76. A proposal was also made by Mr. Bojollagama that in view of the increasing importance of credit and thrift cooperatives, the Regional Council should constitute a sub-committee for thrift and credit. This proposal was endorsed by the Councillors for Thailand and Malaysia and after a brief discussion the proposal was adopted.

77. It was however pointed out, that the effectiveness of sub-committees would depend on these being represented by those actually involved in these activities and that every attempt should be made to see that competent and knowledgeable persons are nominated to the various sub-committees.

78. The Secretary informed the Council that the decisions made by the Regional Council in regard to the two new sub-committees would be communicated to ICA London and appropriate action would be taken on hearing from London.

79. The Secretary drew the attention of the Regional Councillors to the copy of the rules of the Regional Council which had been circulated and requested them to send in their proposals for changes, if any, as early as possible.

9. The Secretary suggested also that it would be most convenient and advantageous if all member countries equipped themselves with the National Flags of all member countries - as e.g. was evident in Korea. This was a proposal made for the consideration of the Regional Councillors.

81. Mr. Malte Jonsson said: "I only want to take this opportunity at the end of the meetings here to thank, on behalf of SCC, Dr. Saxena and myself, the ICA ROEC and the members of the Council, Sub-Committees, to allow us to participate here in these meetings. We in the SCC pay great attention and importance to the Regional Council Meetings and the decisions taken here because these supply us with the full needs that all our activities which we are supporting should be channelled through the member organisations and covering the needs of the region. I would also take this opportunity to say some few words about the seminars we are carrying out in Sweden. It was already mentioned today about the selection, importance of selection of participants and also the follow-up. I want to stress here again that follow-up activities is very important part. I would also like to thank the host organisation and the Korean participants for their efforts."

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



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

New Delhi
21 December, 1961

pk/

ICA Council for South-East Asia

TWENTYTHIRD MEETING

Venue SEOUL, REP. OF KOREA

Dates OCTOBER 29-30, 1981



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
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TWENTYTHIRD MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA
SEOUL (REP. OF KOREA) - OCTOBER 26 -NOVEMBER 2,1981

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Annexe

Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the Council held
at Colombo (Sri Lanka) in November 1980.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 : WELCOME

1. Mr. Duck-Yong ^{Whee} Phee, President & Chairman of the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of the Republic of Korea will welcome the members of the Council on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Korea.

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

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

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 : ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

3. The members of the Council are requested to elect a Chairman from among the members from the host country, viz. Republic of Korea. The new Chairman's term of office will be till the next Council meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 22ND MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the last meeting held at Colombo, Sri Lanka, have been circulated to all the members.

4.2 The minutes may be confirmed. For minutes see Appendix I to these Notes. Action taken on the minutes is given in the relevant agenda items of these Notes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 : LETTERS AND REPORTS FROM NON-ATTENDING MEMBERS

5. The Secretary will read out letters and reports received from Councillors who are unable to attend the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 : REPORT ON THE "RECENT CHANGES, TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS OF THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA" BY THE COUNCILLORS

6. Each Councillor will briefly report on the recent changes, trends and developments of the cooperative movement in his country. It is suggested that Councillors circulate a brief paper highlighting the main and significant events and also indicating the trends for the future. Papers received before the meeting will be circulated advance.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 ; ADMINISTRATION

7.1 The ROEC is glad to report that the following member organisations have contributed the amounts mentioned against their names to the funds of the ROEC for the financial year 1980-81 :

Name of the member-organisation	Contributions paid in Indian Rupees
1. Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union	6,500.00
2. National Cooperative Union of India	25,000.00
3. Japanese Joint Committee on Cooperatives	28,406.26
4. National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, Korea.	9,576.00
5. Singapore National Cooperative Union	3,250.00
6. Cooperative League of Thailand	8,000.00
Total	Rs. 80,732.26

7.2 The total received for the year was Rs.80,732.26 and this generous support of the member-organisations is acknowledged with deep appreciation. This support has helped ROEC considerably in the performance of its activities in the Region.

Other members are kindly requested to make their contribution available as soon as possible.

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

7.3 For the year 1980-81, contributions have been received from the member-organisations in Australia, Bangladesh, India, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand amounting to £355/- and are acknowledged with thanks.

Other members are kindly requested to forward their contributions early.

Concessions by the Government of India

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

Staff Changes

7.5 Mr. Peter Massey, Cook, after serving the ICA ROEC for about 19 years, retired on the 30th June, 1981.

7.6 Mr. Per-Eric Lannhagen, Specialist in Agricultural Cooperative Marketing, returned to Sweden after completing his assignment with the ROEC in July 1981. He worked with the ROEC for 3 years.

7.7 Dr. G. Ojha working as Research Officer for the Small Farmer Research Study has been given a further extension upto 31st March 1982 to work with the Project.

7.8 Mr. Daman Prakash, Education Officer (AVA), after completing his assignment with the Teachers Training Project in Sri Lanka resumed duties in the ROEC in July 1981. On his request he has once again been given one year no-pay leave from 14th July 1981 to 13th July 1982 to work as ILO Expert in Training Aids, Organisation of Production Unit and Production of Material at Jakarta, Indonesia.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 : EDUCATION CENTRE

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

8.1 Action has been initiated to carry out the programme of activities approved by the Council for the year July 1981-June 1982.

Section II : Review of Education Activities: August 1980 to July 1981

REGIONAL SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

8.2 Role of Cooperatives in Modernisation of Agriculture

The above seminar was held in IDACA, Tokyo, by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (CUAC) and the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA) from 25th August to 12th September 1980. Twenty two participants and three observers from 11 countries attended the seminar. The countries represented were Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. Observers from ILO and UNICEF also attended part of the seminar.

A study visits programme for six days was organised by the ICA in collaboration with the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF), Korea, prior to the seminar to provide seminar participants an opportunity of learning about the role played by the agricultural cooperatives in modernising agriculture and the working of the agricultural cooperatives in the Republic of Korea.

8.3 Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with Special Reference to Export Trade

The seminar was held by the ICA ROEC in New Delhi jointly with the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd (NAFED) and the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) from 24th November to 2nd December 1980. The participants were from

cooperative organisations and governmental organisations concerned with international cooperative trade. In all there were 28 participants from 11 countries in the Region. These countries were: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The seminar consisted of two main parts: (i) six days' seminar discussions and (ii) three days' study visits in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, and Haryana. The seminar dealt with export import trade of four commodity groups : (i) Marine Products, (ii) Fruits and Vegetables, (iii) Tea and Spices and (iv) Cattle Feed Raw Material. Group discussions were held to consider trade matters relating to these commodities. During the session on Trade Exchange, information on trade possibilities was exchanged.

8.4 Cattle Feed Raw Materials Conference

The above Commodity Conference was held in Bangkok, Thailand from 27th to 30th April 1981 as a Follow-up of the Regional Seminar held in New Delhi on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing. The conference was held in collaboration with the Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Thailand and the Cooperative League of Thailand. Nine participants from India, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand attended the conference. Resource Persons were drawn from Japan, Sweden and France. An important objective of the conference was to promote trade development in respect of cattle feed raw materials among cooperatives in the participating countries.

8.5 Organisation and Development of Fishery Cooperatives

The seminar was conducted by the ICA ROEC in the Republic of Korea in collaboration with the National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives (NFFC) from 16th March to 30th March, followed by study visits to Fishery Cooperatives and Cooperative Fish Markets in Japan from 1st to 7th April 1981. Fourteen participants from seven countries viz. Fiji, India, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand, attended the seminar.

8.6 Course for Principals and Senior Teachers of National Cooperative Training Institutions in South-East Asia

The above Course was held in two parts viz. from 19th to 26th April in Colombo and from 27th April to 22nd May 1981 in Stockholm, Sweden. Sixteen participants from 8 countries viz. Afghanistan, India, Fiji, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand participated in the course. The participants studied the working of the Cooperative Teachers Training Project in Sri Lanka. The Course in Sweden was held by the SCC and the ICA ROEC provided assistance in selection of the participants, planning the course programme, and teaching at the course. ILO MATCOM also assisted with one-week's teaching on curriculum development and the training system and methods in the consumers and agricultural cooperative movements of Sweden. The participants studied participative teaching techniques such as group discussions, case study and role play, techniques of using visual aids in teaching, techniques of curriculum formulation in the context of training needs and defining training objectives in behavioural terms, and the cooperative training system in Sweden. The participants also visited consumers cooperatives and agricultural cooperatives and learnt at first hand the training activities of these organisations. They also indicated action commitments on their parts. Both these action commitments and recommendations will be useful aids to the ICA ROEC in its follow-up activities.

8.7 Third Meeting of the South-East Asian Specialists Group on Cooperative Training (SEASPECT)

The meeting was held in Kandy, Sri Lanka on 24th April 1981 in conjunction with the Principals' Course mentioned above. Nine participants, who were Principals/Directors of National Training Institutions from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand, participated in the Meeting. They considered the curriculum prepared by the ICA ROEC and VM National Institute of Cooperative Management for the Regional Course in Cooperative Management to be held in 1982-83.

8.8 Fellowship Programme for Cooperative Teachers

The above Programme was held from 2nd February to 30th April 1981. The first part of the Programme was held in India and the second part in Sri Lanka in collaboration with the National Cooperative Council and the Cooperative Teachers' Training Project. The Fellowship Programme was attended by six fellows - one each from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, the Rep. of Korea, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. The teachers were given training in preparing teaching material based on audio-visual aids and case studies. They studied the work of the cooperative teachers' training project in Sri Lanka and the working of some cooperative institutions in the two countries visited by them.

8.9 Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation

The above Follow-up seminar was held by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with the Swedish Cooperative Centre, Stockholm, Sweden, in Kuala Lumpur and Singapore from 7-24th May 1981. The first part of the seminar was conducted in Kuala Lumpur from 7-15 May 1981 and the second part in Singapore from 16-24 May 1981. ANGKASA, the Cooperative Union of Malaysia, the Singapore National Cooperative Union and the Singapore National Cooperative Federation extended their cooperation and assistance to the seminar. This seminar was a Follow-up of the SCC's 21st International Seminar. Fifteen out of the nineteen participants at the Follow-up Seminar had earlier attended the 21st International Seminar in Sweden. The participants worked out National Action Programmes for the next 2-3 years for the development of consumer cooperatives in their respective countries and the contribution that each one of them would make in pushing forward these programmes. The conclusions and suggestions made at this seminar will also help in evaluating the various SCC seminars, as desired by the SCC.

8.10 Enhancing Women's Participation in Cooperative Activities

The above seminar was held by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka in Kandy,

Sri Lanka from 9th to 30th September 1980. Sri Lanka was chosen as the venue of the present seminar so that the participants could observe the Women's Cooperative Consumer Information and Education Project which covered 15 societies in the Island at the time of holding the seminar.

The seminar was attended by 24 participants from 10 countries viz. Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. In addition there were observers from FAO and ILO. The seminar was supported by resource persons from India, Sri Lanka and ICA London.

8.11 Sub-Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press and Publicity

The Workshop was held in Bangkok, Thailand by the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre for S.E. Asia in collaboration with the Cooperative League of Thailand from 27th April to 6th May 1981. Fifteen participants from Indonesia, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand attended the Workshop. Study visits to Minburi Agricultural Cooperative Society and Choburi Fishery Cooperative Society were arranged to give an insight to the participants about some aspects of the Cooperative Movement of Thailand.

8.12 Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers

The Workshop was held at Los Banos, Philippines from 14th to 29th April 1981. 23 participants from Afghanistan, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand attended this Workshop. The Workshop was supported by resource persons from U.K., India, Singapore, Sri Lanka and the Philippines.

The Workshop discussed the present situation of cooperative library, documentation and information services in the participating countries and ways of improving them. The participants prepared blue prints on "National Cooperative Information Systems" for their respective countries. The Workshop emphasised the need to conduct national level condensed courses for prospective cooperative librarians and orientation courses for trained librarians of participating countries and requested the ICA RDEC to assist.

NATIONAL SEMINARS/COURSES8.13 Better Living Activities through
Agricultural Cooperatives, Sri Lanka

The above seminar was held in Sri Lanka from 14th to 19th July 1980. The seminar was attended by 33 participants. The seminar discussed the effective ways of introducing and carrying out better living activities in agricultural cooperatives in Sri Lanka and the methods of involving women in these activities. The seminar also critically examined the experiences of the Women's Consumer Information and Education Project and formulated plans for carrying out better living activities in agricultural cooperatives not covered by the Project.

8.14 Better Living Activities through
Agricultural Cooperatives, Thailand

The above seminar was held from 12th-17th January 1981 by the ICA in collaboration with the Cooperative League of Thailand. 23 participants from agricultural cooperatives and the Cooperative Promotion Department took part in the seminar. The seminar discussed the possibilities of introducing better living activities in agricultural cooperatives in Thailand. The experience of the Women's Consumer Education Project in Sri Lanka was presented to the seminar. Based on this experience and the local conditions in the country, action plans for each participating society was formulated.

8.15 Management of Agricultural Cooperatives, Bangladesh

Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union and the ICA ROEC organised jointly a National Seminar on the above subject from 14th to 20th February 1981 in Dacca. There were 28 participants from different cooperative organisations and government organisations concerned with cooperatives.

8.16 Course in Credit, Supply and Marketing for Afghanistan

At the request of FAO PACTA Project in Afghanistan, the above course was held in Pune, India by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with VM National Institute of Cooperative Management, for 12 Afghan cooperators. The course was held from 26th November 1980 to 2nd January 1981. Study visits were arranged for ten days. Almost all the costs of the course were met by the FAO.

8.17 Fishery Cooperatives' Seminar, Malaysia

A National Seminar for Fishery Cooperatives was held in Malaysia by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with ANGKASA from 23rd to 27th February 1981. Chairmen, Members of Board of Directors and Managers of Cooperative, Fishery Societies were the participants. This seminar was attended by 19 participants.

8.18 Course in Cooperative Education Methods and Audio Visual Techniques, Thailand

The above course was held by the Cooperative League of Thailand in collaboration with the ICA ROEC at the Cooperative Training Centre, Bangkok from 13th to 24th July 1980. Emphasis was laid on participative and audio-visual techniques viz. case studies, role plays, overhead transparencies, coloured slides, posters and flip charts. The participants were introduced to the concepts and techniques of producing training packages based on audio-visual aids.

8.19 Course in Case Method of Teaching for Cooperative Teachers, Philippines

The Course was held at the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Institute (ACCI), Philippines from 6th October to 5th November 1980. The course was attended by 23 cooperative teachers as participants and several observers. The participants were provided with knowledge and skills in the preparation and use of management cases.

8.20 Workshop on Cooperative Retail Management, Malaysia

The above Workshop was held in Malaysia from 6-18th October 1980. 20 Managers and Supervisors in consumer cooperative participated

in the Workshop. The Workshop discussed the effective ways of improving the economic results and the overall performance of cooperative retail shops.

8.21 Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS)

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

The Manual on Role Plays for Cooperative Teachers has been published. A copy each of the manual has been supplied to cooperative training institutions and former teacher-participants at ICA courses on Training Methodology and Techniques. Several orders for the Manual from different parts of the world have been complied with.

The Annotated Bibliography of Management Cases and CEMAS Film Catalogue were revised.

8.22 Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers in Sri Lanka

The Project arranged workshops to train teachers of the five selected District Education Centres and the School of Cooperation, Polgolla, on Concepts of Learning, Production and Use of Audio-Visual Aids and on Education Management.

The Project also developed field study programme for cooperative teachers.

The Project has assisted one Multipurpose Cooperative Society in northern Sri Lanka in developing its internal training programme.

Six cooperative teachers taking part in the ICA Fellowship Programme and 16 participants taking part in the SCC's International Seminar on Training Methodology and Techniques were oriented about the objectives and work of the Project.

A six-month subject matter training course was arranged for all the teachers of the District Cooperative Education Centres in Sri Lanka. The Course was organised in order to give the necessary subject-matter competence to the teachers who teach the ordinary

level and advance level courses:

The following material has been prepared by the Project:

- i. Manual on Concepts of Learning, Facilitation and Communication,
- ii. An Introductory Manual on Case Study Workshop,
- iii. Cooperative Teachers' Field Experience Programme - A New Approach,
- iv. Adapted Version of the MATCOM Manual for Agricultural Managers' In-service training programme,
- v. Development of Internal Training System in a Cooperative Society,
- vi. Manual on Training Aids.

The two expatriate Experts, namely, Mr. Stig Ivarsson, Chief Technical Adviser and Mr. Daman Prakash, Expert in Audio-visual Aids left the project at the end of June 1981. Three additional Sri Lanka Education Officers have been deputed by the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka to work with the Project.

The ICA ROEC had constituted an Evaluation Team under the Chairmanship of Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, President of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka. Other members of the team included Mr. Folke Dubell, Swedish Consultant and Prof. B.N. Choubey, Cooperative Educationist from India and three Sri Lankan cooperators. The Evaluation Team has since submitted its report; the findings of the Evaluation Team were discussed at a Project-Advisory Committee meeting and priorities for the immediate future have been worked out. Overall the impact of the project has been assessed as quite considerable.

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

This project is now on to its 3rd phase with its activities now extended to 29 multipurpose cooperative societies, one credit-cooperative society and one hospital cooperative society. The reawakening in cooperatives consequent to this project has been quite considerable and the increasing awareness among members has led to the inner strengthening of the cooperative societies. The National Cooperative Council, who has been flooded with applications from

several multipurpose cooperative societies to be included in the project activities has decided to set up a separate wing at national headquarters of the Council to cater to the needs of the societies not directly included in the project. This will be the first step in the integration of the project activities with the N.C.C. Sri Lanka.

The project has been subjected to both an internal evaluation and an evaluation by a team appointed by the ICA/SCC and the findings have been quite positive.

The project is now worked as an ongoing ICA ROEC activity financed by S.C.C.

8.24 Consultative and Allied Services

i. The Regional Director and Director (Education) attended the International Cooperative Congress and relevant auxiliary committee meetings held in Moscow in October 1980.

ii. The Regional Director and Director (Education) attended the 5th World Conference on Thrift and Credit Cooperatives held in New Delhi, India, from 16-20 February 1981. They also assisted the Conference organisers in preparatory work prior to the Conference. The Regional Director read a paper on an Overview of Credit Cooperatives in the S.E. Asian Region.

iii. The Director (Education) delivered inaugural address on 22nd December 1980 at the Seminar of University Teachers teaching cooperation in the State of Gujarat in India.

iv. The Director (Education) presided over the inaugural function of the 2nd Orientation Course for the Cooperative Educational Instructors of NCUI Projects and Project Officers/Supervisors of Adult Education Programmes of J & K and H.P. on 9th March 1981.

v. The Director (Education) attended the National Workshop on Inter-Cooperative Relationship held by the National Cooperative Union of India on 24th March 1981.

vi. The Joint Director (Education) attended the Meeting on Trade Unions and Cooperatives held by the NCUI/ICFTU/ARO on 18.8.1980 at New Delhi.

vii. The Joint Director (Education) attended the 27th All India Cooperative Week and 3rd Delhi Cooperative Congress on 14th November 1980 held by the NCUI and Delhi State Cooperative Union.

viii. The Joint Director (Education) attended the preliminary meeting held by the NCUI on the proposed National Conference on Students' Cooperatives on 30th December 1980.

ix. The Joint Director (Education) attended the Local Advisory Group Meeting of the Indore Project held by the NCUI on 18th January 1981 and assisted the Evaluation Team of the NCUI Education Field Project in Indore from 18th to 20th January 1981.

x. The Specialists in Agricultural Cooperation and Cooperative Agricultural Marketing attended the IDACA Reunion Symposium held in New Delhi from 22-27 January 1981.

xi. The Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation attended for some time the Seminar for Fisheries Cooperatives for S.E. Asian countries held by the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Association. The Seminar was held from 31st August to 20th September 1980 in Tokyo, Japan.

xii. The Specialist in Consumer Cooperation visited on a Consultancy Mission to Thailand to study Leakage Control and Inventory Management in Phranakorn Cooperative Store Ltd. Bangkok from 18th March to 12th April 1981.

xiii. The Specialist in Cooperative Agricultural Marketing had a meeting with the World Bank Team which is assessing the NCDC Cold Storage and Godown Schemes.

xiv. The Education Officer (W & Y) participated in the ICA Women's Conference on "Women & Work in Cooperatives" held by the ICA London in Moscow on 10th and 11th October 1980.

xv. The Education Officer (W & Y) attended the Workshop for Lady Cooperative Education Instructors held by the National Centre for Cooperative Education, New Delhi from 8-12 July 1980. She delivered a lecture on "Member Activities in Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Movement" at the Workshop.

xvi. The Librarian and Documentation Officer attended the IX National Seminar on (i) Role of Information Centres in Technology Transfer, (ii) Role of State-Level National Library Associations in Library Development in India, held in Nagpur by the Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres from 23-26 October 1980.

xvii. The Librarian and Documentation Officer attended the meeting of the National Working Party of Indian Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers held on 5.12.1980.

xviii. The Regional Director attended the UN/ECAFE Conference on Consumer Protection held in Bangkok on early June 1981.

Section III : Proposed Programme of Activities
July 1982 - June 1983

1. TOP LEVEL COOPERATIVE LEADERS CONFERENCE:

Theme : Enhancing Cooperative Capability
 Venue : Tokyo, Japan
 Duration : 6 days in November 1983
 Participants: About 60

1. The above conference is proposed to be held in Tokyo, Japan. Discussions have been held with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan and they have agreed to host the conference. As in the last conference held in 1973, the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organisation (AARRO) has agreed to collaborate with the ICA ROEC in holding the conference. Discussions are being carried out with the ILO authorities to secure their collaboration also in jointly sponsoring the conference along with the above two bodies and the ICA.

2. The theme of the conference will be enhancing cooperative capability. The topics for presentation of papers and discussion will be as follows:

- I. i. Cooperatives and National Development (paper will touch on (a) Suitable environment for cooperative development, (b) Contribution of cooperatives to National Development, (c) Cooperatives and the Poor,
 - ii. Special Paper on Cooperatives and the Poor - Problems and Possibilities (possibly based on Indian Experience)
- II. The Place of Cooperatives in Integrated Rural Development
 - i. Two papers on practical experience - possibly Japan and South Korea.
- III. Structural Reorganisation of Cooperatives for Viability, Growth of Capital and Efficiency.
 - i. Two papers on practical experience - SCC, Sweden, and Sri Lanka
- IV. Human Resources Development in Cooperatives
 - i. Two papers on practical experience
 - (a) SCC - Leadership Development
 - (b) Canada - Personnel Development

3. The conference will be held for 4 days' followed by two days' field visits to cooperative organisations in Japan.

4. The participants to the conference will include leaders of the cooperative movements from the voluntary side, members of the ICA Regional Council and Ministers/Commissioners of Cooperative Development in the Region. The ICA London, Swedish Cooperative Centre and other international bodies concerned with cooperative development would be invited to send participants.

2. ICA/CUAC/IDACA REGIONAL SEMINAR IN JAPAN

Venue : Tokyo, Japan
 Duration : 3 weeks in September 1982
 preceded by one week study visits in
 the Rep. of Korea.
 Participants : 25

The Theme will be proposed at the Council meeting. The above is the normal annual activity in collaboration with the CUAC/IDACA.

3. INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON CONSUMER COOPERATION FOR S.E.ASIA

As suggested by the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia, discussions were carried out with the SCC and it has now been agreed with them that the above seminar will be held by the SCC in Sweden with the assistance of the ICA ROEC in May-June 1983.

As per the usual practice, pre-seminars will be held for the sub-region comprising Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka and Pakistan for which the International Seminar will be held. It is proposed that two pre-seminars be held, one in India for the movements of India and Bangladesh and one in Sri Lanka for the movements of Sri Lanka and Pakistan. One of the objectives of the Pre-seminars would be to select qualified participants for the International Seminar.

4. REGIONAL MEETING OF PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES OF NATIONAL COMMITTEES OF WOMEN COOPERATORS

Venue : Open
 Duration : 10 days
 Participants : About 18-20

As per the recommendation of the ICA Regional Conference on the Role of Women in Cooperative Development held in Malaysia in 1975, several cooperative movements have constituted national committees of women cooperators. Such national committees now exist in Bangladesh, India, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines and Sri Lanka. The objectives of the meeting would be to develop action programmes for enhancing women's participation in cooperatives at all levels and particularly at the grass-roots level, to follow up the recommendations of the Regional Womens' Seminar held in Sri Lanka last year, to present to the meeting the experience of the Women's Project in Sri Lanka in the field of Consumer information and education with a view to developing similar activities elsewhere, to promote regional collaboration amongst women cooperators and to develop effective links between them and the ICA Women's Committee.

The participants to the meeting will be Presidents and Secretaries of the National Women's Committee; full-time Women Officers in the apex organisations who are servicing and supporting the work of the above committees will also be invited,

5. REGIONAL COURSE IN COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT

Venue : Pune, India
 Duration : January - March 1983
 Participants : 25

The third meeting of SEASPECT held in April 1981, had recommended the holding of the above course.

The target group for the course will be (i) trainers in cooperative training organisations in S.E. Asian countries, and (ii) middle level Managers working in cooperative organisations in S.E. Asian countries.

The objectives and detailed curriculum drawn up for the course were discussed at the 3rd Meeting of the South-East Asian Specialists' Group on Cooperative Training (SEASPECT) held in Sri Lanka in April this year. The SEASPECT was in agreement with the objectives and also broadly with the curriculum. The suggestions made by the SEASPECT with regard to curriculum would be incorporated.

The objectives of the course will be as follows:

- i. To enable the participants to develop understanding of the role and functions of cooperatives in the socio-economic environment under which cooperative enterprises operate;
- ii. To enable the participating teachers to learn the concepts, process and techniques of management so that they can teach the subject effectively;
- iii. To equip the middle level managers to perform management functions more effectively;
- iv. To generate motivation for further self study amongst participants and to provide them guidelines for the same.

The course will be held in Pune, India in collaboration with the Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management.

6. REGIONAL SEMINAR ON MANPOWER MANAGEMENT AND COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Venue : Open
 Duration : 3 weeks (between January and March 1983)
 Participants : 25

Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur)

With the growth of the cooperative movement, the role which the cooperative employee plays in cooperative organisation has become more important and the questions of employer and employee relations have become complex. The number of cooperative movements in the Region have made various attempts to professionalise management and introduce systems for recruitment, promotions, training and development of the employees. The seminar would aim at exchange of experience in this regard with a view to developing effective systems in respect of recruitment, establishing career systems for employees including systems for their training and development and harmonious relationship with the employees trade union.

7. SUB-REGIONAL SEMINAR ON STRENGTHENING NATIONAL COOPERATIVE ORGANISATIONS

Venue : Open
Duration : 3 weeks (2nd half of 1982)
Participants : 20

A Regional Seminar on "How to improve effectiveness of national cooperative organisations was held in New Delhi in ~~November~~ 1980. The participants had made important recommendations at this seminar, the Follow-up of which would help to strengthen national cooperative organisations. The Sub-Regional Seminar is proposed for the purpose of exchanging experience regarding the Follow-up action undertaken by the member organisations, to discuss in depth problems experienced in this regard and the manner in which the ICA could help.

The participating organisations will be from the movements of Afghanistan, Australia, India, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand. A similar sub-regional seminar will be planned for the other sub-region in 1983-84.

8. ICA/ILO PILOT SEMINAR ON THE TRAINING PACK ON ADVANCED MARKETING AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Venue : Open
Duration : 2 weeks
Participants : 15

New Delhi

The ILO MATCOM is preparing teaching material for training marketing personnel in international cooperative trade. The ILO/Matcom, The ILO Cooperative Trade Project and the ICA RCEC will collaborate in holding the above seminar.

9. COMMODITY CONFERENCE ON SPICES

Venue : Sri Lanka
Duration : One week
Participants : 15

This will be a follow-up conference to the Regional Seminar on the subject of Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to the Export Trade held in New Delhi in November-December 1980. The Commodity conference on Cattle Feed Raw Materials has already been held in Bangkok from 27-30 April 1981.

10. SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON COOPERATIVE PRESS AND PUBLICITY

Venue : Sri Lanka
 Duration : Two weeks
 Participants : 20

The Sub-Regional Workshop is the second in the series. The first Workshop was held for Indonesia, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. The present Workshop will be held for the movements of India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

The objectives of the Workshop will be to review cooperative press and publicity activities, to impart skills to cooperative press and publicity personnel and to suggest ways of improving publicity material and cooperative journals.

11. SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR COOPERATIVE LIBRARIANS AND DOCUMENTATION OFFICERS

Venue : India ✓
 Duration : 4 weeks
 Participants : 20

The first Sub-Regional Workshop was held for the Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers for the movements of the Rep. of Korea, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. The response to the Workshop was very encouraging and the Workshop made a useful contribution in the systematisation and promotion of cooperative libraries and documentation services for these movements. Hence a similar workshop for the remaining movements of the Region, viz. India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Pakistan is planned during the year. The Workshop will have the following objectives:

- i. To review the present situation of cooperative libraries in the participating countries,
- ii. To impart skills to cooperative librarians and documentation officers, and
- iii. To prepare Blue Prints on "National Information System for Cooperatives" of participating countries.

12. NATIONAL SEMINARS AND CONSULTATIVE SERVICES

12.1 It will be possible for the ICA ROEC to assist the member movements in holding national seminars and providing consultative services in the following areas. The assistance of the ICA ROEC would be made available to the member movements on requests, keeping in view the personnel and financial resources. The Council members may indicate if they would like to sponsor national seminars/technical meetings for which assistance of the ICA ROEC may be needed.

- i. Cooperative Policy and Development
- ii. Agricultural Cooperation including Agricultural Cooperative Marketing
- iii. Cooperative Credit
- iv. Consumer Cooperation
- v. Cooperative Education with special reference to training techniques for staff, and member education
- vi. Training of Women Cooperators/Enhancing Women's participation in cooperative activities
- vii. Library Science and Documentation
- viii. Industrial Cooperatives
- ix. Fishery Cooperatives
- x. International Cooperative Trade.

12.2 The ICA ROEC will hold national seminars/workshops on Strengthening Internal Marketing Structures with a view to increasing export capabilities. The seminars/workshops may be held in three countries during the year, possibly Indonesia, Malaysia/India and Sri Lanka.

12.3 It is proposed to provide short-term consultancy services to member organisations in the field of international cooperative trade. Wherever possible, the consultant would be recruited from buying cooperatives in developed countries.

13. COOPERATIVE EDUCATION MATERIALS ADVISORY SERVICE (CEMAS)

CEMAS London has brought out the following material in the field of local cooperative education. This material will be made available to the member movements. Where needed training programmes for Cooperative Field Education will be carried out. Exploratory work is also proposed to be carried out during the year to start field cooperative education in one or two member movements of the Region.

CEMAS will continue to perform its clearing house function.

List of Material prepared by ICA CEMAS
for Field Education Officers

For Managers

1. Course Managers Guide
2. Course Manager's Log
3. Progress Chart and Tests

For Participants

1. Participants Guide
2. Identifying a Cooperative's Needs
3. Performance Objectives
4. Implementation Considerations
5. Performance Problem Analysis
6. Making Recommendations

Performance Aids

- A. Objectives
- B. Observable Behaviour
- C. Converting Vague Statements into Usable Information
- D.
 - i. Committee Members' Objectives
 - ii. Secretary/Managers' Objectives
 - iii. Members' Objectives
- E. Providing Instruction
- F. Record Keeping
- G. Checklist for Selecting Best Solution
- H. Field Analysis Report
- I. Development Estimates for Cooperative

14. TEACHERS' TRAINING PROJECT IN SRI LANKA

The Project will be continued during the year. The Evaluation Team, comprising one Cooperative Consultant from Sweden and one Cooperative Training cum Administrator from India and four cooperators from Sri Lanka, recommended that the Project be extended for a period of 18 months with effect from 1st July 1982. The proposal has been sent to the funding agency, namely, the Swedish Cooperative Centre.

15. PROJECT IN WOMEN'S EDUCATION AND INFORMATION THROUGH COOPERATIVES IN SRI LANKA

The Project will be continued during the year. This Project has also been evaluated by an Evaluation Team comprising a Swedish woman cooperator and three Sri Lankan cooperators.

16. PROPOSAL REGARDING STARTING A WOMEN'S COOPERATIVE EDUCATION PROJECT IN INDIA

The National Cooperative Union of India has sent to us a detailed proposal for the above Project which has been discussed with the SCC. The SCC has in principle agreed to support the Project.

17. PROJECT FOR ENHANCING INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES OF COOPERATIVE MEMBERS' HOUSEWIVES

The Cooperative League of Thailand/Cooperative Promotion Department of the Government of Thailand have started the above Project and requested for ICA assistance. The Project has been referred to the S.C.C. for support.

18. POSSIBILITY OF STARTING PROJECTS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

It was pointed out at the last meeting that it will be possible for the SCC to provide assistance for Projects in educational fields and in respect of women and cooperatives. It appears that active exploratory work needs to be carried out by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with the member movements in order to generate projects which could make effective contribution to cooperative development.

It would be helpful if the Councillors may consult with the member organisations in the respective countries and then indicate at the Regional Council Meeting if the movements would like the ICA to assist in the exploratory work.

19. EVALUATION OF THE ICA ROEC ACTIVITIES
SUPPORTED BY THE SCC

1. It has been decided that there should be a review and assessment of the Regional Programme activities of the ICA during the period 1975-1980, including those of the ICA ROEC for S.E. Asia.
2. The overall objectives of the evaluation will be to:
 - i. provide guidelines for future programme planning;
 - ii. identify a strategy and priorities to be followed in formulating programmes oriented to the needs and problems in the region.
3. In order to achieve the above objectives the team shall:
 - a. evaluate the service of the regional offices to national member organisations with particular reference to strengthening apex organisations and improving the capability of member organisations to develop and sustain their own programmes;
 - b. identify the main trends of recent programme activities and relate these to the development needs of the regions with particular reference to the improvement of training and education facilities, trade and economic activities, cooperative development among the rural poor, and the role of women;
 - c. explore the possibilities of integrating regional programmes more closely with the current operations and problems of national movements and linking ICA activities with national development issues; and
 - d. study and make recommendations on the administrative and financial implications of the findings as well as on the feed-back mechanism in existence.
4. The areas of special interest for the assessment are: the impact of ROEC activities on the ground, Cooperatives and the poor, Cooperatives and Women and Cooperative Trade.
5. The members of the Evaluation Team will be Dr. S.K. Saxena and Mr. Karl Fogelstrom. One representative from the Region will join the team in respect of assessment for the concerned region.
6. It is expected that the report would be ready by June 1983.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 : TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRADE

Part I - Technical Assistance

1. Consultancy Services:

9.1 Phranakorn Cooperative Store Ltd., Bangkok, Thailand.

On a request made by the Phranakorn Cooperative Store Society limited, backed by the Cooperative League of Thailand, Mr. M.K. Puri, Specialist in Consumer Cooperation, undertook a study of the problems in the Cooperative Store between the period 19th March - 10th April 1981.

His findings and recommendations have been forwarded to the management of the Store. We understand that the implementation of the measures recommended are under consideration.

9.2 Super Palangka, Manila

As a follow up to the consultancy services provided to this Cooperative in 1980, a training Workshop for its employees is planned and special funds have been released by S.C.C. for this purpose. It is hoped to conduct this Workshop in the near future.

9.3 The Federation of Consumers Cooperative Societies of Thailand.

A National Federation of Consumer Cooperative Society in Thailand was established in 1977. This Federation has not so far been able to make much headway. The President of the Federation has approached the ICA ROEC through the Cooperative League of Thailand to undertake a study of the present situation of consumer cooperative movement in Thailand and to advise a line of action for the National Federation to develop its business and other activities in a manner that may serve and strengthen the consumer cooperative societies in the country.

The request is under consideration and it is hoped that it will be possible for the ICA ROEC to undertake this consultancy mission in the near future.

2. Project Requests:

9.4 Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union

Two requests have been received from BJS: for assistance : (i) in the field of consumer education among women and, (ii) for support to income generating activities in rural cooperatives. Both the proposals are under consideration in the Regional Office.

9.5 The National Cooperative Union of India

A project proposal for "Women's Cooperative Education" was formulated by the NCU, and assistance was sought from the SCC.

The S.C.C. has in principle agreed to support the project and the final details are being worked out by the NCU and the ROEC.

9.6 A similar request from Thailand is under consideration.

Part II - Promotion of Cooperative Trade

1. ICA Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade", New Delhi (India) : 24 November -2 December 1980

9.7 ICA ROEC organised, jointly with National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) and National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) as host organisations, a Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade" from 24 November to 2 December, 1980.

9.8 The participants were from trading cooperative organisations and governmental organisations concerned with such cooperatives. In all there were 28 participants from 11 countries in the Region. Resource persons came from the ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE PROJECT on "Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations", Bangkok (Thailand); the Trade Promotion Centre of the J.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok (Thailand); the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the U.N. (FAO), Fishery Industries Division, Rome (Italy); the Norwegian Raw Fish

Organisation, Tromsø (Norway); the Trade Development Authority of India (TDA); the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), New Delhi; the Institute of Economic Growth, Planning Commission, Government of India, the ICA London, the Economic Bureau of the Agricultural Sub-Committee of the ICA, Paris (France); the FAO Project Market Planning and Design Centre (India); Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India; and from the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), New Delhi.

9.9 An important part of the seminar was group discussions and the seminar was divided into four groups discussing - (i) Marine products, (ii) Fruits and Vegetables, (iii) Tea and spices, and (iv) Cattle Feed Raw Materials. During the session on Trade Exchange, information on trade possibilities was exchanged. Business contacts were established among the participants and follow-up actions will be taken eventually to execute business transactions.

9.10 The recommendations of the seminar are being placed before the ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development for their consideration and advice about future action in the matter.

2. Commodity Conference on Cattle Feed Raw Materials, Bangkok, Thailand : 27-30 April 1981:

9.11 ICA ROEC organised, jointly with Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Thailand (ACFT), a Regional "Commodity Conference on Cattle Feed Raw Material" from 27th to 30th April, 1981.

9.12 The participants were from Cooperative organisations. In all there were 7 participants from five countries in the Region: India, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines and Indonesia. Resource persons came from the ILO/SIDA Project on "Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations", COOPTRADE Project, Bangkok (Thailand); National Federation of Agricultural Cooperative Associations (ZEN-NOH), Tokyo (Japan); Svenska Lantmännen Riksförbund (SLF), Stockholm, Sweden Bureau Economique du Comité Agricole de L'Alliance Coopérative Internationale (BECA), Paris (France); and the Food and Agriculture

Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), Regional Office of Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok (Thailand). Observers came from the Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT) and the Cooperative Promotion Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Royal Government of Thailand.

9.13 The Conference consisted of technical sessions, trade contacts and study visits. The programme of activities included sessions on Trade Channels, Trade Information, Financing International Trade and Barter Agreements. Information was also given about the COOPTRADE Project and the Role of ICA in promoting international trade. The participant also presented information about their cooperatives and exportable products. The FAO representative presented a paper on "Production Utilisation and Trade of Feedstuffs in nine selected countries", and the resource persons from SLR/Lantmannen, ZEN-NCH and BECA presented their organisations and buying policies. Different background papers were also distributed for consideration in various discussions. There were study visits to a Rice Warehouse, Maize Silo and the Thai Japanese Cooperative chemical factory in Bangkok.

9.14 An important part of the Conference was the Trade Contacts which were established and the different suggestions made to prepare the Cooperatives to strengthen International Trade. There were also scheduled and programmed individual meetings between participants and resource persons. The valuable guidance of the resource persons from the developed countries were highly appreciated by the participants.

9.15 It was recommended by the participants of the above Commodity Conference that similar conferences on tea and spices, marine products and fruits and vegetables and other commodities should be arranged by the ICA RPEC, New Delhi.

9.16 The recommendation and conclusions of the above Conference are being placed before the ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development for their consideration and advice for future action.

3. Other Supporting Activities :

9.17 The Specialist in Cooperative Agricultural Marketing functioned as a resource person at a National Workshop on Cooperative Trade conducted by the Sugar Cooperatives Development Institute of the Philippines at Cebu City.

9.18 The ICA ROEC continued to work in close collaboration with the ILO/SIDA/COOPTRADE Project located in Bangkok.

A proposal for the continuation of the Project through the ICA ROEC is under consideration.

9.19 The ICA ROEC provided information and other assistance to cooperative organisations whenever such assistance was sought.

Miscellaneous

9.20 An on-going correspondence on different matters related to trade have been exchanged between the COOPTRADE Project and the ICA New Delhi office as well as the Economic Bureau of the ICA Agricultural Committee in Paris.

9.21 In order to work out a proposal for the continuation of the ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project by the ICA ROEC a meeting was held in Bangkok from 3-5 June 1981 between representatives of the ICA ROEC, SCC and COOPTRADE. The draft proposal is now under consideration of ICA, ILO, SCC and SIDA.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 : PUBLICATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS
AND LIBRARY SECTION

PUBLICATIONS

10.1 The following publications were issued during the period under review (November 1980 to September 1981).

(i) Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management, Report and Papers, Kuala Lumpur, 1979.

10.2 The publication comprises working papers presented at the Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management held in Kuala Lumpur in 1979, viz. Cooperative Development in the Eighties, Strategy for Mobilisation and Investment of Funds through cooperatives, and Role of Thrift and Credit Societies vis-a-vis Better Living and Community Development and the Conference Report.

(ii) How to Improve Effectiveness of National Cooperative Organisations - Report & Papers.

10.3 This is the report of the Regional Seminar on "How to improve the Effectiveness of National Cooperative Organisations" held in New Delhi in February 1980. The publication includes the working papers presented at the seminar, selected background papers, the group reports and recommendations adopted by the seminar.

(iii) Better Living Activities through Cooperatives (Mimec).

10.4 This is the report of the Regional Seminar on Better Living Activities through Cooperatives held by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with the CUAC and IDACA in August/September 1979.

(iv) Role of Cooperatives in Modernisation of Agriculture (Mimeo).

10.5 The publication includes the report of the Regional Seminar on the subject in Tokyo, Japan, in August/September 1980. The seminar was held in collaboration with the CUAC and IDACA.

(v) Amalgamation of Primary Agricultural Cooperatives - The Japanese Experience (in press).

10.6 The above publication, brought out in 1973, has since been revised and updated and two new case studies have been included. The publication is now in press.

(vi) If South-East Asia - *Journal of Finance*.

10.7 A publicity folder on the activities of the ICA GEC was brought out in October 1980.

(vii) Speech No. 20 : Thrift and Credit Cooperatives in a Changing World (in press).

10.8 The publication, under the speeches series, consists of the key note addresses delivered by the Director of the Alliance, Dr. S.K. Saxena, and the lecture delivered by the ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia, Mr. R.C. Rajaguru, at the 5th International Conference on Cooperative Thrift and Credit held in New Delhi in February 1981.

PUBLICITY

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

- i. Mirasaki-She Agricultural Multipurpose Cooperative Society - October 1980 issue (Japan).
- ii. Tudiyalur Cooperative Agricultural Services Limited - January 1981 issue (India).
- iii. Miyang Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society - April 1981 issue (Rep. of Korea).
- iv. National Land Finance Cooperative Society - July 1981 issue (Malaysia).

(a) Collection of Cooperative News

10.10 Collection of cooperative news from the region for use in the ICA Regional Bulletin was continued during the year under review. The members of the ICA Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press for South-East Asia as well as the participants to the Sub-Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press and Publicity have agreed to contribute cooperative news, features, success stories on a regular basis.

(b) Press Releases

10.11 The practice of issuing press releases after the conclusion of an ICA event was continued. The press releases were sent to cooperative journals in the region.

Sub-Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press & Publicity

10.12 As already reported under the Education Centre activities, a Sub-Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press and Publicity for fifteen participants from Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Republic of Korea was held in Thailand in April/May 1981. The workshop reviewed cooperative press and publicity activities carried out by the movements in the region and tried to impart skills to the personnel working in the field of cooperative journalism. Study visits to different sectoral societies were also arranged.

1. LIBRARY

10.13 There are 15,000 volumes including bound periodicals on cooperatives and allied subjects and nearly 5,000 booklets in the library now. The library subscribes to many journals and also receives many on a complimentary basis. Altogether over 200 journals are received in the library. It acts as a clearing house of information on books and documentation. The library has been extensively used by the cooperators, cooperative organisations, students and scholars.

2. DOCUMENTATION SERVICES

10.14 The following has been issued :

- i. The Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XIII, No. 3, December 1978.
- ii. The Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XIII, No.4, March 1979.
- iii. Annotated Bibliography of Literature on Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia : First and Second Half-Yearly Supplement - June and December 1979.

The following are under preparation :

- i. The Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XIV, No.1, 2, 3 & 4 . June, September, December 1979 and March 1980 (four issues).

- ii. The Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XV, No. 1 and 2 : June & September 1960 (combined issue).
- iii. The Annotated Bibliography of Literature on Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia : First & Second Half-Yearly Supplement : June & December 1980.
- iv. ICA Library Catalogue, Part-IV (Cumulative list of library books since 1962-1975).

3. SUPPLY AND EXCHANGE OF LITERATURE

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

4. LIAISON AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

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

5. PROMOTION AND CONSULTATIVE SERVICES

10.17 The ICA ROEC Librarian and Documentation Officer has been actively involved in the promotional activities of the cooperative library development of South-East Asia. During 1980-81 the following consultative services were provided by him :

- (i) Consultative services are being provided to the Indian cooperative movement for the development of cooperative library and documentation services of the country. The Working Group of Indian Cooperative Librarians is being provided with the advisory services.
- (ii) In-service training was provided to two persons from FAO/UNDP PACTA Project, Kabul (Afghanistan) from 15th March to 18th May 1981, on the subject, "Techniques of Library and Documentation services with special reference to cooperative libraries".

6. SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR COOPERATIVE LIBRARIANS & DOCUMENTATION OFFICERS

10.18 As reported under the activities of Education Centre, a Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers was held by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with the Agricultural Credit and Cooperatives Institute (ACCI), Philippines from 14th to 29th April 1981 at Los Banos, Laguna, Philippines. 23 participants from Afghanistan, Indonesia, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand attended the Workshop. A few highlights of recommendations of the workshop are as follows:

(i) National Information System for Cooperatives

Participants prepared a blue print as "National Cooperative Information System" for their respective countries. Under the information system it is envisaged that each country should start a network of cooperative libraries and information centres. There should be a National Cooperative Advisory Committee responsible for the development of national cooperative information system in the country. This system, the workshop felt, should function under a national advisory committee and that committee should prepare a plan for national cooperative information network. The committee should also be responsible for finance, building, selection and procurement of literature and training of library personnel, etc.

- (ii) Participants felt that as a follow-up of the Workshop, the national workshops should be organised for the cooperative librarians and documentation officers of the participating countries.
- (iii) Participants requested ICA ROEC to consider offering a fellowship programme for cooperative librarians and Documentation Officers of South-East Asia.

PUBLICATIONS PROGRAMME FOR 1981-82

10.19 The following publications would be brought out during the year 1981-82.

1. Enhancing Women's Participation in Cooperative Activities.
The publication will consist of the report on and the Papers presented at the Regional Seminar on Enhancing Women's Participation in Cooperative Activities held by the ICA ROEC in Kandy, Sri Lanka, in September 1980.
2. Report of Sub-Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press and Publicity, Bangkok (Thailand).
3. Report of Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers, ACCI, Philippines.
The reports of the above Sub-Regional Workshops held in Bangkok (Thailand) and ACCI, Laguna, Philippines, respectively will be brought out in mimeographed form.
4. Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management - report and papers - Philippines, 1981.
The working papers and report of the Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management to be held in the Philippines in November 1981 will form part of this publication.
5. Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation - report and papers.
The publication would consist of report and papers that would be presented at the Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation to be held in Japan in September 1981.
6. Agricultural Cooperative Credit - report and papers.
A publication would be brought out consisting of the report and papers presented at the forthcoming Regional Seminar on the subject to be held in Bangladesh in 1981-82.

7. Collection of Case Studies on Agricultural Cooperatives in the Region.

Two follow-up seminars on Agricultural Cooperation would be held in Sri Lanka and Thailand in 1981 where the participants have been asked to present case studies on their respective agricultural cooperative societies. Selected case studies from these will be included in this volume.

8. Cooperative Management Case Book.

The publication which will consist of case studies on cooperative management will be brought out for the ICA Cemas Unit.

9. Speeches on Cooperation.

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

10. Publicity

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

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 : IDACA Activities

The outline of the activities of IDACA :

I. Training Programmes

1. Training Programme for Thais on Agricultural Development Project

This seminar was organised under the auspices of Zen-Noh, UNICOOPJAPAN, and CUAC in collaboration with ACFT in Thailand. It was designed for officials and employees of agricultural cooperatives in the districts of the maize development project to provide them with practical knowledge and experiences on organisation, business activities and management of multipurpose agricultural cooperatives in Japan.

This course was organised from June 24 to July 23, 1980 with 15 participants and the study visit during the period was made to Oukuma and Nangocho agricultural cooperatives in Miyagi Prefecture.

2. ICA Regional Seminar in collaboration with CUAC and IDACA

This seminar was held on the basis of an agreement between ICA and CUAC/IDACA with 26 participants from 11 countries from August 24 till September 13, 1980.

The theme of the seminar was "Role of cooperatives in modernization of agriculture". The participants made a study visit to Nirasakishi and Hakushucho agricultural cooperatives in Yamanashi Prefecture. Details of the seminar is in the report of the ICA.

3. Training Course for the Cooperatives from Selected Countries

This course was organised by IDACA as a part of "Cooperation among Cooperatives" activities with financial assistance from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. In 1980, the training course was conducted for 13 participants from two countries, Sri Lanka (8) and Bangladesh (5) from September 17 till October 16, 1980. Study visit was made to Biseicho and Binan agricultural cooperatives in Okayama Prefecture.

4. Training Course for Cooperativa Agricola de Cutia (CAC) in Brazil

This training was conducted, on the basis of memorandum between CAC and CUAC, for 5 participants in Japanese language from September 24 till October 24, 1980. Study visit was made to Fukuishi and Mikumicho agricultural cooperatives in Fukui Prefecture.

5. Refresher Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under the Colombo Plan

The course, which was a new attempt of IDACA, was designed to provide a follow up to the ex-participants of the group training course on agricultural cooperatives under the Colombo Plan held earlier in Japan. The purpose was to give these participants an opportunity of studying further on specialised subjects of agricultural cooperatives in Japan. The qualification of the participants which was set by the Government of Japan, however, was confined to those ex-participants who attended courses organised under the Colombo Plan and who are still working within the movement. As a result, we had very few qualified participants and had to run the course with only 7 participants from 5 countries: Brazil (2), Indonesia (1), Philippines (2), Sri Lanka (1) and Thailand (1).

The course was organised from November 6 till December 10, 1980 and study visit was made to Usukishi and Ajinacho agricultural cooperatives in Oita Prefecture.

6. General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under the Colombo Plan

This course is the oldest one which we have conducted from the outset at IDACA as a part of the Government Technical Assistance Programmes.

The course this year was organised from Jun 1 till July 3, 1981 with 20 participants from 12 countries, Bangladesh (2), Brazil (4), Burma (1), Fiji (1), India (1), Indonesia (2), Nepal (1), Peru (1), Philippines (1), Sri Lanka (2), Tanzania (1), Thailand (3).

II. Survey Project

The Government of Thailand has requested the Government of Japan to help enhance productivity of agriculture as well as to bring up agricultural cooperatives of Thailand.

In response to the request from the Royal Thai Government to the Japanese Government, the Government of Japan has requested IDACA through JICA to extend assistance to the Thai Agricultural Cooperative Development Project.

With the full support of the CUAC, IDACA sent a Survey mission to Thailand to conduct a survey jointly with the Thai Government for the period of 2 months beginning from July 1980. This Thai and Japan joint survey team has submitted the final report with recommendation to both the Governments of Thailand and Japan in February 1981. On the basis of the recommendations in the report, a preparation was made to send another mission to finalise practical ways and means for implementing Thai Agricultural Cooperative Development Project during 1981-82.

III. Follow-up and Re-union Programme of IDACA

IDACA has been conducting follow up and re-union programmes to give the ex-participants up-to-date information and guidance mostly in the region.

In 1980, the follow-up and re-union programme was conducted in India for three weeks from January 20, 1980 to February 8, 1980. It was carried out successfully according to the schedule made by National Cooperative Union of India in cooperation with ICA South-East Regional Office. In view of the large dimensions of the area where ex-participants reside, we organised meetings with ex-participants in six places in India to discuss various activities in which they have been engaged after their return home and to get advice from them on how to make IDACA's training programme more effective.

The Japanese team has also made an intensive study on the present situation of agricultural cooperative movement of India.

At the request of the NCUI, a Symposium was held in New Delhi on the subject of "The Role of Agricultural Cooperatives in Modernisation of Agriculture in Japan". The Japanese experiences were presented by Mr. Kunii, Managing Director of CUAC. Mr. Futagami of CUAC and Mr. Fujimoto, Managing Director of IDACA, also presented reports on "The Present situation of agricultural cooperatives in Japan" and on "The Farming Complex System now being promoted by agricultural cooperatives in Japan" respectively.

IDACA Activities from July 1981 to June 1982 (Draft)

The following programmes are planned for fiscal year 1982 at IDACA.

I. Training Programmes

1. Training Programme for Thai on Agricultural Development Project

Duration	:	July 6 - August 7, 1981
Participants	:	20 local leaders in maize development project areas recommended by ACFT
Field Study	:	Matto-shi and Kanazawashi agricultural cooperatives in Ishikawa Prefecture.

This course has been organised annually over the last four years, in collaboration with the Thai agricultural cooperative movement, for local leaders of agricultural cooperative in maize development project areas with a view to providing them with an opportunity of studying Japanese experiences on organisation, business operation and management of multi-purpose cooperatives. The course has been organised by the three host organisations - CUAC, ZEN-NOH, and UNICOOPJAPAN - with financial assistance from JICA. The course is to be continued in 1982.

2. ICA Regional Seminar to be organised in collaboration with JCCU, CUAC and IDACA

This seminar is to be held from September 1 to 21, 1981, with 25 participants selected by ICA ROEC from member countries in the Region on the subject of consumer's cooperative business in Japan. Study visit is to be made to Nada-Kobe consumer's cooperative in Hyogo Prefecture and Mikkabi-cho agricultural cooperative in Shizuoka Prefecture. The earlier Regional Seminars to be held at IDACA used to be in collaboration with CUAC and IDACA and its subject was confined to agricultural cooperatives in Japan.

The seminar in 1981 is, however, on the subject of consumer cooperatives and JCCU was added to the group of Japanese host organisations.

The seminar in 1982 will be again on the subject of agricultural cooperatives.

3. Training Course for the Cooperators from Selected Countries

Duration : September 28 - October 27, 1981

Participants : 6 from Sri Lanka and 5 from Malaysia

This course is organised by IDACA for leaders of agricultural cooperatives in selected countries with financial assistance from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. In 1981 the course will be held for 6 and 5 agricultural cooperative leaders from Sri Lanka and Malaysia respectively to provide an opportunity of studying organisation and activities of Japanese multi-purpose agricultural cooperatives. The Japanese Government will meet the costs of international travel, board and lodging. The study visit will be made to Iwate Prefecture.

4. IDACA's Special Training Course

Considering many requests made at ICA Regional Council meetings to IDACA to provide more opportunities of studying Japanese agricultural cooperative movement, IDACA has discussed with CUAC about the possibility of having special programmes. In 1981, it was decided in consultation with ICA ROEC, to organise a programme for a period of 20 days between 3 and 22 November 1981 for 20 cooperators from India to meet the long standing request from India.

CUAC and IDACA, of which president issued invitation, will meet the costs of board and lodging and study visit in Japan, while international airfares will be borne by the Indian Movement.

With regard to the 1982 programme, it is now under consultations with ICA Regional Office.

5. Training Programme for NACF, Korea

According to an agreement between CUAC and NACF, it is expected to have a training programme on "multi-purpose agricultural cooperatives in Japan" for the duration of 2 weeks in March 1982. This is a self-financing programme by NACF.

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

According to an agreement between CUAC and CACCC, one training programme is planned to be held in April 1982 for the duration of 30 days at IDACA on the subject "Organisation and Business Operation of Agricultural Cooperatives in Japan". Five participants - officials and employees of CACCC - will be invited. The expenses during their stay in Japan will be borne by CUAC, while international airfare will be met by CACCC.

7. General Course in agricultural cooperatives under the Colombo Plan

The course for 1981-82 is under negotiation with the Japanese Government and Japan International Cooperation Agency. The course for 1982 is tentatively scheduled to start from early May for a period of 2 months with 20 participants from 20 countries. All the expenses of the course will be met by JICA, including international airfares. It is advised, therefore, that those who wish to study Japanese agricultural cooperatives should direct all inquiries to respective governments and send application through the Japanese Embassy.

II. Follow-up and Reunion Programme of IDACA

Follow-up and reunion programme for fiscal year 1981 is to be organised for ex-participants from Indonesia in February 1982. The programme is being worked out by the Indonesian Movement with the help of ICA ROEC.

The purpose of the programme is to provide an opportunity of updating the knowledge and information of ex-participants of IDACA programmes, to review their activities after their return home and to collect information on the present situation and the problems of organisations and businesses of their movement so that contents of future IDACA programmes may be improved. The full cooperation of the Indonesian Movement and of ICA ROEC is indispensable for the success of this Follow-up and Reunion Programme of IDACA.

III. Research Project

Main research project of IDACA for 1981 is the continuation of that for agricultural cooperative development project in Thailand

in 1960, which was in accordance with the request from Thai Government. In 1981, special study is being made with a view to working out an implementation programme of the project proposed by Thai Government and a survey team of IDACA consisting of 6 members was sent in July 1981 for the duration of 2 months to conduct a special study to work out the implementation programme in collaboration with ACFT under the agreement between IDACA and JICA.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 : DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
SUB COMMITTEES OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL -
AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, CONSUMER, TRADE

12. A resume of the decisions taken by the Sub-Committees of the Regional Council will be placed before the Council by the respective Secretaries at the time of the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13 : RELATIONS WITH MEMBER-ORGANISATIONS
IN THE REGION

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

13.2 Small Farmers Research Study : The study has now been done in depth in two countries, Sri Lanka and Thailand by local researchists while the New Delhi Research Officer has undertaken a desk-cum-field study in the States of Maharashtra and Bihar in India and two workshops have been completed in Pune & Patna in September and October.

A workshop for the Research Officers was held in New Delhi ICA ROEC in January 1981 and several micro level participatory activities have resulted from the study both in Thailand and Sri Lanka. At presentation workshops held in the two countries the governments and the movements have accepted the programmes and are actively supporting the proposed activities. The Netherlands Government through the local embassies in both countries has already helped some projects financially. A technical meeting on the Study will be held in Sri Lanka in February 1982.

13.3 Buy a Bucket of Water Programme : Considerable progress has been made in the construction of wells and the making available of clean drinking water in several villages in four countries in the region. The best achievement has been in Sri Lanka where the National Cooperative Council and the Women's Consumer Education Project have been responsible for completing work on over 12 wells, serving over 1000 families.

India on Thailand got off to a late start but it is expected that the programmes will be completed before the end of 1981.

In the Philippines several wells are already in operation and the balance will be completed before the end of 1981.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 : RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

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

(i) FAO : The ICA ROEC helped the FAO PACCA Project in Afghanistan in arranging and coordinating several programmes for participants from Afghanistan: (i) Course in Agricultural Cooperatives for Afghan trainees in collaboration with VMICM Pune and the NCUI. (ii) A fellowship course for two Afghan Librarians - A basic level information course on library management - 6 weeks in-service training at the ICA ROEC library, and (iii) The ICA ROEC is assisting the FAO PACCA Project in building up their library, by providing them with lists of suitable books etc and helping in their procurement.

(ii) UN/ESCAP : The Cooperative League of Thailand represented the ICA ROEC at the 23rd Session of ESCAP Committee on Trade held at Bangkok from 18-24 November, 1980.

The CLT also represented the ICA ROEC at the 37th Session of UN/ESCAP held at Bangkok from 10-21 March, 1981.

The Regional Director attended the UN/ESCAP Regional Consultation on Consumer Protection held at Bangkok from 2nd to 8th June, 1981.

(iii) ILO : The Director (Education) delivered a lecture on "Role of ICA in South East Asia" at the ILO/DANIDA Follow-up Workshop on Financial Management of Rural Cooperatives, Asia, held at the NCUI, New Delhi from 27th October to 7th November 1981.

(iv) ILC/SIDA Coop Trade Project : The ICA has worked closely with the project. Discussions are under way for the ICA ROEC to take over the project at the conclusion of the ILC/SIDA project period.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15 : VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

15. The Singapore National Cooperative Union has kindly indicated that it would like to host the next Regional Council Meeting in Singapore in 1982. The Councillor for Singapore would extend the invitation.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR *Phillips*

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

pk/aa

488/9/81

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

December 10, 1980

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2. The following were present :

Members of the Council

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

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

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

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

In attendance

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

Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome

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

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

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

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

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

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

Agenda Item No. 3 : Election of Chairman

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- the powers of the Registrar have been increased.

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

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

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

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

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

Agenda Item No. 6 : Administration

Contributions to the funds of the ROEC

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

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

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

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

Concessions by the Government of India

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

Staff Changes

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

- promoted to Grade I from Grade II :

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

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

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

Agenda Item No. 7 : Education Centre

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

Review of Education Activities

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

Regional

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

National

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

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

Proposed Programme of Activities : July 1981 - June 1982

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(3) 7th Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management

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

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

(4) Regional Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Credit

Venue : Bangladesh
 Duration : 3 weeks
 Participants : 25

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

(5) Regional Course in Research Methodology and Training Techniques

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

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

National Seminars

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

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

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

CEMAS

37. The CEMAS activities will be continued.

Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers, Sri Lanka

38. The project will be continued during the year.

Project for Consumer Education and Information Through Cooperatives, Sri Lanka

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

Projects in other areas

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

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

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

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

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

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

Agenda Item No. 8 : Technical Assistance and Trade Section

Technical Assistance

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

National Workshops on Promotion of Export Trade

49. The information given in the agenda was noted.

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

Publications

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

Publicity

51. The information given in the agenda was noted.

Collection of Cooperative News

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

Press Releases

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

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

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

Discussion on ICA Regional Bulletin - its improvement

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

Documentation Services

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

Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians & Documentation Officers

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

Publications Programme for 1980-81

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

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

6. Speeches on Cooperation

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

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

Agenda Item No. 10 : IDACA Activities

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

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

IDACA Programme of Activities for 1981

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

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

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

2. Survey & Research Project, Thailand

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

3. Training Course for NACF

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

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

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

This had been entrusted by JICA to IDACA.

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

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

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

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

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

IDACA News

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

73. Sub-Committee on Agriculture

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

74. Sub-Committee on Fisheries

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

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

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

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

75. Sub-Committee on Trade

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

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

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

76. Committee on Consumer Cooperation

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Buy a Bucket of Water Programme

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Agenda Item No. 13 : Relations with International Organisations

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

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

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

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

1. Strengthening of National Cooperative Organisation

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

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

2. Project Identification and Formulation

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

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

3. Industrial Cooperatives - What Emphasis

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

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

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

4. Nominations to Seminars etc.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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ANNEXE

DATES AND VENUE OF ICA REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD SO FAR

<u>Meeting No.</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Dates</u>
First	New Delhi, India	October 20-22, 1961
Second	Tokyo, Japan	April 13-14, 1962
Third	New Delhi, India	May 1-2, 1963
Fourth	Tokyo, Japan	April 17-18, 1964
Fifth	Newra Eliya, Sri Lanka	November 18-19, 1964
Sixth	New Delhi, India	November 25-26, 1965
Seventh	Manila, Philippines	October 24-25, 1966
Eighth	Tokyo, Japan	November 2-3, 1967
Ninth	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	November 13-14, 1968
Tenth	Tehran, Iran	March 1-2, 1969
Eleventh	Seoul, Rep. of Korea	May 8-9, 1970
Twelfth	New Delhi, India	February 17-18, 1971
Thirteenth	Melbourne, Australia	November 8-9, 1971
Fourteenth	Chiengmai, Thailand	November 19-20, 1972
Fifteenth	Tokyo, Japan	October 30, 1973
Sixteenth	Colombo, Sri Lanka	November 1-2, 1974
Seventeenth	Manila, Philippines	December 7, 1975
Eighteenth	Tehran, Iran	November 7-8, 1976
Nineteenth	Bali, Indonesia	December 9-10, 1977
Twentieth	Bangkok, Thailand	December 6-7, 1978
Twentyfirst	Petaling Jaya, Malaysia	November 22-23, 1979
Twentysecond	Colombo, Sri Lanka	November 15-16, 1980
Twentythird	Seoul, Korea	Oct. 28-30, 1981

ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture: 16TH MEETING
ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries '11TH MEETING
for South-East Asia

Venue REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Dates October 28-29, 1981



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

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

MINUTES OF THE 16TH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE
FOR AGRICULTURE FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD ON 29TH OCT.81

1. The 16th Meeting of the ICA Sub-committee for Agriculture for South-East Asia was held at Koreana Hotel, Seoul, on 29th October 1981 at 9 a.m. Mr. R.G. Tiwari, Member for India, was in the Chair.

The following were present at the meeting:

1. Mr. R.G. Tiwari, Chairman and Member for India
2. Mr. Edoiwan, Indonesia
3. Mr. M. Kunii, Japan
4. Mr. Youn Koo Lee, Rep. of Korea
5. Mr. Won-Ho Suh, Rep. of Korea
6. Mr. Abdul Manan Abdul Majid, Malaysia
7. Mr. A.S. Lozada, Philippines
8. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, Sri Lanka
9. Mr. Teerawit Koonsap, Thailand
10. Mr. Vichien Inthachai, Thailand.

Secretary : Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director & Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation.

Special invitees :

1. Mr. Malte Jonsson, SCC.
2. Dr. S.K. Saxena, SCC.
3. Mr. Sung Whic Park, Rep. of Korea.
4. Mr. Kyo Eun Kim, Rep. of Korea

Observers :

1. Mr. K. Fujimoto, IDACA, Japan
2. Dr. Prof. Kahar Bador, Malaysia
3. Mr. Shirji Tsuboi, Japan
4. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Malaysia
5. Mr. Chong Thin Huatt, Malaysia
6. Mr. M.J. Shah, India
7. Mr. Derek de Silva, Sri Lanka
8. Mr. Anan Chammankit, Thailand

ICA ROEC staff :

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

In attendance :

1. Mr. Hiroshi Terunuma, IDACA, Japan
2. Mr. Masahiro Konno, CUAC, Japan
3. Mr. Prem Kumar, ICA ROEC, New Delhi.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 : WELCOME BY HOST MOVEMENT

2. Mr. Youn Kyo Lee, General Manager, Research Department, NACF, welcomed the members of the Agricultural Sub-committee, observers and others. He said it was a great pleasure to host the 16th Meeting of the ICA Sub-committee for Agriculture for South-East Asia and expressed the hope that various experiences in agricultural cooperative movements in the Region would be exchanged for the mutual benefit of the participating countries. He pointed out that the agricultural cooperatives in Korea was multipurpose type and they enjoy the advantages of the system and also suffer some shortcomings in the operation of the various kind of business activities. He said that I hope that forum would provide a good opportunity for them to further develop their agricultural cooperative movement and enhance the efficiency of their cooperative business operations. He wished the members an enjoyable stay in his country.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

3. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, said that the Agricultural Sub-committee is the oldest Sub-committee of the ICA ROEC and necessarily so because agriculture remained the most important activity in most of the cooperative systems in the whole of Asia and for that matter Asia is dependent still on agriculture for most of its gross national product. He said he was happy that this meeting was held in Korea as that would give the members an opportunity of observing the agricultural cooperative movement in that country. He said he was happy that over the last several years ICA had associated with the M. F. in Korea in respect of training programmes in agriculture which are combined with the programmes of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives and IDACA of Japan. The issues covered are not merely those of how the improvement of agriculture in the Region could be effected but issues are very much larger. There was very serious problem of the increasing number of small farmers in the communities and useful strategies which will help the small farmers to make it possible to live at an adequate level of living had to be found. The experience gathered elsewhere and also in Korea would be useful. The Agricultural Sub-committee could have to think of the strategies, of focus, of experiences and training programme that would be necessary to enhance the effectiveness of the agricultural cooperatives in the Region. Most of the countries represented in the Sub-committee deal with not only agricultural cooperatives per se but with multipurpose societies similar to the pattern in Korea and in Japan. He expressed the hope that the session would provide ICA secretariat with useful guidelines to develop strategies which would help in improving agricultural cooperatives in the Region.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

4. The Chairman, Mr. R. S. Tiwari, said that the primary source of economy in the Region was agriculture in spite of the fact that there had been industrial development. All the countries, he said, have common problems in agricultural operations, credit, marketing, and other aspects associated with agriculture. He said that each country had its own experience and the forum of the important Sub-committee gave the delegates with rich experience to sit together and think in terms of evolving a common strategy for the solutions of their problems. He had been thinking in spite of the expansion and diversification of the movement the reasons why the people still did not feel the spirit of integration in the movement and particularly with respect to the agricultural cooperatives. He said that he thought that was a problem which required a keener attention as that was an issue on which rested the future of the cooperative movement. Due to advanced technology and use of scientific method there had been an increase in the output of agriculture. This had created problems for marketing. In all countries the problem of small cultivator was not only engaging the attention of the cooperators but also of the government. It was necessary to find out methods which would be helpful in bringing about an improvement in their living standard.

5. He thanked the host movement and said that he was struck by the development that he had noted right from the airport to the arrival in the hotel. The sense of national duty of the Korean people was incomparable and so was their sense of hospitality and friendship. He thanked the host cooperative movement for the keen interest they have taken in providing the Sub-committee with best of amenities that was possible.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 : CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 15TH MEETING

6. The minutes of the 15th meeting, which was circulated in advance among the members were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 : TALK ON "AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN THE REP. OF KOREA - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS".

7. A paper on "Agricultural Cooperative Movement in the Rep. of Korea - Problems and Prospects" was presented by Mr. Kyo Eun Kim of the Research Department of NACF. Mr. Kim thanked the Sub-committee and the ICA/KuEC for the opportunity given to him for giving a talk at the meeting.

8. Copies of the talk were made available to all the members and others present at the meeting.

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

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

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

10. The Sub-committee noted the work done by the ICA ROEC in the field of better living activities through agricultural cooperatives.

11. The Secretary reported that the ICA ROEC during the last several years had helped several national movements to introduce better living activities in agricultural cooperatives in the countries of the Region. Last year, a National Seminar on the subject was held in Thailand involving a number of agricultural cooperatives and as an outcome of that seminar and also of other various activities that were carried out by the ICA ROEC, a project had been formulated in Thailand involving number of societies in a rural province and about 300 women were participating in that project. The ICA ROEC had been able to secure assistance from the SCC for that project and it was being implemented now. The second project was being formulated by the Cooperative League of Thailand, some discussion had taken place but it was in the stage of project formulation. There was also a project in India which was in the stage of formulation. In the Philippines a better living project had been submitted to the ROEC and it had made comments on that and it was being revised and reformulated.

12. In Sri Lanka a seminar was held on Better Living Activities sometime back involving agricultural cooperative societies which were covered by the Women's Consumer Education Project. A second seminar on the subject was planned with a view to introducing in other societies better living activities drawing lessons from the present project.

13. A study was being undertaken on better living activities in the fishery societies in Japan so that their experience also can be brought to the notice of the other movements.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 : RESEARCH STUDY ON COOPERATIVES AND SMALL
FARMER DEVELOPMENT, IMPLICATIONS FOR
GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE AND SUPERVISION

14. The information given in the agenda was noted. The Regional Director said that much of the information regarding that study had been given in the agenda of the last meeting.

15. The Regional Director said that he would like to emphasise that the kind of research that was undertaken was not fundamental research. It was an action oriented research programme. During the course of the research study interventions the researchers approached the villages chosen and they were able to motivate the villagers towards developing their own programmes for their own development and some of these programmes which the farmers themselves developed are programmes which did not need that much of external assistance. One of the important aspect emerging from the research study was that there was a need to motivate the farmers towards their own development and the dependence on external assistance alone was not definitely yielding the results that were expected.

16. In Sri Lanka the study had resulted in 2 or 3 projects which were under formulation and were to be assisted by the Netherlands Embassy and in Thailand there were two or three activities, one of which was making of farmers garments through cooperatives. The cooperatives had assisted in the purchase of cloth and the farmers wives were making the garments and selling them.

17. In the course of the study, several workshops in the countries concerned were held. Both in Sri Lanka and Thailand presentations were made before gathering of representatives of several ministries and the Cooperative Department. In India where desk research were carried out with regard to two States, Maharashtra and Bihar, two successful workshops were held. In these workshops afforded them an opportunity to put forward the issues that had come up in research studies to an audience of persons connected with institutions and ministries supporting agricultural development programme.

18. As a conclusion of this preliminary stage of the study a Technical Meeting on the subject would be held in Sri Lanka in February 1982. This Technical Meeting would be attended by people from most of the countries which are involved in the study and may be by some others from international organisations and elsewhere. The purpose of the Technical meeting would be, with the experience gathered over the last two years, to formulate some guidelines which would help the countries in the Region in deciding the methodology of intervention at the farmer level if they were to ensure the assistance gave for the farmer really benefits the farmers.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : SUB-REGIONAL FOLLOW-UP SEMINAR ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION - CONSIDERATION OF OBSERVATIONS

19. The Secretary reported that a Sub-Regional Follow-up Seminar on Agricultural Cooperation was held in Sri Lanka from

27th July to 11th August 1981 followed by a week's study visits in India. The participants were from Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand, selected from among the ex-participants of ICA Regional/National Seminars held in and after 1975 and SCC seminar on Agricultural Cooperation. One of the objectives was to impart further skills to these ex-participants and the second very important objective was to evaluate and to find out the usefulness of the seminars that had been conducted by the ICA in the Region and the SCC in Sweden. After each of these seminars held earlier evaluations had been done and generally found those seminars had been useful to the participants. Therefore, this time the ROEC adopted a little different approach. In addition to asking the participants to comment on the usefulness of seminars to them, they were also asked to list lessons they learnt from the seminars they had attended and aspects they had been able to implement.

20. After consideration of the observations made by participants on seminars on agricultural cooperation held in Sweden and in the Region the Sub-committee expressed the view that International Seminar on Agricultural Cooperation should be held in Sweden more frequently. It was proposed that a seminar on agricultural cooperatives be held in Sweden for cooperators from the region in 1982. Mr. Malte Jorsson of the SCC said that it might not be possible to hold a seminar as early as 1982.

21. The Sub-committee expressed its appreciation to Sweden, Japan and the Rep. of Korea for hosting the seminars.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 : EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE ICA ROEC IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

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

1. National Seminar on Better Living Activities through Agricultural Cooperatives, Bangkok (Thailand), February 1981.
2. National Seminar on Management of Agricultural Cooperatives, Bangladesh, February 1981.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 : PUBLICATION ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MARKETING IN THE REGION

23. The Secretary reported about the proposal of the ICA ROEC to bring out a comprehensive publication on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing in the Region" and sought the cooperation of member organisations in that regard. The Sub-committee endorsed the proposal and the members said that their organisations will take steps to provide the ICA ROEC with articles for publication.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE
PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

24. Under this item Dr. S.K. Saxena, Senior Consultant to the Swedish Cooperative Centre and Mr. Malte Jonsson of the SCC made brief statements. Dr. Saxena expressed his gratefulness to the Chairman for asking him to say a few words. He said that he will be making at the Regional Council Meeting an introduction to the evaluation which the SLC and the ICA had decided to undertake. In that connection he said that he was particularly pleased with Lionel's presentation of the list of items observed by the participants in the Sub-regional seminar to evaluate the international programmes. He said both the observation of the participants regarding what they have learnt and implemented and difficulties in implementing could be useful. If they could be identified in a little more detail that would help not only in terms of methodology for future seminars but also projecting the image of the work that was done by the Regional Office. He expressed great pleasure on being able to be with his friends once again.

25. Mr. Malte Jonsson said that in Sweden work on joint ventures between Swedish cooperatives and cooperatives in the developing countries had started and for that purpose an apex organisation of the agricultural cooperatives in Sweden had started consultancy sector called "Swedefarm" which together with different member organisations in Sweden mainly those concerned with the marketing of cereals, the forest owners cooperatives, and agricultural cooperative bank. The first joint venture was in Zambia where both Swedish money and Zambian money is involved. He hoped that the information will motivate the members in the meeting to think on similar lines and possibilities of collaboration in the near future.

26. Another example he said that he would like to mention was the SCC support to the agricultural cooperatives in Egypt. That was purely an educational project but as sideline to that project an investigation research was carried out in a small region in Egypt on the possibility of establishing small cooperative dairies and slaughter houses. This study was too carried out by the Swedefarm.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13 : VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

27. It was decided to have the next meeting in the same venue where the ICA Council Meeting would be held in 1982.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 : NOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

28. The meeting came to a close with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Lionel Gunawardana
Secretary, ICA Sub-committee
on Agriculture in S-E Asia.

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

MINUTES OF THE 11TH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE
FOR FISHERIES FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA, HELD AT SEOUL,
REP. OF KOREA, ON 28TH OCTOBER 1981

1. The 11th Meeting of the ICA Sub-committee for Fisheries for South-East Asia was held at Koreana Hotel, Seoul, Republic of Korea, on 28th October 1981.

Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim from Malaysia was in the Chair.

The following were present:

1. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim Chairman & Member for Malaysia.
2. Mr. Sool Hwa Jeong, Rep. of Korea.
3. Mr. Ik Hoan Choi, Rep. of Korea.
4. Brig. Gen. A.S. Lozada, Philippines.
5. Mr. Derek de Silva, Sri Lanka.
6. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, Sri Lanka.
7. Mr. Teerawit Koonsap, Thailand.

Secretary : Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director & Specialist
in Agricultural Cooperation, ICA ROEC, New Delhi.

Special Invitees :

1. Mr. Malte Jonsson, SCC, Sweden.
2. Mr. Rolf Akeby, ILO Cooptrade Project.

Observers :

1. Mr. S. Tsuboi, Japan.
2. Prof. Dr. A. Kahar Bador, Malaysia.

ICA ROEC staff :

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Dr. Dharm Vir, Joint Director (Education)

In attendance

Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

2. Mr. Sool Hua Jeong, Vice President of the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives of Korea, welcomed the members on behalf of the Korean Fishery Cooperative Movement. He wished the deliberations all success.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

3. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, said that the Fisheries Sub-Committee was of fairly recent origin but it had brought to the focus the need for greater attention for the development of the fishery cooperatives and had initiated certain training activities for fishery cooperators. Somehow the progress made in the field of fishery cooperative development had not been that satisfactory. Sometimes this was because of the weakness of the organisations themselves and sometimes because of the changing government policies in regard to fishery cooperative development. He pointed out that in many countries for the weaker sections of the community who are engaged in fishing, especially as they form a very small sector of the total population, the cooperatives remain the only institutional system through which they could get benefits which would help them to improve their standard of living. He said that the Japanese and the Korean fishery cooperative movements have provided training facilities to the fishery cooperators in these countries in the recent years. He mentioned that the recent seminar held by the ICA in the Rep. of Korea in collaboration with the NFFC exposed the participants to new situations in regard to fishery development and the study tour backed by the study tour in Japan was very useful to them and that the benefits of that seminar would be tremendous in the long run. He suggested that the sub-committee could look into the needs of the member countries in respect of fishery cooperative development and ways of benefitting from the experiences of the two developed countries in the Region e.g. Japan and the Rep. of Korea and also the possibility of receiving assistance from some Western European countries like Hungary which specialise to a very great extent in fresh water fishery. He said that Mr. Jeong and others of the NFFC might be interested to know that after the last seminar the Indian delegates worked on a programme for the life insurance and the insurance of fishermen working in trawlers. This was a direct result of the exposure in Korea and he was most thankful to the Rep. of Korea for the very useful programme they had arranged. He expressed the hope that once the needs of the developing countries in the Region are expressed the developed cooperative movements, both in Japan and Korea, would indicate what kind of further assistance they could give in the future.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

4. The Chairman, Mr. Hji Aziz Ibrahim, informed that he attended the Fisheries Executive Committee Meeting held at Helsinki. He informed the members that the FAO was intending to hold a World Fisheries Seminar in Rome in 1983. He requested the members to send their nominations through their respective governments.

5. He thanked ZENGYOREN of Japan for holding the yearly Fisheries Seminar in Japan. He hoped that Fisheries Cooperative Movement of Korea also would continue to hold the educational and study programmes for developing countries.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 10TH MEETING

6. The minutes of the 10th meeting held at Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 13th November 1980 were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 : TALK ON "FISHERIES COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS".

7. Mr. Sool Hwa Jeong, Vice President of the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives of Korea, gave a talk on the subject of "Fisheries Cooperative Movement in the Republic of Korea - Problems and Prospects".

8. Mr. Jeong thanked the Sub-committee and the ICA ROEC for giving him an opportunity to give a talk at the meeting.

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

9. At the request of the Chairman, each member present at the meeting made a brief statement regarding the significant developments in the field of fishery cooperatives in his country.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 : REGIONAL SEMINAR ON "ORGANISATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERY COOPERATIVES".

10. The Secretary informed that a Regional Seminar on "Organisation and Development of Fisheries Cooperatives" was held in Seoul, Rep. of Korea, in March this year followed by a week's study visits in Japan and that all costs in connection with the seminar in Korea were borne by the NFFC of Korea.

11. The Secretary reported the major recommendations of the seminar under the following heads.

1. National Surveys and Fisheries Policy
2. Fisheries Cooperative Organisation
3. Production Management
4. Marketing Arrangements
5. Insurance of Fishermen
6. Tax Concessions
7. Education and Training
8. Follow-up action at international level.

12. The Sub-committee endorsed the recommendations of the Regional Seminar.

13. The member for Sri Lanka expressed the appreciation of the Sub-committee to the Republic of Korea for hosting the seminar and to Japan for collaborating with ICA in organising the study visits.

14. The Sub-committee felt that similar seminars should be organised more frequently.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : NATIONAL SEMINAR FOR FISHERY
COOPERATIVES IN MALAYSIA

15. The Secretary reported that before the Regional Seminar in Korea a National Seminar on Fisheries Cooperatives was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 23rd to 27th February 1981 which had two objectives : (1) training of personnel from the fishery cooperatives and (2) selecting participants for further training in Korea and Japan.

16. The Chairman mentioned that inspite of the language difficulty of the resource person from ZENGYOREN of Japan who was a Resource Person at the National Seminar, his contribution was very useful. He thanked the ICA and the ZENGYOREN for providing his services.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 : REGIONAL SEMINAR ON FISHERY
COOPERATIVES IN ~~MALAYSIA~~ JAPAN

17. The Secretary mentioned that this seminar had become an annual feature. The selections of participants for the seminar were made by ICA ROEC.

18. The Sub-committee expressed its appreciation to the ZENGYOREN of Japan for organising training programmes for the fishery cooperatives from the Region.

19. The Sub-committee strongly felt that an opportunity should be given for the participants of the Japan seminar to study for

a week or so the fishery cooperatives in the Rep. of Korea. The Secretary informed that this proposal had been brought to the notice of the NFFC and they would consider the proposal.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 : STUDY ON BETTER LIVING ACTIVITIES IN FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN JAPAN

20. The Secretary reported that the ICA ROEC had initiated a study on better living activity in fishery cooperatives in Japan. One of the officers of the ROEC in collaboration with the ZENGYOREN of Japan was undertaking this study on the procedures and methods of the better living activities in fishery cooperatives in Japan. He said as the fishery cooperatives in Japan were carrying out better living activities successfully, it was felt that other fishery cooperatives in the Region could learn from them and introduce this very important activity.

21. The Regional Director mentioned that the idea of making this study emerged in the last Regional Seminar in Korea with study visits in Japan. In Japan, the Japanese Fishery Cooperatives, there were fairly strong women's movement. It would also be useful to make a study of the Korean situation. Women's club in Korean cooperatives were also of increasing importance and may be that sometime in the future a study could be undertaken. He hoped that the NFFC of Korea would be able to extend its collaboration.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

22. The Secretary informed the Sub-committee that he had received a letter from Mr. Subhash Chandra, Managing Director, All India Fishery Cooperative Federation of India, expressing his inability to attend the meeting and giving information regarding Fishery Cooperatives in India.

23. The paper sent by Mr. Chandra was circulated to the members.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 : VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

24. It was agreed that the next meeting of the Sub-committee should be in the same venue and that it should precede the Regional Council Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

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

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New Delhi
17.12.1981

Lionel Gunawardana
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee
for Fisheries for S-E Asia

SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE
FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA, SEOUL (REP.OF KOREA) : 29TH OCT.1981.

A_G_E_N_D_A

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Annexe

Minutes of the 15th meeting of the Sub-committee held at
Colombo (Sri Lanka) in November 1980.

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HQST MOVEMENT

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1.1 A Council Member for the Republic of Korea will welcome the members of the Sub-committee on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of the Republic of Korea.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 15TH MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the last meeting held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 14th November 1980 have been circulated to all members. A copy of the minutes is annexed hereto for ready reference.

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : TALK ON "AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN THE REP. OF KOREA - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS"

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

"Agricultural Cooperative Movement in the Rep. of Korea - Problems and Prospects".

By Park. read use paper

The talk will be followed by a discussion.

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

6.1 Members of the Sub-committee will present briefly significant developments in the agricultural cooperative movement in their respective countries. Members are kindly requested to bring with them a written paper with about 35 copies for distribution.

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

7.1 The Regional Office & Education Centre continued its work in this field. A national seminar was held in Thailand in February 1981. In Thailand two proposals for starting cooperative better living projects

have been made. For one of them a project proposal has been drawn up. The objectives of this project are :

- i. To enable the housewives to fully utilise their leisure time in more productive manner by introducing suitable income generating activities.
- ii. To encourage the housewives to develop leadership ability and to play more important role in the cooperatives and in community development.
- iii. To provide educational programmes with activities aimed at family welfare, namely, nutrition, cooking, food preservation, health, family planning, consumer protection, etc.
- iv. To educate women in the principles and practices of cooperation with a view to enhance their participation in cooperatives.

7.2 The project is to be carried out in three agricultural cooperatives in Yasothon Province, Thailand. About 300 women in three societies will be involved in this project. Funds for implementing the project are being sought from SCC.

7.3 The 2nd project involving five societies is being formulated by the Cooperative League of Thailand.

7.4 Women's Cooperative Education Project, India

7.4.1 A project has been formulated with the following objectives :

- (a) Increasing their participation in cooperative activities so that they take advantage of the cooperative services.
- (b) Strengthening the cooperatives so that they can provide the services required by women, and
- (c) Contributing to better living of the families in the project area.

7.4.2 The project will be implemented through 2 field units - one of them will be urban and the other rural. Fund assistance for this project is being sought from the SCC.

7.4.3 The Philippines has submitted a proposal for a better living education project. A detailed proposal is being formulated.

7.4.4 A national seminar on Better Living Activities through agricultural cooperatives is being planned to be held in Sri Lanka in 1982. The objective is to involve more and more multipurpose cooperatives to undertake better living activities as is now done by the cooperatives covering within the purview of the Women's Education Project.

7.4.5 ICA Regional Office plans to carry out a study on better living activities in fishery cooperatives in Japan during the current year.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : RESEARCH STUDY ON "COOPERATIVES AND SMALL FARMER DEVELOPMENT : IMPLICATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE AND SUPERVISION"

8.1 The study has now been done in depth in two countries, Sri Lanka and Thailand, by local researchers while the New Delhi Research Officer has undertaken a desk-cum-field study in the States of Maharashtra and Bihar in India and two workshops have been completed in Pune and Patna in September/October 1981.

8.2 A workshop for the Research Officers was held in New Delhi, ICA ROEC, in January 1981 and several micro level participatory activities have resulted from the study both in Thailand and Sri Lanka. At presentation workshops held in the two countries the governments and the movements have accepted the programmes and are actively supporting the proposed activities. The Netherlands Government through the local embassies in both countries has already helped some projects financially.

8.3 A technical meeting on the study will be held in Sri Lanka in February 1982.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : SUB-REGIONAL FOLLOW-UP SEMINAR ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION IN SRI LANKA - CONSIDERATION OF OBSERVATIONS

9.1 A Sub-regional Follow-up Seminar on Agricultural Cooperation was held in Sri Lanka from 27th July to 11th August 1981 followed by a week's study visits in India.

9.2 The participants of the seminar were from Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand, selected from among the participants of ICA Regional/National Seminars and SCC seminars on Agricultural Cooperation held in and after 1975.

9.3 A brief summary of the main observations made by the participants and certain actions they could take based on lessons learnt by them are given below.

LESSONS LEARNT BY PARTICIPATION IN SEMINARS

Japan and the Republic of Korea

Participants of the seminar listed large number of observations they have made during their participation in seminars held in Japan, Rep. of Korea, Germany and Sweden. They also reported some of the work they have been able to do as a result of the knowledge they gained by participation in these seminars. Some of the more important and common observations made by them and some of the work done by them are summarised below.

Multipurpose type societies

Agricultural cooperatives are mainly of multipurpose type and undertake a wide range of activities e.g. supply of agricultural inputs and credit, marketing of farm produce, mutual insurance, farm guidance and better living activities and consumer business. The farmer is thus able to get all the services he needs from one society.

Amalgamation and well knit organisational structure

Small agricultural cooperatives had been amalgamated into large and viable units. The procedures adopted and the ways the problems faced in the process of amalgamation provided lessons to other movements engaged in amalgamation work. Systematic efforts have been made to strengthen the large units established by amalgamation with the active support of the national level cooperative organisations. Considerable support has been extended by the governments by way of grants and subsidies for construction of facilities such as processing and grading centres. The well knit organisational structure of the primary agricultural cooperatives facilitates smooth functioning of the societies.

Extensive membership

A large percentage of the farmers are members of the agricultural cooperatives. Membership loyalty is of a high order due to various services performed by the societies efficiently.

Communication with Members

The cooperatives keep their membership aware of their activities through their own publications, hamlet meetings (and in Japan also through wire communication). This results in closer relationship between the society and the members.

Farm guidance

The agricultural cooperatives extend farm guidance through their farm guidance workers. The commodity groups of farmers are used as a vehicle for extending these services. This has helped the farmers in the adoption of modern agricultural practices and increasing their production. All these have resulted in increased agricultural production which in turn has helped in improving the living standards of the farmer.

Better Living Activities and involvement of women and youth

Agricultural cooperatives undertake better living activities. These societies have better living advisers. They train housewives in cooking, dress making etc. and make use of the women's group in saving promotion activities. The role of women in agriculture was clearly observable in production on the fields as well as in their cooperatives, especially in their active participation in better living activities such as in savings activities, collective buying, economising in costly marriage ceremonies and so on. These services also contribute to a large extent to the improvement of the member loyalty to the society.

Saving activities

Different kinds of savings schemes have been introduced by cooperatives to suit the needs of the members. Instalment saving schemes help the members to build up savings gradually. Deposit schemes for special purposes like education of children, sight-seeing, weddings, etc. encourage to save for different personal requirements. The employees of the societies visit the members' homes to collect savings.

Under the mutual credit system in the Rep. of Korea the savings mobilised in the area of a society are lent to the other needy members of the same society. The surplus funds, if any, are deposited with the National Federation which use these funds to lend to other needy societies. The high interest rate paid on deposits encourage members to save.

Supply of agricultural inputs and consumer goods

The societies supply agricultural inputs and consumer goods required by members. For supply of consumer goods they run consumer stores. The requirements of agricultural inputs by members are ascertained by the societies well in advance of the cultivation season. These are pooled together and orders placed with the high-tier organisations who will buy them in bulk and distribute to the primaries at the required time. Thus ensuring that farmers receive the inputs on time and in high quantities.

Grading

Systematic collection and grading of members' agricultural produce by the societies for marketing helps the farmers to obtain good prices for their products. In the Rep. of Korea the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) collects the produce of primaries through their collection centres and send them to big consuming centres. In Japan this work is done by the Prefectural Economic Federation and the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (ZENNOH). The combined approach of the primaries and the higher tier organisations has resulted in the smooth flow of the produce to the market. The cooperative system also provides market information to farmers regularly.

Insurance

The agricultural cooperatives are engaged in insurance business. This provides funds for their development and usually the funds mobilised are used for long-term investment.

Farm machinery centres

The societies maintain farm machinery centres. These centres undertake repairs of farm machinery and equipment at reasonable rates. They are also able to repair them with least delay so that farmers can make use of their machinery when they are needed. Some of the societies also have machinery banks which lend their machinery and equipment to farmers thus avoiding the need to maintain costly machinery by all farmers.

Government support without interference in management

The government support the farmers through agricultural cooperatives. For example by subsidising interest rates for agricultural loans, by purchasing rice at guaranteed price (Japan), by giving grants to societies to construct facilities such as grading and processing plants and giving incentives for cultivation of fruits and vegetables and for raising livestock. Though the government extends massive support, government does not interfere especially in Japan in the management of cooperatives.

Employees

The employees of primary agricultural societies, especially in the Rep. of Korea, are normally recruited from the area of operation of the society. Such employees could be expected to be more loyal and dedicated to the society than those from outside the area. They are also able to work for a lesser salary than outsiders. The employer-employee relations seem to be very cordial.

Saemaul Undong Movement

Activities of the 'Saemaul Undong' Movement in the Rep. of Korea which functions in close association with cooperatives has helped in the improvement of social and economic improvement of the farmers. This is impressively displayed by the good housing conditions in rural areas.

Federal Republic of Germany

Auxiliary fund

The apex cooperative organisation maintains a fund - "Auxiliary Fund" to which contributions are made by cooperatives regularly. This fund is made use to help cooperatives in financial and managerial difficulties, thus giving them a helping hand to tide over the difficulties.

Machine pools

There are 'Machine Pools' as adjuncts to agricultural cooperatives which are loose associations of members who pool their agricultural

machinery. The machines are given to others on rent when not used by the owners.

Training

In Germany cooperatives have a centralised training system. The training centres carry out training of society staff on a regular basis.

Auditing and consultancy services

The auditing associations of cooperatives carry out auditing services and give advice to societies on legal, management and taxation problems.

Contract marketing

The societies enter into contract with the producer to market their produce. Price for 50 per cent of the produce is fixed at the time of signing the contract and price for the remaining 50 per cent is fixed at the time of the sale depending on the prevailing market situation.

This method gives the farmer some guarantee in regard to the expected income and advance knowledge of approximate income that can be expected. He has the advantage also of being able to benefit by any rise in prices at the time of sale. As they are getting a fixed price for 50 per cent of their produce if the price falls to low level they have to bear the loss only with regard to 50 per cent of their produce.

Sweden

Single purpose cooperatives

The agricultural cooperatives are single purpose in Sweden. There is only one multipurpose agricultural cooperative. Perhaps it is more correct to describe them as single crop cooperatives performing all activities pertaining to supply of inputs, marketing, etc. for that crop.

Managers participation in board meetings

The managers of the society participate in the board meetings. This gives an opportunity to have very effective communication between the board and the manager and the manager is able to implement the decisions of the board more effectively as he would not only know the decisions but the full background to the decisions.

Planning

Sales planning is carried out by using data collected regarding the farmer members. The data collected include farming acreage, crops planted, input requirements and other economic services required by them. The sales division makes use of these data to plan and budget their activities. The Swedish agricultural cooperatives undertake meticulous advance planning with regard to all their activities. They also encourage the members to do likewise. This careful planning is a key factor for the success of agricultural cooperatives.

Organisational structure

In the Swedish cooperatives their organisational structure on the local, regional and national levels are well defined. This has resulted in a very effective implementation of the societies' plans. This set up has been responsible for serving the society's interest. In Sweden for example the local societies need not worry about sources of farm inputs, marketing of farm produce, technical matters such as quality control, research, statistics, etc. These aspects are taken care of by the apex organisations or their subsidiaries.

Share capital

In agricultural cooperatives in Sweden members are required to contribute to the share capital in proportion to their annual turnover of business with the society. As a result of this method the members who make use of the facilities of the society contribute to their construction and maintenance in proportion to the benefits they derive from them.

Processing

The livestock cooperatives in Sweden own slaughter houses and meat processing plants. This ensures the producer members getting a reasonable price for their produce.

Communication with members

The societies keep their members informed of their activities through printed brochures, bulletins, newsletters. They made use of these publications also to keep the members abreast with the latest technology in agriculture.

Training

Ample opportunities are provided to the employees of the cooperatives for development of skills by following especially designed training programmes. The members of the board of directors are also given opportunities to attend short-term training courses.

Central location of service facilities

Various facilities like society office, banks and consumer shops and agricultural input supply centres are located in close proximity to each other. This makes it easier for the members to do their transactions with the society.

Several participants stated that they have adopted in their societies saving mobilisation schemes similar to that found in Japan and the Republic of Korea.

A participant from Indonesia reported that she was able to introduce a savings scheme in her society and the accumulated saving when reached to a level higher than the demand for credit in the society, the society invested the surplus in a consumer shop.

She further reported that by retaining a part of the profit with the society they were able to establish a consulting clinic for mothers and children.

A Thai participant reported that some societies under his guidance introduced a scheme of retaining 10 per cent of the sale proceeds of the members as deposits with their consent and these societies have been able to build-up substantial amount of deposits.

Other participants from Thailand reported that better living activities have been introduced in several societies as a result of the experience they got in Japan, Rep. of Korea and Sri Lanka. Income generating activities like cottage industries have been introduced.

Participants from Indonesia and the Philippines also reported that societies have conducted campaigns to convince members to reduce unnecessary expenditure in marriages, funerals and other social functions as is done in Japan and the Republic of Korea.

A Malaysian participant reported that following the example he saw in Germany a small 'Machine Pool' has been started in his society which is now functioning satisfactorily.

A Philippines participant also reported that in his society he started a 'Machine Pool' following the German example.

The Malaysian participants reported that they are encouraging the members to contribute to the share capital in proportion to their use of the societies facilities as is done in Sweden in order to increase share capital of the society.

The Philippines participants reported that they are introducing to a certain extent the communication methods such as publication of brochures and reports as is done in Sweden to keep their members informed of the society's activities.

Number of participants reported that they are introducing sales planning methods as is practised in Sweden.

Most participants from the Philippines and Malaysia reported that they on their own limited way were trying to introduce advance planning of activities as they saw in Sweden.

Indonesian participants reported that the experience of Japan and the Rep. of Korea in amalgamation of small agricultural cooperatives and the literature published by the ICA on these programmes were of great help in implementing the amalgamation programme in Indonesia.

All participants agreed that the exposure of many cooperators to the multipurpose agricultural cooperative system in Japan has influenced the cooperative movements in the countries in the Region in adopting the multipurpose system in their countries and that they continue to look to Japan for lessons for further development.

The participants were of the view that specific lessons they have been able to learn and adopt in their societies were important indicators of the usefulness of the seminars they have participated. More important they thought was the overall contribution these seminars have made by way of adding to their knowledge and skills and to the development of their personalities. They felt that contributions made by the seminars in this regard were substantial.

The exparticipants of the Swedish International Seminar were of the view that seminars conducted on agricultural cooperation in Sweden are of immense value to those who participated in them and to the organisations in which they work. They have helped them in improving their skills, adding to their knowledge and improving their performance in the fields they work. What they saw in Sweden have convinced them of the heights to which the cooperatives can rise to and have given them inspiration to work to improve their own cooperatives.

The exparticipants of seminars held in Japan (with study visits in the Republic of Korea) felt the same way.

The participants were of the unanimous view that seminars on Agricultural Cooperation should be held in Sweden and Japan for the cooperators of the Region more frequently as the exposure of the cooperators from the Region to developed cooperative movements enabled them to see for themselves how the successful cooperatives in these countries serve their members. These exposures they felt will inspire them to work with greater confidence and dedication to improve their own cooperatives.

The participants felt that ICA Regional Office should keep in touch with the participants through correspondence, the Regional Bulletin and by the ICA officers meeting them whenever they visit their countries.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE ICA
ROEC IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

- i. National Seminar on Better Living Activities through agricultural cooperatives, Bangkok, Thailand, February 1981.
- ii. National Seminar on Management of Agricultural Cooperatives, Bangladesh, February 1981.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : PUBLICATION ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE
MARKETING IN THE REGION

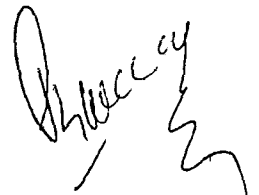
11.1 The Sub-committee may consider the usefulness of bringing out a publication on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing in the Region". The publication may consist of papers on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing of the countries in the Region. The papers may give a brief account of the development of the agricultural cooperative marketing societies, marketing procedures, problems and prospects. A few papers on important aspects of marketing may also be included in the publication. ICA Regional Office may prepare a format for these papers. The member organisations may suggest the names of about 3 experts from their countries who could contribute papers. ICA in consultation with them may select one or two of them to contribute papers.

AGENDA ITEM NO.12 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

AGENDA ITEM NO.13 : VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THE
SUB-COMMITTEE

AGENDA ITEM NO.14 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

*



w Delhi
.9.1981

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

508/9/81

International Cooperative Alliance
43, Friends Colony, New Delhi

MINUTES OF THE FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR
AGRICULTURE FOR S-E ASIA HELD AT COLOMBO, SRI LANKA ON NOV.14,1980

1. The Fifteenth Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture for South-East Asia was held at the office of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka on 14th November 1980.

2. Mr. R.G. Tiwari (member for India) was unanimously elected as Chairman. Mr. Palitha Ratnayake (member for Sri Lanka) was unanimously elected as Vice-Chairman.

The following were present at the meeting:

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

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

Observers : 1. Mr. K. Fujimoto, Managing Director, IDACA, Japan
2. Mr. Agustin Kilayko, Sugar Coops Dev. Institute,
Philippines.

ICA ROEC Staff

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TA&T)
4. Mr. Per Eric Lannhagen, Specialist in Agrl.Coop.
Marketing

Special Invitee

Dr. J.M. Gunadasa, Lecturer, Department of Geography,
University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

In attendance

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

3. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, President, Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka welcomed the members of the Sub-Committee and wished them success in their deliberations. He congratulated the new Chairman of the Sub-Committee. He said the chief occupation of this region was agriculture and the people had hopes that vast strides would be taken by cooperatives for the development of agriculture. He thanked the Sub-Committee for giving the Vice-Chairmanship to Sri Lanka.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

4. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia said that agriculture was the mainstay of most of the countries of the region and it had been the central focus of cooperative effort in most of the countries. The contribution made by the cooperative effort in each country was quite considerable for the development of agriculture. The cooperatives had contributed by provision of agricultural inputs and credit. The Sub-Committee would agree that the area in which not much had been achieved was the area of agricultural marketing both within the country and also between countries. There were, however, individual situations where there were marked improvements. He said that the ICA in collaboration with National Agricultural Cooperative Federation and National Cooperative Union of India would be holding a Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to export trade" in Delhi and that seminar would focus the attention on the possibility of inter-regional or international trade in agricultural produce. It was necessary to identify the problems in agricultural marketing within the nations itself. He said that Agricultural Cooperative Movement in Japan was giving lot of assistance in the field of agricultural cooperation by annually hosting an agriculture seminar at IDACA where a number of persons from the countries of the region were exposed to the very developed cooperative agricultural system in Japan. He said cooperatives in the region were grateful to the Japanese movement for this support. He requested the Sub-Committee to give the ICA ROEC the necessary guidelines which would help in programming for the future.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

5. Mr. R.G. Tiwari thanked the Sub-Committee for electing him chairman. He said that agriculture had great significance in the socio-economic life of the region, and the Sub-Committee had an important job to do in the development of agriculture through cooperatives.

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

6. The minutes of the 14th meeting, which was circulated in advance among the members, were confirmed.

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

7. Dr. J.M. Gunadasa, Lecturer, Department of Geography, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka gave a talk on "Agricultural Cooperative Movement in Sri Lanka - Problems and Prospects".

8. Dr. Gunadasa thanked the Sub-Committee and the ICA ROEC for having given him an opportunity to give a talk at the Sub-Committee meeting.

9. Copies of the talk were made available to all the members and others present at the meeting.

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

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

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

11. The Secretary said that the intention of placing this item in the agenda was to bring to the notice of the Sub-Committee the activities that the ROEC had carried out in this field during the last several months and what was planned for the coming months, and to seek the advice of the Sub-Committee as to what further action was needed by the ROEC as well as by the agricultural cooperatives in the region.

12. The educational activities carried out so far by the ROEC in the field of better living activities through agricultural cooperatives were noted by the Sub-Committee.

13. The Secretary said that a project had been submitted by the Philippines to the ROEC for a pilot project to introduce better living activities.

14. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagāma said that a good beginning had been made in Sri Lanka to introduce better living activities through the Women's Consumer Education Project. He said that better living had to really start in the home and women had to take the primary place in such activities and they needed education and direction. The National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka wished to expand these activities to other cooperatives presently not covered by the project.

15. Mr. Rajaguru drew the attention of the meeting to the Regional Seminar on "Enhancing Women's Participation in Cooperative Activities" held in Kandy, Sri Lanka, in September 1980. He said the concepts that came out of the seminar needed careful analysis. There were two schools of thoughts. One was that there should be a separate women's organisation within a cooperative system entirely for the women. The other, which was supported by the majority of the participants, was that women should be absorbed in the mainstream of cooperative activity which would enable them to influence activities of cooperatives so that the quality of life improves. The general majority opinion was that the women should become members of the existing cooperative system and use their influence as pressure groups and try to improve the general performance of the cooperatives.

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

16. The Secretary reported that as decided at the last meeting the ROEC contacted the Swedish Cooperative Centre to find out the possibility of organising a seminar on agricultural cooperation in Sweden. Normally Sweden hosts a seminar annually, one year for Asian countries and the other year for the African countries.

17. According to the present timetable, it would be possible for the SCC to hold an International Seminar on Agricultural Cooperation for Asian countries in 1984. This means that pre-seminars for selection of participants would have to be held in 1983. He said that if the evaluation, which would be undertaken shortly, showed that seminars in Sweden were useful to the region there was a likelihood of increasing the frequency of the seminars, having two seminars in a year - one for Asia and one for Africa. If that happened a seminar for Asia could be held earlier.

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

18. The information given in the agenda was noted. Mr. Rajaguru pointed out that the Regional Office had written to all the member organisations earlier in the year and so far only two organisations had responded. He said that the thinking in the U.N. circles was that the assistance programmes did not meet with the necessary success that was expected. Very often the benefits of assistance did not percolate to the people at the bottom. There was information that a fair amount of money was available under the FAO programme. The basic concept of the approach was that planning must be done at the very grass root level and from the initial stages of planning people who were likely to be beneficiaries would be involved in the planning process in trying to formulate a programme which will eventually be worked out as a project. FAO would be interested only if the project had a capacity to be replicated elsewhere.

19. They should necessarily be small projects, not large projects. They could be projects starting even with 1,000 - 2,000 US dollars as the case may be.

20. He requested the members to explore the possibilities for getting the best benefits of this programme.

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

21. The information given in the agenda was noted.

22. Mr. Rajaguru further explained the information given in the agenda notes. He said that in early January 1981 an international workshop of the researchers would try to collate the experiences gathered from the research areas and proceed further with the research study. A technical meeting on the subject would be held sometime in 1982 in Sri Lanka with persons in the field of small farmer activities from about 5-6 countries in the region. The basic idea was to test out the material that had been collected and then to produce a document which would be of use to policy-makers in respect of small farmer development. There was very little information in respect of small farmer and that most policy decisions were made on the basis of assumptions that everything was all right. Much more details could be reported after the Delhi workshop.

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

23. The Secretary reported that the following activities had been carried out in the field of agricultural cooperation by the ROEC:

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

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

24. The Secretary reported that the following educational activities have been planned to be carried out by the ROEC in the field of agricultural cooperation in 1981-82:

- i. National Seminars on "Management of Agricultural Cooperatives", Bangladesh, Indonesia, 1980-81.
- ii. National Seminar on "Better Living Activities through Agricultural Cooperatives, Thailand 1981.
- iii. Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to export trade", New Delhi, 1980.
- iv. Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Credit", Bangladesh, 1981.
- v. Follow-up Seminars for participants of the International Seminars on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing, Thailand and Sri Lanka, 1981-82.

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

25. Dato Kularajah inquired about the status of the Sugar Cooperatives Development Institute of the Philippines which was a member of the ICA.

26. Mr. Rajaguru pointed out that there are over 260 members of the ICA and all were treated equal. However, when it comes to the Regional Council Meeting, there was an accepted channel of communication between the RQEC and the movements concerned, and nomination of councillors was made through this channel. For example, in India there were 7 or 8 member organisations which were members of the ICA. For matters concerning the Regional Council the RQEC corresponded with the National Cooperative Union of India. In the case of Japan for most of the matters the Regional Office deals with the Japanese Joint Committee on Cooperatives.

27. In respect of the Philippines, there was a Cooperatives Consultative and Coordinating Committee with whom the Regional Office was communicating. However, there was information that the CCCC was no longer functioning and instead there was now a Supreme Cooperative Council of which the Cooperative Union of the Philippines, the Sugar Cooperatives Development Institute and the Electric Cooperatives were members. A new channel of communication had still not been established. It was hoped that the matter could be discussed at the meeting - unfortunately the designated Councillors were not present. The matter would be taken up soon after the Regional Council Meeting.

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

28. It was decided to have the next meeting in the same venue where the ICA Council meeting will be held.

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

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

Sd/-

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

vn/

ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE ICF SUB-COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES FOR S-E ASIA

SEOUL, REPUBLIC OF KOREA : 28th OCTOBER 1981

A G E N D A

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Annexe

1. Minutes of the 10th meeting of the Sub-committee held at Colombo (Sri Lanka) in November 1980.
2. Recommendations of the ICA regional Seminar on "Organisation and Development of Fishery Cooperatives", Seoul, Republic of Korea : 17th to 30th March 1981.

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST COUNTRY

1.1 A Council Member for the Republic of Korea will welcome the members of the Sub-committee, on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of the Republic of Korea.

✓
Mr Jeong
NFFC
G.N.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

Remarks by RP

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE TENTH MEETING

3.1 The minutes of the last meeting held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 13th November 1980 have been circulated to all members. A copy of the minutes is annexed hereto for ready reference.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : TALK ON "FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS"

4.1 A brief talk on the following subject will be given :

"Fishery Cooperatives in the Republic of Korea - Problems and Prospects".

The talk will be followed by a discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : PRESENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

5.1 The members will make a brief presentation on the present position of fishery cooperatives in their respective countries. Members are requested to circulate a brief written report at the meeting.

SL
Malaysia ✓
Philippines ✓
Korea ✓

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : REGIONAL SEMINAR ON "ORGANISATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERY COOPERATIVES" IN THE REP. OF KOREA - CONSIDERATION OF SEMINAR RECOMMENDATIONS.

6.1 A fifteen-day Regional Seminar from 17th to 30th March 1981 on "Organisation and Development of Fishery Cooperatives" was held in Seoul by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives (NFFC) of the Republic of Korea. The NFFC were the hosts of this seminar and all local costs inclusive of board and lodging and study tour were borne by the NFFC. While in Korea the participants had an opportunity to visit several fishing centres, cooperative fish markets and

field level primary cooperative fishery societies. Some of the aspects that were studied during the field visits were : member relations programmes, infrastructure facilities to support the supply and marketing activities of primary cooperatives, various methods used in auctions of fish, fish market management and control, fish and fish culture- especially, carp and eel and supporting services vis-a-vis member societies. These were supplemented by study visits in Japan to several fishery cooperatives in Japan which include inland fishery cooperatives and also study visits to cooperative and other wholesale fish markets. The study visits in Japan were arranged in collaboration with the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations (ZENGYUREN) of Japan.

6.2 Objectives

The main objectives of the seminar were :

- i. To review the present state of fishery cooperatives in the Region,
- ii. To discuss managerial problems of fishery cooperatives and suggest ways of improving their activities,
- iii. To study the working of fishery cooperatives in the Republic of Korea and Japan,
- iv. To discuss ways and means of organisation and development of fishery cooperatives in countries/areas where such societies do not exist.

6.3 A copy of the recommendations of the seminar is enclosed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 : NATIONAL SEMINAR FOR FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN MALAYSIA

7.1 A national seminar for fishery cooperatives was held in Malaysia by the ICA Regional Office & Education Centre for South-East Asia in collaboration with ANGKASA from 23rd to 27th February 1961. Chairmen, Members of Board of Directors and Managers of cooperative fishery societies attended the seminar. Three participants from the seminar were selected to attend the Regional Seminar on "Organisation and Development of Fishery Cooperatives" in the Republic of Korea.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : REGIONAL SEMINAR ON FISHERIES COOPERATIVES IN JAPAN

8.1 The Regional Seminar on Fisheries Cooperatives for South-East Asian Countries was held in Tokyo, Japan, from 7th to 26th September 1981 by the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan. Fifteen participants from 9 countries, namely, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand will be attending the seminar. The ICA Regional Office collaborated by sending out the invitations and by assisting in the selection of participants.

8.2 ICA Regional office discussed with the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives in the Republic of Korea the proposal of the Sub-committee that the Federation should be requested in association with ICA Regional Office to organise study visits for the participants of the annual fishery seminar in Japan. The Federation has agreed to consider the proposal.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : STUDY ON BETTER LIVING ACTIVITIES IN FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN JAPAN

9.1 ICA Regional Office plans to carry out a study on Better Living Activities in fishery cooperatives in Japan during the current year. The report of the study will be made available to the fishery cooperatives in the Region. The Sub-committee may consider ways of introducing Better Living Activities in Fishery Cooperatives.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

AGENDA ITEM NO.12 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

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Delhi
19.9.1981

Lionel Gunawarjana
Secretary, ICA Sub-committee
for Fisheries for S-E Asia

International Cooperative Alliance
43, Friends Colony, New Delhi

MINUTES OF THE TENTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES
FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD AT COLOMBO, SRI LANKA ON NOVEMBER 13, 1960

1. The Tenth Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries for South-East Asia was held at the office of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, Colombo on 13th November 1960.

2. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim from Malaysia was elected as the new Chairman of the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee recorded its appreciation of the services of the outgoing Chairman Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia.

The following were present:

1. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Chairman and Member for Malaysia
2. Mr. J. Saito, Japan
3. Mr. Sool Hwa Jeong, Korea
4. Mr. Seung Woo Hong, Korea
5. Mr. Joseph Edward, Singapore
6. Mr. Teo Cheng Peow, Singapore
7. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, Sri Lanka
8. Dr. Sunjira Khatikarn, Thailand

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

Special Invitee :

Mr. M.D. Fernando, Secretary/General Manager,
Sri Lanka Fisheries Cooperative Federation.

ICA ROEC Staff :

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr. J.M. Pana, Director (Education)
3. Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TA&T)
4. Mr. Per Eric Lannhagen, Specialist in Agrl. Coop.
Marketing

In attendance

1. Mr. M. Yamaguchi, NFFC, Tokyo, Japan
2. Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director,
ICA ROEC

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

3. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, President, NCC, welcomed the members on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka. He congratulated the new Chairman and said that his long experience would help the member movements in developing the cooperative fishery sector. He wished the deliberations all success.

REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

4. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia said that the concern of the Committee was the small fishermen who were mostly the coastline fishermen. He was the most exploited and the most in need of cooperative support. At the Moscow meeting too the need to develop both marine and inland fresh water fisheries was emphasised. He also mentioned that even though Hungary had offered training facilities to a number of countries in the region in agriculture and fresh water fisheries, very many of them could not avail of that facility because of the difficulty of meeting the airfare. It had been suggested in the Fisheries Committee in Moscow that some kind of fund be developed with the assistance of the developed nations so that when the scholarships were offered, the concerned participants could seek assistance from such a fund to cover their airfare. He thanked the National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives Association of Japan and the NFFC in Korea for the continuing support they gave to the member movements by supporting ICA activities.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

5. The Chairman, Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim thanked the Sub-Committee for electing him Chairman and said that he would do his best with the support of the members to improve the working of the Sub-Committee. He congratulated Mr. J. Saito on his re-election as Chairman of the ICA Fishery Committee.

ICA Committee on Cooperative Fisheries

6. Mr. J. Saito said that the participation from the region in the meeting of the Fishery Committee was not satisfactory. Only two persons including him participated in the last meeting held in Moscow. He appealed for more active participation.

7. Mr. Saito informed the meeting that:

- (a) In order to strengthen the secretariat of ICA Fisheries Committee, ZENGYOREN (Japan) seconded a young expert in cooperative fisheries to the headquarter of ICA in London from September 1960.
- (b) The third seminar for fisheries cooperation for the South-East Asian countries was held from 2nd to 19th September 1960 in Tokyo, Japan.
- (c) The first issue of the Cooperative Fishermen's Bulletin was issued in September 1960. The printing cost of the publication was contributed by ZENGYOREN, Japan, and the fisheries organisation in Iceland contributed the postal expenses. The bulletin would be issued four times a year as an important means of "exchange of information". He appealed to the members to send information regarding fishery cooperatives activities for publication in the bulletin.

8. Entering into the age of high price of fuel oil and 200 nautical miles fishing zone, the fisheries all over the world encountered a significant turning period. Future fishery development in each country could have a concentration on the development of both coastal and off shore fishing to make the best use of the ample resources within the 200 nautical miles fishing zone. From this point of view, the future role of fishery cooperatives will become more and more important. In order to develop cooperatives in developing countries, technical and financial assistance between cooperatives on the international level was necessary. Mr. Saito said that the cooperators in Asian countries must have closer relations and cooperation with other and will had success for the meeting of the Fisheries Sub-Committee.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 9TH MEETING

9. The minutes of the 9th meeting held at Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, on 20th November 1979 are confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : TALK ON "FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN SRI LANKA - PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS"

10. Mr. M.D. Fernando, Secretary-General Maragoni, Sri Lanka Fisheries Cooperative Federation, gave a talk on the subject of "Fishery Cooperatives in Sri Lanka - Problems and Prospects".

11. Mr. Fernando thanked the Sub-Committee and the ICA ROEC for having given him an opportunity to give a talk at the Sub-Committee meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : PRESENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

12. At the request of the Chairman, Mr. Fernando presented at the meeting made a brief statement regarding the significant developments in the field of fishery cooperatives in his country.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : REGIONAL SEMINAR ON "ORGANISATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERY COOPERATIVES"

13. The Secretary reported that the arrangements with regard to this seminar were proceeding well. Invitations had been sent out to the member organization in the region. The seminar will be held in the Republic of Korea from 17th to 23rd March 1981 to be followed up by one week study visits in Japan from 1st to 8th April 1981. The detailed programme for the seminar was being worked out. As regards the programme for the study visits in Japan, detailed information was awaited from Mr. Sakamoto of Fisheries Federation of Japan who had promised to draw up a programme and send it to the ICA ROEC in due course.

14. The participants to this seminar would be of policy making level.

15. The delegate from the Fisheries Federation of Korea gave a brief sketch of the seminar programme to the meeting. It was agreed to convey the gratefulness of the Sub-Committee to the President of the NFFC of Korea for organising this seminar.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : NATIONAL SEMINAR FOR FISHERY COOPERATIVES
IN MALAYSIA

16. The Secretary reported that the National Seminar for Fisheries Cooperatives in Malaysia which was scheduled earlier for January 19 1 would now be held in February and that arrangements were being made accordingly. He informed the Sub-Committee that the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan would be sending resource person to the seminar in Malaysia.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : PUBLICATION ON FISHERY COOPERATIVES
IN THE REGION

17. The Secretary said that the plan was to bring out a publication on fishery cooperatives in South-East Asia comprising papers that would be submitted to the forthcoming Regional Seminar in Korea. The member organisations nominating participants to the seminar would be requested to send comprehensive papers to be presented by them at the seminar.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : TRAINING FACILITIES FOR FISHERY
COOPERATORS IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

18. The Secretary informed the meeting that a training course for fishery cooperators was held in Hungary but the travel costs of the participants from the region could not be met, the cooperators from the South-East Asian region could not make use of the facilities offered in Hungary.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : NEEDS OF THE COOPERATIVE FISHERY MOVEMENT
IN THE REGION - INFORMATION TO ICA CONGRESS

19. The Secretary reported that as per the decision of the last meeting of the Sub-Committee, Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, the Chairman, made an intervention regarding needs of the fishery cooperatives in the region at the ICA Congress held recently in Moscow in October 1980.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : REGIONAL SEMINAR ON FISHERIES
COOPERATIVES IN JAPAN

20. The Secretary reported about the Regional Seminar for Fisheries in South-East Asia held in Tokyo from 1st to 19th September 1980. This had become an annual event where ICA ROEC collaborates with the Japanese Movement in inviting and in selecting the participants. The Secretary said that the participants were all from cooperative organisations. The Chairman suggested that the possibility of organising study visits for participants of the seminar in Korea should be explored by the IC .

AGENDA ITEM NO.12 : VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING
OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

21. It was agreed that the venue and date of the next meeting of the Sub-Committee should be in the same venue and precede the Regional Council meeting.

22. The Regional Director informed the meeting that the venue had been fixed as Seoul, Republic of Korea, and that the meeting would be held in October 1981.

AGENDA ITEM NO.13 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

23. With a vote of thanks to the chair, the meeting came to a close.

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Lionel Gunawardana
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee
for Fisheries for S-E Asia

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International Cooperative Alliance
Regional Office & Education Centre for
S-E Asia, 43, Friends Colony, New Delhi-65.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ICA REGIONAL SEMINAR
ON
"ORGANISATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERY COOPERATIVES"

SEOUL (KOREA) : MARCH 17-30, 1981

A. Present Situation

1.1 Fishery occupies a significant place in the national economy of the participating countries except Nepal which is a landlocked country. Fishing industry in Korea is highly developed. The potentiality of growth elsewhere is immense in the field of coastal and deep sea fishing and inland fishery. In Nepal, the scope of development of inland fisheries is wide.

1.2 Fish as a food item is valuable. In the context of rising population and the need for augmenting food availability and nutrients, special attention needs to be paid to better exploitation of this natural resource.

1.3 A substantial proportion of the population has been traditionally engaged in fishing industry. To many of them, it is the only source of livelihood. Fishing is also an occupation for the fishermen community. Fishermen are part-time farmers also and they belong to the poorest sections of the society. As a community, fishermen in Korea have, however, a relatively higher level of income.

1.4 Fishery cooperatives or cooperative societies of fishermen have been in operation in various forms and with varying degree of efficiency in countries like India and Sri Lanka for over quarter of a century. During the last decade progress has also been registered in Fiji, Malaysia, Korea and Thailand. In all these countries, a network of fisheries cooperatives exists. With the exception of Korea, the fisheries cooperative structure of other countries is however weak. In Nepal, efforts are being made to provide some of the fish production inputs through the general multipurpose cooperative societies.

1.5 The experience so far gained in the region and elsewhere highlights the need for promoting, developing and strengthening fisheries cooperatives as an economic and social necessity. Cooperation in the fishing industry cannot be considered in isolation. It has to be initiated and developed as an integral part of the agricultural economy and the fishery industry within the framework of the economic development plans of the respective countries. Fisheries cooperatives can also be treated as a measure against the growing menace of water and environment pollutions, and indiscriminated catches of fish by greedy and impatient individual fishermen. They can play a major role in raising the level of fish production and in expansion of aquaculture on a larger scale. In particular, fisheries cooperatives would improve the ability and capacity of fishermen to increasingly undertake deep sea fishing as an economic proposition and not to hand-on close to coastal fishing despite of it being unremunerative.

B. Recommendations

1. Essential Pre-requisites

1.1 A national survey of fisheries should be made bringing out the extent of fisheries resources, potential for its exploitation, classification of marine fishing, zoning of coastal fishing areas, and inland fishing. The results of the survey

may be widely circulated in popular terms among the fishermen, cooperatives and other allied agencies to enable them to have a better appreciation of this important national resource.

1.2 A long-term agro-fisheries policy should be laid down for guidance. It should specifically define the role of cooperatives in fisheries development. Besides encouraging cooperatives of fishermen as a matter of policy, the type and quantum of financial and technical support to be provided may be guaranteed and made available.

1.3 The administrative regulations and procedures may have to be suitably oriented to aid expeditious growth of fisheries cooperatives. The governmental machinery would have to provide the much needed guidance in matters relating to fish production, technology and management to fishermen cooperatives. In building up of infrastructures, trawlers, cold storage and ice plants and marketing facilities, capital would have to be provided by the governmental agencies on liberal terms.

1.4 Reservation of sea fishing on territorial basis, protection unhealthy competition of private trade and preference in leasing out the inland fishing areas would have to be the basic consideration at the present level of fisheries cooperative development. These should, however, not lead to heavy dependence on government, curbing the initiative of fisheries cooperatives and weakening their competitive ability.

1.5 Manpower development is crucial to fisheries cooperative efficiency and growth. This would call for an in-built special personnel management efforts at all levels so that they are able to manage the institution and provide the needed leadership in matters relating to fishing science and technology, fishing industry, fisheries economy, fisheries cooperative management and the welfare of fishermen.

1.6 The cooperative movement in general and the fisheries cooperative structure in particular must be aware of their respective responsibilities toward fisheries cooperative societies and actively cooperate for the coordinated and even integrated development of agro-fisheries activities in the cooperative sector.

2. Fisheries Cooperative Organisation

2.1 In the strategy of fisheries cooperative development, the following may be kept in view:-

- (a) Individual fishermen may be organised into viable groups on cooperative lines at the local level to undertake inland fishing and coastal fishing activities. Their credit and supply needs may either be met by the fishery society or by the general cooperative institution operating in the area.
- (b) Deep sea fishing has to be undertaken by a larger or higher level fisheries cooperatives.
- (c) Specialised fisheries cooperative for marketing, processing etc. may have to be set up as these are high technology and risk and capital investment activities.

2.2 Formation of a cooperative in new areas should precede intensive extension programme of pre-cooperative stage. The transformation of a pre-cooperative group into a cooperative society should not, however, take a long period and its completion should be a time-bound programme. The extension worker charged with this responsibility should assist and guide the society for a few years initially in its management.

2.3 In evolving a structure, the size of the country, level of cooperative development and economic and operational requirements of fishing industry may have to be the major guiding factors. While the primary and national level organisations would be necessary, a careful study of the situation should precede the decision to promote intermediary/secondary cooperative organisation. Even with regard to the

establishment of primary societies, it should be critically examined as to whether to begin with a branch of the national federation would not be more economic and efficient agency to handle the work.

2.4 The government as a promoter and a lead agency for provision of seed capital and other essential resources would be expected to come forward in a big way to help organisation and effective functioning of fisheries cooperatives.

3. Production Management

3.1 Each Cooperative should have a minimum target of catches during a year. The target should be determined keeping in view the weather conditions and different major species of fish. The achievements should be constantly reviewed and timely measures for tackling emergent problems taken.

3.2 Care should be taken to ensure that tender/immature fish is not caught and if done, it should be released to gain maturity. A conscious programme of production/pisciculture should be followed by inland fisheries cooperatives and to the extent possible by the coastal fisheries cooperatives.

3.3 Mechanisation and modernisation of fishing boats, increasing use of adequately equipped trawlers and inshore and offshore facilities for proper preservation of catches would be necessary to increase the level of fish production.

3.4 Right type of fishing gears particularly nets, high powered engines, adequate supply of diesel etc. at reasonable price and through dependable sources would improve the efficiency and economise the cost of production efforts.

3.5 Incentives to fishermen should be provided for deep sea fishing in the form of adequate remuneration, personal insurance and family care programmes. The possibility of "catch insurance" may be examined and introduced where possible.

3.6 Support price scheme to ensure reasonable price for catches of selected varieties and as a measure to bring about price stability would go a long way in this regard.

3.7 Study of the types of fish and other sea-foods available in the zone and commanding better demand should be undertaken by exploratory missions of the national federation or government and its findings made known to all concerned without undue delays.

3.8 Introduction of appropriate and modern technology should receive priority attention by the promoting as well as the implementing cooperatives. Care should, however, be taken to ensure in advance that the concerned cooperative has the required competence to adopt it and the change over would not upset the economic status of the organisation even in the short run.

3.9 Aquaculture should be introduced as an integral part of the production programme of the fisheries cooperatives.

4. Marketing Arrangements

4.1 Organised and regulated marketing arrangements to cater to the special needs of fisheries cooperatives is almost totally absent in many countries. At the wholesale and retail level of marketing of fish traditional methods and practices are still in vogue. The private trade and middlemen have completely controlled it to their advantage. Cooperatives are weak competitors in the market and they have yet to enter export trade in a regular manner.

4.2 Market intelligence services are not readily available to cooperatives, and hence they are not aware of the current trends of fish prices, demand and availability. In a sense, fish market is a buyers' market. Introduction of open auction system has been found advantageous to fishermen and it has eliminated a variety of malpractices. Commission agents who act as 'Bidders' are important link in the trade between the seller and the buyer. In course of time, fishermen marketing cooperatives

should be in a position to establish direct trade relations between the producer fishermen and the fish trader.

4.3 The cooperatives have not been playing a noticeable role in the retail distribution of fish. Fishermen cooperatives may open retail points in selected centres to act as price pace-setter as also for market intervention agency to safeguard the interests of producers as well as consumers. Consumers cooperatives may also be encouraged to deal in fish as well. Survey of domestic consumer preferences and measures for developing taste for new varieties of fish would be necessary.

4.4 Establishment of a well equipped marketing division in the national level fishermen cooperative organisation is an essential prerequisite for reinforcing the marketing set-up and making it dynamic.

4.5 Compulsory marketing of fish at the market centre within the framework of the prescribed government regulations may be introduced. A net work of market centres in the cooperative sector and operating under government guidance should be established. Grading, storage and transportation facilities should also be provided under the aegis of the market centre.

5. Processing Facilities

5.1 Processing facilities for longer preservation, better marketability, meeting table needs and exports would be desirable. These may have to be introduced in phases. Whether processing facilities should be an adjunct of marketing arrangements or provided through a separate cooperative would have to be gone into carefully before embarking upon the project. In view of the consideration that fish is a highly perishable commodity, and setting up of a processing plant would be a capital intensive project, it would be advisable to establish it as a cooperatively owned project with independent identity.

6. Insurance of Fishermen

6.1 The element of high risks involved in the case of marine fishermen requires introduction of a fishermen's insurance scheme in the form of a group insurance scheme as a social security measure. It has made a salutary impact on the fisheries cooperative movements of the countries which have adopted the insurance scheme. The scheme may be entrusted to the national federation of fisheries cooperatives for implementation with full government support.

7. Tax Concessions

7.1 Fisheries cooperatives serve a social purpose as well. Experience shows that tax concessions in regard to procurement of fishing gears, acquisition of facilities and incomes would be a necessary support to fishermen's cooperative development. In course of time, these would help in strengthening their competitive ability.

8. Administrative Coordination

8.1 Fisheries cooperatives are under the administrative control of either the Fishery Department or Cooperative Department. At times the respective jurisdiction and responsibilities of the two departments are not well defined resulting in dual control. There are other departments of the government like Agriculture, Irrigation and other law enforcing departments concerned with fisheries cooperatives. A proper coordination among these departments is often lacking. The feasibility of a central advisory and coordinating body for the purpose may be examined.

8.2 There is also the need for orientation in cooperation of the officers of fisheries department and in fisheries science and technology of the officers of cooperative department for better appreciation of the management issues involved.

9. Legislative Measures

9.1 The fisheries cooperatives are regulated usually under the provisions of the cooperative societies act. These are being found inadequate for the healthy growth of these cooperatives. In some countries, either special provisions regarding fisheries cooperatives have been added to the cooperative societies act or even a separate Fisheries Cooperative Societies Act has been enacted. The feasibility and desirability of having separate legislation for each type of cooperative activity is not unequivocally recognised. This process has even been reversed in some cases. Moreover such a measure would tend to become more restrictive in nature. A Cooperative Societies Act should be all pervasive and enabling in nature so that voluntarism and members' initiative in management is fostered in the normal course.

10. Education and Training

10.1 Education of fishermen as individual fishermen, as a cooperator and as a cooperative leader has to be imparted on a priority basis. This would call for basic education, knowledge of fishery science and technology, information on economics and cooperation, and skill and technicality of cooperative management. The education could be more effectively provided in an informal manner and through functional technique. Increasing use of audio-visual aid as educational entertainment would be necessary. The special scheme of education recently introduced in India and as briefly explained in the paper presented by the Resource person has some useful lessons to offer. It, however, needs to be better equipped. Guidance from higher level fisheries cooperatives may have to be provided on a planned basis.

10.2 Education of members at leadership level along with programmes for education for family budgeting, better living activities etc. for fishermen families should be arranged. A regular system of public information would also be necessary for the healthy growth of fisheries cooperatives.

10.3 Training of employees of fisheries cooperatives and government officials is an essential input for the healthy growth of cooperatives. The training needs of each category of personnel may be assessed and suitable programmes developed for induction training, retraining and orientation. Fisheries science and technology, economics, management and cooperation with reference to fisheries cooperatives should be major subjects of training. Training should be practical and forward looking.

10.4 A special training set up in the form of a fisheries cooperative training institute may be set up either by the fisheries cooperative structure or by the general cooperative training network. The fisheries centres established by the government may be suitably strengthened to provide facilities for orientation in cooperation and similarly the cooperative training colleges should remodel their syllabi to include suitable instruction on fishery science and technology.

10.5 There is lack of useful literature, educational material and training aids on fisheries cooperatives. Films on the subject are also needed. Above all, training of educators and trainers continues to be a neglected sector of activity. No doubt, these have to be taken care of by the respective countries, with the present level of development availability of resources. The gaps in this regard could be abridged with active and generous support of the advanced fisheries cooperative movement and international agencies.

10.6 Exchange of instructors and managerial and technical personnel among the countries in the region would considerably contribute to development of personnel efforts.

10.7 The Research Department of the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives, Korea, may bring out a comprehensive book on organisation, operation and management of fisheries cooperatives in Korea in English for the benefit of others.

11 Follow up Action at International Level

11.1 A team of expert consultants on fisheries cooperative education and training may be constituted to suggest measures for evolving and strengthening the arrangements with reference to each country in the region and to draft a model education and training guide. The team may be appointed by the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre with suitable support from the fisheries cooperative movements of Japan and Korea.

11.2 The first Regional Seminar on Organisation and Development of Fishery Cooperatives held in Seoul in March 1981 has been extremely useful to the participants. Such a seminar may be organised at least once in two years in different countries. Fisheries institutes may also be invited to participate.

11.3 A special fund to be operated by the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre may be created with donations from the various fisheries cooperative movements for production of literature, films and other educational materials on the subject. Assistance from UNDP and FAO may also be obtained for the purpose

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MEMBERS OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Mr. B.K. Sinha | Chairman |
| 2. Mr. O.D. Ravai, Fiji | Member |
| 3. Mr. Subhash Chandra, India | Member |
| 4. Mr. Abdul Rahman Manja, Malaysia | Member |
| 5. Mr. N. Kanagasagar, Sri Lanka | Member |
| 6. Mr. Gou Rahman Kallakhan, Malaysia | Member |

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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE
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New Delhi-110-065 (India)

7 December 1981

MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR
TRADE DEVELOPMENT FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA, SEOUL, 27 OCT, 1981

The Third Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development for South-East Asia was held at Koreana Hotel, Seoul, Republic of Korea, on 27 October 1981 at 1.30 p.m.

In absence of Mr. I. . Hunter, Chairman of the Sub-Committee, Dato M.A. Kularajah from Malaysia was unanimously appointed to act as Chairman for this meeting.

The following were present :-

1. Mr.R.G. Tiwari, India
2. Mr. D.Basuki, Indonesia
3. Mr.S. Tsuboi, Japan
4. Mr.Youn Kuc Lee, Rep. of Korea
5. Mr.Won Ho Suh, Rep. of Korea
6. Mr.A.S. Lozada, Philippines
7. Mr.C.M.B. Bogollagama, Sri Lanka
8. Mr.Derek de Silva, Sri Lanka
9. Mr. Vichien Inthachai, Thailand

Secretary . Mr.M.K. Puri, Joint Director, ICA ROEC, New Delhi.

Special Invitees

1. Mr.Chong-Hyun Baik, NACF
2. Mr.Mai-Soo Lee, NACF
3. Mr. Hong Rae Chung, NFCC
4. Mr.Ik Hui Choi, NFCC
5. Mr.Rolf Akeby, ILC-SIDA Cooptrade Project

Observers

1. Mr.Malte Jonsson, SCC, Sweden
2. Mr.Kyoung Ho Ahn, Rep. of Korea
3. Mr.J.D. Lee, Rep. of Korea

ICA ROEC Staff

1. Mr.R.S. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr.J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Dr.D. Vir, Joint Director (Education)
4. Mr.Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (PPR)

In attendance Mr.Frem Kumar, PA to Regional Director, ICA ROEC, N.Delhi

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 WELCOME BY HOST MOVEMENT

Mr. Youn Koo Lee, General Manager, Research Department of the NACF welcomed the members on behalf of Cooperative Movement of the Republic of Korea and remarked that it was a great honour for his organisation to host the third meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development for South-East Asia. He expressed his hope that meaningful discussions at the meeting would help to pave the way for promotion of inter-cooperative trade inside and outside the Region.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman, Dato N.A. Kularajah, said: Thank you very much for the honour. I hope I would be able to carry out my duties to your satisfaction. On behalf of all the delegates I must thank the NACF for the facilities provided to us to have this meeting in Korea. As we have a formidable agenda therefore I will now close and ask the Regional Director, Mr. R.B. Rajaguru to make his preliminary remarks.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, said: I think we from the Trade Sub-Committee should be happy that we have as Chairman today one of the persons who have been concerned with cooperative trade for a long time. He was in the ICTO also as a member of the Executive Committee of ICTO and necessarily he brings to bear on the activities of this Sub-Committee the long experience that we have gathered over the very many years in trying to promote cooperative trade. I think what we are most concerned with is that we should have some kind of careful assessment of the progress so far made in respect of cooperative trade. We talk in terms of cooperative trade at each meeting of the Sub-Committee and also at meetings of the Regional Council and we have had the assistance of the ILO Cooptrade Project in trying to promote cooperative trade. But we are still not quite certain as to what benefits are derived by various member organisations in regard to their actual trade.

There is a proposal that the ILO Cooptrade Project should at some stage be taken over as an ongoing activity of the ICA ROEC. If this were to be so, then obviously this Sub-Committee will have to play an important role. I would think that this meeting provides us the necessary forum to carefully look at the problems facing us, the kind of constraints that have prevented us and the kind of progress we have made notwithstanding these constraints. We should be able to see whether in fact the ICA would have a serious role to play by taking over the ILO-SIDA Cooptrade Project as an ICA activity. It would necessarily mean that each one of you would have to give a leading hand in all the activities that we have to carry. You have adequate experience now to bring a critical outlook to bear on the whole proceeding so that we could fashion some kind of strategy which will help us in the future. This would be my only request to the members of the sub-committee that should not talk in general terms, we should talk in terms of concrete activities - what strategies are most useful for the future.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : CIRCULATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Secretary reported that the Minutes had already been circulated to all members. These minutes were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM No.5 : ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

Dato N.A. Kularajah from Malaysia was unanimously appointed Chairman for this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 TALKS ON (1) FOREIGN TRADE OF NACF AND POSSIBILITY OF INTER-COOPERATIVE FOREIGN TRADE AND (2) INTERNATIONAL TRADE BY FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN REP. OF KOREA

At the request of the Chairman, Mr. Chong Hyun Baik, Export Division, Sales and Foreign Trade Department, NACF, gave a talk on "Foreign Trade of NACF and Possibility of Inter-Cooperative Foreign Trade" and Mr. Hong Rae Chong of NFFC delivered a talk on "International Trade by Fishery Cooperatives in Korea".

Copies of the talks were made available to all the members and others present at the meeting.

The Sub-Committee recommended to member movements in the region for their serious consideration the need for setting up a specialised Export Organisation at the regional level in any one of the three alternative forms suggested by Mr. Chong-Hyun Baik of the NACF in his paper presented before the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : MATTERS ARISING OUT OF DECISIONS OF LAST MEETING(a) ICA Regional Seminar

The information given in the agenda was noted.

(b) Commodity Conference

The information given in the agenda was noted.

(c) Continuation of ILO/SIDA Cooptrade Project through ICA ROEC

The Secretary reported that the representatives from SCC, Cooptrade and ICA ROEC have worked out a plan for transfer of the project to the ICA ROEC. This could be reported subsequently.

AGENDA ITEM No.8 TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE REGIONAL SEMINAR ON "AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MARKETING WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO EXPORT TRADE"

The Sub-Committee noted with interest the various recommendations made by the Seminar and requested the member movements and ICA ROEC to take necessary action on the .

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMODITY CONFERENCE ON CATTLE FEED RAW MATERIALS

The Secretary read out the important recommendations of the Commodity Conference.

The Sub-Committee noted with interest the various recommendations made by the conference and requested member movements and ICA ROEC to take necessary action on them.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE TRADE IN THE REGION

The Chairman asked Mr. Rolf Akeby of the ILO-Cooptrade Project to give his views on the subject.

Mr. Rolf Akeby assessing the results of the Cooptrade Project, which had been in operation for the last three years, made the following remarks :

- i. Since the start of the project in 1978 it is believed that cooperatives both in developed and developing countries have become more aware of the possibilities and advantages of cooperative to cooperative trade relations;
- ii. Cooperatives in developing countries in Asia are not only more aware of the importance of international trade for their organisations, but also of the need to improve their functioning as a whole;
- iii. Often it takes several years for a potential exporter to become established in a specific import market. Because of very limited experience of Asian cooperatives in export trade, their sometimes weak organisational structure lack of financial resources and weak management cadres, the progress of the Cooptrade Project have been somewhat slow.
- iv. The activities of the Project have not been confined to trade development only but extended also to a great extent to cooperative development;
- v. The result of any development activity depends, of course, on the response of the counterparts. Some trading coops in the region have been eager to get assistance from the Project, while in some developing countries the interest among coops, as also among governmental organisations, seems to be only lukewarm.
- vi. It has also been noted that the organisation of workshops usually was well taken care of by the coops in the region. When it comes to the implementation of conclusions and recommendations adopted by the workshop participants, there seems to be only little progress made in some of the countries.

- vii. Trading with cooperatives in developed countries has been emphasised by many coops in the region as the first step to enter the international market. A trade contact mission to cooperatives in eight European countries was made for ten Asian cooperators on a Cooptrade Fellowship in 1979.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : CONTINUATION OF ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE PROJECT THROUGH ICA ROEC

The Chairman requested Mr. R.B. Rajaguru to give his views on the continuation of the ILO-SIDA Cooptrade Project through ICA ROEC.

Mr. Rajaguru : We have had some discussion with ICA Head Office and we also had discussions with the SCC. The SCC have already identified a person who could work in this sector and will be available to work with the project. I think Mr. Akeby mentioned that the Cooptrade Project held national workshops in 8-9 countries in the region. One thing we would like to know is what has been done by the national organisations themselves, subsequent to these national workshops, to look at the aspects of the trade. What further things they should do? In what areas the external agency's support is necessary? If they have not examined the whole situation then they really are not interested. I think, as a preliminary step, if we could get some kind of indication as to the follow-up action taken by the countries represented here, consequent to these national workshops, it will enable us to see if there is in fact a role for the ICA. The SCC has already made arrangements to support a programme of this nature.

The members from Malaysia, Korea, Philippines and Thailand supported the activities carried out under the Cooptrade Project.

Mr. Malte Jonsson : I would like to take this opportunity to inform members of the Committee about the policy of the SCC concerning technical assistance to cooperative trade. We have already at the SCC office in Stockholm created a section to support cooperative international trade. Secondly, the SCC is going to support financially the ICA Regional Office in New Delhi with money and an expert on cooperative trade. At the SCC office one expert is already working and I would like to inform you about the functions of this expert. Our policy so far has been mostly to support cooperative education but now we want also to try some other development projects and this is the reason that cooperative trade is one of our new interest areas.

The functions of the cooperative trade promotion officer at the SCC office in Stockholm are as follows :-

- to function as liaison in Europe for the COOPTRADE project in order to contribute to the establishment of trade contacts between cooperative organisations in developing and developed countries;
- to function as contact point for, and collaborate with ICA in questions relating to international cooperative trade with special emphasis on close collaboration with the person chosen as trade officer at ICA in New Delhi;

- to contribute to making the Swedish cooperative market (in the first hand) aware of, and interested in, import possibilities from cooperative organisations in developing countries;
- to promote activities by economic input, aimed at overcoming difficulties connected with the establishment of trade;
- to identify cooperative organisations in developing countries with export or potential export products and with administrative capacity to export,
- to secure and finance management consultants for promising cooperative exporters, or potential exporters, in developing countries;
- to identify export possibilities for cooperative exporters in developed countries to cooperative importers in developing countries,
- to assist cooperative visitors to Sweden by making programmes, set up appointments, follow-up etc. in matters related to trade;
- to function as a contact point in Sweden for cooperatives in developing countries concerning enquiries and assistance needed in export/import matters.

From the 1st of July 1982, the SCC will make available an expert for the ICA ROEC in New Delhi.

The Chairman requested the members that on their return they should consider and write to the ICA ROEC on the questions raised in the agenda notes.

Mr. Rajaquaru : We have given in some detail in the agenda notes what has been happening under the Cooptrade Project and of course we have also raised some pertinent questions, which could be considered by member organisations back home and then possibly they could communicate to us their reactions at some stage in future. The questions that we have been discussing all along and the questions raised by Mr. Baik today is : Are you satisfied with the kind of organisation that you are having in your country in regard to the promotion of cooperative trade? You have all kinds of organisations dealing with cooperative trade. The question is, if the situation is so important and I would agree this is very important area in which we have got to do a lot of work and we are happy that the SCC has come forward to support us, then it has to be a focal point of our serious attention. If you are not organised on your side, no amount of external assistance is going to meet with any result. Once the funds are available, the programmes available, but when it comes to negotiating with national movements, the organisation is very weak. Either the information does not go through the organisation or something else happens. Mr. Chairman, with your permission I would like to suggest that the NCOs should take the leadership in trying to bring up the National Trade Promotion Committee within their own structure, which could coordinate with other agencies within the country doing trade. Even if you are unable to bring them all under one umbrella, what is required is a coordinating

committee. One of their representatives from that forum or WCO could be the spokesman at the international forum. If ICA is to run this project, the ICA would like to have some kind of contact in each country with which it could work. If the NCCs could take this leadership, I think this would be a very great step forward. Then we would have some point of focus and review. If the point of review is available, then we could have a forum to act.

The Sub-Committee agreed that in the absence of a specialised organisation at the national level it was difficult not only to coordinate domestic efforts in the field of foreign trade it was also difficult for the ICA ROEC and other outside agencies to collaborate effectively and to pursue any follow-up action with member movements regarding promotion and development of Cooperative International Trade. It was therefore recommended by the Sub-Committee that the National Apex Organisation in each country should constitute a Trade Promotion Group/sub-committee to coordinate and review efforts in regard to foreign trade activities in the country.

AGENDA ITEM NO.12 : VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was decided to have the next meeting of the Sub-Committee at the same place and time where the ICA Regional Council Meeting would be held in 1982.

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

M.K. Puri
Secretary,
ICA Sub-Committee for Trade
Development for South-East Asia

cc: All Members of the Sub-Committee
All Member movements in the Region.
ICA Head Office, London.
Director, Swedish Cooperative Centre, Stockholm
INTERAGRA, Economic Bureau, Paris, France

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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE
Regional Office and Education Centre for
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43, Friends Colony (East), New Delhi-110-065.

30 July 1981

Third Meeting of ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development
for South-East Asia, Seoul (Rep. of Korea) . 28 October, 1981

Date : 27 October 1981
Time : 2.30 P.M.
Venue : Sejong Cultural Centre, Seoul,
Republic of Korea.

A G E N D A

1. WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT.
2. REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN.
3. REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR.
4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 1980 AT COLOMBO (SRI LANKA).
5. ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE.
6. MATTERS ARISING OUT OF DECISION OF THE LAST MEETING.
7. TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION OF THE REGIONAL SEMINAR ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MARKETING WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO EXPORT TRADE HELD IN NEW DELHI (INDIA) FROM 24 NOVEMBER TO 2 DECEMBER 1980.
8. TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMODITY CONFERENCE ON CATTLE FEED RAWMATERIAL HELD AT BANGKOK (THAILAND) FROM 27-30 APRIL 1981.
9. REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE TRADE IN THE REGION.
10. CONTINUATION OF ILO/SIDA COOPTRADE PROJECT THROUGH ICA ROEC, NEW DELHI.
11. ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.
12. VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

1. Welcome by the host movement

The Council Member for the Republic of Korea will welcome members of the Trade Development Sub-Committee on behalf of the cooperative movement of the Republic of Korea.

2. Remarks by the Chairman

The Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Trade Development for South-East Asia will welcome the members and give them a brief account of the important activities of the sub-committee during the year.

3. Remarks by the Regional Director

The ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia shall make brief remarks.

4. Confirmation of minutes of the last meeting held on 12 November 1980 at Colombo (Sri Lanka)

The minutes of the last meeting of the sub-committee held in Colombo on 12 November 1980 were circulated to all members of the Sub-Committee. As no comments have been received from the members the same may be confirmed.

5. Election of the Chairman of the Sub-Committee

The election of the Chairman of the Sub-Committee was due at the last meeting in Colombo, which met soon after the ICA Congress in Moscow, but since the item of election of the Chairman had not been formally included in the agenda of the meeting the same was deferred to this meeting.

It is requested that the members of the sub-committee may elect a new Chairman and a Vice Chairman for the period till the next ICA Congress in the year 1984.

6. Matters arising out of decisions of the last meeting(a) ICA Regional Seminar

The ICA ROEC organised jointly with the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) and the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), as host organisations, a Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade" in New Delhi, from 24 November to 2 December 1980. The seminar was attended by 28 participants from 11 countries in the Region. A detailed report about the seminar has been given under item No.7.

(b) Commodity Conference

ICA ROEC organised jointly with the Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Thailand (ACFT) a COMRA Unit, Conference on Cattle Feed Raw Materials from 27-30 April 1981 at Bangkok. The Conference was attended by 7 participants from five countries in the Region viz. India, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines and Indonesia. A detailed report about the Commodity Conference has been given under item No.8.

(c) Continuation of ILO-SIDA Cooptrade Project through ICA ROEC, New Delhi

The Representatives from SCC, Cooptrade and ICA ROEC met in Bangkok from 3-5 June 1981 and jointly made certain recommendations for the continuation of the Cooptrade Project through ICA ROEC. The proposal is still under consideration of SIDA, ILO, SCC and ICA. A further report in the matter will be made at the meeting.

7. To consider recommendations of the Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade" held in New Delhi (India) from 24 November - 2 December 1980

The ICA ROEC organised jointly with National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) and National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) as host organisations, a Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade" in New Delhi from 24 November to 2 December 1980.

The participants were from cooperative organisations and governmental organisations concerned with cooperatives. In all there were 28 participants from 11 countries in the Region. Resource persons came from the ILO-SIDA Cooptrade Project on "Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations", Bangkok (Thailand); the Trade Promotion Centre of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok (Thailand); the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the U.N. (FAO), Fishery Industries Division, Rome (Italy); the Norwegian Raw Fish Organisation, Tromsø (Norway); the Trade Development Authority of India (TDA); the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), New Delhi; the Institute of Economic Growth; Planning Commission, Government of India; the ICA London; the Economic Bureau of the Agricultural Sub-Committee of the ICA, Paris (France), the F.O. Project Market Planning and Design Centre (India); Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India; and from the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), New Delhi.

The seminar consisted of two main parts : (i) 6 days of Conference and (ii) 3 days of study visits in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana. The programme of activities included sessions on Export Promotion, Trade Facilitation, Market Information/Intelligence/Research, National Integrated Planning for Cooperative Exports, the Importance of Export of Agricultural Produce from developing countries and How to Streamline the Cooperative Marketing Structure for Exports. There was also a session on "Comments on Promotion of International Cooperative Trade in some developing

countries in Asia" by the ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE TEAM. Three different case studies are represented on three different commodity groups :-

- (a) Marine Products.
- (b) Fruits and Vegetables and
- (c) Cattle Feed Rawmaterial.

Some of the conclusions and recommendations unanimously adopted by the participants at the final review session of the seminar on 29 November 1980 are given below :-

General Recommendations :

- (i) The ICA Committee on Trade Development for South-East Asia was founded as the focal point for International Cooperative Trade matters within the Region, therefore member-organisations should nominate persons involved in international trade activities to this committee.
- (ii) Cooperatives were recommended to set up joint ventures with other Cooperatives inside and outside the Region to handle international trade in agricultural commodities. Such organisations should operate viably and at the same time protect the interests of both producers and consumers.
- (iii) The need for accurate and upto date market information was stressed and it was suggested that an International Cooperative Market Information Bureau should be set up within the framework of the Economic Bureau of the Agricultural Committee of the ICA.
- (iv) It was suggested that ICA should disseminate current information frequently about various projects being undertaken or proposed by various U.N. organisations which had relevance to the cooperatives.
- (v) The necessity to strengthen the commercial and trade links between cooperatives of all countries was highlighted and it was recommended that the gap between Cooperative importers and exporters should be bridged and they should be more aware of each others existence.
- (vi) It was recommended that a Regional Cooperative Trade Plan should be formulated, embracing the national Cooperative plans prepared by each country for the next 3-5 years. Such regional plan should be formulated from the national plans and be disseminated, monitored and coordinated by the ICA Committee on Trade Development for South-East Asia.
- (vii) As trained persons were not available, who were experts in undertaking foreign trade in the Cooperative sector, it was stressed that training facilities should be extended to the Cooperatives by various international and national agencies.

- (viii) Representatives of the cooperatives should be included in the International Trade delegation being sent out from various countries. Bilateral trade agreements entered by the Governments of participating countries should also provide for inter-Cooperative trade whenever possible.
- (ix) Common warehousing facilities that might be available with the Cooperatives in important commodity exchange centres like Rotterdam, Hamburg and Singapore etc. may be made available to exporting Cooperatives needing the facility. In the long run, the creation of jointly owned warehousing space may be considered by the Trading Cooperatives.
- (x) During International Cooperative Trade meetings and conferences, exhibitions of products which are exported and imported by the participating organisations should be organised. This will help participating organisations to enter into export-import trade between each other.
- (xi) Cooperative consortiums of producing countries which have the problem of marketing the same commodity should be organised to establish information system of quality, specifications, grading, supply terms, etc. so that competition to the detriment of each other is avoided and joint efforts are made to improve specifications of quality, packaging, grading, etc.
- (xii) It was emphasised that the coordination of export/import trade should first be made at national levels, before any new attempts were made to establish a regional body for international Cooperative trade.
- (xiii) The ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project and the ICA were recommended to make a phased plan on how the present activities of the COOPTRADE Project might be transferred to the ICA Regional Office as and when the Cooptrade Project terminated.
- (xiv) Until such time as an international Cooperative trade agency was formed, ICA and/or COOPTRADE Project should coordinate collection and dissemination of market intelligence. Copies of business communications exchanged should be endorsed to COOPTRADE Project for follow-up action.
- (xv) Promotional measures for creating and augmenting avenues of inter-Cooperative trade through mutual help and collaboration even by supplying goods on consignment/deferred payment basis should be undertaken.
- (xvi) It was also suggested that an organisation should be created at national level to generate from all sources the necessary funds to provide for the demands of the export market; to organise lobbies to protect and enhance the economic interests of the Cooperatives, to establish a system of market information in collaboration with the local Government and foreign Cooperative agencies; to organise or participate in annual trade conferences, and conduct training or seek for training opportunities to develop a professionalised staff.
- (xvii) The need for strengthening Internal Cooperative Marketing Structure in each country was emphasised. A strong domestic base had to be built up in the home market before Cooperatives could enter into export marketing effectively.

(viii) ICA should provide more frequent opportunities to representatives of Cooperative trading organisations in the Region to get together in order to discuss problems of mutual interest, establish trade contacts, and thereby promote Cooperative International trade in the Region.

(xix) ICA should provide more frequent opportunities to representatives of Cooperative trading organisations in the Region to get together in order to discuss problems of mutual interest, establish trade contacts, and thereby promote Cooperative international trade in the Region.

The members of the Sub-Committee are requested to consider the above recommendations of the Regional Seminar and to indicate action which they deem is necessary.

8. To consider recommendations of the Commodity Conference on Cattle Feed Rawmaterials held at Bangkok (Thailand) from 27-30 April, 1981

The ICA ROEC, New Delhi, organised jointly with the Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Thailand (ACFT) a Regional "Commodity Conference on Cattle Feed Rawmaterials" from 27 to 30 April, 1981.

The participants were from cooperative organisations. In all there were 7 participants from 5 countries in the Region: India, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines and Indonesia. Resource persons came from the ILO/SIDA Project on Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations, COOPTRADE Project, Bangkok (Thailand); National Federation of Agricultural Cooperative Associations (ZEN-NOH), Tokyo (Japan); Svenska Lantmannens Riksförbund (SLR), Stockholm, Sweden; Bureau Economique du Comité Agricole de L'Alliance Coopérative Internationale (BECA), Paris (France); and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the U.N. (FAO), Regional Office of Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok (Thailand). Observers came from the Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT) and the Cooperatives Promotion Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Royal Government of Thailand.

The Conference consisted of technical sessions, trade contacts and study visits. The programme of activities included sessions on Trade Channels, Trade Information, Financing International Trade and Barter Agreements. Information was also given about the COOPTRADE Project and the Role of ICA in Promoting International Trade. The participants also presented their Cooperatives and exportable products. The FAO representative presented a paper on "Production Utilisation and Trade of Feedstuffs in Nine Selected Countries", and the resource persons from SLR/Lantmannen, ZEN-NOH and BECA presented their organisations and buying policies. Different background papers were also distributed for consideration in various discussions. There were study visits to a Rice Warehouse, Maize Silo and the Thai Japanese Cooperative chemical factory in Bangkok.

The following conclusions and recommendations were unanimously adopted by the participants at the final review session of the Conference on 30 April 1981.

- (i) The Conference recommended that each member movement in the Region should prepare a marketing plan for cattle feed raw materials within the frame of the individual country plan. Besides that the ICAR/RECC should prepare a plan for the region as recommended in the Regional Seminar on Agricultural Marketing with special reference to Export Trade held in New Delhi in November 1980.
- (ii) It was noted with satisfaction that there was a positive change in attitudes of some buying Cooperatives and that they are becoming increasingly aware of the trade possibilities in the region. However, any Cooperative considering to export has to realize that it has to give as good a service as the private trader to the buying cooperative.
- (iii) It has been observed that some multinational companies are entering into joint ventures with Cooperatives in the region and therefore Cooperatives in developed countries should also be encouraged to take similar initiatives. Such joint ventures will certainly be of mutual interest to buying and selling cooperatives.
- (iv) The European Cooperative Buyers should be impressed upon the possibilities to join together in buying Cattle Feed Rawmaterials from the region thus enabling direct shipping from producing countries.
- (v) Cooperatives in Belgium, Holland and the Federal Republic of Germany being the big feedstuff manufacturers in Europe should be approached to enter into trade contacts with Cooperatives from the region. The possibilities to form a cooperatively owned company for purchasing cattle feed rawmaterial among the European Cooperatives should be investigated through the good offices of ICA.
- (vi) It was felt that the buying personnel in the Cooperatives in developed countries acted in a very competitive market and that they as professional buyers could not give any special preferences to Cooperatives in developing countries. Policy-makers in Cooperatives in developed countries were however, to be requested to allow their buying personnel to place some trial orders with selling Cooperatives thus enabling them to establish trade links.
- (vii) It was suggested that exporting Cooperatives could seek some form of marketing and sales agreement with established traders or to enter into management contacts with specialist firms. Such arrangements should be for a limited duration and thereby provide training opportunities for the exporting Cooperative personnel. Different contracts could also be considered as a full disclosure and participation contracts.
- (viii) It was understood that product quality and supply reliability were of great concern to the buyers and any Cooperative wanting to enter into export had to comply with the standards prevailing in the importing countries.

(i.) The Trade Information Bank being built up and now operational within the offices of the Economic Bureau of the ICA Agricultural Committee should be fully utilized by the Cooperatives in the region. ICA ROEC should also disseminate further information on the possibilities available within the Trade Information Bank.

(x) The joint ICA and COOPTRADE activities on International Cooperative Trade were welcomed and it was stressed that the ICA should give increasing importance to International Cooperative Trade Operations by providing further assistance to Cooperatives in the region. It was therefore fundamental that the present activities of the COOPTRADE Project were continued by ICA once this ILO-SIDA Project had been terminated. The participants therefore noted with pleasure that ICA and ILO now were in a position to work out a programme for a phased take over of the COOPTRADE Project.

(xi) The ILO Training Pack on International Trade which is presently being produced, should be tested in a pilot seminar jointly organised by ICA ROEC and the ILO/SIDA COOPTRADE and MATCOM Projects.

(xii) It was recommended that this Commodity Conference on Cattle Feed Rawmaterials, which was the first of its kind, should be followed by similar conferences on (i) tea and spices, (ii) marine products and (iii) fruits and vegetables, which were all products-groups identified during earlier seminars and workshops. The possibilities to hold similar conferences on other commodities and product groups should also be examined.

The members of the Sub-Committee are requested to consider the above recommendations of the Commodity Conference and suggest courses of action which they deem necessary.

9. Review of International Cooperative Trade in the Region

The ILO-SIDA Regional Project on Strengthening of International Cooperative Trade Relations, COOPTRADE, began to function in 1978 with a view to promote trade between cooperatives in selected developing countries in Asia and their counterparts in developed countries, and also intra-regionally among the developing countries. It was accepted that many members of Cooperatives in the developing nations are often among the least privileged, and lowest income-bracket groups in the population. By bringing about or expanding the exporting of cooperatives, it might be possible to render substantial assistance to these people, so that by their own efforts, their standard of living might be raised.

Past Main Activities of the Cooptrade Project

A survey of potential export products from cooperatives in selected Asian countries was prepared for COOPTRADE by the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT during the second part of 1978.

Some 50 representatives from 15 developing and developed countries attended a COOPTRADE regional workshop in Singapore in early 1979. Several commodity studies were prepared and discussed at the meeting.

In order to further assess the scope for international cooperative trade in the region, fact finding missions to cooperatives in Bangladesh, Burma, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand were undertaken by team members from March 1979 to February 1980.

A Fellowship Programme including a visit to Sweden to study the operations of the Swedish Cooperative Movement with emphasis on its role as a buyer on the international market - organised in collaboration with the Swedish Cooperative Centre - and trade contact visits to cooperatives in Denmark, Finland, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom for ten Asian cooperators was conducted in April-June 1979.

Both the survey of potential export products, the regional workshop, the fact finding missions and the fellowship programme indicated that the stage of development regarding international trade operations among Cooperatives in the region was different from country to country and also within the countries themselves. In addition to the project's aim to find Cooperative trading partners in developed as well as in developing countries, it was learnt through these activities, that there also was a real need to improve the skills in management, export handling and export techniques among the Cooperatives in the Region. It was felt that comprehensive studies on identified, cooperatively produced export goods should be made within the region as well. Subsequently national workshops were organised in seven countries - Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand - from October 1979 to June 1980. Altogether some 200 participants attended these meetings. 44 background papers on commodities were prepared and discussed at the workshops. Workshop reports with recommendations on follow-up activities were printed and distributed.

The International Cooperative Alliance had produced a Cooperative Trade Directory for South-East Asia in 1967 as well as supplements to it in 1968 and 1970. It was felt necessary to update these documents and COOPTRADE was advised to compile a new document containing Cooperatives having potential for /desiring to enter into export and/or import trade. The information gathered during earlier COOPTRADE activities was thought to be comprehensive enough to publish a booklet entitled "Cooperatives with Export and/or Import Potential in Bangladesh, Burma, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand".

The Cooptrade Project has listed 79 cooperative organisations in 10 countries of this region which have 131 export products besides 157 products with potential for export.

The reason why the publication was not called a trade directory was that such a name implicated to a potential buyer or seller a register of organisations with whom such person could enter into immediate business relations. Although some cooperatives in the region already were active in

international trade, the majority were still to be regarded as having limited export and/or import experience. The aim of this document, however, was to give cooperatives in both developing and developed countries, a brief introduction of the export and import potential of their sister organisations in or from selected Asian countries. As such the publication was hoped to be an important instrument in the further development of inter-Cooperative trade relations. The document was distributed in 1,400 copies to Cooperatives and others in some 70 countries in late 1980 and early 1981.

Although several steps forward had been taken by many cooperatives in the region to improve their export/import capability during the past 2½ years, it is felt that additional measures would have to be taken by many cooperatives before they could conduct business on an international level more effectively. To meet these needs one course of action is to provide in that direction short-term consultancy services on international trade to some selected cooperatives in the region. So far seven such short-term consultancy proposals for cooperatives in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand have been drafted by COOPTRADE. It is reported that consultancy services have already started in some countries. At present additional short-term consultancy assistance to cooperatives in Burma, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Sri Lanka is under consideration as well. The total COOPTRADE short-term consultancy programme is expected to include services of some 30 man months.

In order to follow-up the workshops as well as to prepare for the short-term consultancy services, additional missions by COOPTRADE team members were undertaken to India, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand from August 1980 to May 1981.

A follow-up mission by a COOPTRADE representative to potential cooperative buyers in Austria, Denmark, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom was organised in February-March 1981.

A training pack on advanced marketing and international trade is under preparation in a joint effort by the TLU-SIDA Project and the ILO/Materials and Techniques for Cooperative Management (MATCOM) Project. The pack is expected to be available by the end of 1981.

Short-paper on progress and needs

It will be useful if each member of the Sub-Committee could review the progress made in the field of international trade by the cooperatives in his own country providing as much details as is available - e.g. the names of the cooperative trading organisations, the commodities exported/imported their volume and value, emphasising more particularly any new commodities that have been added to the export/import list in recent times.

It will also be useful if the member could indicate

- (a) What further action/assistance is considered necessary to further cooperative international trade?
- (b) What specific role ICA ROEC should play in this regard.

It would be greatly appreciated, if a report of the committee will make a short paper available in the reports.

10. Continuation of ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project through ICA ROEC, New Delhi

In order to work out a proposal for the continuation of the Cooptrade Project through the ICA ROEC a meeting was held in Bangkok from 3-5 June 1981 between representatives of the ICA ROEC, SCC and COOPTRADE. The draft proposal is now under consideration of ICA, ILO, SCC and SIDA. Further progress in this regard will be reported in the meeting.

The members of the sub-committee are, however, requested to give their views on the following points :-

- (a) What specific role ICA ROEC can play for the promotion of international cooperative trade in the region?
- (b) What specific steps in order of priority need to be taken and at what levels?
- (c) What kind of further assistance is required by the cooperative organisations in the Region for the promotion of cooperative international trade?
- (d) What kind of structural reforms and infra-structural facilities are considered necessary, for the promotion of international trade?

11. Any other matter with the permission of the chair

12. Venue of the next meeting

It is proposed that the next meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development may be held along with the meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia.

Sd/-
M.K. Puri
Secretary,
ICA Sub-Committee for Trade
Development for S-E Asia

Encl: as above

A/

International Cooperative Alliance
43, Friends Colony, New Delhi

MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE ON TRADE
DEVELOPMENT FOR S-E ASIA HELD AT COLOMBO, SRI LANKA ON NOV.12,1980

1. The Second Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee on Trade Development for South-East Asia was held at the office of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, Colombo on 12th November 1980 at 2.30 p.m. In the absence of Mr. I.H. Hunter, Chairman of the Sub-Committee, Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama from Sri Lanka was unanimously appointed to act as Chairman for this meeting.

The following were present :

1. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Malaysia
2. Mr. Supah Noh, Malaysia
3. Mr. Joseph Edward, Singapore
4. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, Sri Lanka
5. Mr. Palitha Ratnayake, Sri Lanka
6. Dr. Bunjird Khatikarn, Thailand
7. Mr. Vichien Inthachat, Thailand

Special Invitees :

1. Mr. Malte Jonsson, SCC, Stockholm
2. Mr. Rolf Akeby, ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project, Bangkok

Observers :

1. Mr. Agustin Kilayko, Sugar Coops. Development Institute, Philippines.

Secretary : Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TA&T), ICA ROEC

ICA ROEC Staff:

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (P&PR)
4. Mr. Per Eric Lannhagen, Specialist in Agrl. Coop. Marketing

In attendance :

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

AGENDA ITEM NOS.1 & 2 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT AND-
REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

2. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, President, National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka and Chairman of the meeting welcomed the members of the Sub-Committee on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka. He thanked the members for honouring him by asking him to preside over the meeting and expressed the hope that deliberations of the Sub-Committee would pave the way for further development of inter-cooperative trade both within and outside the region. He thanked Mr. Rolf Akeby, Team Leader of the ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project, for having responded to an invitation from the Sub-Committee to attend its meeting. He thanked also Mr. Malte Jonsson for his presence.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

3. The Regional Director of the International Cooperative Alliance for South-East Asia welcomed the members to the second meeting of the Sub-Committee on Trade Development.

4. He said that it was quite appropriate for the Trade Development Sub-Committee to hold its meeting some time after some deliberations on the subject had taken place at the International Cooperative Trade Conference in Moscow.

5. He said that it was necessary for the Sub-Committee to highlight, once again, the role of international inter-cooperative trade for the development of cooperatives in the region. He went on to say that this was an area of growing interest and an area with great potential.

6. The Regional Director was happy that Mr. Rolf Akeby, Team Leader of ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project was present in the meeting. He said that Mr. Akeby had been, during the last two years, in close contact with the efforts of the cooperatives in countries of the region. The Sub-Committee on Trade Development has worked in close collaboration with what had been done under the COOPTRADE Project. The Regional Director pointed out that there had been indications and suggestions at informal discussions that once the COOPTRADE Project was phased out by ILO-SIDA authorities, the programmes and activities initiated under the Project would eventually have to be carried through by the ICA Regional Office and the Sub-Committee on Trade Development for South-East Asia. The members of the Committee, therefore, had a heavy responsibility cast on them and they would have to find out ways and means of consolidating what had already been gained or was likely to be gained under the COOPTRADE Project.

7. The Regional Director informed the members of the Sub-Committee that the ICA ROEC was holding a Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade" in Delhi during the last week of November 1980. The seminar which would be attended by representatives from nearly all member countries of the region, would focus attention on inter-cooperative trade and identify commodities which had possible potential for export. He said that a lot of action needed to be taken at the national, regional and international levels so as to increase cooperative's share in international trade.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 19TH NOVEMBER 1979 AT PETALING JAYA, MALAYSIA

8. The Secretary reported that the minutes had already been circulated to all the members. These minutes were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : MATTERS ARISING OUT OF DECISIONS
OF THE LAST MEETING

(a) Revised Supply Survey Report

9. The Secretary reported that the revised Supply Survey Report had been compiled by the ILO-SIDA Project and had been published under the title "Cooperatives with Export and/or Import Potential". This report would be circulated to all member organisations.

(b) Trade Contact Mission

10. The question of arranging a trade contact mission to Asian countries for representatives of Cooperative Trading Organisations in the region was still under consideration of the COOPTRADE Project.

(c) Training Facilities in International Trade

11. The Secretary informed the members that the work plan of the Trade Promotion Division of the ESCAP for the year 1980 and 1981 had already been circulated to all member movements in the region. He also informed the Sub-Committee that the ICA Regional Office would be conducting a Regional Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade in the last week of November 1980 at New Delhi.

(d) International Cooperative Trade Conference,
Moscow, October 1980

12. The Secretary informed the meeting that as decided in the last meeting the ICA London had been requested to invite all the important cooperative trading organisations from the region. However, we had been made to understand that the representation from the Asian countries was very poor - only India, Philippines and Japan being represented. The conference itself had been well represented with the buyers and sellers from the western countries being in attendance.

(e) National Workshops on Promotion of Export Trade

13. The Secretary gave a brief account of the National Workshops on Promotion of Export Trade which had been conducted in seven countries of the region by the COOPTRADE Project in collaboration with the ICA Regional Office and its member organisations. The Secretary said that though action programmes had been formulated, in respect of important commodities, at the end of each National Workshop, the ICA Regional Office had not been able to gather any information about the implementation of these action programmes. He believed the COOPTRADE Project was pursuing the follow-up action.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : TO DISCUSS ABOUT THE ROLE OF A REGIONAL TRADING ORGANISATION IN PROMOTING COOPERATIVE INTERNATIONAL TRADE

14. The members of the Sub-Committee were generally of the view that since the Cooperative Marketing and distribution structures in most of the developing countries in the region were still very weak, they would have to first strengthen their own infrastructure and establish a strong and dynamic base in the domestic market before they could enter into export marketing in any effective manner. They stressed the need for establishing strong marketing organisations at the national level. The members felt that a Cooperative Trading Organisation at the regional level would be able to play a meaningful role only after strong and dynamic trading organisations at the national level had been established in most of the countries of the region.

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

15. Mr. Rolf Akeby, Team Leader of ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project, who was present in the meeting on a special invitation, was requested to inform the members of the Sub-Committee about the activities of the Project. Mr. Rolf Akeby distributed among the members a copy each of two documents viz. "Cooperatives with Export and or Import Potential" and "Report on Activities of the COOPTRADE Project". Mr. Akeby informed the meeting that in place of the "Trade Directory" or "Revised Supply Survey" they had been able to complete a document which gave information about the cooperatives in the region which were already engaged in or had potential to enter into international trade. He said that they had listed 79 cooperatives in 10 countries of this region which had 131 export products and 157 potential export products. He informed the Sub-Committee that the Project would try to send out nearly 1500 copies of that document to all over Europe and other industrialised countries in the world.

16. Thereafter, Mr. Akeby, gave a brief account of the activities which had been carried out by the COOPTRADE Project during the last two years. He also distributed among the members of the Sub-Committee a written document on the subject. Mr. Akeby informed the meeting that the Project was now providing short-term consultancy to some cooperative trading organisations in the region such as the MARKFED and the Coconut Cooperative Union in Sri Lanka, Nilgiri Tea Growers Cooperative in India, Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Thailand, and a few cooperative organisations in the Philippines and Malaysia.

17. The Regional Director said that though the COOPTRADE Project had identified 150 commodities which had potential for export it might not be possible, at the first instance, to work on all of them. He suggested that to begin with two or three cooperative organisations should be selected and they should be enabled to establish contacts

with cooperatives in other countries. He also stressed on the need for strengthening national cooperative organisations to develop international cooperative trade.

18. The Regional Director also stressed on the need for more frequent trade contact missions and suggested that the ICA Regional Office and the Trade Sub-Committee should try to find ways and means of providing more frequent opportunities for representatives of cooperative trading organisations in the region to get together to discuss matters of mutual interest and to negotiate trade transactions at personal level. He said that sizeable business had been transacted among representatives of cooperatives at the Cooperative International Trade Conferences in New York and in Moscow, and suggested that it might be useful to arrange an Asian Conference on Trade.

19. The representative from Sri Lanka said that besides export of Tea and Spices they were also interested in other trades like hotel business and tourism. He was of the view that joint ventures in this field by the cooperatives in industrialised countries with cooperatives in the developing world should be encouraged.

20. While concluding discussions on the subject, the Regional Director mentioned it would be necessary to work out in consultation with Mr. Rolf Akeby, a phased programme for taking over activities of the COOPTRADE Project by the ICA Regional Office and its Trade Development Committee in the event of the COOPTRADE Project being terminated.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

21. The Regional Director informed that the next meeting of the ICA Regional Council would be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Korea had already extended an invitation to the Council for this purpose. It was decided that the next meeting of the Sub-Committee should be held in Seoul, preceding the meeting of the ICA Regional Council.

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

Sd/-

M.K. Puri
Secretary, ICA Sub-Committee
for Trade Development for
South-East Asia

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REGIONAL SEMINAR ON "AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MARKETING
WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO EXPORT TRADE", NEW DELHI (INDIA)

NOVEMBER 24 - DECEMBER 2, 1980

SEMINAR CONCLUSIONS

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National Agriculture Cooperative
Marketing Federation Ltd.
54, East of Kailash
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New Delhi - 110024

December 11, 1980

REGIONAL SEMINAR ON "AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MARKETING WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO EXPORT TRADE", NEW DELHI (INDIA) : NOV. 24 - DEC. 2, 1980

SEMINAR CONCLUSIONS

1. International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia (ICA ROEC), New Delhi, organised jointly with National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd. (NAFED) and National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) as host organisations, a Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to Export Trade" from 24th November to 2nd December 1980.
2. The participants were from Cooperative organisations and governmental organisations concerned with Cooperatives. In all there were 28 participants from 11 countries in the Region. Resource Persons came from the ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE PROJECT on "Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations", Bangkok (Thailand); the Trade Promotion Centre of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok (Thailand); the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the U.N. (FAO), Fishery Industries Division, Rome (Italy); the Norwegian Raw Fish Organisation, Tromso (Norway); the Trade Development Authority of India (TDA); the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IITF), New Delhi; the Institute of Economic Growth; Planning Commission, Government of India; the ICA London; the Economic Bureau of the Agricultural Sub-Committee of the ICA, Paris (France); the FAO Project Market Planning and Design Centre (India); Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India; and from the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), New Delhi.
3. The seminar consisted of two main parts: (i) 6 days of Conference and (ii) 3 days of study visits in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana. The programme of activities included sessions on Export Promotion, Trade Facilitation, Market Information/Intelligence/Research, National Integrated Planning for Cooperative Exports, the Importance of Export of Agricultural Produce from developing countries and How to Streamline the Cooperative Marketing Structure for Exports. There was also a session on "Comments on Promotion of International Cooperative Trade in some developing countries in Asia" by the ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE TEAM. Three different case

studies were presented on three different commodity groups:

- i) Marine Products;
- ii) Fruits and Vegetables; and
- iii) Cattle Feed Raw Material

4. An important part of the seminar was group discussions and the seminar was divided into four groups discussing - (i) Marine Products, (ii) Fruits and Vegetables, (iii) Tea and Spices, and (iv) Cattle Feed Raw Materials. During the session on Trade Exchange, information on trade possibilities was exchanged. Business contacts were established among the participants and follow-up actions will be taken eventually to execute business transactions.

5. The following conclusions were unanimously adopted by the participants at a final review session of the seminar on 29th November 1980. The conclusions fully took into account the ideas and suggestions formulated during the group discussions and plenary sessions.

MARINE PRODUCTS

6. Background: There was a big potential for development of fisheries in most of the countries in the Region both for domestic and for exports but the Cooperatives had made no perceptible impact on either of the two markets. Fisheries Cooperatives were weak in most of the countries in the Region. Despite the fact that many countries in the Region were exporting fish, the share of Cooperatives, except for Bangladesh, was nil or negligible.

7. Problems:

(a) Weak structure of fisheries Cooperatives.

(b) Lack of infrastructure like:

- i. cold storage; insulated transport, availability of railway wagons; processing, etc.,
- ii. finances both for production and exports,
- iii. fishing equipment such as boats, gears, nets, etc.,
- iv. trained management,
- v. extension services and Cooperative education for fishermen,
- vi. marketing intelligence, research, training facilities,
- vii. marketing outlets in domestic markets,
- viii. laboratory facilities,

- ix. arrangements for packaging and training in all aspects for packaging techniques, and
- x. Cooperation between fisheries Cooperatives in the Region and fisheries Cooperatives in the developed countries.

- (c) High cost of participating in export trade fairs.
- (d) Price instability of marine products in domestic and foreign markets.

8. Proposed Action:

(a) The structure of fisheries Cooperatives should be strengthened and streamlined. The structure should consist of three tiers at primary level, state/provincial level and national level.

(b) Infrastructural facilities like cold storage, insulated transport vehicles, processing units, laboratories, packaging units, etc. should be created by State and National level Federations at focal points for which financial assistance should be made available by Government, promotional bodies and banks.

(c) Arrangements should be made for providing credit for production and exports at low rates of interest.

(d) Fisheries inputs like nets, boats, gears, engines, nylon twines etc. should be made available to the members of fisheries Cooperatives at fair prices.

(e) Foreign exchange should be made available for import of such inputs and equipment etc. which are not available locally.

(f) Export trade should be taken up by the national level federations only after formulating national export plans based on scientifically carried out research and detailed home work.

(g) Higher tier Cooperatives should collaborate with their affiliates in marketing operations and should help them in their marketing functions by providing technical assistance.

(h) A well trained and qualified management cadre should be created to manage fisheries Cooperatives at all levels.

(i) Arrangements should be made for training in export trade; packaging; handling etc. for the staff of fisheries Cooperatives both within the country and also in key developed countries. The ICA should initiate steps for these training arrangements to be made.

(j) Arrangements should be made for educating the fishermen both in the techniques of catching and handling of fish on board and on shore, and also in the principles and practices of Cooperation.

(k) Financial incentives should be provided by Governments to encourage the fisheries Cooperatives to take up export.

(l) Fisheries Cooperatives should develop contacts with their counterparts in the countries of the Region for coordinating exports. Cooperatives in importing countries of the Region should be regularly contacted through visits by representatives of Cooperatives of exporting countries and through coorespondence.

(m) An integrated development plan should be formulated and implemented to promote fisheries Cooperatives to create perceptable inroads into domestic markets and an impact on foreign markets.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

9. A number of Cooperatives in the Region had been involved in the export of fruits and vegetables directly or indirectly. Among these were Afghanistan, India, Japan and Thailand. However, Cooperatives in Bangladesh, Indonesia and the Philippines reported that they had not yet engaged in this trade although they grew fruits and vegetables in abundance.

10. A large variety of fruits and vegetables had been exported by the Cooperatives either as dehydrated, fresh, dried, as concentrate or canned.

11. High potential had been reported for the export of fruits and vegetables from the countries participating in the seminar.

12. Though some countries had national marketing organisations, others had none and one had just been organised. Some organisations, however, had some difficulties while others had failed to take advantage of opportunities which had presented themselves. These difficulties were due mainly to the fact that fruits and vegetables were highly perishable products.

13. The participants identified four main problems:

(a) Lack of sufficient experience in the export markets, particularly in such areas as international trade management, market intelligence, crop management, post harvest management, product preparation for export markets and product development.

(b) Lack of financing to procure storage and transport facilities for perishables to establish plants for processing and production of suitable and inexpensive packages and develop existing and diversified crops. Funding had also been considered necessary for training.

(c) Political and economic factors which created instability in the markets.

(d) Absence of efficient national marketing Cooperatives at the national level to exert efforts to ensure that Cooperatives obtained a share of the export market.

14. To solve these problems, the following actions were proposed:

(a) The organisation or strengthening of a national marketing Cooperative to initiate and coordinate the development of a national Cooperative system within each country to supply the domestic and export markets.

(b) A system of internal cesses should be established to generate international sources of funds to finance development project aside from tapping external sources made available by the Government or international financing institutions.

TEA AND SPICES

Background

15. TEA : It was reported that India was the largest producer of tea in the South-East Asian Region accounting for 1/3rd of the world's production. Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Malaysia and Nepal also produced substantial quantities of tea. Though Cooperatives in India, Malaysia and Sri Lanka produced and handled tea, its export was monopolised by the private trade. Export of tea from India was normally undertaken on ex-godown, forward contract, Indian auction and London auction bases in loose form as well as consumer packs in which share of Cooperatives was negligible. There was scope for organising production and marketing of tea through Cooperatives in Bangladesh. Singapore, Afghanistan, Japan and West European countries were potential buyers of tea grown in the Region. Whereas Singapore bought leaf tea in consumer packs, green tea was preferred in Japan. European consumers preferred blended tea.

16. SPICES : South-East Asia produced almost all kinds of spices of which pepper, cloves, nutmeg, cardamom, coriander, ginger, turmeric, cuminseed, chillies, etc. were exported to Europe, USA, Middle East, etc. in whole and ground form. Europe preferred the consumer packs conforming to their standards in quality specifications, packaging and delivery schedules. The share of Cooperatives in India and Sri Lanka in export of spices had been substantial, whereas the Cooperatives in other countries were in their infancy.

Quick business communications with samples, maintenance of quality, conforming to international standards, price parity, adherence to standards for labelling and packaging, health regulations of importing countries, timely delivery were some of the very important trade influencing factors to be taken care of, by the exporters.

17. CONSTRAINTS

Though the share of Cooperatives in exporting tea and spices had been increasing in some of the countries, they had not been able to make appreciable inroads compared to the established trade channels on account of various constraints, of which the most common are summarised as follows:

(a) Lack of proper infrastructure, coordination and expertise to compete successfully with the private trade.

(b) Inadequate financial resources and professionalised management.

(c) Lack of close business links among Cooperatives of exporting and importing countries.

(d) Absence of a multi-national Cooperative agency to promote and coordinate international Cooperative marketing.

(e) Lack of adequate modern techniques and facilities for processing, grading, packing, storage, transportation and payment terms inconsistent to those of buying countries.

(f) Unchecked monopolistic and unfair trade practices by private trade.

18. REMEDIAL MEASURES

(a) Liberalised credit facilities should be provided by national banks, World Bank and developed Cooperative organisations to promote inter-Cooperative trade.

(b) Cooperation and assistance of Cooperatives in developed countries for providing, technical guidance, on-job training, modern machinery and equipment would be helpful.

(c) Developed Cooperatives should prefer buying their requirements from Cooperatives in developing countries by accommodating them to the extent possible.

19. PLAN OF ACTION

(a) Samples of tea and spices made available through the COOPTRADE Project would be examined and corresponding samples of the items, which Cooperatives in India and Sri Lanka could supply in conformity with the buyers' requirements would be sent to the importing Cooperatives for evaluation and reaction. Improvements, if any, suggested by the buyers would be made for finalisation of business.

(b) Singapore indicated the possibility of import of leaf tea in consumer packs and was requested to make available samples of tea preferred by Singapore consumers. After examining the samples, Cooperatives in India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh would supply identical samples for their evaluation and comments. Based on the response received from Singapore, the desirability of selling India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh teas at slightly reduced prices through Cooperative Department Stores to induce the consumers to buy such teas in competition with Boh tea could be considered.

CATTLE FEED RAW MATERIAL

20. The group discussed in detail the production of cattle feed raw materials, namely Maize, Oilseed, Cake/Meals and export thereof from various countries in the South-East Asian Region. It was pointed out that there was a sizeable production of such raw materials in various countries of the Region, viz. Thailand producing Maize and Tapioca; Sri Lanka - Copra Cake and Maize; Indonesia - Copra Cake; India - different Oilseed Extractions like Groundnut, Soyabean etc.; and the Philippines - tapioca, sugar cane tops and ipic leaf pellets; the Cooperatives were not much involved in the export of such cattle feed raw materials.

21. The various problems brought out during the discussions in this

regard were as follows:-

(a) Lack of Adequate Financial Resources: The Governments of several countries did not extend the required financial assistance to Cooperatives to undertake export business in competition with the private trade.

(b) Shortage of Trade Data: This included factors concerning production, marketing and foreign markets' competition. For undertaking foreign trade efficiently, it was necessary that the Cooperatives should get latest market intelligence without any delay.

(c) Undiversified Market Structure: The narrow market structure rendered exports insecure due to trade barriers or protectionist policies being introduced by the importing countries. For example, Thailand was exporting Maize to Japan only, but when exports to Japan had to be stopped for one reason or the other, they could not get any other market since they had no other contracts with other countries.

(d) Multi-Agency Approach: The Marketing Organisation of Farmers in Thailand, a public sector organisation there, was undertaking exports of various agricultural commodities. It experienced no financial difficulties because it received all financial support from its Government, while the Cooperatives had not been extended the same facilities by the Government.

(e) Shipping Problems: In certain countries like Thailand, the entire Tapioca shipping business was monopolised by a few European buyers, who acted as shippers and buyers, and were owners of the Shipping Companies. In Indonesia, a similar position prevailed. This situation put the Cooperatives at a great disadvantage since they could not compete with the buyers-cum-shippers.

(f) Administrative Restrictions, Taxes and Duties: The various administrative restrictions, taxes and duties which often inflated the cost of materials deeply affected the slender profitability of the Cooperatives adversely. Besides, export duty, there was also cess in certain countries, like Sri Lanka, which further depleted the profit of the Cooperative units.

(g) In certain cases, Governments fixed floor prices which were some times higher than the international prices as a result of which the Cooperatives were not in a position to export even though there was still profitability in exporting at prices lower than the floor prices. The cases of Sri Lanka and Indonesia were cited in this regard.

22. The following solutions to the above problems were recommended:

(a) Financial assistance should be extended to the required extent to the Cooperatives by the Governments as well as by the banking institutions.

(b) Each national level institution should establish a cell at its headquarters which should disseminate required market intelligence to the National Cooperative Institutions of other exporting and importing countries. Cooperatives should undertake business relations with the Cooperatives of other countries. These relations should be on a long-term basis, but any long-term contracts should be flexible enough wherein the margins etc. should be prescribed on a percentage basis, so that business may continue smoothly without any disruption or disputes in the event of fluctuations in prices.

(c) In the countries, where the Cooperatives representing the producers were already in the export business, Governments should be urged to provide maximum assistance and at the same time take all possible steps to avoid unhealthy competition in the future.

(d) The chemicals required in processing of raw materials should be made available to the Cooperatives by the Governments in good time in order to be effective.

(e) Silos should be constructed at the ports to store the produce.

(f) Special efforts should be made to export Sugar Cane Top Cubes and Biomass produced by the Cooperatives of the Philippines.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

23. The ICA Committee on Trade Development for South-East Asia was founded as the focal point for International Cooperative Trade matters within the Region, therefore member organisations should nominate persons involved in international trade activities to the committee.

24. Cooperatives were recommended to set up joint ventures with other Cooperatives inside and outside the Region to handle international trade in agricultural commodities. Such organisations should operate viably and at the same time protect the interests of both producers and consumers.

25. The need for accurate and upto date market information was stressed and it was suggested that an International Cooperative Market Information Bureau should be set up within the framework of the Economic Bureau of the Agricultural Committee of the ICA.

26. It was suggested that ICA should disseminate current information frequently about various projects being undertaken or proposed by various UN organisations which had relevance to the Cooperatives.

27. The necessity to strengthen the commercial and trade links between Cooperatives of all countries was highlighted and it was recommended that the gap between Cooperative importers and exporters should be bridged and they should be more aware of each others existence.

28. It was recommended that a Regional Cooperative Trade Plan should be formulated, embracing the national Cooperative plans prepared by each country for the next 3-5 years. Such regional plan should be formulated from the national plans and be disseminated, monitored and coordinated by the ICA Committee on Trade Development for South-East Asia.

29. The Cooperation between the Cooperatives in the Region and the ICA ROEC and the COOPTRADE Project of ILO should be continued and developed.

30. The participants were appreciative of the booklet "Cooperatives with Export and/or Import Potential in Bangladesh, Burma, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand" which had been made available by the COOPTRADE Project, which should be useful to all Cooperatives undertaking international trade. It was recommended that this booklet be made available to all Cooperatives concerned.

31. As trained persons were not available, who were experts in undertaking foreign trade in the Cooperative sector, it was stressed that training facilities should be extended to the Cooperatives by various international and national agencies.

32. Representatives of the Cooperatives should be included in the International Trade delegation being sent out from various countries. Bilateral trade agreements entered by the Governments of participating countries should also provide for inter-Cooperative trade whenever possible.

33. Common warehousing facilities that might be available with the Cooperatives in important commodity exchange centres like Rotterdam, Hamburg and Singapore etc. may be made available to exporting Cooperatives needing the facility. In the long run creation of jointly owned warehousing space may be considered by the Trading Cooperatives.

34. During international Cooperative trade meetings and conferences, exhibitions of products which are exported and imported of the participating organisations should be organised. This will help participating organisations to enter into export-import trade between each other.

35. Cooperative consortiums of producing countries which have the problem of marketing the same commodity should be organised to establish information system of quality, specifications, grading, supply terms, etc. so that competition to the detriment of each others is avoided and joint efforts are made to improve specifications of quality, packaging, grading, etc.

36. It was emphasised that the coordination of export/import trade should first be made at national levels, before any new attempt were made to establish a regional body on international Cooperative trade.

37. The ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project and the ICA were recommended to make a phased plan on how the present activities of the COOPTRADE Project might be transferred to the ICA Regional Office as and when the COOPTRADE Project terminated.

38. Until such time as an international Cooperative trade agency was formed, ICA and/or COOPTRADE Project should coordinate collection and dissemination of market intelligence. Copies of business communications exchanged should be endorsed to COOPTRADE Project for follow-up action.

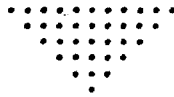
39. Promotional measures for creating and augmenting avenues of inter-Cooperative trade through mutual help and cooperation even by supplying goods on consignment/deferred payment basis should be undertaken.

40. It was also suggested that an organisation should be created at national level to generate from all sources the necessary funds to provide for the demands of the export market; to organise lobbies to protect and enhance the economic interests of the Cooperatives; to establish a system of market information in collaboration with the local Government and foreign Cooperative agencies to organise or participate in annual trade conferences; and conduct or seek for training opportunities to develop a professionalised staff.

41. The need for strengthening Internal Cooperative Marketing Structure in each country was emphasised. A strong domestic base had to be built up in the home market before Cooperatives could enter into export marketing effectively.

42. ICA should provide more frequent opportunities to representatives of Cooperative trading organisations in the Region to get together in order to discuss problems of mutual interest, establish trade contacts, and thereby promote Cooperative international trade in the Region.

43. In conclusion all participants expressed their sincere appreciation for all the facilities which had been provided by the host Cooperative organisations, which had enabled the objectives of the Seminar to be fully achieved, and marked significant progress in the efforts of Cooperatives in the Region to improve their status and the well-being of their members by the promotion of International Cooperative Trade.



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COMMODITY CONFERENCE ON
CATTLE FEED RAWMATERIALS

Bangkok (Thailand), April 27-30, 1981

Conference Conclusions
and
Recommendations

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International Cooperative Alliance
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for South-East Asia
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New Delhi - 110065 (India)

May 14, 1981

Commodity Conference on Cattle Feed Rawmaterials
Bangkok (Thailand) : April 27-30, 1981

Conference Conclusions and Recommendations

1. International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia (ICA ROEC), New Delhi, organised jointly with Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Thailand (ACFT) a Regional "Commodity Conference on Cattle Feed Rawmaterials" from 27th to 30th April 1981.
2. The participants were from Cooperative organisations. In all there were 7 participants from 5 countries in the Region: India, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines and Indonesia. Resource Persons came from the ILO/SIDA Project on Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations, COOPTRADE Project, Bangkok (Thailand); National Federation of Agricultural Cooperative Associations (Zen-Noh), Tokyo (Japan); Svenska Lantmännens Riksförbund (SLR), Stockholm (Sweden); Bureau Economique du Committee Agricole De L'Alliance Cooperative Internationale (BECA), Paris (France); and the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), Regional Office of Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok (Thailand). Observers came from the Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT) and the Cooperatives Promotion Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Royal Government of Thailand.
3. The Conference was formally opened by the Honorable Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives H.E. Narong Wongwan and the inaugural function was addressed by Col. Surin Cholprasad, Chairman of CLT, Mr. Vichai Kanchanaphun, Vice-President of ACFT and Mr. Per-Eric Lannhagen, Conference Director, ICA ROEC.
4. The Conference consisted of technical sessions, trade contacts and study visits. The programme of activities included sessions on Trade Channels, Trade Information, Financing International Trade and Barter Agreements. Information was also given about the COOPTRADE Project and

the Role of ICA in Promoting International Trade. The participants also presented their Cooperatives and exportable products. The FAO representative presented a paper on "Production Utilisation and Trade of Feedstuffs in Nine Selected Countries", and the resource persons from SLR/Lantmannan, Zen-Noh and BECA presented their organisations and buying policies. Different background papers were also distributed for consideration in various discussions. There were study visits to a Rice Warehouse, Maize Silo and the Thai Japanese Cooperative chemical factory in Bangkok.

5. An important part of the Conference was the Trade Contacts that were established and the different suggestions made to prepare the Cooperatives to a strengthened International Trade. There were also scheduled and programmed individual meetings between participants and resource persons. The valuable guidance of the resource persons from the developed countries were highly appreciated by the participants.

6. The following conclusions were unanimously adopted by the participants at a final review session of the Conference on 30th April 1981. The conclusions fully took into account the ideas and suggestions formulated during discussions and sessions.

7. The Conference recommended that each member movement in the Region should prepare a marketing plan on cattle feed raw materials within the frame of the individual country plan. Based on this the ICA ROEC should prepare a plan for the region as recommended in the Regional Seminar on Agricultural Marketing with special reference to Export Trade held in New Delhi in November 1980.

8. It was noted with satisfaction that there has been a positive change in attitudes of some buying Cooperatives and that they are becoming increasingly aware of the trade possibilities in the region. However, any Cooperative considering to export has to realize that it has to give as good service as the private trade to the buying Cooperative.

9. It has been observed that some multinational companies are entering into joint ventures with Cooperatives in the region and therefore Cooperatives in developed countries should also be encouraged to take similar initiatives. Such joint ventures will certainly be of mutual interest to buying and selling Cooperatives.

10. The European Cooperative Buyers should be impressed upon the possibilities to join together in buying Cattle Feed Rawmaterials from the region thus enabling direct shipping from producing countries.

11. Cooperatives in Belgium, Holland and Federal Republic of Germany being the big feedstuff manufacturers in Europe should be approached to enter into trade contacts with Cooperatives from the region. The possibilities to form a cooperatively owned company for purchasing cattle feed rawmaterial among the European Cooperatives should be investigated through the good offices of ICA.

12. It was felt that the buying personnel in the Cooperatives in developed countries acted in a very competitive market and that they as professional buyers could not give any special preferences to Cooperatives in developing countries. Policy-makers in Cooperatives in developed countries were however, to be requested to allow their buying personnel to place some trial orders with selling Cooperatives thus enabling them to establish trade-links.

13. It was suggested that exporting Cooperatives could seek some form of marketing and sales agreement with established traders or to enter into management contacts with specialist firms. Such arrangements should be for a limited duration and thereby provide training opportunities for the exporting Cooperative personnel. Different contracts could also be considered as a full disclosure and participation contracts.

14. It was understood that product quality and supply reliability were of great concern to the buyers and any Cooperative wanting to enter into export had to comply with the standards prevailing in the importing countries.

15. The Trade Information Bank being built up and now operational within the good office of the Economic Bureau of the ICA Agricultural Committee should be fully utilized by the Cooperatives in the region. ICA ROEC should also disseminate further information on the possibilities available within the Trade Information Bank.

16. The joint ICA and COOPTRADE activities on International Cooperative Trade were welcomed and it was stressed that the ICA should give increasing importance to International Cooperative Trade Operations by providing further assistance to Cooperatives in the region. It was therefore fundamental that the present activities of the COOPTRADE Project were continued by ICA once this ILO/SIDA Project had been terminated. The participants therefore noted with pleasure that ICA and ILO now were in the progress to work out a programme for a phased take over of the COOPTRADE Project.

17. The ILO Training Pack on International Trade which is presently being produced, should be tested in a pilot seminar jointly organised by ICA ROEC and the ILO/SIDA COOPTRADE and MATCOM Projects.

18. It was recommended that this Commodity Conference on Cattle Feed Rawmaterials, which was the first of its kind, should be followed by similar conferences on (i) tea and spices, (ii) marine products, and (iii) fruits and vegetables, which were all products-groups identified during earlier seminars and workshops. The possibilities to hold similar conferences on other commodities and product groups should also be examined.

19. In conclusion all participants expressed their sincere appreciation for all the facilities which had been provided by the host Cooperative organisations, which had enabled the objectives of the conference to be fully achieved, and marked significant progress in the efforts of Cooperatives in the Region to improve their status and the well-being of their members by the promotion of International Cooperative Trade.

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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE
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4 December 1981

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE ICA COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER
COOPERATION FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD AT SEOUL ON 26TH OCTOBER, 1981

1. The fifth meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia was held at the Korean Hotel, Seoul, on 29th October, 1981 at 9 a.m.

1.1 Mr. Chong Thin Huatt from Malaysia was in the Chair.

The following were present :

1. Mr. Tapeshwar Singh, India
2. Mr. D. Basuki, Indonesia
3. Mr. S. Tsuboi, Japan
4. Mr. Won Ho Suh, Republic of Korea
5. Mr. A. S. Lozada, Philippines
6. Mr. C. M. B. Bogollagana, Sri Lanka
7. Mr. Anan Chamnankit, Thailand

Secretary : Mr. M. K. Puri, Joint Director & Specialist in
Consumer Cooperation, ICA ROEC, New Delhi.

Special Invitees

1. Mr. Mikte Jonsson, SCC, Stockholm, Sweden.
2. Mr. Kee Ho Cho, Republic of Korea
3. Mr. Jae Deung Lee, Republic of Korea

Observers

1. Mr. R. G. Tiwari, India
2. Dr. Prof. Kahn Bedor, Malaysia
3. Mr. Derek de Silva, Sri Lanka
4. Mr. Rolf Akeby, ILO-SIDA, Cooprade Project, Bangkok, Thailand

ICA ROEC Staff

1. Mr. R. B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr. J. M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Dr. D. Vir, Joint Director (Education)
4. Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (PPR)

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

2. Mr. Y un Koo Lee, General Manager, Research Department, National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) while welcoming the members of the Committee said, "I would like to extend our heartfelt welcome to you on behalf of the Korean Cooperative Movement. It is our great honour to host the fifth meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia. I believe a special presentation on the Korean experience in the distribution of consumer goods in rural and urban areas through agricultural cooperatives will be made in this meeting. I hope this presentation will enhance your understanding of our activities in the field of distribution of consumer goods. We further hope that this meeting would provide a good opportunity for exchanging experiences and knowledge among consumer cooperative movements in the region. In conclusion, I hope that you will have an enjoyable stay in our country."

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

3. The Chairman, Mr. Chong Thin Hutt, said : "I would like to welcome all delegates and participants to this meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia. I was pleasantly surprised that at the last meeting in Colombo I was elected, in my absence, as a Chairman of this Committee. I must say I was very pleased by the confidence shown in me by this Committee in electing me to be the Chairman and I would like to say that I will do my best in the course of my term as Chairman. As a result of my election I was obliged to attend the meeting of the Executive Committee of the ICA Consumer Committee in Helsinki, to which the Chairman of the South-East Asian Committee was invited as an Observer. The South-East Asian Consumer Committee was well thought of at both the Executive Committee and Members Meeting, not because we are a separate committee but because of the programmes and the activities which have been achieved by this Committee and its forthcoming programme, which our Secretary had already communicated to the Chairman of the ICA Main Consumer Committee. Mr. Nakabayashi was the first Chairman of this Committee for four years, I have just taken over and had not even attended any of the earlier meetings of this Committee. Hence the credit for all the good work in the past must go to both the Chairman and Secretary (Mr. Puri).

4. Of particular interest to them was the proposed programme on Consumer Policy for South-East Asian Region and the experience of this Committee. I would like to inform you that the experience in South-East Asia is going to be taken as an example for the formation of similar consumer committees in other regions of the world.

5. At this stage I would like to say very briefly that though it was intended to consider the restructuring of the ICA Consumer Committee at the meeting in Helsinki, this question had to be deferred for another year because the newly appointed Director of ICA had not yet joined his office in London and nothing could be decided without consultations with him. The auxiliary committees depended largely on the secretariat of the ICA in London. It is an intention of the Consumer Committee Executive to approach the new Director for certain arrangements seeking support for Auxiliary Committees particularly the ICA Consumer Committee. The whole question had been

deferred except for minor changes."

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 . REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Mr.R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, said "I will be very brief in my preliminary remarks. I would like to draw the attention of the members of the Committee to two important areas of activities that they have to think of during the course of this meeting. One is the question of the role of this Committee in the promotion of consumer co-operatives in the Region. When I say consumer co-operatives I am not thinking in terms of purely consumer co-operatives which are generally urban co-operatives but also of consumer activities in agricultural multipurpose societies, which is the normal pattern in most of the countries in this region. I would think that our deliberations should look towards the development of certain strategies within each country for the promotion of this kind of cooperative activity through the agricultural co-operatives. Very often the consumer aspect of cooperation that we are talking of is something that happens because of government policies in regard to consumer goods distribution or rationing policy of the government. In most of the developing countries the co-operatives do not have any consumer programme. This I think is a very sad situation because we believe that the co-operatives have a role to play and the co-operatives should have a positive role rather than supporting role for government policy only.

Again, as was suggested yesterday in respect of the trade, I would think that the National cooperative organisations should have a consumer wing or consumer committee which should look at the whole aspect in the country. We should try to see what are the constraints that come in the way of the co-operatives when they are trying to follow government rationing policy as an intermediary and what policies are necessary if they have to expand consumer co-operatives so that they also perform other consumer services to their members. This is one important area which we should discuss during the course of this meeting.

The other aspect is the aspect of consumer policy in respect of consumer protection. Now the general impression seems to be that consumer protection is needed only in more developed countries and not so in the less developed countries. I think that the reverse is true. It is in the less developed countries that you need consumer protection more because it is here that a consumer is the weakest link in the whole system. The consumer is buying in very small quantity but he is subjected to a lot of malpractices such as adulteration of food, short weight etc. All this lead to very lower level of health within the community. You have a continuing system of mal-nutrition or after effects of adulterated food. Therefore, we think that co-operatives either purely consumers or co-operatives dealing with agricultural services and consumer services should pay increasing attention for consumer protection and evolve strategies which might enhance the effectiveness of protection that is necessary to safeguard the interest of the consumer particularly those in the low-income group both in urban and rural areas.

These are two aspects that I would like to emphasize at this meeting and I do hope that you would be able to find time to discuss these matters in detail so that the members represented here would take this message back to their home situation and be able to discuss it further in a manner within their own context and possibly we could help them out through the ICA Secretariat and through our Chairman."

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

The minutes of the last meeting, 4th in the series, held on 13th November, 1980 at Colombo (Sri Lanka) were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 : MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

(c) Follow-up of 21st International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Sweden

The Secretary reported that a Sub-Regional Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation was conducted by the ICA ROEC in Malaysia and Singapore from 7-24 May 1981.

The Committee urged upon the ICA ROEC to request the SCC to provide increased training facilities in consumer cooperation in Sweden for participants from South-East Asian countries. The Committee recommended that SCC should arrange at least one seminar in Sweden in every two years for employees of consumer cooperatives from this Region.

(b) ICA Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan

The Secretary reported that the ICA ROEC in collaboration with the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union (JCCU), Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (CUAC) and the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA) held a Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in South-East Asia from 1-21 September 1981, preceded by one week study visits in the Republic of Korea.

The Committee placed on record their grateful thanks to the JCCU, the CUAC & IDACA for conducting a Regional Seminar on Tokyo. They also thanked the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) of the Republic of Korea for arranging study visits for the participants.

(c) Next International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Sweden

The Secretary informed the meeting that the SCC had confirmed that the next International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation for participants from this Region would be conducted in spring 1983. The ICA ROEC would be holding Pre-seminars in January-February 1983 for selecting participants from India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

The Committee recommended to the ICA ROEC to approach the SCC to advance the next International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation for this Region from spring 1983 to autumn 1982.

The Committee further recommended to the ROEC that the selection of participants for the next International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation should also include a few participants from the ASEAN countries besides those from India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

Mr. Rajaguru : Now the proposal is that another International Seminar in respect of countries which were not members of the ASEAN countries be conducted. I do agree that there is a point in your recommendation but basically the intention behind the Swedish seminar is that we expose a certain number of persons from these countries to the Swedish situation. Thereafter it should be possible to use these persons for training within the country itself. I wonder whether we would have the capacity to train all our people in Sweden. We have to provide the same opportunity that was provided to participants from ASEAN countries to other countries also. If there are some countries which are not represented then we could select persons from the ASEAN countries and thereafter we follow the system that we use them as nucleus within the movement itself.

Chairman : It has never occurred to me that those who have been sent to Sweden for training would be able to run the seminar on the lines of MATCOM material. Out of 5 from Malaysia I would say that not even one can handle the seminar. That was not what I thought. There is an urgent need in our countries to have these people trained quickly because we are progressing too fast. We do not have personnel. We should do it quickly.

Mr. Malte Jonsson : It is very interesting for me to listen to discussions concerning the training seminars carried out in Sweden. You know in Sweden we have the problem that there is an attitude in the consumer cooperative movement and also in SIDA that they doubt if training in Sweden is relevant to the need of developing countries. Therefore, it is of great importance for us in Sweden to receive reactions from the region which shows that there is a need for this training and there are results which can prove that the training is relevant to the movements here in those different countries. We have to show to the Swedish contributors to our programmes that the results are worthwhile to carry out or to continue, may be also to increase the training possibilities in Sweden. I would also like to mention that the SCC plans to have an evaluation of the SCC supported ICA programmes which Dr. S.K. Saxena and Mr. Fogelstrom will carry out soon. This also includes the international seminars in Sweden which we are organising together with the ICA. We could increase the possibilities for training in Sweden. It depends on how the result of evaluation will be for the future programmes.

(d) Appointment of Vice Chairman

The Secretary reported that at the last meeting it was decided that the Committee should have a Vice-Chairman from Thailand, which has a good consumer cooperative movement. In accordance to the decision of the Committee, the ICA ROEC requested the Cooperative League of Thailand to nominate a suitable person who was actively involved in the consumer cooperative movement in Thailand. The League had recommended the name of Mr. Anan Chamnankit, Secretary of the Consumer Cooperative Federation of Thailand.

The Committee rectified the appointment of Mr. Chamnarkit from Thailand as Vice Chairman of the Committee.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : PRESENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF CONSUMER COOPERATION IN COUNTRIES OF REGION

At the request of the Chairman, the members present at the meeting made brief statements regarding significant developments in the field of consumer cooperation in their respective countries.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : TALK ON "KOREAN EXPERIENCE IN DISTRIBUTION OF CONSUMER GOODS IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS THROUGH COOPERATIVES"

Mr. Jae Deung Lee, Professor, Agricultural Cooperative College, Republic of Korea, gave a talk on "Korean Experience in Distribution of Consumer Goods in Rural and Urban Areas through Cooperatives" which was followed by discussions.

A copy of the talk was made available to all the members and others present at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM No.8 : TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ICA FOLLOW-UP SEMINAR ON CONSUMER COOPERATION

(a) The Secretary read out the recommendations made by the ICA Follow-up Seminar. The Committee endorsed all the recommendations of the ICA Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation held in Malaysia and Singapore in May 1981 and particularly supported the recommendation for setting up a model Regional Warehouse in the region with technical and financial assistance from the Swedish Cooperative Centre.

(b) To consider recommendations of the ICA Regional Seminar on "Development of Consumer Cooperation in South-East Asia" held in Japan

The Secretary read out the conclusions and recommendations of the ICA Regional Seminar on "Development of Consumer Cooperation in South-East Asia", held in Tokyo (Japan) from 1-21 September 1981. The Committee endorsed all the recommendations of the Seminar and requested member movements and ICA ROEC to take necessary action on these recommendations.

The Committee requested the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Union to extend more active support and guidance for the promotion and development of effective and sound consumer cooperative movements in countries of this region.

The Committee requested the Japanese Cooperative Movement to provide facilities for on-the-job training to professional employees of consumer cooperatives and to arrange, at least, one Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in alternate years for participants from Asian countries.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 * TO CONSIDER PROPOSAL REGARDING CONSUMER POLICY FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Mr. Rajaguru said that Mr. M.K. Puri, Secretary of the Committee had earlier prepared and circulated a paper on the subject of all the member movements in the region and he hoped that the members would have discussed the matter in their home situations.

Mr. M.K. Puri, Secretary of the Committee introduced the subject and after discussions the Committee agreed on the Consumer Policy for developing countries in South-East Asian region as proposed by Mr. Puri. It was further agreed that each member movement in the region should work out a detailed Consumer Programme for its respective country within the general guidelines provided in the paper.

Mr. Rajaguru requested the members to keep the ICA ROEC well posted with any kind of steps taken by them in this field.

The Committee expressed its grateful thanks to the IC ROEC, particularly Mr. M.K. Puri, for preparing a paper on the subject.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : RESTRUCTURING OF THE ICA CONSUMER COMMITTEE

The Chairman said : I have already given the report. The Executive of the Consumer Committee could not proceed with the matter because at the ICA Secretariat there is no Director with whom he could negotiate or discuss. Hence there is no change in the IC Consumer Committee, except that there is an amendment to the bye-laws. Instead of one Vice Chairman, now there will be two Vice Chairmen, one from Sweden and one from Italy. The Secretariat is still being handled by FDB who pay for most of the expenses. Until ICA Secretariat handles administrative functions the secretariat will remain with FDB.

Mr. Rajaguru : The whole structure in the ICA is at present fairly loose and that is why the ICA Consumer Committee is considering this aspect of restructuring. But I would think as far as we are concerned the IC Main Consumer Committee is fully aware that the needs of the region are quite different from the need that are covered by the Main Committee. They have agreed that they would assist us, possibly within the limits of their capabilities, provided this Committee requests for such assistance. Till we really find out how the restructuring gives shape to the whole IC, we remain an independent Committee for South-East Asia with dialogue and correspondence between ourselves and the ICA Main Consumer Committee. I think each Regional Council would have its own sets of sub-committees and these Sub-Committees could, in one form or other, be affiliated to the ICA main committees in London. They have agreed in principle that there should be worldwide representation in the ICA Executive Committee.

Chairman : We have to await until the next meeting, which will be held in Rome. I think we have already conveyed our feelings on the subject. We could discuss it in greater detail at a later stage.

AGENDA ITEM NO.12 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF CHAIR

Mr.Rolf Akeby : As this is sub-committee for consumer cooperation, it would be useful for this Committee to take up the matter of how to increase buying from your fellow cooperative organisations in other countries in the region. The consumer cooperatives attending this meeting are some of the potential buyers of products produced by other cooperatives in the region." There was no reaction.

Mr.Malte Jonsson : During the discussions I have made some notes. Mr.Puri took up one point which was coming up after the follow-up seminar which was carried out in Malaysia and Singapore. This was regarding creating here in this region a Centre or an organisational institution which could be used for studying special activities and in this case it was Regional Warehousing. We have been in correspondence with the ICA on this matter. The ICA will study this subject before any decision of support would be made and I think this study would be carried out in Thailand. This is one example which I think may be followed also by others. For example, in the field of consumer cooperatives there are developments here in the region which would mean that other countries could make profit by studying the cooperative or some cooperative aspects here in the region itself instead of going to Europe. The SCC would be willing to support such a development where we can create organisations or consumer cooperative societies which could be used as cases for study in the region.

Mr.S.Teuboi (Japan) : We are happy to get the evaluation by participants of the ICA Regional Seminar held in Tokyo. Without the sincere cooperation of the ICA ROEC, CUAC and IDACA it would not have been possible for the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union to hold such a seminar. I will take up the matter of holding the next Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan in 1983 with the President of the JCCU and consult with ICA ROEC, CUAC and IDACA. The decision in this regard will be made known later.

AGENDA ITEM NO.13 : DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee will be convened along with the next meeting of the ICA Regional Council for South-East Asia in 1982.

AGENDA ITEM NO.14 : CONCLUDING REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

In his concluding remarks, Mr.Chong Thin Huatt said that it was an achievement, that we have been able to discuss a great deal of important matters both policywise and decisionwise. He thanked the members for their kind cooperation.

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

cc: All Members of the Committee.
All member-movements in the Region.
ICA Head Office, London.
Swedish Cooperative Centre, Stockholm.
ICA Main Consumer Committee, FDB, Denmark.

M.K. Puri
Secretary,
ICA Committee on Consumer
Cooperation for S-E Asia

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE
Regional Office & Education Centre for S-E Asia
"Bonow House", 43 Friends Colony (East),
New Delhi-110-065 (India)

July 28, 1981

Fifth Meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation
for South-East Asia, Seoul (Rep. of Korea): 28 October, 1981

Date : 28 October 1981
Time : 9.00 A.M.
Venue : Seyjong Cultural Centre, Seoul,
Republic of Korea

A G E N D A

1. WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT.
2. REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN.
3. REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR.
4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON 13 NOVEMBER 1980 AT COLOMBO (SRI LANKA).
5. MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.
6. PRESENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF CONSUMER COOPERATION IN COUNTRIES OF THE REGION.
7. GUEST SPEAKER FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA WILL PRESENT A TALK ON "KOREAN EXPERIENCE IN DISTRIBUTION OF CONSUMER GOODS IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS THROUGH COOPERATIVES".
8. TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION OF THE ICA FOLLOW-UP SEMINAR ON CONSUMER COOPERATION.
9. TO CONSIDER PROPOSAL REGARDING CONSUMER POLICY FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA.
10. RESTRUCTURING OF THE ICA CONSUMER COMMITTEE.
11. TO CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR ACTION RECOMMENDED FOR THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE ICA DRAFT CONSUMER PROGRAMME.
12. ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.
13. CONCLUDING REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN.

1. Welcome by the host movement

The Council member for Republic of Korea will welcome the members of the Consumer Committee for South-East Asia on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of the Republic of Korea.

2. Remarks by the Chairman

The Chairman of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia will welcome the members to the Fifth Meeting of the Committee and may also give a brief account of the discussions which took place at the meeting of the ICA Consumer Committee in September 1981 at Helsinki.

3. Remarks by the Regional Director

The Regional Director will make a few brief remarks.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the Committee held on 13 November 1980 at Colombo (Sri Lanka)

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 1980 were circulated to all members of the Committee. A copy of the minutes is annexed herewith for ready reference (Annexure 'A').

5. Matters arising out of the last meeting

(a) Follow-up of 21st International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Sweden

As per decision of the last meeting, ICA Sub-Regional Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation was conducted in Malaysia and Singapore from 7-24 May 1981. Fifteen out of nineteen participants who attended the 21st International Seminar in Sweden attended the Follow-up Seminar. Mr. Hans Ekvall, who was Course Leader at the SCC International Seminar also attended the Follow-up Seminar for its full duration as a Resource Person. A seminar report along with its recommendation and conclusions is attached herewith as Annexure 'B'. The feed back from the participants at the Follow-up Seminar indicated that the objectives of the previous international seminar had been achieved to a great degree and that in the case of most of the participants there had been definite improvement in their knowledge, skills and attitudes. The participants were of the view that the SCC International Seminars on Consumer Cooperation for this Region should be arranged more frequently at regular intervals, at least once in every two years.

(b) ICA Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan

The ICA ROEC, New Delhi in collaboration with Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union (JCCU), Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (CUAC) and Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA) conducted a Regional Seminar on "Development of Consumer Cooperation in South-East Asia" from 1st to 21st September 1981 in Japan preceded by one week study visits in the Republic of Korea with following as its objectives :-

- (i) To study planning and management of cooperative supermarkets in Japan.
- (ii) To study modern techniques of distribution as are being followed by consumer cooperatives in Japan.
- (iii) To learn from the Japanese and Korean experiences in regard to distribution of consumer goods in urban and rural areas.
- (iv) To discuss questions concerning development of consumer cooperatives in the participating countries, keeping in view the experiences of the Japanese and Korean movements.

A report about the seminar will be submitted at the meeting.

(c) Next International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Sweden

The 21st International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Sweden was conducted for the benefit of employees of consumer cooperatives from six countries of the Region viz. the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Republic of Korea. The SCC was requested by the RO EC to arrange another seminar for the staff of consumer cooperatives in the remaining countries of the region i.e. India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and Iran. The SCC has agreed to the request and has informed us that it would be possible for them to arrange the next International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation for this region in Spring 1983. As such, pre-seminars in these countries will be conducted during the period January to March 1982. The exact dates for the pre-seminars and the International Seminar in Sweden will be intimated to concerned movements in due course.

(d) Appointment of Vice Chairman

At the last meeting, the members of the Committee unanimously elected Mr. Chong Thin Huatt, General Manager of the Malaysian Cooperative Supermarket Society Ltd, Kuala Lumpur, as Chairman of the Committee and further decided that the Vice Chairman should be appointed from Thailand. It was decided that the Cooperative League of Thailand should be asked to nominate a suitable person who should have been actively involved in consumer cooperative activity to be the Vice Chairman of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia. The Cooperative League of Thailand have nominated Mr. Anan Chamnankit, Secretary of the Consumer Cooperative Federation of Thailand Ltd. The members of the Committee are requested to confirm this appointment as Vice Chairman of the Committee.

6. Presentation of significant developments in the field of consumer cooperation in countries of the Region

The delegate from each country will be requested to inform the Committee about the significant developments that have taken place in the field of consumer cooperation in his home country during the last year. It will be

appreciated if a written statement is tabled. The delegates are requested to bring with them about 30 copies of their statement for circulation among other members of the Committee.

7. Guest Speaker from the Republic of Korea will present a talk on "Korean Experience in Distribution of Consumer Goods in Rural and Urban areas through cooperatives"

Guest speaker from the Republic of Korea will present a talk on Korean experience in the field of Consumer Cooperation.

8. To consider recommendation of the ICA Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation

The International Cooperative Alliance Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia (ICA ROEC) in collaboration with Swedish Cooperative Centre, Stockholm, Sweden, organised a Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Kuala Lumpur and Singapore from 7-24 May 1981. The first part of the seminar was conducted in Kuala Lumpur from 7-15 May 1981 and the second part in Singapore from 16-24 May 1981. ANGKASA, Cooperative Union of Malaysia (CUM), Singapore National Cooperative Union (SNCU) and Singapore National Cooperative Federation (SNCF) extended their cooperation and assistance in making the practical arrangements for the seminar.

The follow-up Seminar was formally inaugurated on 7 May 1981 at Hotel Jayapuri, Petaling Jaya, by the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Government of Malaysia, Y.B. Dato' Abdul Manan b. Othman.

The conclusions and recommendations which were unanimously adopted by the participants of the ICA Follow-up Seminar have been listed under para 10 of Annexure B. Some of the recommendations are listed below :-

- (v) The seminar felt that in addition to the international seminars arranged by the SCC in Sweden, the ICA ROEC should devote more attention in arranging national, sub-national and regional seminars on consumer cooperation in the participating countries of the region, with the help of resource persons from Sweden, other developed countries and from within the Region. The participants felt that national seminars could be more relevant to the requirement of each country and could also provide more frequent opportunities for training to a much larger number of people in each country. The holding of a seminar at the National level would also help in drawing attention of the Government and cooperative leaders to problems of consumer cooperatives in the country.
- (vi) It was recommended that, at least, one national seminar on consumer cooperation be arranged in each of the participating countries every year.

- (vii) The participants felt that since the bulk of funds of the national cooperative apex organisations in their countries were drawn from agricultural cooperatives, the apex organisations were not always in a position to allocate adequate funds for providing training facilities for employees of consumer cooperatives in their countries. The seminar, therefore, recommended that the SCC and ICA should provide special financial assistance for arranging national and sub-national seminars on consumer cooperation in the developing countries of the region. It was recommended that the scale of assistance provided by the ICA ROEC for holding national seminars on consumer cooperation should be raised from 50 per cent to at least 75 per cent of the actual expenses incurred by the apex or any other organisation.
- (viii) It was recommended that ICA ROEC, New Delhi should maintain close contacts with the participants of SCC International Seminars and should periodically gather information about the placement and activities of all the participants.
- (xi) The Seminar recommended that consumer cooperative movement in each country should actively support the general consumer movement and should enhance its collaboration with consumers councils and housewives associations.
- (xii) The Seminar recommended that agricultural cooperative multipurpose societies should play more active role in making available the supply of essential consumer goods and services to consumers in rural areas where viable consumer cooperative societies do not exist.
- (xiii) It was recommended that a time-bound action programme should be worked out in each country for organising a net-work of strong and large consumer cooperative societies covering all big cities and towns in urban areas. It also emphasised the vital need for having a strong wholesale society for consumer cooperatives which would besides enhancing the competitive capacity of the primary retail societies also help in providing them with managerial consultancy and other technical services.
- (xiv) The Seminar recommended that ICA ROEC should persuade SCC to provide technical and financial assistance for establishing at least one Regional Warehouse in one of the participating countries in the Region. It was felt that besides strengthening the consumer cooperative movement of the country the Regional Warehouse would also serve as a very useful training facility for the employees of consumer cooperative societies of all countries in this Region.
- (xv) The participants recommended that the ICA ROEC and SCC should arrange the next Follow-up Seminar for them in Autumn 1983 in Japan with possibility for study of consumer cooperative movement in a neighbouring country.

The recommendations are placed before the Committee for its consideration and for necessary advice and guidance for future action.

9. To consider proposal regarding consumer policy for developing countries in South-East Asia

No doubt, the basic desire for protective arrangements against fraud, dangerous products, misleading advertisements and false claims, etc. is identical among consumers in the developed and developing countries but because of glaring differences in consumer composition and the nature of their problems, the type of consumer protection measures required in these two different stages of development seems to be quite different from each other. The consumers in developing countries have some specific problems and altogether different priorities. For instance, an access to supply of essential goods and services may be outside the scope of consumer protection in the context of the present stage of development in the industrialized world, but in the developing countries it certainly is a closely related problem and calls for priority attention.

In order to develop and formulate a consumer policy for the developing countries in South-East Asia, the cooperative movements in the Region are requested to consider and address themselves to the following pertinent points :-

- (i) Do the cooperative movements in the developing countries of the Region agree that the supply of basic consumer goods and essential services to the low-income consumers both in urban and rural areas should be a matter of high priority in any programme of consumer protection in their respective countries?
- (ii) What is the dimension and complexity of the task involved in your country and whether cooperatives can gear themselves to be able to play a meaningful and effective role in the discharge of this responsibility.
- (iii) What kind of strategy would have to be adopted by the cooperative movements so as to convince their governments and the consumers that cooperatives are indeed the most suitable system to safeguard and serve the interest of consumers and that they have the capabilities to play a meaningful role in this programme.
- (iv) In order to meet the above challenge and to be able to discharge its responsibilities in an efficient and effective manner, what kind of infrastructural and other facilities would be required by the cooperative movements in your country, particularly in respect of the following :-
 - organisational structure;
 - shop premises;

- arrangements for assured and regular supply of goods of acceptable standards of safety and quality;
 - arrangements for transportation;
 - arrangements for storage and warehousing;
 - trained manpower and managerial resources;
 - financial resources;
 - economic viability of the operations:
- (v) What aspects of consumer protection activities need to be stressed, in order of priority, for improving the situation for consumers in the developing countries and what role could the cooperatives play in this regard.
- (vi) How can the cooperatives provide useful linkages with government and other consumer organisations and trade unions in order to strengthen consumer protection activities and to further stimulate interest in them.

The Secretariat has prepared a discussion paper on the subject which is enclosed as Annexure 'C'.

10. Restructuring of the ICA Consumer Committee

The ICA Consumer Committee is committed to attend to consumer questions all over the world but in actual practice the efforts of the Committee presently are concentrated in Europe and the involvement of developing countries in the activities of the Committee is limited. The Executive of the Consumer Committee feels that in order to live up to its aims and to be able to function efficiently it is imperative that the present structure of the Committee should be examined and balanced representation should be ensured to consumer cooperative movements from the developing countries.

Mr. Eric Hansen, Chairman and Poul Dines, Secretary of the Consumer Committee have jointly prepared a paper in this regard and have made certain recommendations for restructuring of the Committee. These recommendations would be considered at the next meeting of the Consumer Committee which is scheduled to be held in September 1981 at Helsinki.

The proposal regarding restructuring of the ICA Consumer Committee should be a matter of great interest for consumer cooperative movements in the developing countries who do not have presently adequate representation on this Committee. The future relationship of the Regional Sub-Committee with the main Consumer Committee, its representation on the main Committee, possibility of exercising its influence in the formulation of policies and work programmes of the main Committee, autonomy in carrying out its programmes within the Region in pursuance of its objectives, will very much depend on the structural reorganisation of the main Committee. While considering the structure of the ICA Consumer Committee, consumer cooperative movements in the developing countries would obviously be interested to ensure the following :-

- (a) Balanced representation in the Executive of the main Committee.

- (b) Possibility for active involvement and participation by representatives of the developing countries.
- (c) Closer integration or coordination between activities of the main Consumer Committee and Regional Sub-Committees.
- (d) Certain amount of autonomy to Regional Sub-Committees to decide about activities and programmes within the Region keeping in view their specific problems and priorities, and the levels of development in consumer field.

Accordingly, the ICA ROEC had circulated a note on the proposal for restructuring of ICA Consumer Committee to national cooperative movements in the Region and members of the ICA Consumer Committee for South-East Asia and requested them to convey their views to the Regional Office on this matter before 31st August 1981. A copy of aforesaid note is enclosed as Annexure 'D'.

The subject of restructuring the ICA Consumer Committee is placed before the Committee for their consideration.

11. To consider options for action recommended for the developing countries in the ICA Draft Consumer Programme

A Working Group set up by ICA Consumer Committee has prepared a draft Consumer Programme for developing and developed countries. In this draft programme the working group has suggested various measures for actions on the part of cooperative movements so as to ensure protection of consumers rights particularly the following :-

- The right to safety and protection of health;
- The right to be informed;
- The right to a rational choice;
- The right to representation and participation;
- The right to recourse and redress.

In the draft Consumer Programme the Working Group has suggested various options for actions particularly for developing countries for the protection of each of the above rights.

The document on the draft Programme was circulated to all member organisations in the Region and they were requested to consider the options for actions in the context of their socio-economic conditions and the stage of development of cooperative movements in their respective countries. The members of the Committee are requested to consider the options for actions recommended by the Working Group and to decide on suitable courses of action as they deem fit.

12. Any other matter With the permission of the Chair .

13. Concluding remarks by the Chairman

Sd/-

M.K. Puri
Secretary,
ICA Committee on Consumer
Cooperation for South-East Asia

Encl: i. Minutes
ii. Follow-up Seminar Report
iii. Discussion Paper
iv. Note on Restructuring
of the ICA Cons.Committee.

A/

International Cooperative Alliance
43, Friends Colony, New Delhi

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE ICA COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER
COOPERATION FOR S-E ASIA HELD AT COLOMBO, SRI LANKA ON NOV. 13, 1980

1. The Fourth Meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia was held at the office of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, Colombo on 13th November 1980.

The following were present:

1. Mr. M. Ohya, Japan
2. Mr. R.G. Tiwari, India
3. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Malaysia
4. Mr. Teo Cheng Peow, Singapore
5. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, Sri Lanka
6. Mr. Vichien Inthachat, Thailand
7. Dr. Bunjird Khatikarn, Thailand

Secretary : Mr. M.K. Puri, Specialist in Consumer Cooperation,
ICA ROEC, New Delhi

ICA ROEC Staff :

1. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (P&PR)
4. Mr. Per Eric Lannhagen, Specialist in Agrl. Coop. Marketing

In attendance :

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

2. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, President, National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka welcomed the members of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia and expressed the hope that deliberations of the Committee would guide the development of strong and healthy consumer cooperative movements in the countries of the region.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

3. In the absence of Mr. S. Nakabayashi, Chairman of the Consumer Committee, the members unanimously decided to appoint Mr. M. Ohya, alternate Councillor for Japan, as the Chairman for this meeting.

4. Mr. Ohya thanked the members for asking him to preside over the meeting. Mr. Ohya gave a brief account of the meeting of the OCCP and further informed members of the Committee that the ICA Congress in Moscow, while considering the Report on Cooperatives in the year 2000, had emphasised that the highest priority should be given to the following:-

- i. the development of agricultural cooperatives including agricultural producer cooperatives among small farmers, particularly in developing countries with a view to increasing food production and raising the real incomes of primary producers;
- ii. the promotion of industrial cooperatives and the conversion of existing industrial enterprises to the cooperative form or organisation so as to contribute to and increase in incentive and productivity, a reduction in unemployment, and improvement in industrial relations and the development of a policy for a more equitable distribution of incomes;
- iii. the further development of consumers' cooperatives in such a way as to emphasise the features which distinguish them most clearly from private traders and sustaining their independence and effective democratic control by members;
- iv. the creation of clusters of specialised cooperatives or a single multi-purpose society, especially in urban areas, in such a way as to provide a broad range of economic and social services - housing, credit, banking, insurance, restaurants, industrial enterprises, medical services, tourism, recreation, etc. within the scope of a single neighbourhood cooperative.

5. Mr. Ohya requested members of the Committee that they should ask their national movements to make careful study of the Report and to consider ways in which they could help to bring about the implementation of these four priorities for cooperative development in their respective countries.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

6. The Regional Director stressed the importance of promoting strong and healthy consumer cooperative movements in countries of the region.

7. He emphasised that the ICA Consumer Committee for South-East Asia should, in consultation with the member movements, evolve a policy and a programme for systematic development of consumer cooperative movements in the region. He went on to say that there was need to look at the whole question of development of consumer cooperatives as a policy matter and to see how best the Committee could help in evolving suitable approaches which all member movements could follow, and how it could help in identifying the objectives and assist in the drawing up of plans and programmes for the respective member countries.

8. The Regional Director drew attention of the members of the Committee towards the document on "Consumer Programme" which had been separately circulated among the members. This document on Consumer Programme had been prepared by the Working Group set up by the ICA main Consumer Committee (ICA Committee on Cooperative Consumer Affairs) and was primarily concerned with Consumer Protection.

9. The Regional Director pointed out that there was also a need even in the South-East Asian context for a comprehensive programme for consumer information. Unless the consumer was informed of the products which were available in the market and the types of goods and services which were marketed, both in terms of value and quality, the consumer would not be able to get the best value for his money.

10. The Regional Director suggested that cooperative movement in each country should take a careful look at the document on Consumer Programme. They should discuss the various aspects of the Programme in their respective home situation and send to the ICA Regional Office their comments and suggestions both for the Consumer Programme and the Strategy for the development of a strong consumer cooperative movement before the middle of the next year. The Secretariat of the Committee would then, on the basis of received comments, draft another document which could be discussed at the next meeting of the Committee, which is expected to be held in October 1981 at Seoul. The Regional Director expressed the hope that the document on Consumer Programme would be thoroughly discussed by the cooperative movements in each country and that their comments to the Regional Office would fully reflect the true situation, local problems, needs and aspirations of their cooperative movements. It was pointed out that in the document on Consumer Programme, prepared by the Working Group, separate suggestions had been made, under each aspect for programmes which could be carried out in developing countries, depending on their socio-economic conditions and the stage of development of their respective cooperative movements.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING
HELD ON 20TH NOV. 1979 AT PETALING JAYA, MALAYSIA

11. The minutes of the last meeting, third in the series, held on 20th November 1979 at Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES
OF THE LAST MEETING

(a) Follow-up of 21st International Seminar
on Consumer Cooperation in Sweden

12. The Secretary informed that as per decision at the last meeting, the secretariat wrote to all the concerned member organisations to secure reports from participants of the 21st International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation held in Sweden and to forward these reports

to the ICA Regional Office with comments whether the training in Sweden had been useful and relevant to their needs and future programmes. The secretariat had also suggested them to organise some follow-up programmes at the national level on the basis of the reports submitted by their participants. The ICA Regional Office did not receive any report from any of the member movements except Singapore.

13. The Secretary informed the Committee that the ICA Regional Office would be convening a Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in May 1981 and that the participants of the 21st International Seminar had been required to send reports about the implementation of their individual Action Programmes to the ICA ROEC by 31st January 1981. The secretary informed that some of those persons who had attended the earlier SCC Seminars in Sweden and were still working in the field of consumer cooperative activity might also be invited to attend this Follow-up Seminar.

14. Dato N.A. Kularajah, President of the Cooperative Union of Malaysia invited the ICA ROEC to conduct the Regional Seminar in Malaysia. This invitation was accepted by the ICA Regional Office.

(b) ICA Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Japan

15. The Secretary reported that the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union had agreed to host this seminar in Tokyo from 1st to 21st September 1981 and that it would be preceded by one week study visits in the Republic of Korea. This seminar will be held by the ICA in collaboration with the JCCU, CUAC and IDACA.

16. Managers, directors and chief executives working in consumer cooperative societies would be invited to this seminar. The participants would be accommodated at IDACA. There would be 25 participants in all.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

17. The members of the Committee expressed the desire that Mr. S. Nakabayashi, Chairman of the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Union be requested to continue to be the Chairman of the Committee for another term.

18. Mr. M. Ohya informed the members that for personal reasons Mr. Nakabayashi had regretted his inability to accept the office for an extended term and had requested to be relieved of this responsibility.

19. The members placed on record their sincere appreciation for the services rendered and guidance given to the Consumer Committee by Mr. S. Nakabayashi during his tenure as Chairman.

20. The members of the Committee unanimously elected Mr. Chong Thin Huatt, General Manager of the Malaysian Cooperative Super Market Society, Kuala Lumpur, as the Chairman of the Committee and further decided that the Vice-Chairman should be appointed from Thailand. It was decided that the Cooperative League of Thailand should be asked to nominate a suitable person, who should have been actively involved in consumer cooperative activity, to be the Vice-Chairman of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : PRESENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF CONSUMER COOPERATION IN COUNTRIES OF THE REGION BY THE DELEGATES

21, On the request of the Chairman, the members present at the meeting made brief statements regarding significant developments in the field of consumer cooperation in their respective countries.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : A TALK ON "CONSUMER COOPERATION IN SRI LANKA"

22. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, President of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka gave an interesting and informative talk on the subject of "Consumer Cooperative Movement in Sri Lanka" which was followed by a discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : TO CONSIDER SUGGESTIONS REGARDING WORK PROGRAMME OF THE COMMITTEE

23. The members expressed concern at the rising rate of inflation and non-availability of even basic necessities of life to a majority of the population in most of the developing countries in the region. They emphasised the urgent need for building up a strong and healthy consumer cooperative movement in all countries of the region.

24. The Regional Director drew attention to the document on "Consumer Programme", which had been prepared by the Working Group set up by the ICA main Committee on Consumer Cooperative and re-emphasised the need for member movements to work towards a generally acceptable consumer policy and expressed a hope that each of the movements would send in their proposals to the secretariat to enable the secretariat to prepare a document for the next meeting. The suggestion made by the Regional Director was accepted by all the members.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

25. It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee should be convened along with the next meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia, which was likely to meet in Seoul in October 1981.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

26. In his concluding remarks, Mr. Ohya thanked the members for their kind cooperation. He was very pleased that even though the participants were very few, the discussions were very useful and interesting.

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

Sd/-

M.K. Puri
Secretary
ICA Committee on Consumer
Cooperation for S-E Asia

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ICA FOLLOW-UP SUB-REGIONAL SEMINAR ON CO-OPERATION

Kuala Lumpur & Singapore : 7-24 May, 1981

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE
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ICA FOLLOW-UP SEMINAR ON CONSUMER COOPERATION
Kuala Lumpur & Singapore : 7-24 May, 1981

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The International Cooperative Alliance Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia (ICA ROPAC) in collaboration with Swedish Cooperative Centre, Stockholm, Sweden, organised a Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Kuala Lumpur and Singapore from 7-24 May 1981. The first part of the seminar was conducted in Kuala Lumpur from 7-15 May 1981 and the second part in Singapore from 16-24 May 1981. ANGKASA, Cooperative Union of Malaysia (CUM), Singapore National Cooperative Union (SNCU) and Singapore National Cooperative Federation (SNCF) extended their cooperation and assistance in practical arrangements for the seminar.

2. The Swedish Cooperative Centre in collaboration with ICA Regional Office in New Delhi organised the 21st International Seminar on "Development of Consumer Cooperation" in South-East Asia, from 4 September to 26 October 1979 in Sweden. The International Seminar was preceded by two week national seminars in five ASEAN countries viz. the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia. From these national seminars, 19 participants were selected to participate in the 21st International Seminar in Sweden.

3. This seminar was a Follow-up at the regional level of the 21st International Seminar. Fifteen out of the nineteen participants at the Follow-up Seminar were the same persons who had earlier attended the 21st International Seminar in Sweden. Out of the remaining four, one had attended the earlier SCC International Seminar in Sweden in 1972.

4. The follow-up Seminar was formerly inaugurated on 7 May 1981 at Hotel Jayapuri, Petaling Jaya, by the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Government of Malaysia, Y. B. Dato Abdul Manan b. Othman and was addressed by Royal Professor Ungku Aziz, President of ANKASA and Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director from ICA Regional Office and Education Centre. In his address Mr. Puri explained the objectives of the Follow-up Seminar which were as follows:-

- (i) To discuss the application made by the participants of the knowledge and skills acquired by them in Sweden and to identify problems of such application.
- (ii) To discuss the strategies for the development of effective consumer cooperative movements in the participating countries.
- (iii) Keeping in view the specific problems and priorities of the developing countries, to discuss the options for action in the field of consumer protection.
- (iv) To evaluate the SCC seminars held in Sweden in terms of their relevance, usefulness etc. and to suggest how effectiveness of future SCC seminars can be enhanced.

5. Mr. Hans Ekvall, Management Consultant in SCC, who was the Course Director at the 21st International Seminar in Sweden in 1979 also addressed at the inaugural function.

6. Resource persons came from the Swedish Cooperative Centre, Malaysian Cooperative Supermarket Society, Phranakorn Cooperative Store Ltd, Bangkok, NTUC Welcome Consumer Cooperatives, SILO Multi-purpose Cooperative and Consumers Association of Singapore (CASE).

7. Observers came from ANKASA, Cooperative Union of Malaysia, Cooperative College of Malaysia, Singapore National Cooperative Union, Singapore National Cooperative Federation and the Cooperative Development Department of Malaysia.

8. The seminar consisted of technical sessions on sales planning and sales promotion, planning a new cooperative shop, assortment policy and inventory management; role of consumer cooperatives in consumer protection, personnel management and staff training. The participants also discussed the draft Consumer Programme worked out by a Working Group appointed by the ICA Auxiliary Committee on Consumer Cooperation and keeping in view the specific problems and priorities of the developing countries suggested options for action in their respective countries. They also discussed strategies for development and promotion of effective and viable consumer cooperative movements in their respective countries.

9. Before concluding the seminar, the participants worked out National Action Programmes for the next 2-3 years for the development of consumer cooperative movements in their respective countries and the contribution that each of them would make in pushing forward this programme.

10. The following conclusions were unanimously adopted by the participants at the final review session of the ICA Follow-up Seminar on 23 May 1981 at Singapore. The conclusions fully took into account the ideas and suggestions formulated during discussions at various sessions.

(i) The participants were unanimously of the view that, on the whole, SCC International Seminars on Consumer Cooperation in Sweden have been of great help to them in widening their outlook and motivating them for building up effective consumer cooperative movement in their respective countries.

- (ii) The majority of the participants were, however, of the view that in the selection of participants for advance training in consumer cooperation at the international seminars in Sweden, preferences should be given to professional employees and that the programme in Sweden should be so designed that there is greater emphasis on practical and operational aspects and that adequate opportunity and facilities should be available to interested persons to study in greater details the operational systems and procedures.
- (iii) The seminar felt that it would be equally useful for elected leaders, policy makers and trainers to make on-the-spot study of the outstanding achievements of the Swedish Consumer Cooperative Movement and the process of its systematic growth, under a very dynamic and far-sighted and high calibre leadership. It was, however, recommended, that separate seminars of shorter duration with different and more relevant objectives should be arranged for these persons.
- (iv) The feed-back from the participants at the Follow-up Seminar indicated that the objectives of the previous international seminars had been achieved to a great degree and that in the case of most of the participants there had been definite improvement both in their skills, approach and attitudes towards their jobs. The participants were, therefore, of the view that SCC International Seminars on Consumer Cooperation for this Region should be arranged more frequently at regular intervals, at least once in every two years.

- (v) The seminar felt that in addition to the international seminars arranged by the SC in Sweden, the ICA ROEC should devote more attention in arranging national, sub-national and regional seminars on consumer cooperation in the participating countries of the region, with the help of resource persons from Sweden, other developed countries and from within the Region. The participants felt that national seminars could be more relevant to the requirement of each country and could also provide more frequent opportunities for training to a much larger number of people in each country. The holding of a seminar at the National level also help in drawing attention of the Government and cooperative leaders to problems of consumer cooperatives in the country.
- (vi) It was recommended that, at least, one national seminar on consumer cooperation be arranged in each of the participating countries every year.
- (vii) The participants felt that since bulk of funds of the national cooperative apex organisations in their countries were drawn from agricultural cooperatives, the apex organisations were not always in a position to allocate adequate funds for providing training facilities for employees of consumer cooperatives in their countries. The seminar, therefore, recommended that the SCC and ICA should provide special financial assistance for arranging national and sub-national seminars on consumer cooperation in the developing countries of the region. It was recommended that the scale of assistance provided by the ICA ROEC for holding national

seminars on consumer cooperation should be raised from 50 percent to at least 75 per cent of the actual expenses incurred by the apex or any other organisation.

- (viii) It was recommended that ICA ROEC, New Delhi should maintain close contacts with the participants of SCC International Seminars and should periodically gather information about the placement and activities of all the participants.
- (ix) The Seminar was of the opinion that the topic of consumer protection should be discussed and emphasised in all seminars and meetings of cooperative leaders as it is one of the objectives of the cooperative movement. The seminar felt that an active role by cooperatives in consumer protection activities would go a long way in winning over a popular support for the cooperatives from the general public and that it would also secure for consumer cooperatives a distinct edge over the private trade.
- (x) The Seminar was of the view that cooperative institutions at all levels should realise the urgent need for providing consumer information and consumer education to their members and they should, within the limitation of their financial and manpower resources, work out definite action programmes in this respect. These programmes should be carried out both in rural and urban cooperatives.
- (xi) The seminar recommended that consumer cooperative movement in each country should actively support the general consumer movement and should enhance its collaboration with consumers' councils and housewives associations.

- (xii) The Seminar recommended that agricultural cooperative multipurpose societies should play more active role in making available the supply of essential consumer goods and services to consumers in rural areas where viable consumer cooperative societies do not exist.
- (xiii) It was recommended that a time-bound action programme should be worked out in each country for organising a network of strong and large consumer cooperative societies covering all big cities and towns in urban areas. It also emphasised the vital need for having a strong wholesale society for consumer cooperatives which would besides enhancing the competitive capacity of the primary retail societies also help in providing them with managerial consultancy and other technical services.
- (xiv) The Seminar recommended that ICA ROEC should persuade SCC to provide technical and financial assistance for establishing at least one Regional Warehouse in one of the participating countries in the Region. It was felt that besides strengthening the consumer cooperative movement of the country the Regional Warehouse would also serve as a very useful training facility for the employees of consumer cooperative societies of all countries in this Region.
- (xv) The participants recommended that the ICA ROEC and SCC should arrange the next Follow-up Seminar for them in Autumn 1983 in Japan with possibility for study of consumer cooperative movement in a neighbouring country.

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ICA FOLLOW-UP SUB-REGIONAL SEMINAR ON CONSUMER COOPERATION
Kuala Lumpur & Singapore : 6-24 May; 1981

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DISCUSSION PAPER

CONSUMER POLICY FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

01. The purpose of this paper is to focus the attention of the members of the Sub-Committee and of the National organisations to the need to evolve a commonly accepted and purposeful consumer policy in the Region, which would be worked out within each member country on the basis of the priorities of that country.

02. We would like to focus attention on two vital areas in this field - (i) the need to set up appropriate mechanisms which will ensure that the basic food needs are made available to the mass of the people, most of whom are the less privileged - an aspect to be considered in this field would be the role of cooperatives in satisfying this need. (ii) the need for cooperatives to play a more important role in consumer education and information and in providing the consumer with the protection he needs.

03. Consumer Protection

03.01 The awareness of consumer protection needs in developed countries has tended to evolve with industrialization. It began with a concern for safety and social welfare, often concentrating on the exposure of new products which were considered unsafe or were labelled in a misleading way. The emphasis was on legislation. These concerns gradually grew to encompass the present range of interests under the rubric of consumer protection, including the general areas of health, food, environment, product safety, quality, marketing practices, consumer information and education and consumers redress, etc. Whether consumer protection in developing countries will continue to be focussed on one or two areas or it will broaden to encompass these wider areas remains to be seen. It is now increasingly recognised that consumer protection has an important bearing on economic growth and social welfare in developing countries.

03.02 Main objectives

At the core of consumer protection efforts, whether on behalf of government, private or voluntary organisations, the main objective has been to secure at least the following rights for the consumer :

- the right of access to basic needs and services,
- the right to safety,
- the right to be informed,
- the right to choose,
- the right to be heard and
- the right to protection against malpractices.

There is also now a growing recognition, at least, in developed countries of the concept of consumer redress, whether by exercising legal rights or by less formal mechanism. Collectively, all consumer protection activities, regardless of their particular form, appear to define an environment which will enhance the quality of life for the consumer.

03.03 Different from Developed countries

No doubt, the basic desire for protective arrangements against fraud, dangerous products, misleading advertising, etc. is identical among consumers in the developed and developing countries but because of glaring differences in consumers composition and the nature of their problems, the type of consumer protection measures required in these two different stages of development seems to be quite different from each other. For instance, in developing countries the demand for daily necessities constitutes 70-80% of the total expenses of a consumer family, which means that it is primarily in this area that measures for ensuring supply of clean and unadulterated goods must be stressed. As against this, a consumer family in developed countries hardly spends 20-30% of its economic resources on its daily necessities. Hence the emphasis of consumer protection measures in the developed countries has naturally to be in different areas.

No doubt some of the problems of consumer protection are common in the developed and developing countries, still consumers in developing countries have some specific problems and altogether different priorities. For instance, an access to supply of essential goods and services may be outside

the scope of consumer protection in the context of the present stage of development in the industrialized world, but in the developing countries it is certainly a closely related problem and calls for priority attention. The majority of population in most of the developing countries lives in rural areas but the existing deficiencies in the distribution system make it difficult for rural consumers to reach the sources of supply of essential goods and services of adequate safety and quality standards at fair and reasonable prices.

03.04 Specific Problems of Developing Countries

The developing countries have some specific problems. A proper appreciation of these problems and their relationship to developmental aspects of consumer protection is likely to produce insights and ideas which would guide in working out proper options for action in a field that is now of growing significance. The following are some of the major problems that lie at the heart of consumer protection in developing countries :

- a. Inadequacies of the system (that is to say, its institutional and infrastructural limitations);
- b. Consumer/product information gaps (e.g. availability of information, as well as its understandability);
- c. Inadequate quality (for example discrepancies between consumer expectations and actual experiences with regard to product, quality and performance);
- d. Inflationary pressures affecting consumer ability to maintain an adequate standard of living;
- e. Unfair commercial practices;
- f. Special problems of vulnerable groups (the illiterate, handicapped and rural population).

03.05 Factors of Special Relevance

There are several sets of factors which will have a bearing on consumer protection measures at the national level. These factors will invariably have to be kept in view while determining the nature of consumer protection activities in any country. Some of these factors which are of

special relevance in the developing countries are listed below :-

- (a) Constraints imposed by lack of sophistication in the field of production, transportation, distribution and storage.
- (b) Lack of facilities for quality control.
- (c) High levels of imports and their relevance to indigenous production.
- (d) Concentration of means of production and sources of supply for particular products or services without any truly competitive environment.
- (e) A number of social and economic variables including per capita income, literacy, inequality in income distribution, extent to which a country is primarily rural or urbanised.

There are many other political, social and miscellaneous factors which may exert influences in determining the nature of consumer protection activities in a country.

03.06 Establishing of priorities

In view of the limited resources that the developing countries can presently devote for consumer protection activities, the question of establishing priorities assumes particular importance. With few exceptions, the large majority of populations in developing countries is composed of low-income groups which mostly live in rural areas. In their capacity as consumers of essential goods and services (food, clothing, shelter, services for health and education), these low-income groups have certain minimum requirements :

- (a) Access to supplies of essential goods and services of adequate safety and quality standards at fair and reasonable prices.
- (b) Protection from malpractices in the production, distribution and sale of goods and services. (adulteration, restricted trade practices, exaggerated claims and misleading advertising).

- (c) Reliable information on availability, quality and prices.
- (d) Consumer Information and Education.
- (e) Possibility of seeking redress when there are obvious abuses.

The degree to which these minimum requirements of low-income consumers can be met in developing countries will be a major determinant of their ability to attain a minimally satisfactory standard of living. It is a matter of national concern in developing countries to create conditions in which the minimum requirements of low-income consumers can be adequately satisfied. Hence this is an important goal of economic and social policies of governments in most of the developing countries.

04. Responsibility of cooperatives

The cooperative movement had its birth in the awareness of need for consumer protection. The main urge behind the Rochdale Consumer Programme was a desire to redress the social and economic injustices of the earlier western industrial society. Since its very inception the cooperative movement has been acting as a watchdog of consumer interests.

In the draft document on Consumer Programme, the ICA's Consumer Committee has emphasised that the cooperatives should realise their particular responsibility to improve the situation for the consumers and have laid the following guidelines :

- i. The basic needs should be satisfied in all groups of society and especially of low-income group. Cooperatives must work to fulfil this aim by making trade, production and distribution of goods still more functional to the benefit of consumers.
This can be helped by stimulating initiatives leading to establishing new cooperatives and strengthening existing ones.
- ii. In future the cooperatives must realise a certain responsibility to improve conditions for consumers. This might mean that cooperatives should not only deal with providing goods and services but also with the more immaterial part of the life of consumers.

- iii. The cooperatives should also stress and take the responsibility for the need for education of consumers on how to save energy in consumption.
- iv. In the task of obtaining an improved situation for consumers, cooperatives should collaborate with other consumer organisations, with governments and with United Nations and similar organisations.

0.5 Points for discussion

In order to develop and formulate a common consumer policy for the developing countries in South-East Asia, the cooperative movements in the Region are requested to consider and address themselves to the following pertinent points :

- i. Do the cooperative movements in the developing countries of the Region agree that the supply of basic consumer goods and essential services to the low-income consumers both in urban and rural areas should be a matter of high priority in any programme of consumer protection in their respective countries?
- ii. What is the dimension and complexity of the task involved and whether cooperatives in your country can gear themselves to be able to play a meaningful and effective role in the discharge of this responsibility.
- iii. What kind of strategy would have to be adopted by the cooperative movements so as to convince their governments and the consumers that cooperatives are indeed the most suitable system to safeguard and serve the interest of consumers and that they have the capabilities to play a meaningful role in this programme.
- iv. In order to meet the above challenge and to be able to discharge its responsibilities in an efficient and effective manner, what kind of infrastructural and other facilities would be required by the cooperative movements in your country, particularly in respect of the following :-
 - organisational structure;
 - shop premises;

- arrangements for assured and regular supply of goods of acceptable standards of safety and quality;
 - arrangements for transportation;
 - arrangements for storage and warehousing;
 - trained manpower and managerial resources;
 - financial resources.
 - economic viability of the operations.
- v. Does the cooperative movement in your country already have some experience in this field or would they like to gain some experience and prefer to have a pilot approach.
- vi. What other aspects of consumer protection activities need to be stressed, in order of priority, for improving the situation for consumers in the developing countries.
- vii. How can the cooperatives provide useful linkages with government and other consumer organisations and trade unions in order to strengthen consumer protection activities and to further stimulate interest in them.
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RESTRUCTURING F I C CONSUMER COMMITTEEIntroduction

In view of the economic and social changes that have occurred in the world since the ICA Consumer Committee was first established, the objectives of the Committee have recently been revised with emphasis for future work on the following :-

- (a) to initiate on the crucial problems of cooperative consumer policy;
- (b) to communicate information to both ICA members and to organisations outside the cooperative movement. The Committee must extensively contribute to the spread of information on consumer matters, and advise in connection with establishment of new cooperative consumer organisations.
- (c) to collaborate with governmental and non-governmental agencies for consumer affairs, i.e. dealing with the problems and interests of consumers, particularly with consumer protection;
- (d) to collaborate with other appropriate ICA committees;
- (e) to represent on behalf of ICA the cooperative consumer interests to other international cooperatives or non cooperative organisations;
- (f) to collect information about consumer policy initiatives in ICA member-organisation;
- (g) to publish this information and the results of work of the Committee via the Co-op Consumers or with the use of other efficient means.

While approving the revised objectives as stated above, members of the Committee, at the last annual meeting in Manchester on September 29, 1980 said that in future the Committee should pursue a more limited number of objectives in a more deliberate manner.

The Committee has today reached a turning point in its future efforts. The question is whether the Committee should aim at consolidating its present activities or it should expand its activities in areas where the efforts of the Committee have so far been modest. In working out a strategy for its future programme the Committee has to keep in view the resolution adopted at the ICA Congress in October 1980 which underlined that it was necessary to strengthen both the work of the Consumer Committee and the consumer work generally inside all member-organisations of the ICA. This necessity was further stressed in Dr.A.F. Laidlaw's report on "Cooperation in the year 2,000 A.D.". He underlined the need for cooperatives to strengthen all such activities which tend to improve the situation of the consumers.

In this context, it becomes pertinent for the Consumer Committee to examine its present structure and the problems of financing its activities. The Committee is keen to ensure how its future efforts can become more efficient and how its different activities can achieve a greater penetration.

Present Status

The situation of the Consumer Committee today is that it is an Auxiliary Committee of the ICA with an obligation towards ICA to carry through and support activities in the consumer protection areas i. . representation in international organs, Congress meetings and preparation of general consumer protection guidelines.

The Committee is committed to attend to consumer questions in all ICA areas all over the world. But in actual practice the efforts of the Committee are strongly concentrated in Europe and the involvement of developing countries is limited. This gives the efforts and activities of the Committee a geographical imbalance.

Existing Structure

National and International cooperative bodies affiliated to the ICA are eligible for membership of the Committee. A member organisation is entitled to appoint not more than four delegates to Members' meetings. Delegates have the right to take the floor. Each member organisation has one vote at

Members' meetings and decisions are taken by a simple majority of those member organisations attending the meeting. The functions of the members' meetings is to elect the Chairman of the Committee (who is also Chairman of the Executive), to elect a Vice Chairman and the members of the Executive, and to approve the financial statement, the budget and working programme for the next year. The ordinary members meeting is convened once a year, normally at the time of a meeting of the ICA Central Committee.

The Executive of the Committee consist of not more than ten members, elected for the period between ICA Congresses. The Executive implements programmes to achieve the objectives of the Committee and report to the Members' meetings. The present composition of the Executive of the Consumer Committee is mainly from member-organisations in Europe.

Financial Resources

The present situation regarding finances is also reported to be very difficult. Only 27 member organisations pay annual contribution at the rate of Danish Kroner 4,000 each and this amount is hardly sufficient to cover even a small portion of the actual total expenses of the Committee. The situation has further aggravated with the start of a new venture in publishing a quarterly magazine (Coop Consumers). The Committee has been able to carry through its work with financial support from FDB in Denmark and FNCC in France.

Mr. Eric Hansen and Mr. Poul Dines, Chairman and Secretary of the Committee respectively have jointly prepared a paper and made following suggestions for augmenting the finances of the Committee and reorganising its structure.

Suggestions for augmenting financial resources

Mr. Eric Hansen and Mr. Poul Dines feel that an organisation in contact with United Nations and with representation in international organisations (ISO, COPO, ILO, etc.) cannot attend to its task efficiently with a meagre annual budget of 80,000 Danish Kroner. They have made the following suggestions for augmenting the finances of the Committee :

- (i) The Executive of the ICA should be requested to see the possibility of providing financial support to cover travel costs for attending international meetings.

- (ii) An increase in the amount of general contribution from the ICA through greater administrative assistance by transferring part of the present work of the Consumer Committee to ICA Head Office.
- (iii) By increasing membership of the Consumer Committee (will the potential new members from the developing countries be able to finance their participation?)
- (iv) Increase the existing rate of annual contribution which is Danish Kroner 4,000.
- (v) The chairmanship and the secretariat of the Committee should be placed with economically solid organisations in rotation so that they can undertake the financial burden which exceeds annual contribution.
- (vi) ICA member organisations be persuaded to subscribe for the quarterly magazine - "Coop Consumers".

Consumer Committee for South-East Asia

The ICA Consumer Committee for South-East Asia was constituted in December 1977 with the following as its main objectives :-

- (a) to review periodically the progress made in the field of Consumer Cooperation;
- (b) to recommend policies and common lines of action in the fields of Consumer Cooperation and Consumer Protection;
- (c) to coordinate the activities of consumer cooperatives in the Region;
- (d) to promote the systematic dissemination of information among the cooperative consumer organisations in the Region with regard to their experience in the fields of retailing, warehousing, wholesaling, publicity, member-education, consumer protection and other fields of consumer activity;
- (e) to make recommendations for improving the managerial competence and operational efficiency of consumer cooperatives in the Region;
- (f) to identify technical assistance required in management and other fields;
- (g) to liaise or collaborate with other international organisations that are concerned with the protection and welfare of the consumer.

Points to Consider

The proposal regarding restructuring of the ICA Consumer Committee should be a matter of great interest for consumer cooperative movements in the developing countries who do not have presently adequate representation on this Committee. The future relationship of the Regional Sub-Committee with the main Consumer Committee, its representation on the main committee, possibility of exercising its influence in the formulation of policies and work programmes of the main Committee, autonomy in carrying out its programmes within the Region in pursuance of its objectives, will very much depend on the structural reorganisation of the main Committee. The members of the Consumer Committee for South-East Asia and national movements in the Region may, therefore, consider the above suggestions regarding structural reforms in the main Consumer Committee and express their views on this matter. While considering the structure of the ICA Consumer Committee, consumer cooperative movements in the developing countries would obviously be interested to ensure the following :-

- (a) Balanced representation in the Executive of the main Committee.
- (b) Possibility for active involvement and participation by representatives of the developing countries.
- (c) Closer integration and coordination between activities of the main Consumer Committee and regional Sub-Committees.
- (d) Certain amount of autonomy to Regional Sub-Committees to decide about activities and programmes within the Region keeping in view their specific problems and priorities, and the levels of development in consumer field.
