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=====AGENDA NOTES=====

ICA Council for South-East Asia

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TWENTYFIRST MEETING

Venue Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Dates 22-23 November, 1979



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110014, India*

August 24, 1979

TWENTYFIRST MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA
KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA - NOVEMBER 22-23, 1979

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ANNEXE

1. DATES AND VENUE OF ICA REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD SO FAR
2. MINUTES OF THE 20TH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT BANGKOK.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 : WELCOME

1. A Council Member for Malaysia, will welcome the members of the Council on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Malaysia.

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

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

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 : ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

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

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 20TH MEETING

4. The minutes of the last meeting, held at Bangkok, Thailand, have been circulated to all the members. No comments have been received. The minutes may be confirmed.

5. Action taken on the minutes is given in relevant agenda items of these Notes.

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

6. The Background Papers on "Recent Changes, Trends and Developments of the Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia" is being printed and will be ready before the meeting. A copy each of the book will be sent to each Councillor as soon as it is ready.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 : ADMINISTRATION

6.1 The ROEC is glad to report that the following member-organisations have contributed the amounts mentioned against their names to the funds of the ROEC for the financial year 1978-79. Some members have made their contributions direct to ICA Head Office and we are awaiting adjustment.

Name of the Member-Organisation	Contribution paid Indian Rs.
Cooperative Federation of Australia	Paid to Head Office
National Cooperative Union of India	Rs. 25,000.00
Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union	6,500.00
Sepah Consumers Cooperative, Tehran	5,490.00
Japanese Joint Committee on Cooperatives US\$ 3532.19	28,252.50
National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, Rep. of Korea. US\$ 1140	9,120.00
Cooperative Union of Malaysia (for 2 years 1977-78 & 1978-79)	4,169.15
Cooperative League of Thailand	8,000.00

	Rs. 86,531.65

The total received for the year was Rs.86,531.65 and this generous support of the members has helped ROEC immensely in the performance of its activities in the Region.

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

6.2 For the year 1978-79, contribution of £50/- each have been received from Australia, Bangladesh, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore (£5), Sri Lanka and Thailand. The total received for the year was £ 405/-. Reminders have been sent to the member organisations in Indonesia, Iran, Pakistan and the Philippines.

Concessions by the Government of India

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

Staff Changes

6.4 Mr. M.V. Madane, Joint Director (Technical Assistance & Trade) in the ICA ROEC resigned from ICA ROEC with effect from 1 January 1979. Mr. Madane who was seconded on an assignment to the FAO as its Cooperative Adviser at Kabul in Afghanistan will continue to serve the UNDP Project on Agricultural Cooperatives and Credit, Afghanistan(PACCA).

Mr. Madane joined the ROEC in 1962 and headed the Technical Assistance and Trade Section of the ICA ROEC since its inception in 1966. He was instrumental in the conduct of special surveys on agricultural cooperative marketing in Sri Lanka, India, Australia and the Philippines. During his tenure of office with the ROEC, he succeeded in getting technical assistance to some projects in the developing countries from developed countries, prominent among them was the Bhor Cooperative Dairy Project in Maharashtra State, India. He played a key role in the establishment of ICTO at Singapore.

6.5 Dr. G. Ojha, Cooperative Education Officer in the CEMAS Unit has been given extension for a period of one year with effect from 15 July 1979.

6.6 Mr. Daman Prakash, Education Officer (AVA), who has been transferred to Sri Lanka to work as Cooperative Education Officer (AVA) in the Teachers Training Project has been given extension for a period of one more year with effect from 1st September 1979, to work with that Project.

6.7 Mr. Daman Prakash, Education Officer (AVA) and Mr. B.D. Pandey, Librarian & Documentation Officer, in the ROEC, have been promoted to Officer Grade I with effect from 1.1.1979.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 : EDUCATION CENTRE

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

7.1 The programme of activities approved by the Council for the year July 1978 - June 1979 has been partly carried out as reported in Section II. Other activities will be carried out during the remaining part of the year.

Section II : Review of Education Activities:
October 1978 to August 1979

REGIONAL SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

7.2 5th Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management

The Conference was held by the ICA ROEC in Bangkok from 11th to 16th December, 1978, in collaboration with the Cooperative League of Thailand. The Conference was attended by 327 participants from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

The Conference was inaugurated by Mr. Prida Karnasut, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Government of Thailand.

The three subjects discussed at the Conference were as follows:

- i. Multinationals and their impact on Cooperatives,
- ii. Better Planning in Cooperatives, and
- iii. Better Living Activities of Agricultural Cooperatives.

So far five Open Asian Conferences (OAC) have been held. Country-wise participation is as follows :

	Total No. of parti- cipants	Aus- tra- lia	Ban- gla- de- sh	In- dia	Indo- ne- sia	Ir- an	Ja- pan	Kor- ea	Mal- aya- sia	Nepal	Pak- istan	Phi- lip- pines	Sin- ga- po- re	Sri Lan- ka	Thai land
1st OAC Malaysia 1974	54	-	2	5	8	-	2	-	21	1	-	-	11	1	3
2nd OAC Philippines 1975	115	1	-	7	3	-	-	3	43	2	1	50	2	2	1
3rd OAC India 1976	141	-	3	48	-	-	-	-	74	1	-	-	4	9	2
4th OAC Singapore 1977	282	-	1	5	10	-	-	-	205	1	-	1	55	2	2
5th OAC Thailand 1978	327	-	1	9	3	-	1	2	173	1	-	2	28	2	105

7.3 Follow-up Programme for Cooperative Teachers, Los Banos, Philippines

The above Programme was held by the ICA Regional Office & Education Centre in collaboration with the Cooperative Consultative & Coordinating Committee, Bureau of Cooperatives Development (BCOD), and the Agricultural Credit and Cooperatives Institute (ACCI) at Los Banos, Philippines from 7th February to 6th March, 1979. Study visits to cooperative organisations in the Philippines were also arranged.

Fourteen participants from Bangladesh, India, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka and an observer from the Philippines participated in the Programme.

The Follow-up Programme was for the teachers of Cooperative Colleges in South-East Asia, who had participated in the ICA/ILO Course in Training Methodology and Techniques held at Pune (India) and Turin (Italy) during March-June 1977.

The objectives of the Programme were :

- i) to discuss the utilization of training received by the participants of the ICA/ILO/Turin Centre Course on Training Methodology and Techniques held in March-June, 1977, with special reference to the use of new teaching techniques adopted;
- ii) to review the training material produced by the participants as per the assignments in the Poona part of the course;
- iii) to review the training package on Shop Layout and Display adapted by some participants to their home countries; and
- iv) to discuss the adequacy of the present examination system in cooperative training colleges and the reform needed.

One of the important outcomes of the Follow-up Programme was the preparation of **three manuals on :**

- i) Preparation and Use of Training Package based on Audio-Visual Aids,
- ii) Preparation and Use of Role Play in Cooperative Training, and
- iii) Case Studies.

The Case Studies prepared by the participants were also reviewed. Several of the case studies prepared by the participants were of a standard which could be included in the Case Book on Case Studies.

7.4 Experts' Consultation on Cooperative Member Education

The above consultation was held at Trincomalee, Sri Lanka from 15th to 29th April 1979 in collaboration with the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka. Twenty-eight participants from Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand attended

the Consultation. The purpose of the Consultation was to take a hard look¹ at the present member education situation and experiences in each country to evaluate the various methods that have been used in this field and to draw up a comprehensive set of guidelines which would be useful in formulating extensive member education programmes in the respective countries of the Region.

As recommended by the Regional Council Meeting held in Tehran in 1976, efforts were made to base the Consultation on the evaluation reports of Cooperative Member Education Programmes in different countries of the Region. However, the response from the member organisations was not adequate and the Consultation had to be carried out on the basis of three specially commissioned in-depth Studies in respect of Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and the Philippines coupled with background papers prepared by the participants.

The Consultation prepared guidelines for carrying out Cooperative Member Education activities in the Region. The delegation from the host movement, namely, Sri Lanka also prepared a Project Document for carrying out Cooperative Member Education in the country on a pilot project basis.

7.5 Second Meeting of the South-East Asian Specialists Group on Cooperative Training

The Meeting was held from 9th to 21st June 1979 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. Study visits for two days prior to the meeting and for 4 days after the meeting were arranged in Korea and Japan respectively. 11 Members and 11 special invitees took part in the meeting. Among the special invitees mention should be made of the participation by Dr. L. Skaaret, Chief Technical Adviser, Materials and Techniques for Cooperative Management Training (MATCOM) - ILO Turin. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ex-officio Chairman of the Group presided over the meeting.

The meeting reviewed the action taken on the Recommendations of the First Meeting by the ICA ROEC and the national level training colleges/institutions. The activities of the ICA ROEC including CEMAS, objectives and activities of MATCOM and objectives and activities of the ICA/SCC/NCCP ~~Project~~ **Project for training** of cooperative teachers in Sri Lanka were presented at the meeting. The three principal subjects discussed at the meeting were as follows :

- i. Adequacy of the Present Curricula of the National Cooperative Training Institutions in relation to training needs;
- ii. Training Methods and Materials : Requirements and Action Programme; and
- iii. Adequacy of the Present Examination System and the Reforms Needed.

The National Agricultural Cooperative Federation played host to the meeting in Korea. The Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives made study visits arrangements for the participants in Japan at its own costs.

7.6 Regional Seminar on Better Living Activities Through Cooperatives, Tokyo, Japan

The seminar was held in Tokyo, Japan from 27th August to 14th September, 1979. One-week study visits were organised in the Republic of Korea from 19th to 26th August, in collaboration with National Agricultural Cooperative Federation. 22 participants were selected to take part in the seminar.

The seminar in Tokyo is organised in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives and IDACA.

We would like to express our appreciation to the host organisations which provided excellent facilities to the various Regional activities mentioned above.

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

7.7 A Technical Meeting on Teaching of Cooperation in Schools and Colleges, Philippines.

The above meeting was held at the request of the Cooperative Consultative and Coordinating Committee (CCCC) of the Philippines from 7th to 9th March 1979. Twenty participants from different training institutions and cooperative organisations in the Philippines attended the meeting. Five persons, one each from India, Malaysia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand were invited by the ICA ROEC to attend the meeting as Resource Persons. The meeting discussed papers presented by the Resource Persons from different countries and by selected Filipino participants.

7.8 Pre-Seminars on Consumer Cooperation

Four Pre-seminars on Consumer Cooperation were held in the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia from February to May 1979 jointly by the ICA ROEC and the Swedish Cooperative Centre in collaboration with the ICA's member organisations in the respective countries. The central theme of the seminars was the development of Consumer Cooperation. Twenty participants from among those participating in these seminars were selected to attend the 20th International Seminar on Consumer Cooperation to be held in Sweden in autumn 1979.

The seminars were held on the following dates :

Phillipines	:	12th to 23rd February 1979	(23 participants)
Thailand	:	5th to 16th March 1979	(23 participants)
Malaysia	:	26th March to 4th April 1979	(29 participants)
Indonesia	:	7th to 15th May 1979	(10 participants)

7.9 National Seminar on "Management of Agricultural Cooperatives" - Sri Lanka

The above seminar was held by the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka in collaboration with the ICA ROEC in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from 20th to 31st March 1979. Study visits for the participants were arranged in India in Kerala State in May 1979. 26 Participants attended.

7.10 National Workshop on the Use of Audio-Visual Aids - India

The ICA ROEC carried out the above training programme for 20 teachers of cooperative colleges in India. The programme was held in Pune from 1st to 19th May 1979 in collaboration with the National Council for Cooperative Training and the VM National Institute of Cooperative Management. 20 participants attended the workshop.

7.11 Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS)

The clearing house function of CEMAS was carried out. Several requests for information about Education Material and specimen copies were attended to.

The revised film catalogue prepared by the CEMAS Unit was widely circulated among the cooperative education and training institutions in the Region.

In addition to the material mentioned in para 7.4, the following material has been prepared :

- i. Annotated Bibliography of Management Cases for Cooperative Teaching.
- ii. A book comprising Cooperative Management Cases.

7.12 Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers in Sri Lanka

A brief report on this project was made at the last meeting. In view of the wide scope of the project, priority areas were identified at the first meeting of the Project Direction Committee.

The physical conditions of almost all the selected District Education Centres needed considerable improvement in order to create a congenial atmosphere for learning. The Project drew up, in collaboration with the Architectural Section of the NCC, a plan for the repairs and improvement of the physical facilities of the selected centres. However, the resources available in the Cooperative Development Fund which is administered by the Government Department of Cooperative Development were not adequate to carry out the Building Restructuring and Repairing Plan suggested by the Project. It has, however, been agreed that the minimum necessary repairs in this regard will be supported by the Department of Cooperative Development.

It was stressed at the first two meetings of the Project Direction Committee that the entire cooperative training system for the staff of the cooperative movement needed drastic change. Hence a Task Group comprising six members of the Project Direction Committee has been constituted to suggest a revised cooperative training system which would effectively serve the needs of the movement.

The following programmes were carried out :

- i. Two-day national conference of Officers-in-charge of all the District Education Centres in the country. Participants 26.
- ii. Four District Conferences on Education of one day each in Colombo, Galle, Kandy and Jaffna.
- iii. A two-day seminar on Concepts of Learning, Facilitation and Communication : Participants 19.

- iv. National Workshop on Library Development and Documentation Services was held from 20th May to 2nd June 1979. 30 participants.

The ICA ROEC provided its Librarian and Documentation Officer to serve as a Resource Person.

- v. Workshop on the Production and Use of Audio-Visual Material, 23-28 July 1979. Expected participants 20.

Mr. Bo Lund did not extend his period of service with the Project. A new Project Director is being recruited.

7.13 Cooperative Education Field Project in Indonesia

Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education) visited Indonesia for two weeks in November 1978 and finalised the Project Document in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Dewan Koperasi Indonesia (DKI), Director (Education) of the Directorate General of Cooperatives and field personnel in the Project area.

7.14 Consultative and Allied Services

(i) The Officers of the ICA ROEC gave talks at various seminars and courses held in India.

(ii) The Joint Director (Education) attended a Symposium on the Role of Cooperatives in Public Distribution System at Srinagar organised by the National Council for Cooperative Training on 18th and 19th September, 1978.

(iii) The Regional Director and the Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation attended the FAO Experts' Consultation in "Increasing Agricultural Production through Cooperatives" at Bali, Indonesia from 9th to 14th October 1978.

(iv) The Director (Education) continued to serve as a member of the National Cooperative Union of India Committee on Member Education.

(v) The Joint Director (Education) attended the All India Adult Education Conference held at Coimbatore from 5th to 7th

November, 1978. The Conference was organised by the Indian Adult Education Association.

(vi) The Joint Director (Education) continued to serve as member of the Local Advisory Group of the NCUI Field Project in Cooperative Education, Indore.

(vii) The Joint Director (Education) attended the All India Conference of Chairmen, Chief Executives and Cooperative Education Officers of the State Cooperative Unions, held by the NCUI on 16th and 17th December 1978.

(viii) The Director (Education) gave a valedictory address on 27th December 1978 to the participants of an Industrial Cooperative Course held by the Cooperative Training College, Trivandrum. He had discussions with the Principal and faculty members of the college about their activities and the Role of ICA ROEC and Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS) in the field of Cooperative education.

(ix) The Joint Director (TAT) and Specialist in Agricultural Cooperative Marketing attended the ILO/SIDA Workshop on Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations at Singapore from 15-26 January 1979.

(x) The Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation attended the 38th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics at Jorhat (India) in January 1979.

(xi) The Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation attended the Reunion Meeting of former participants from Malaysia and Singapore of Seminars and courses conducted by the IDACA held in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) and Singapore from January 31 to February 14, 1979.

(xii) The Education Officer (W&Y) attended the International Seminar on "Leadership Training for Rural Women in Socio-Economic Development" at Manila jointly held by the International Council of Women, the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women and the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines from Feb. 22 to 28, 1979.

(xiii) At the invitation of the Swedish Haifa Committee and the Mount Carmel International Centre for Community Services, the Education Officer (Women & Youth) ICA ROEC, together with the Assistant Director of MCTC (International Training Centre for Community Services) conducted a Follow-up Survey of the activities of the Mount Carmel Centre in the Philippines and Nepal from mid-February to 6th March 1979.

(xiv) The Staff Officers of the ICA ROEC attended the Indian Cooperative Congress held in New Delhi from 10-12th March 1979.

(xv) A Survey on Present Position and Role of Women in Cooperatives was carried out in the Philippines by the Education Officer (W&Y) along with Miss Josefina Gaerlan and Mrs. C.G. Valmonte of the National Federation of Women Cooperators from 4-30th May 1979. The Survey had the following objectives : (1) to ascertain the present situation and role of women in cooperative movement in the Philippines, (2) to suggest ways for increasing women's participation in cooperatives, and (3) to help in formulating the programme for the women's course to be held in the Philippines in October 1979.

(xvi) The Director (Education) and the Specialist in Cooperative Agricultural Marketing attended the National Cooperative Consumers Federation Convention held by the National Cooperative Consumers Federation (NCCF), at New Delhi on 14-15 May 1979.

(xvii) The Librarian and Documentation Officer attended the Indian Library Association Symposium and Conference at Trivandrum from 14th to 17th May 1979.

(xviii) The Specialist in Cooperative Agricultural Marketing has been appointed as Member of a High Level Committee constituted by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED), India. The terms of reference of the Committee are as follows :

- i. To study the problems of primary marketing cooperatives and to draw a programme for their healthy growth as economic units of the cooperative marketing structure;
- ii. To study the scope of functional relationship between different tiers of the cooperative marketing system as also other institutional agencies connected with agriculture; and
- iii. To study problems arising out of 'plenty' in the agricultural sector of the Indian economy and the role to be played by the cooperative sector in solving these problems.

SECTION - IIIProposed Programme of Activities : July 1980 - June 19811. Regional Conference on Enhancing Women's Participation in Cooperative Activities:

Venue: Sri Lanka

Duration: 3 Weeks during July-September 1980

Participants: 25

1.1 The Regional Conference on the Role of Women in Cooperative Development was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in July 1975. Follow-up action such as the setting up of national committees on Women and Cooperatives, conduct of surveys on the present level of women's participation in cooperative activities and ways of increasing such participation, and holding of national seminars in some movements and the launching of a project in consumer education and information in Sri Lanka has been taken. The Sri Lankan Project would have completed nearly two years.

1.2 The above Conference is proposed to be held in order to take stock of the present situation of women's participation in cooperative activities and accelerate it further on the basis of experience gained. Holding of the above conference in Sri Lanka would provide valuable experience to the participants on account of the project mentioned above.

2. ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar in Japan:

Venue: Tokyo, Japan

Duration: 3 Weeks in September 1980 preceded by one-week study visits in the Republic of Korea

Participants: 25

The theme will be proposed at the time of the meeting. The above is the normal annual activity in collaboration with the CUAC and the IDACA. Normally one-week study visits are arranged in the Republic of Korea in collaboration with the NACF.

3. 7th Open Asian Conference:

The Regional Council Meeting is expected to be held in Korea. However, the member organisation has indicated that it will not be possible for it to host the Open Asian Conference. The venue and the dates of the conference have to be decided upon keeping in view the above. The Council may also like to recommend the theme for the Conference.

4. Regional Training Course on Cooperative Management:

Venue: Pune, India
Duration: 2 months, January-March 1981

4.1 The Regional Council Meeting held in the Philippines in 1975 had recommended the holding of a basic training course in cooperative management during the year 1976-77. However, due to budgetary limitations, the course could not be held.

4.2 The participants to the course will be teachers in national level cooperative colleges and middle level managers. As we will not hold a two months' course in Training Methodology and Techniques during the current year, it would be possible to include the course in the 1980-81 budget.

5. Regional Seminar on Fishery Cooperatives:

Venue: Korea
Duration: 3 weeks with one week study visits in Japan
Period: March-April 1981

The National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives (NFFC) has agreed to play host to the seminar. The objectives of the seminar will be specified at the time of the meeting on the basis of the discussions which the Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation would have carried out with the NFFC Korea during his visit to Seoul in August 1979.

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

Organisers: ICA/SCC/MATCOM

Duration: 4 weeks in April-May 1981

The 2nd Meeting of SEASPECT recommended that it was essential for the Principals and Directors of the national level cooperative training institutions to be exposed to modern teaching concepts and techniques in order that they could provide more effective leadership in their institutions. The main areas suggested by the Meeting for the course were as follows:

- (a) Techniques of Curriculum Formulation;
- (b) Participative and other modern training techniques;
- (c) Techniques of evaluating training programmes including trainees; and
- (d) Research methodology.

The SCC's preliminary reaction has been positive.

7. NATIONAL SEMINARS AND CONSULTATIVE SERVICES

7.1 The ICA ROEC has experts in the following fields and it will be possible for the ICA to assist the member movements in holding the national seminars and providing consultative services in these fields. The ICA ROEC can also assist the member movements in holding national seminars/technical meetings on broad cooperative policy matters and cooperative developmental questions.

- i. Agricultural Cooperation including Agricultural Coop. Marketing,
- ii. Consumer Cooperation,
- iii. Training Methodology and Techniques,
- iv. Training of Women Cooperators,
- v. Library Science and Documentation.

7.2 The assistance of the ICA ROEC would be made available to the member movements on request keeping in view the personnel and financial resources of the ICA ROEC.

7.3 The Council Members may like to indicate if they would like to sponsor national seminars/courses with the assistance of the ICA ROEC.

7.4 It is felt that atleast two or three national seminars should be held as follow-up of Regional Seminars/Courses.

8. COOPERATIVE EDUCATION MATERIALS ADVISORY SERVICES (CEMAS)

CEMAS will continue to perform its clearing house function and ~~prepare~~ **educational materials as per need.**

9. TEACHERS TRAINING PROJECT

The above project will continue during the year.

10. COOPERATIVE EDUCATION FIELD PROJECT IN INDONESIA

It is expected that the Project will become operational during the **year.**

11. PROJECT FOR CONSUMER EDUCATION AND INFORMATION THROUGH COOPERATIVES IN SRI LANKA

The ICA ROEC will continue to render advisory service to the Project.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 : TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND
TRADE SECTION

Part I - Technical Assistance

8.1 During the year under review the following requests were received by ICA ROEC for technical and financial assistance from some of the member organisations in the Region.

Bangladesh National Cooperative Union
requests for Audio-Visual Aids and Micro-Buses

8.2 The Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union(BJSU) has requested technical assistance for the purchase of following equipment to strengthen their publicity section.

- a) 8 Movie Projector each fitted on a van,
- b) Accessories,
- c) 10 Micro-buses or jeeps.

8.3 The Union has been requested to prepare a project document on the request and this is awaited.

Request from Philippines for Swedish
Experts on Cooperative Supermarkets

8.4 The Philippine Cooperative System is working on a programme of strengthening and expanding their cooperative supermarkets in Metro-Manila.

8.5 The Chairman of the Cooperative Consultative and Coordinating Committee of the Philippines has approached the ICA Regional Office to secure for them assistance of Swedish experts for three months in the following three fields.

- i. Purchasing and Retail Management,
- ii. Financial and Inventory Control,
- iii. Management Training System.

8.6 The request was forwarded by the ROEC to the Swedish Cooperative Centre for favourable consideration. The Swedish Cooperative Centre has reacted favourably to the above request and agreed to provide three man months of consultancy services. The SCC has intimated that these three man months can be utilised by requesting one or two consultants, depending on the nature of assignments and their relative order of importance. The SCC has, however, further indicated that in case the host movement is prepared to meet the costs of lodging (bed and breakfast at a acceptable standard) it may be possible for them to extend the term of consultancy to four man months.

8.7 Before recruiting the consultants, the SCC have asked for certain information such as background papers on consumer cooperative movement and super-plangke in Philippines, outlining their present situation and problems, terms of reference for consultancy assignment and, whether one or two consultants will be required. The SCC has assured that the consultants would be made available within five months from the receipt of information on these points from the member organisation in the Philippines.

Support for Cooperative Education
Programmes in Schools in Philippines

8.8 In the schools run by Augustinian Sisters of the Philippines great importance is given to developing cooperative values and practices among school children. The Augustinian Sisters are teaching cooperation as an integrated subject in elementary classes and as an elective subject in their high schools. Together with class room teaching, Augustinian sisters have organised since 1976, libraries for savings, credit unions and consumers cooperation in 21 of their schools so that cooperation is not only taught but is also practised and lived by the young students. This work is being looked after by the Cooperative Education Centre of Augustinian Sisters of the Philippines.

8.9 Now that the above programme has entered in its fourth year of implementation, the Cooperative Education Centre of Augustinian Sisters of the Philippines feels that there is great need of closer supervision and follow up of the programme for which they wish to provide further training to their teaching staff and committee members of library cooperatives, through seminars and workshops, etc., and to have full-time staff for closer supervision and audit of different kind of library cooperatives in different fields.

8.10 The Project seeks financial help amounting to P225,970 for the duration of two years commencing from June 1979 to May 1981. There is a possibility that at least part of the funds will be met from the ICA Development Fund. The matter is under correspondence with ICA London.

Assistance to Cooperative Bhor Dairy Project

8.11 The Cooperative Dairy at Katraj (near Poona), which is popularly known as Bhor Dairy was established a few years ago with a gift of machinery received from the West German Consumers' Cooperative Congress under Aid India Fund. The Cooperative dairy was facing a stiff competition from the government dairy at Poona and was not able to function at its full capacity. In order to meet competition from government dairy, the management of the Bhor Dairy decided to instal two Fill-pack machines so that they could supply fluid milk (pasteurised) to consumers in polythene bags in place of glass bottles. It was thought that the switch over to polythene bags would not only reduce the breakage loss and handling costs but shall also result in ensuring supply of quality milk to consumers as the milk packed in polythene bags could not be tempered with unlike that in glass bottles.

8.12 The management of the Bhor Dairy approached the ICA ROEC to release to them the amount of Rs.384,000 which was lying as unutilised balance out of German gift money in Aid India Fund to enable them to buy two Fill-pack machines. The request of the Bhor Dairy was acceded to and the balance amount has been released by the ICA London. The Society has installed two Fill-pack machines at a cost of Rs 535,390 and its management has reported that the installation of Fill-pack machines has really helped in increasing their sale of fluid milk from 13,000 litres to 20,000 litres per day.

Part II - Promotion of Cooperative Trade

ICA Trade Directory

8.13 In the last Council meeting it was decided that the revision of Trade Directory should be deferred for some time as a Survey of Export Products from Cooperatives in the Region was being carried out by an International Trade Centre (ITC) expert under the ILO-SIDA Project on "Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations".

8.14 In his report on "Survey of Potential Export Products from Cooperatives in Selected Asian Countries", the ITC Expert has made the following recommendations regarding preparing a Cooperative Trade Directory :

"In each of the participating countries a central body such as a government department responsible for cooperatives, or a national apex cooperative, should be made responsible for collecting information and preparing a trade directory of cooperatives presently exporting or with potential export. The information contained in such a directory should include, where possible, the following (not necessarily in this order): name of cooperative, type of cooperative, address, person to be contacted, detailed product description, SITC and/or BTN numbers, present production, potential production, quantities available for export, previous exporting experience, price ranges, packaging, terms of payment, bank references, delivery times and other pertinent remarks (e.g. minimum or maximum order per period of time, etc.). The complete trade directories of these countries (and others in the region

interested in participating) should then be incorporated into a cooperative trade directory for the region, enabling a potential buyer to see, at a glance, what the cooperatives have to offer. Any trade directory must be developed from the point of view of a potential buyer. If it does not serve this person, it will not be effective in promoting trade. A secondary, but just as important consideration is to have the means or resources to keep the directory upto date. An old trade directory is a useless tool for a buyer. It should be noted that much of the information, cited above as being necessary for a trade directory, given by the cooperatives was - either insufficient or unavailable in the check-list of information".

8.15 On the other hand, the representatives of INTERCOOP and NAF, who participated in the ILO/SIDA Workshop in Singapore in January 1979, expressed the view that the preparation of a separate Trade Directory of cooperative institutions in the Region would be a sheer waste of money and effort and that it would serve no useful purpose. They also pointed out that it would be very difficult to keep the Trade Directory upto date. They advised that the cooperative trading organisations who are interested in foreign trade should, like all other private business houses get themselves registered in national trade directories of their respective countries and that they should also get their name included in the list prepared by the Chambers of Commerce of their country and their Trade Attaches in foreign countries.

8.16 It is, however, learnt that some experts in COOPTRADE Project are still of the view that the preparation of the Regional Trade Directory may prove of some help in promoting, at least, the intra-regional cooperative trade and they have already initiated action to compile data for preparing a regional trade directory of cooperative institutions. It is learnt that this trade directory may be ready before the end of the next year. The directory when ready shall be made available to all member-organisations in the Region.

Cooperative Trade Conference in Moscow, 1980

8.17 In pursuance of the recommendation of the First International Cooperative Trade Conference held in New York in November 1978, it has been proposed by the Economic Sub-Committee of the ICA Agricultural Committee that the Second International Cooperative Trade Conference be held at Moscow in October 1980 along with the ICA Congress. The following suggestions have been made, in regard to programme of the proposed Trade Conference :

First Day : Commodity Contacts and exchanges - follow-up of the New York Trade Conference.

Second Day: One aspect of trade -- capital goods and production materials in international cooperative trade.

Third Day : Morning : A specific item - technical equipment and services needed by the cooperatives involved in international trade in grain and oil seeds.
Afternoon : Conclusions and suggestions for action.

8.18 The Regional Office has requested its member organisations that they should inform the cooperative trading institutions in their respective countries about the Moscow Trade Conference in advance so that the interested institutions could make necessary preparations well in time.

Future of International Cooperative Trading Organisation (pte.) Ltd., Singapore (ICTO)

8.19 The International Cooperative Trading Organisation (pte.) Ltd. was established in June 1974 as a private limited company, exclusively owned by cooperative organisations from seven countries in the Region. It commenced business in July, 1975.

8.20 In the Memorandum of Association of the Company its objectives have been defined to engage in and encourage the development and promotion of trade between cooperative organisations all over the world and to render such facilities as may be considered necessary for the sale and purchase of products of cooperative organisations. Many hopes and expectations were placed on this international trading organisation which was the first cooperative venture of its kind in the Region. It was expected that this institution would soon become the major promoter of international cooperative trade and assist cooperative trading organisations in the Region in increasing their share in export trade from the Region. But somehow the progress made by ICTO so far has not been very encouraging.

8.21 In the recent ILO/SIDA Workshop on "Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations" held in Singapore in January 1979, the participants, in their conclusions and recommendations, made the following remarks about ICTO :-

"The participants noted that an attempt has already been made in the region, to further cooperative trade through a body established by cooperatives in the Region. They further noted that it had made little headway and they recommend that this body be strengthened by broadening its membership base and taking on the added responsibilities of collaboration and coordination of export commodities, failing which another body be constituted to provide a central point for discharging these responsibilities".

8.22 In the light of the above comments by the participants at their Workshop, the ICA ROEC, in consultation with the Chairman of ICTO, wrote to Mr. Rolf Akeby, Team Leader of COOPTRADE PROJECT to let the Regional Office and ICTO know whether in the planning and programming that they are doing, in the context of the studies and surveys that they have made of the situation obtaining in various countries of the Region, whether ICTO has a reasonable role to play in the development of inter-cooperative trade relations and, if so, what assistance the ILO-SIDA Project could provide to strengthen ICTO in this regard. The Regional Office is awaiting

a reply from Mr. Akøby. Further action will depend on the kind of support ICTO can get both from its membership and from outside.

COOPTRADE Project

8.23 The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has launched in our Region a Technical Cooperation Project (TCP) on "Strengthening of International Cooperative Trade Relations". The project which has been financed by the SIDA at a cost of US\$700,000 for a duration of two years is intended to establish and improve direct trade relations between cooperatives from developed and developing countries and among cooperative organisations within the Region. The ICA has been taking keen interest in the project from its inception and has assured its full cooperation in implementing the same.

8.24 As a part of ILO-SIDA Project, Regional Workshop on "Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations" between the cooperatives of Asian and developed countries was held in Singapore from 14-25 January, 1979. The Workshop was organised in collaboration with the Singapore National Cooperative Union and was also supported by the Government of Singapore. The workshop was attended by 22 participants from 10 countries from South-East Asia namely Burma, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Korea, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. Out of 22 participants 14 represented cooperative trading organisations and the other 8 were from Government departments.

8.25 Also present at the Workshop were representative from Japan, New Zealand, the Trade Promotion Centre of ESCAP, International Trade Centre, UNCTAD/GATT, the International Cooperative Trading Organisation (ICTO), EUROCOOP, INTERCOOP, NAF and the French National Federation of Consumer Cooperatives. Observers from the NAFED of India and the NCDC of the same country attended the second week session.

8.26 From the ICA Mr. J. Doumeng, Chairman of the ICA Economic Sub-Committee addressed the participants and explained how the Committee was trying to maintain and strengthen cooperative trade all over the world. He told the participants that the Economic Bureau set up by the Sub-Committee were trying to explore ways and means of coordinating supply of energy and other inputs including machinery for the benefit of cooperatives in developing countries. Mr. Doumeng also gave a brief account of International Cooperative Trade Conference which was organised in New York by the ICA jointly in collaboration with the CLUSA, in November 1978, and informed that they were now contemplating to organise a similar cooperative trade conference, on a much larger basis, in October 1980 at Moscow during the next ICA Congress. From the ICA ROEC Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director, Technical Assistance & Trade and Mr. Per-Eric Lannhagen, Specialist in Cooperative Agricultural Marketing attended the above Workshop.

8.27 At the ILO-SIDA Workshop at Singapore, the participating countries had greatly stressed the need for training of employees of cooperative trading organisations in handling of export trade. It was brought out at the Workshop that this training is required not only for senior employees who occupy top or middle level management positions in central export organisations, but that there is also a great need to train managers of primary societies that supply products for exports and for persons who are generally responsible for implementing and maintaining quality standards, storage and packaging of products, etc.

8.28 In view of the above recommendation at the Workshop, the COOPTRADE Team has, after visiting a few countries in the Region, decided that they will hold national workshops on promotion of export trade, of one week duration each, in a few selected countries in the Region such as India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Philippines and Malaysia. They have informed that in case time permits

they may also hold similar workshops in a few more countries. The ICA Regional Office has assured its full cooperation and support to the leader of COOPTRADE Project in the holding of these national workshops and have also requested its member organisations that they should also extend their full cooperation to the COOPTRADE Project authorities in conducting these Workshops. The Project Authorities have assured the Regional Office that they would associate ICA member organisations in planning and conduct of these workshops.

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

9.1 Publications :

The following publications were issued during the period under review (November 1978 to October 1979):

(i) Cooperative Press and Publicity - Report of Regional Workshop.

This is the report of the Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press and Publicity held in September, 1978 in Tokyo, Japan, in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives.

(ii) Member Activities in the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Movement by Mrs. M. D'Cruz.

This is the report of a study undertaken in June 1978 by Mrs. M. D'Cruz, Education Officer (Women & Youth), ICA ROEC of the member activities undertaken by the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Movement.

(iii) Recent Changes, Trends and Developments of the Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia.

As reported at the last Council meeting, the background papers presented by the member organisations of the ICA on their respective movements were circulated among the members for their information and observations. The papers have now been received from the member organisations incorporating changes, where necessary. This publication explaining the cooperative movement in Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Singapore and Thailand, would be ready by October 1979. This document, it is hoped, would fulfil the long-felt need for a single comprehensive publication describing the overall activities of the cooperative movements in the countries served by the ICA ROEC.

(iv) The following speeches, printed earlier under the speeches series, were reprinted due to heavy demand from cooperators and students of cooperative colleges in the region:

- Speech No. 8 : The Need of Planning for a Cooperative Set up by P.E. Weeraman.
- Speech No. 9 : The Concept and Functioning of Cooperative Democracy by P.E. Weeraman.
- Speech No.15 : The Aims and Principles of Cooperatives and their Application in the Developing Countries by P.E. Weeraman.

9.2 Publicity :

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

Petrofils Cooperative Ltd.

- January 1979 issue

Fifty Years of National Cooperative Union of India

- April 1979 issue

Mikkabi Agricultural Multipurpose Cooperative Society

- July 1979 issue

(a) Collection of Cooperative News:

Collection of Cooperative News from the Region was continued during the year under review. The news is used in the ICA Regional Bulletin and supplied to the head office for use in its journals as well. Participants from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, who had attended the Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press and Publicity have agreed to act as Correspondents for the Regional Bulletin and are supplying cooperative news on a regular basis.

(b) Press Releases:

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

9.3 Library :

There are 13,700 volumes including bound periodicals on cooperatives and allied subjects and nearly 5,200 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 by the library. It acts as a clearing house of information on books and documentation. The library has been extensively used by cooperators, cooperative organisations, students and scholars.

9.4 Documentation Services:

The following has been issued :

1. The Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XII, No.4, March 1978 (October-December).

The following are in production process :

1. The Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XIII, No.1, June 1978 (January-March).
2. The Annotated Bibliography of Literature on Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia, First & Second Half-Yearly Supplements : June & December 1977 (Combind issue).

The following are under preparation:

1. The Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia, Volume XIII, No.2 & 3, September & December 1978 (April-June & July-September 1978).
2. The Annotated Bibliography of Literature on Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia, First & Second Half-Yearly Supplements : June & December 1978 (Combind issue).
3. ICA Library Catalogue, Part IV (Cumulative List of ICA (New Delhi) Library books since 1962-1975).

9.5 Supply and Exchange of Literature :

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

9.6 Liaison and Promotional Activities :

The Librarian & Documentation Officer is an active member of the International Working Party of Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers. He participated in the 13th Working Party meeting held in Stockholm in September 1978. The Librarian & Documentation Officer has been assisting the Working Party in the implementation of these decisions, particularly of those having a bearing on South-East Asia. Besides these, the Librarian & Documentation Officer has been contributing articles, lists of : articles, reports, newsreports, etc., to the Working Party's newsletter "LIBRADO and International Archive News". The Librarian & Documentation Officer has been helping the International Working Party in bibliographical and other technical matters. Special attention has been given in the expansion of the membership of Working Party in the Region of South-East Asia, e.g. NAFED, IFFCO from India and School of Cooperation from Sri Lanka.

9.7 Promotional And Consultative Services:

The ICA ROEC Librarian & Documentation Officer has been actively involved in the promotional activities of the cooperative library development of South-East Asia. During 1978-79 the following consultative services were provided by the Librarian & Documentation Officer :

(1) Consultative services were provided to the Cooperative Training Centre, Kathmandu, Nepal. Recommendations made for the improvement of cooperative library development in Nepal, are under consideration by the concerned authorities.

(2) 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.

(3) The Librarian & Documentation Officer was the resource person in the Induction Course for the persons incharge of Libraries at Cooperative Training Centras, State Cooperative Union and Registrar's Office in Kerala State of India at Trivandrum, from 5th to 11th May 1979. The course was attended by seven participants.

Publications Programme for 1979/80:

The following publications would be brought out during the year 1979/80:

- i. Indian Cooperative Rules vis-a-vis Cooperative Principles -
 - The publication, included in the programme of publication during 1978/79, could not be brought out as the authors could not finalise their report. This publication will be brought out during the current year.
- ii. Readings in Cooperative Marketing -
 - A publication comprising papers that would be presented at the forth-coming Regional Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing and some selected papers on cooperative marketing presented in other seminars conducted by the ICA and some papers specially written for the publication would be brought out.
- iii. Amalgamation of Primary Agricultural Cooperatives - the Japanese Experience -
 - The above publication, brought out in 1973, will be updated and brought out during this year.
- iv. Cooperative Member Education in South-East Asia - Proceedings of the Experts' Consultation -
 - The publication will contain the report of the Experts Consultation and papers presented at the Consultation on Member Education Activities in the different Countries of the region.

- v. Agricultural Marketing for Cooperators -
- This publication was not originally brought out as an ICA publication. But we assisted in its production. The author donated the royalty payment of the book to ICA Regional Office. This money was used to start the present revolving fund which now finances priced publications of the Regional Office.
- The revised edition of this book has been prepared by the author and the Regional Office is assisting in its production.
- vi. Cooperative Series -
- Publications dealing with topical aspects of the movement will be published under this series.
- vii. Speeches on Cooperation -
- Important speeches on matters of cooperative relevance and interest will be issued in this series.
- viii. Publicity -
- The ICA Regional Bulletin will continue to be issued quarterly during the year.

Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press:

The establishment of a Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press for South-East Asia was approved by the Council at its last meeting. Nominations to the Regional Working Party have been received from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The first meeting of the Working Party, which will be held on a self-financing basis, is tentatively scheduled for January/February 1980. The Cooperative Union of Malaysia has agreed to host the first meeting of the Working Party.

In addition to general discussion on problems of Cooperative Press and Publicity, the meeting would include a Workshop to impart skills to the participating journalists and information officers.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 : DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL
-AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, CONSUMER,
TRADE

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

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 : RELATIONS WITH MEMBER ORGANISATIONS
IN THE REGION

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

11.2 A special event worthy of mention is the Memorandum of Understanding arrived at between the Cooperative Movement of India with the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka subsequent to a visit by the President of the NCUI, Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, to Sri Lanka in 1978, during which visit he made a presentation of a cheque of Indian Rs.25,000 towards the rehabilitation of cooperatives in the cyclone affected areas in Sri Lanka.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 : RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL
ORGANISATIONS

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

1. CLUSA: The Regional Director, ICA ROEC, and the General Manager, ICTO, attended the CLUSA/ICA International Cooperative Trade Conference in New York from 13-15 November, 1978.

2. UN/ESCAP: The Regional Director attended as an Observer the meeting of the ESCAP Committee on Population held at Bangkok from 13-19 December, 1978.

3. ILO/SIDA: The Joint Director (TAT) and Specialist in Agricultural Cooperative Marketing attended the ILO/SIDA Workshop on Strengthening of Inter-cooperative Trade Relations at Singapore from 15-26 January 1979.

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

13.1 The venue and date of the Twentysecond Meeting of the Council may be fixed by the meeting. At the last meeting, the Member for Australia, indicated that due to various difficulties he was not in a position to host the two events scheduled for 1979. The Member for Australia may like to indicate his views on the subject.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

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

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ANNEXE I

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
Nineth	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	November 13-14, 1968
Tenth	Tehran, Iran	March 1-2, 1969
Eleventh	Seoul, Rep. of Korea	May 8-9, 1970
Twelveth	New Delhi, India	February 17-18, 1971
Thirteenth	Melbourne, Australia	November 8-9, 1971
Fourteenth	Chiengmai, Thailand	November 19-20, 1972
Fifteenth	Tokyo, Japan	October 30, 1973
Sixteenth	Colombo, Sri Lanka	November 1-2, 1974
Seventeenth	Manila, Philippines	December 7, 1975
Eighteenth	Tehran, Iran	November 7-8, 1976
Nineteenth	Bali, Indonesia	December 9-10, 1977
Twentieth	Bangkok, Thailand	December 6-7, 1978
Twentyfirst	<u>Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia</u>	November 22-23, 1979

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

January 25, 1979

TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA
HELD AT BANGKOK, THAILAND, ON 6TH DECEMBER, 1978

♥ Inauguration Ceremony of the 20th Meeting
of the ICA Council for South-East Asia

1. The inauguration ceremony of the 20th Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia and its various Sub-Committees was held in the Auditorium of the Cooperative League of Thailand on 4th December, 1978, presided over by Mr. Eddiwan, Chairman of the Regional Council. The meeting was attended by a large and representative gathering of cooperators, government officials, members of the Diplomatic Corps and distinguished representatives from the Royal Thai Government consisting of His Excellency the Prime Minister, His Excellency the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives and His Excellency the Deputy Minister of Agriculture. His Excellency Gen. Kriangsak Chomanan, the Prime Minister of Thailand, was the Chief Guest and delivered the Inaugural Address.

2. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, in his address welcomed all Regional Councillors, Members of the Committees and all others who had graced the occasion by their presence. He expressed his gratitude to His Excellency the Prime Minister for the encouragement and inspiration given to all cooperators by his presence notwithstanding the innumerable and urgent matters of state which would be making pressing demands on his valuable time. He went on to say that by consenting to inaugurate the meeting His Excellency showed quite clearly the emphasis placed by him and the Royal Thai Government on cooperatives and on the role cooperatives can play in the long and arduous task of economic development based on justice, equity and popular support. He expressed the hope that the deliberations which were to commence with so much of goodwill and encouragement from the highest of the land would lead to evolving meaningful ways of accelerating the pace of development in the developing countries of the Region.

3. Dr. Banjerd Khatikarn, Chairman, Cooperative League of Thailand, in his address welcomed all Councillors and Sub-Committee members and others and thanked His Excellency the Prime Minister for the encouragement and support given by his presence at the meeting. He went on to say that the Royal Thai Government under the leadership of His Excellency the Prime Minister was placing greater emphasis on the cooperative form of organisation to ensure rapid social and economic development. To emphasize this intention His Majesty the King had in

recent times donated more than 24,000 acres of his private land for the settlement of tenants and landless farmers who would then be able to improve their farming capability and thus improve their standard of living through cooperative action.

4. His Excellency Gen Kriangsak Chomanan, Prime Minister, in his Inaugural Address while welcoming all Regional Councillors confirmed the support of his government to the cooperatives and made an impassioned plea for the evolving of plans and programmes which would directly benefit the mass of the people and which would lead to a better economic and social order based on a more equitable distribution of wealth, opportunity and the good things in life. He wished the deliberations all success.

5. Mr. Eddiwan, Chairman of the Regional Council in his address thanked His Excellency for his gracious presence and went on to say that his presence and his encouraging words bore ample testimony of the Royal Thai Government's active support to the cooperative movement not only of Thailand but also of the whole region. He also thanked the host movement, the Cooperative League of Thailand, and all those present for their kind presence and support.

Minutes of the Twentieth Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia held at Bangkok (Thailand) on 6th December 1978

6. The Twentieth Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia was held at the premises of the Cooperative League of Thailand, Bangkok, on 6th December, 1978.

7. The following were present:-

Members of the Council

1. Dr. Banjerd Khatikarn, Chairman & Member for Thailand
2. Mr. I.H. Hunter, Member for Australia
3. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, Member for India
4. Mr. R.G. Tiwari, Member for India
5. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia
6. Mr. Djoko Basuki, Member for Indonesia
7. Mr. Takeshi Kai, Alternate Member for Japan
8. Mr. Y.K. Lee, Member for Republic of Korea
9. Mr. B.J. Suh, Alternate Member for Republic of Korea
10. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Member for Malaysia
11. Mr. Supah Noh, Member for Malaysia
12. Mohd Nawaz Ghuman, Alternate Member for Pakistan
13. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Member for the Philippines
14. Mr. Mak Kam Heng, Member for Singapore
15. Mr. H.P.S. Samsudin, Member for Singapore
16. Mr. M.R.B. Daswatte, Member for Sri Lanka

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

Observers

1. Mr. H. Togawa, Managing Director, IDACA, Tokyo
2. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Malaysia

ICA Staff

1. Mr. Branko Zlataric, Secretary for Agriculture, ICA London.
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. Per-Eric Lannhagen, Specialist in Agricultural Coop. Marketing,
ICA ROEC.

In attendance

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

Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome

8. The meeting commenced with Mr. Eddiwan, Chairman in the Chair. He invited Dr. Banjerd Khatikarn, Chairman, Cooperative League of Thailand, to deliver his welcome address.

9. Dr. Khatikarn extended a sincere welcome to all the members of the Council on behalf of the Cooperative League of Thailand. He hoped that the members would have a chance to discuss and exchange views and experiences regarding future plans for cooperative development in the Region. He said that the meeting would bring about better understanding and close cooperation among member countries for the sake of prosperity and better living of the cooperative members of the whole Region.

10. He apologised to all members from the various countries for any problems, difficulties or inconvenience that they have had to face in regard to their accommodation, etc. However, he hoped that their stay in Thailand would be pleasant and comfortable.

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

11. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia, extended a very warm welcome to all Councillors to the 20th Meeting of the Regional Council. He said that he was very thankful to each and every single Councillor for taking time out from their busy schedules to be present and to make available the benefit of their experience to the meeting. He also took the opportunity to thank the host organisation, the Cooperative League of Thailand, and the very large number of officials involved in making arrangements for the Council meeting and for the interest they were taking in seeing that all requirements were met.

12. He said : "I would like at this stage to inform the Councillors that over the last three days we have had in depth deliberations in the various Sub-Committee meetings and the reports of these discussions will be placed before you and judging from what has been discussed and expressed, it would show that there is an increasing interest among the participants in trying to strengthen the cooperative movements in the countries of the Region and also to find ways and means of closer collaboration to develop greater strength in this sphere. I sincerely hope that you distinguished Councillors in your deliberations over the next two days will be able to give necessary guidance to us in the secretariat so that we could evolve meaningful programmes which will solve at least partially some of the more pressing problems of the Region".

13. He also congratulated Dr. Khatikarn on his election as Chairman of the Cooperative League of Thailand and assured him of continued collaboration from the ICA ROEC. He also thanked Mr. Eddiwan who had been the Chairman of the Council for the assistance and help extended to ROEC by him. Finally, he requested all the Councillors to give to the ICA ROEC necessary guidance and to lay necessary emphasis on the various factors that are involved in the development of cooperatives and show the path which will eventually leads to a stronger cooperative movement in the Region.

Agenda Item No. 3 : Election of Chairman

14. Dr. Banjerd Khatikarn, Member for Thailand, 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 19th Meeting

15. The minutes of the 19th meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia held at Bali, Indonesia, on 9th December 1977 which had been circulated earlier were confirmed.

Agenda Item No. 5 : Background Papers on "Recent Changes, Trends and Developments of the Cooperative Movement in the Region"

16. Background papers on the subject received from Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Korea, Malaysia (ANGKASA), Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand were circulated in bound mimeographed form. The Secretary said that before this document was published, the member countries concerned were requested to have a second look at what was now available in the bound form. Perhaps the members may have additions or deletions that they may like to make. He requested that the final approved document be sent to ICA ROEC by April 1979 the latest. The Secretary said that if the final version was received from each country in time, then the ROEC would be able to bring out the publication in time for the next Regional Council meeting.

Agenda Item No. 6 : AdministrationContributions to the funds of the ROEC

17. The Secretary placed before the meeting the details of the contributions made by member organisations to the funds of the ROEC for the financial year 1977-78 amounting to Indian Rs.95,121.69.

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

18. The Secretary reported that contributions of £50/- each for the financial year 1977-78 were received from Australia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Korea, Singapore (£5 only), Sri Lanka, Thailand and Malaysia amounting to £455/-.

Concessions by Government of India

19. The information given in the Agenda was noted by the Council with appreciation. The Secretary once again reiterated the thanks of the ICA to the Government of India for the assistance and support extended to the Regional Office.

Staff Changes

20. The staff changes reported in the agenda relating to Mr. Sten Johnsson, Dr. G. Ojha, Mr. Daman Prakash, Mr. Per-Eric Lannhagen and Mr. M.V. Madane were noted by the Council.

Obituary

21. The Secretary informed the Council about the sudden deaths of Mr. Shyam Singh and Mr. Jai Prakash in the ROEC.

Agenda Item No. 7 : Education Centre

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

23. The Director (Education) mentioned the following two activities to the Council for their information and decision:

Regional Seminar for Managerial Personnel of Fishery Cooperatives in the Region preceded by study visits in the Republic of Korea

24. This seminar was proposed to be held in Japan in collaboration with the National Federation of Fishery Cooperative Associations of Japan. The information on this subject was reported in the Fisheries Sub-Committee meeting. As the seminar was held by the NFFC of Japan with the financial assistance of the Government of Japan, certain procedural problems developed and therefore study visits in the Republic of Korea could not be carried out. Most of the personnel who actually attended

the seminar were from government fisheries departments. It was pointed out by the representatives of the Fishery movement at the meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture that if such an activity was held again by the Fishery Federation of Japan, then necessary steps would be taken to ensure that personnel from fishery cooperatives would take part. This point was also noted by the National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives of Korea who were considering holding a seminar on Fishery Cooperatives in 1980.

Experts' Consultation on Member Education

25. The Director (Education) said that the last Council Meeting had approved an Experts' Consultation on the subject. We had scheduled the Consultation for October 1978, but the assessment reports on member education from various countries which were expected to form the basis of this Consultation were not received from a number of cooperative movements and in view of this the date of the Consultation had been shifted and it was now proposed to hold the Consultation in the second half of April 1979 in Sri Lanka. The National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka had very kindly agreed to host the Experts' Consultation and to make necessary arrangements.

26. It was agreed that where national movements were desirous of sending additional delegates to this Consultation at their own cost, such requests would be considered favourably provided the number of such participants was not very large.

27. The Regional Director requested the movements to select only those people who were really functional in this area and who have had a lot of experience in member education as this was the background on which it was hoped to build a future course of action.

Review of Education Activities (November 1977-September 1978)

28. The Council noted the activities carried out by the Education Centre for the period November 1977 to September 1978.

Programme of Activities (July 1979-June 1980)

29. The Director (Education) presented the programme of activities the ICA ROEC proposed to carry out during the year. The Council approved the following activities scheduled for the year 1979-80:

(1) Sixth Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management

Venue	: Open
Duration	: 1 week
Timing	: Nov.-Dec. 1979

30. The Director (Education) said that in view of the fact that Top Level Cooperative Leaders' Conference cannot be held for reasons explained by the Member for Australia, in November, 1979, we could hold the

6th Open Asian Conference according to the usual practice of holding it following the meeting of the Regional Council Meeting.

31. The Council decided that the title of the 6th Open Asian Conference be either "Savings and financial Investment through Cooperatives" or "Financial Management for Cooperatives in the 80s" and agreed that thrift and credit cooperation be included in the Agenda.

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

Venue : Tokyo, Japan
 Duration : 21 days
 Study visits : 1 week in Korea
 Participants : 25

32. It was decided that the subject of the seminar be "Better Living Activities through Cooperatives".

(3) Technical Meeting on Cooperative Agricultural Marketing

Venue : India
 Duration : 10 days including 4 days study visits

33. The Director (Education) said that with regard to this subject there was considerable discussion in the Sub-Committee on Agriculture and the Sub-Committee felt that this subject was of great importance and that a high level discussion was needed.

34. The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India had very kindly agreed to host the Seminar.

(4) Regional Seminar on Role and Functions of the National Cooperative Unions

Venue : India
 Duration : 12 days including 4 days study visits
 Timing : October 1979

35. The Director (Education) said that this seminar had been proposed at the initiative of the National Cooperative Union of India who had already indicated their willingness to host the seminar. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Member for Malaysia, suggested that the following topics be covered in the Seminar programme.

1. Question of representations to the government
2. Lobbying of Member of Parliaments
3. Negotiating with the Registrar of Cooperative Societies
4. Legal action where autocracy becomes a problem
5. Relations with authorities, public relations, social relations etc.

(5) Regional Workshop on Case Writing and its Use in cooperative management training

Venue : India
 Duration : 2 months including one week study visits
 Timing : February/March 1980

36. The Director (Education) said that this was an activity in the field of training teachers of cooperative training colleges. The ROEC had held two courses in training methodology and it was found that ~~the use of management cases~~ was a very important tool for training managerial personnel. It was felt essential that the teachers of the cooperative colleges need to be trained in how to prepare cases, write cases and use them and from that point of view, this Workshop had been proposed to be held. This would also enable the ROEC in compiling a larger number of cases which could then be exchanged among different cooperative training colleges in the Region.

(6) Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS)

37. The Director (Education) said that under this service the ROEC proposed to institute three scholarships so that three senior cooperative teachers could be selected and they could work with the assistance of the ICA personnel in producing training material which was relevant for teaching of cooperative management. This was felt to be a very critical area in the field of training.

38. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Member for Malaysia, said that this should not be restricted only to cooperative colleges as far as Malaysia was concerned because there were business organisations who would like some of their staff to be trained even at their own expense to write case studies. The Director (Education) informed the meeting that this training workshop was proposed for trainers. However, he agreed that large organisations like MCIS of Malaysia who had training managers, would find this type of workshop very useful for them.

(7) National Seminars

39. The Director (Education) requested the member movements to send their requests to the ICA ROEC for holding national seminars on topics of interest to them.

40. The Member for Singapore, Mr. Mak Kam Heng, indicated that the Singapore National Cooperative Union would like to get assistance from the ROEC for holding a national seminar on Cooperative Member Education with special reference to Thrift and Loan Societies.

(8) Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers in Sri Lanka

41. The project will be continued during the year.

(9) Project for Consumer Education and Information through Cooperatives in Sri Lanka

42. The project will be continued during the year.

(10) Cooperative Education Field Project in Indonesia

43. The Director (Education) expected that certain work with regard to the project in Indonesia would have already been initiated during the year.

Agenda Item No. 8 : Technical Assistance & Trade Section

Technical Assistance

44. The Council reviewed the activities of Technical Assistance & Trade during the period under discussion and noted the follow-up action on the recommendations made at the last meeting. The Joint Director (TAT) informed the meeting that no fresh requests for technical assistance had been received by the ROEC from the Region.

45. The Regional Director drew the attention of the Councillors to the various types and sources of technical assistance available. He said that the impression he had gathered from consultations with various donor agencies was that if there were very clearly thought out and well written projects which constituted a genuine need in the country then the chances of getting funding for such projects were not bad. He requested all the Councillors to give thought to this matter as possibility of getting technical assistance, whether in small quantity or in large quantity, was very encouraging.

46. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Member for Malaysia, said that the history of technical assistance had not been encouraging as numerous project proposals did not evoke any response. However, as the climate appears to be changing, this aspect should be looked into.

Promotion of Cooperative Trade

Trade Information Bulletin

47. The Joint Director (TAT) reported that as per the decision of the Council at its last meeting, the Trade Information Bulletin was discontinued. After much discussion it was decided that ~~the~~ discontinuance should stand but that the proposal made by the Chairman of ICTO in regard to the possibility of providing an up-to-date Market Intelligence Service provided the members were willing to fund ~~the~~ setting up of such a unit in ICTO, be given further consideration.

ICA Trade Directory

48. The Joint Director (TAT) said that a suggestion had been received by the ROEC that the ICA Trade Directory be revised. He said that the Trade Promotion Group had also recommended that this should be revised after the holding of the ILO/SIDA Workshop in Singapore since the ILO was conducting some surveys. It was suggested that the pattern of the Directory should be changed. The Joint Director (TAT) requested the members to inform the ROEC as to what kind of information they would like to be included in the revised directory.

CLUSA/ICA Trade Conference in New York

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

Collaboration with ICTO

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

ILO/SIDA Workshop on Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations

51. The information given in the Agenda was noted by the Council. The Joint Director (TAT) said that the success of this workshop would depend on the type of participants who were nominated to attend the workshop. He requested all the Councillors to take a personal interest to see that suitable participants were sponsored for the workshop. The members from Japan and Australia were requested to send their representatives to the workshop at their own cost.

52. Some Councillors were of the view that as the channels of ILO communication were directly with the government and very often with the Ministry of Labour, their chances of influencing the selection of suitable participants was somewhat remote - yet they would look into this as best they could.

5th Meeting of the ICA Trade Promotion Group

53. The Joint Director (TAT) said that the last Council Meeting decided that the Trade Promotion Group should be reactivated. Accordingly, the Group was reactivated and the 5th meeting of the Group was held in Singapore. The various recommendations made by the Group at this meeting had been listed in the agenda. The 6th meeting of the Trade Promotion Group had also endorsed all the recommendations after due consideration.

ICA Collaboration with the United Nations Organisations:

Collaboration between ICA & the FAO

54. Two projects were sent to the FAO - one from Sri Lanka and one from the Philippines - for assistance under the Money and Medal Programme. The Joint Director (TAT) requested the members from these countries to send copies of the projects to the ROEC.

55. The Member for the Philippines, Mr. B.P. Faustino, said that the Philippine Project had been approved and was now going on.

Promotion of Industrial Cooperatives -
Collection of Information

56. The Joint Director (TAT) informed the meeting that information in respect of Industrial Cooperatives was still awaited from a number of countries in the Region. All the members were requested to furnish the information to the ROEC as soon as possible.

57. The Regional Director informed the meeting that at the moment there was some discussion going on between SCC/SIDA and the Polish Cooperative Movement to see whether some kind of collaboration in the field of industrial cooperatives for the developing countries could be arrived at. SCC had asked the ROEC for details with regard to the present position of industrial cooperatives and handicraft cooperatives, cottage industries etc. The ROEC was in correspondence with the SCC on this matter. He said that if the member organisations could give the details to the ROEC, it would then be possible for the ROEC to work out a suitable programme.

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

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

59. He requested the Councillors to get their movements to send in success stories from time to time for publication, in the Regional Bulletin.

Publication Programme for 1978-79

60. The Council noted that the following publications would be brought out during the year 1978-79 :-

1. Indian Cooperative Rules vis-a-vis Cooperative Principles
2. Readings in Cooperative Marketing
3. Cooperative Movements in the countries of the Region
4. Amalgamation of Primary Agricultural Cooperatives - The Japanese Experience (a revised edition will be brought out)

5. Cooperative Series : Two or Three publications in this series
6. Speeches on Cooperation : Speeches made by eminent Cooperators will be published under this series
7. Publicity : Four issues of the ICA Regional Bulletin

Establishment of a Regional Working Party
on Cooperative Press

61. The Joint Director (PPR) said that the Regional Workshop on Press & Publicity which was held in Tokyo had recommended the need for setting up a Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press. A Working Party of journalists was already existing in ICA London. It was suggested that such a body be set up for Asia also. The proposal was that Working Party should be set up on a self-financing basis and that it should meet once in two-three years, in which the working journalists may meet and exchange their experience and views. The draft rules of the ICA Regional Working Party was circulated to the members for their consideration.

62. Dato N.A. Kularajah, Member for Malaysia, suggested that the Membership should be re-worded as follows :

"Membership : Membership of the Regional Working Party shall be open to all affiliated organisations of the ICA in the Region who may be represented by those involved in a professional capacity on cooperative papers, magazines and information media within the cooperative movements. Guests can be invited with the consent of the Working Party."

63. With the above change, the Council approved the draft rules of the Regional Working Party. Dato Kularajah offered to host the first meeting of the Working Party in Malaysia.

Agenda Item No. 10 : Decisions and Recommendations of the ICA Trade Promotion Group, Sub-Committees on Consumer, Fishery & Agriculture for South-East Asia

64. The Secretary of the Trade Promotion Group and of the Committee on Consumer Cooperation reported to the Council the decisions and recommendations of the Group and of the Committee.

65. ICA Trade Promotion Group

- A. In view of the increasing importance of cooperative international trade, the Trade Promotion Group recommended that it should be elevated to the position of an independent Sub-Committee to be named as "The ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development for South-East Asia" and that this Sub-Committee should report directly to the ICA Regional Council for South-East Asia.

- B. The recommendations of the fifth meeting of the Trade Promotion Group in Singapore were endorsed by the meeting of the Group held in Bangkok.

66. Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia

- A. The Committee was informed by the Regional Director of the discussions that took place at the meeting of the OECP - the main auxiliary on Consumer Cooperation of the ICA, in Copenhagen and the assurance of support by the OECP to the Committee formed for South-East Asia.
- B. The Committee felt that in some of the countries in the Region, conditions had matured to promote consumer cooperation, as a separate activity, and there was need to make systematic efforts to promote and develop consumer cooperation in these countries.
- C. The Committee was of the view that in developing consumer cooperatives, the attempt should be to establish economically viable primary level societies strongly backed by wholesale societies, with competent management at all levels. Further every attempt should be made to involve the housewives in the effort and to evolve meaningful consumer information and member relations programmes.
- D. It was felt that the organisation of consumer cooperatives in schools and universities would help in developing necessary leadership to support a programme of this nature.
- E. The Committee was of the view that national seminars should be held in the member countries to help generate necessary interest and support. In this connection they were very thankful to the SCC for the support given for the holding of national seminars in the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and for the International Seminar scheduled for 1979 in Sweden.

67. The Council endorsed the decisions and recommendations of the Trade Promotion Group and of the Committee on Consumer Cooperation.

68. The Secretary of the ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture and the Sub-Committee for Fisheries for South-East Asia made a brief oral report of the discussions of the two sub-committees.

69. Agriculture Sub-Committee

- A. Studies on "How Cooperatives can Increase Food Production" in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka were carried out and the reports were ready. Two national seminars were planned in the two countries where, among other things, the report of the studies would be discussed.

- B. ICA ROEC also arranged through its members-organisations (In case of Nepal through Department of Cooperative Development) similar studies in India (State of Maharashtra), Nepal and the Republic of Korea for FAO and the reports of these studies (together with the study reports of Thailand, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka) were used in the FAO Expert Consultation on Increasing Agricultural Production through Cooperatives held in Indonesia.
- C. The Sub-Committee recommended that the annual regional seminar in Japan held by ICA in collaboration with CUAC and IDACA should devote part of its time to discuss management of multipurpose (agricultural) societies. The Council approved the above recommendation.
- D. The Sub-Committee felt that the International Seminar held in Sweden on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing for cooperators from Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines was very useful to these countries. The Sub-Committee members from Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines expressed their thanks to SCC, Swedish Government and ICA for holding this seminar and informed the Sub-Committee that according to the participants the seminar had been conducted in an excellent way and was very useful to them. The Sub-Committee recommended that the practice of holding such seminar in Sweden for Cooperators from the Region should be continued.

70. Fisheries Sub-Committee

- A. A training seminar for fishery cooperators which was held in Japan by National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations and Government of Japan was the outcome of a proposal made by the Fishery Group. However, the participants were all from government fishery ministries and departments. No participants attended from cooperative societies. The Sub-Committee felt, ways should be found for giving opportunities for personnel working in fishery cooperatives to participate in such seminars.
- B. A proposal for holding a Regional Seminar for Fishery Cooperatives in the Republic of Korea was discussed by the Sub-Committee. The Korean Fishery Federation representative at the meeting informed the Sub-Committee that they agreed in principle to host the seminar and a final decision will be taken in May 1979 after considering details. The Sub-Committee recommended pursuing of this proposal.
- C. The proposal to bring out a book on Fishery Cooperatives in the Republic of Korea was discussed and recommended

that the preparation of this book be combined with the holding of the Regional Seminar.

71. The Council agreed with the above recommendations of the Fishery Sub-Committee.

Agenda Item No. 11 : Relations with Member-Organizations in the Region

72. The Regional Director focussed the attention of all the Councillors to the ROEC itself and requested them to tell the ROEC whether there was anything wanting from the secretariat angle, as it was necessary to have adequate feed back from the member organisations for the secretariat to get a proper orientation. He stressed that it was necessary to know what the member movements think of the ROEC and its role in the Region and would be thankful for any reactions in this regard.

73. He informed the Councillors also of the new budgetary procedure that was being adopted by SCC by introducing the concept of a three year rolling budget commencing 79-80 on to 81-82. This would necessarily involve a change in the presentation of programmes of work to the Regional Council. At the next Regional Council Meeting, the programmes will broadly indicate the course of action not only for the next year but also for the subsequent two years. They would be flexible but at least in money terms and activity terms, it would have to indicate roughly to SCC what our proposed activities would be for the three year period.

74. He requested all the distinguished Councillors to think on this matter so that at the next meeting, they would be thinking not only of the immediate year following but also of two subsequent years.

75. He said that the ROEC would be sending budget proposals to London and SCC by the middle of January and if any Councillors had any proposals for inclusion in the three year budget, they were requested to write to the ROEC before the middle of January 1979.

Agenda Item No. 12 : Relations with international organisations

76. The Council noted the information given in the Agenda.

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

77. The Secretary said that this was an item which would be placed before the Councillors for consideration as a final decision had not been reached. At the meeting in Bali, the member for Australia had extended an invitation to host the Regional Council Meeting in Sydney and also a Top Level Conference. However, the Australian Federation had informed the ROEC that they were not in a position to host the meetings in 1979 in Australia. The position as it stood today

was that he was not sure of the venue of the next meeting. Perhaps the Regional Councillors could indicate whether a hosting would be possible or possibly ROEC could enter into correspondence with various organisations and see if it could locate a venue in course of time. A complete statement of Regional Council Meetings held so far and the member organisations hosting them were placed before the Councillors (copy attached).

Agenda Item No. 14 : Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

78. Mr. R.G. Tiwari, Member for India, suggested that the services of an Expert on Industrial Cooperatives be obtained for the ROEC. In case it was necessary, the Indian Cooperative Movement would come forward for supplementing the costs to some extent. The Secretary said that ROEC had also considered that this sector of specialisation was one of urgent need for the Region and that the ROEC would make a decision after definite word was received from Mr. Madane. If he was not coming back to the ICA ROEC, the money provision on that account could profitably be used for this purpose. He welcomed the offer made by the Indian Movement and agreed that this was an area very vital for the economies of the Region.

79. On a suggestion made by Mr. Supah Noh, Member for Malaysia, that the Registrars/Secretaries for Cooperatives in each country should also be invited for the Regional Council Meetings to attend at their own cost, it was decided that such invitation should be extended only in respect of Registrars/Secretaries of those countries where the movements concerned wrote in to the ROEC requesting their invitations. The Regional Director requested the Councillors to make such requests at least by the first week of September each year to enable him to extend the invitations in time.

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

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



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

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
Twelveth	New Delhi, India	February 17-18, 1971
Thirteenth	Melbourne, Australia	November 8-9, 1971
Fourteenth	Chiengmai, Thailand	November 19-20, 1972
Fifteenth	Tokyo, Japan	October 30, 1973
Sixteenth	Colombo, Sri Lanka	November 1-2, 1974
Seventeenth	Manila, Philippines	December 7, 1975
Eighteenth	Tehran, Iran	November 7-8, 1976
Nineteenth	Bali, Indonesia	December 9-10, 1977
Twentieth	Bangkok, Thailand	December 6-7, 1978

ICA Council for South-East Asia

21st Meeting & Emergency Meeting

Venue Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

Dates 22-23 November, 1979



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110014, India*

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

January 10, 1980

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

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

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

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

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

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

7. The following were present:-

Members of the Council

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

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

Observers

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

ICA Staff

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

In attendance

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

Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome

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

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

Agenda Item No. 2 : Introductory Remarks by Regional Director

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

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

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

Agenda Item No. 3 : Election of Chairman

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

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

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

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

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

Agenda Item No. 6 : AdministrationContributions to the funds of the ROEC

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

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

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

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

Concessions by the Government of India

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

Staff Changes

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

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

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

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

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

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

Agenda Item No. 7 : Education Centre

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

Review of Education Activities

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

Regional

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

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

National Seminars

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

CEMAS

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

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

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

Teachers Training Project, Sri Lanka

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

Cooperative Education Field Project, Indonesia

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

Proposed Programme of Activities - July 1980-June 1981

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(3) 7th Open Asian Conference

Venue : Along with the Council Meeting
Duration : One week

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

(4) Regional Training Course on Cooperative Management

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(7) Technical Meeting on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing

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

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

(8) Follow-up Seminar on Consumer Cooperation

Venue : Singapore
Timings : February 1981

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

National Seminars

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

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

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

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

CEMAS

The CEMAS activities will be continued.

Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers, Sri Lanka

53. The Project will be continued during the year.

Cooperative Education Field Project in Indonesia

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

Project for Consumer Education and Information through Cooperatives in Sri Lanka

55. The project will be continued during the year.

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

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

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

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

Agenda Item No. 8 : Technical Assistance and Trade Section

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

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

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

2. Request from Philippines for Swedish Experts on Coop Supermarkets

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

3. Support for Coop Education Programmes in Schools in Philippines

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

4. Bhor Dairy Project

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

Part II : Trade

ICA Trade Directory

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

Cooperative Trade Conference, Moscow, 1980

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

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

Future of ICTO

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

Cooperative Trade Project

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

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

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

Publicity

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

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

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

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

Supply and exchange of literature

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

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

Publication Programme for 1979-80

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

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

Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press

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

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

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

77. Sub-Committee on Agriculture

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

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

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

78. Sub-Committee on Fisheries

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

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

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

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

79. Committee on Consumer Cooperation

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

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

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

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

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

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

80. Sub-Committee on Trade

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Agenda Item No. 12 : Relations with International Organisations

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

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

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

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

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

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

Agenda Item No. 14 : Any other matter

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

102. Mr. Malte Jonsson of SCC referred to the forthcoming International Seminar on Industrial Cooperatives which is actually the first experience for the SCC in this field being held in collaboration with the Supreme Cooperative Council of Poland and the ICA ROEC. Much will depend on the result of this seminar, if the SCC will continue this type of activity. He said that the Polish Cooperative Movement had contacts with several organisations in the countries of the Region and the list of such organisations has been sent to ROEC. If the Council agrees, this list can be circulated among the member organisations in the Region. The Council agreed with this suggestion and asked the ROEC to circulate this list to the member organisations in the Region requesting them to consult them before making nominations to the ROEC. The nominations should reach New Delhi by the middle of January 1980.

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

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

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

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



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

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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 Eliyu, 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
Nineth	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	November 13-14, 1968
Tenth	Tehran, Iran	March 1-2, 1969
Eleventh	Seoul, Rep. of Korea	May 6-9, 1970
Twelveth	New Delhi, India	February 17-18, 1971
Thirteenth	Melbourne, Australia	November 8-9, 1971
Fourteenth	Chiangmai, 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

International Cooperative Alliance
43, Friends Colony
New Delhi 110065

January 2, 1980

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

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

2. The following were present :

Members of the Council

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

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

Observers

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

ICA Staff

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

In attendance

1. Mr. S. Komatsu, CUAC, Tokyo
2. Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, ICA ROEC
3. The meeting commenced with Dato N.A. Kularajah in the Chair.

4. The Secretary informed the Council that at the meeting of the Board of Advisers held on 23rd November 1979 the Board of Advisers considered favourably the Memorandum submitted by the Managing Director of IDACA in which he stressed the need to integrate the activities of IDACA more effectively with those of the ICA ROEC. The Board, therefore, recommended that IDACA activities be considered as part of the ICA Council Agenda itself. The Board felt that this was step in the correct direction and they were of the view that this Board should cease to exist.

5. The Council discussed at length the recommendation of the Board of Advisers of IDACA. It was felt that the implications of the suggestion would be that the Board of Advisers as such would cease to exist and that all programmes and activities of IDACA for the Region should be considered by the Regional Council Meeting.

6. The Council took the following decisions :

- (1) that the Board of Advisers of IDACA as such should cease to exist in the future and that all programmes and activities of IDACA for the Region should be considered by the Regional Councillors at the Regional Council Meeting itself.
- (2) that the reporting in regard to activities of IDACA would form a part of the ICA report itself.
- (3) that the administrative details and mechanics involved in this change would be worked out separately, and
- (4) that there would be no change in the financial responsibilities of IDACA in respect of the ICA Council meetings and other programmes worked in collaboration with the ICA.

7. On the basis of the above decisions, the Council felt that it would become necessary to eventually make changes in the present agreement between ICA and IDACA and in particular in respect of the payment of 50 per cent of the airfare costs borne by the ICA in respect of the Regional Councillors who were also the members of the Board of Advisers of IDACA earlier. The ICA will continue to bear 50 per cent of the costs of the joint ICA/IDACA joint reception held during the Regional Council Meeting. IDACA will bear the other 50 per cent costs.

8. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Member for Philippines, wanted to include a note, which was adopted unanimously, of appreciation to the Japanese Cooperative Movement, especially to the Managing Director of IDACA, Mr. K. Fujimoto, in the way the matter was presented to the Regional

Council for consideration. He emphasized that the present arrangement will enable the Regional Council meeting to be more involved and effective.

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

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



New Delhi
2nd January, 1980

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

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MINUTES

ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture: 14th Meeting

ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries : 9th Meeting
for South-East Asia

Venue KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

Dates 20-21 November 1979

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

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

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

The following were present at the meeting :

Members

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

Secretary

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

Observers

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

ICA Regional Office Staff

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

Special Invitee

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

In attendance

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

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

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : RESEARCH STUDIES ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Seminars

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

Studies

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sd/-

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

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MINUTES OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD AT PETALING JAYA, MALAYSIA ON 20TH NOVEMBER 1979.

1. The Ninth Meeting of the ICA Sub-committee for Fisheries for South-East Asia was held at the Board Room of Wisma MCIS on 20th November 1979. The Chairman of the Sub-committee, Mr. Eddiwan, presided.

The following were present :

1. Mr. Eddiwan, Chairman and Member for Indonesia
2. Mr. S.P. Srivastava, Member for India
3. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Member for Malaysia
4. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Member for Philippines
5. Mr. Jaya Herat, Member for Sri Lanka
6. Mr. Adul Niyomviphat, Member for Thailand.

Secretary

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

Observers

1. Mr. B. Krishnappa, India
2. Mr. R.S. Jayaratne, Sri Lanka
3. Mr. Teo Cheng Peow, Singapore
4. Mr. M. Matsuhira, Japan

ICA Staff

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

In attendance

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME BY THE HOST MOVEMENT

2. Dato N.A. Kularajah welcomed the members on behalf of the Malaysian Cooperative Movement.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

3. The minutes of the last meeting, 8th in the series, were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 : DISCUSSION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

4. At the request of the Chairman, each member made a brief statement regarding the development of fishery cooperatives in his country.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4 : REGIONAL SEMINAR FOR FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN JAPAN

5. The Secretary reported on the second Regional Seminar for Fishery Cooperatives held in Japan, invitations for which were sent by the ICA ROEC. He said that this activity was going to be an annual feature in Japan. There was some difficulty in getting the nominations in time for onward transmission to Japan to make arrangements for travel etc. In order to avoid last minute nominations, he suggested that the member-organisations may develop some sort of priority list of likely participants who could be nominated. The Member for the Philippines, Mr. B.P. Faustino, felt that this would be a very good method. The Sub-committee accepted the suggestion and decided that it be recommended to the nominating organisations.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : REGIONAL SEMINAR FOR FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

6. The Secretary reported that the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives of the Republic of Korea had agreed to host a Regional Seminar on Fishery Cooperatives in the first half of 1981. He said that he had an opportunity of discussing this matter personally with NFFC when he was last in Korea. He said that as there was an annual seminar in Japan it might be difficult to get sufficient number of qualified participants if the seminar covered the same subject area covered by the seminar in Japan. It was also pointed out that all the countries did not have fishery cooperatives and some countries had only a few. In this context he said that it might be better to discuss development and organisational matters in the seminar to be held in the Republic of Korea.

7. The Member for the Philippines, Mr. Faustino, suggested that this seminar be meant for policy makers or leaders.

8. The Director (Education) said that if we have two seminars on the same subject for the Region for fishery cooperatives in one year, it would be difficult to get the right type of participants and in sufficient numbers. He said that the seminar in Korea should have a different emphasis. One of the problems that had been mentioned in the Sub-committee discussion was that the fishery cooperatives had not developed very much in spite of so many years of cooperative development work. If this aspect was kept in view, it would be good if the theme of the Korean Seminar could be on "How to Develop Fishery Cooperatives".

The Seminar may suggest some kind of guidelines or strategies for the future development of the fishery cooperatives at an accelerated rate. Then it would be possible to get a different set of people. He suggested that participants should be from among the high level leaders of the fishery cooperative movements and also possible top government policy makers.

9. The Member for the Philippines, Mr. Faustino, suggested that the Korean Seminar be on the organisation side, how to accelerate the organisational aspect of developing on a faster pace the fishery cooperative activity.

10. The Member for Malaysia, Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, suggested that where fishery activity is relatively more developed participants should be drawn from fishery cooperative leadership, whereas in others where there was not that kind of developmental pace perhaps people from policy making in the bureau in charge of fishery cooperatives should be invited and thus get them involved in the fishery cooperative development. The Sub-committee generally agreed with the suggestion made and decided that the ICA ROEC should decide on a suitable title based on the suggestions made.

11. The Secretary reported that he had discussions with the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan regarding organising study visits in Japan for this seminar. They have reacted favourably to the suggestion.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : PUBLICATION ON FISHERY COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION

12. The Secretary said as there is a lack of literature on fishery cooperatives in the Region, it would be good if a publication is brought out on the situation of fishery cooperative development in the Region. The publication once brought out could be updated after five years. The ICA ROEC could develop a format with a brief synopsis which can be sent to the member organisations who could supply an article on their respective countries.

13. The Regional Director suggested that this publication should, in the first instance, be brought out in a mimeographed form and once a demand for it was built up it could be printed.

14. It was decided that the ROEC will collate information and decide later whether it should be brought out in printed or mimeographed form taking into consideration the material received and the cost of production.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7 : TRAINING FACILITIES FOR FISHERY COOPERATORS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

15. The information given in the agenda was noted by the Sub-committee.

16. The Regional Director said that by and large over the last so many years the fishery cooperative sectors and the Sub-committee had been concerned primarily with marine fishing. There was an increasing emphasis now on fresh water fish. Therefore, it may be desirable for the Sub-committee to study the aspect of fresh water fishing.

17. After discussion the Sub-committee requested the RDEC to explore the possibilities of getting training facilities in inland, offshore and deep fishing in developed countries for the fishery cooperators in the Region.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8 : ROSTER OF EXPERTS ON FISHERMEN'S COOPERATIVES

18. The Secretary requested the members if there were any additional names to be sent to the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission that they be sent early to RDEC for onward transmission to FAO.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9 : VISIT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ICA FISHERY COMMITTEE, MR. J. SAITO, TO INDIA, SRI LANKA AND BANGLADESH

19. The Chairman requested Mr. M. Matsuhiro from Japan to make a brief report on the visits of the Chairman of the Fishery Committee. Mr. Matsuhiro read out a brief note from the Chairman which is reproduced below.

20. "The present situation and problems faced by the countries and their requests to ICA Fishery Committee are as follows :-

- i. In these three countries which I visited, fisheries cooperative movement is lagging behind in its organisation and activities due to the low educational level of fishermen and shortage of funds. Although governmental agencies in each country are giving positive guidance and assistance, fishermen do not have much desire to join fisheries cooperative societies.
- ii. Due to the little progress in modernisation of fishing techniques, productivity of fishing is extremely low.
- iii. While there is a very strong desire to modernise fisheries industry, shortage of equipment for modernisation is striking and in addition, education and training of fishing techniques are insufficient.
- iv. Basic facilities for fish landing are not well provided and there is a problem in keeping freshness of fish due to incomplete distribution and processing facilities. Therefore, there is a great need for providing these facilities.
- v. Fishermen are raising funds required for fishing from middlemen at a high rate of interest, which brings an extremely heavy financial pressure upon fishermen.

vi. In order to develop and strengthen organisation of fisheries cooperative societies, education and training for leaders are indispensable."

21. The Regional Director said that the type of visits the Chairman undertook were very useful and expressed the wish that he undertakes such visits to other countries also in future and keep the Fishery Committee informed of their problems so that it could extend possible assistance to the developing countries for the development of fishery cooperatives.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

22. Mr. Haji Aziz Ibrahim, Member for Malaysia, suggested that the Sub-committee should submit a memorandum to the forthcoming ICA Congress in Moscow on the needs of the fishery cooperatives in the Region. The Sub-committee felt that instead of submitting a memorandum an intervention could be made by a member of the Sub-committee at the Congress highlighting the needs of the fishery cooperatives.

23. The Director (Education) said that the intervention on behalf of the Fisheries Sub-committee could be planned. It would be very valuable indeed because rarely questions of this sector were brought up at all.

24. The Regional Director suggested that points for the intervention may be drafted and the consent of the members of the Sub-committee could be taken by circulation. Mr. Aziz Ibrahim undertook to draft the points for getting the consent of the members. Mr. Aziz Ibrahim would present these points at the Congress discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11 : DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

25. It was agreed that the venue and date of the next meeting of the Sub-committee should be the same as that of the ICA Regional Council meeting and the date would be fixed by the Regional Director when fixing the dates of the Council Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.12 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

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

Sd/-

sm.

271/2/80

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

ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development for South-East Asia

FIRST MEETING

Venue Petaling Jaya (Malaysia)

Dates 19 November 1979



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

22 January, 1980

MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR TRADE DEVELOPMENT FOR S-E ASIA AT PETALING JAYA (MALAYSIA) ON 19 NOV, 80

The first meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development for South-East Asia was held at MCIS Board Room, Petaling Jaya (Malaysia) on November 1979. In the absence of Mr.I.H. Hunter, Chairman of the Committee, Mr.B.P. Faustino from the Philippines was unanimously appointed to act as Chairman for this meeting. The following were present :

1. Mr.Ali Hossain, Bangladesh
2. Mr.M.A.Haque, Bangladesh
3. Mr.S.P. Srivastava, India
4. Mr.Eddiwan, Indonesia
5. Mr.Djoko Basuki, Indonesia
6. Mr.A.Kurimoto, Japan
7. Mr.Hui Weng Chee, Malaysia
8. Mr.Supah Noh, Malaysia
9. Mr.Sulaiman Daud, Malaysia
10. Mr.B.P.Faustino, Philippines
11. Mr.Joseph Edward, Singapore
12. Mr.Jaya Herat, Sri Lanka
13. Mr.R.S.Jayarathne, Sri Lanka
14. Mr.Vichien Inthachai, Thailand
15. Mr.Verasak Choipat, Thailand
16. Dato N.A.Kularajah, Malaysia

Special Invitees

1. Mr.Rolf Akeby, ILO/SIDA Project, Bangkok, Thailand.
2. Mr.Claude Scheurer, France.

Secretary

Mr.M.K. Puri, Jt.Director (TA&T), ICA ROEC, New Delhi.

ICA ROEC Staff

1. Mr.R.B.Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director for S-E Asia.
2. Mr.J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
3. Dr.Dharm Vir, Jt.Director (Education)
4. Mr.Lionel Gunawardana, Jt.Director (P&PR)

In attendance

Mr Prem Kumar, P.A. to Regional Director, ICA ROEC, New Delhi.

At the outset, Mr.R.B.Rajaguru, ICA Regional Director informed the members about the sad demise of Mr.Mak Kam Heng former Chairman of the Singapore National Coöperative Union. As a mark of respect for the departed soul, the members of the Committee observed two minutes silence.

Agenda Item No. 1 : Remarks by the Chairman

Mr.B.P.Faustino, Chairman of the meeting said, "I feel very privileged and honoured to be asked to preside over this meeting and am very pleased to welcome you all here to the First Meeting of the Trade Development Committee for South-East Asia. I wish to thank the Malaysian hosts for the very comfortable surroundings which they have provided for this meeting. It is a welcome sign to have everyone around right from the first day of the series of meetings in Petaling Jaya, through the courtesy of Malaysian Coöperative Movement. Apart from members of the Committee, most of whom are present except the Chairman, I find that we have quite a number of other persons also whose contributions would certainly be very valuable to the meeting.

He also extended special welcome to Mr.Rolf Akeby, Leader of the ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project and to Mr.Claude Scheurer, Adviser to the Chairman of the Economic Bureau of ICA Agricultural Committee.

Agenda Item No.2 : Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the 6th meeting of the ICA Trade Promotion Group for South-East Asia (now elevated to ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Development for South-East Asia) which met in Bangkok on 4th December 1978 were confirmed.

Agenda Item No.3 : Matters arising out of the minutes of last meeting

(a) The Secretary informed the Committee that the addresses of cooperative trading organisations in Australia, Iran, Bangladesh, Indonesia, South Korea and Singapore were still awaited. The members were requested to request their national apex organisations to collect the requisite information and supply the same to the Secretariat of the Committee at New Delhi.

(b) Selection of suitable participants for ILO-SIDA Workshop

The Secretary informed that at the ILO-SIDA Regional Workshop on "Strengthening of Inter-Coöperative Trade Relations", held in Singapore in January 1979, out of 22 participants, 14 represented cooperative trading organisations and the other eight were from government departments. It appears that cooperative movements in a few countries could not bring to bear sufficient influence upon their governments to confine their selections exclusively out of business executives of cooperative trading organisations.

The members of the Committee impressed upon Mr.Rolf Akeby that in order to ensure proper selection of right type of participants he should recommend to the ILO authorities that in future the selection of participants for cooperative projects should invariably be made in consultation with the International Coöperative Alliance or national level cooperative apex organisations in each country.

(c) ICA Trade Directory

The information given in the agenda notes was noted. Mr. Rolf Akeby also endorsed the suggestion made in the Agenda Notes that the interested cooperative trading organisations should, like all other private business houses, get themselves listed in their national trade directories and should also have their names included in the list maintained by the Chambers of Commerce and the Trade Councillors attached to their embassies in various countries.

He further remarked that in order to promote inter-cooperative trade both within and outside the Region, it may be useful to have some kind of trade directory which shows the list of cooperatives in the Region and the particulars of the exportable products that they are producing. He said that after the national workshops have been conducted under the COOPTRADE Project, they will be able to prepare a Regional Trade Directory and would also address an appeal to the Board of Directors of cooperatives in developed countries that they should extend their support at the initial stage by placing trial orders on cooperative organisations in developing countries.

(d) Training facilities in international trade

The information given in the agenda notes was noted. Thereafter Mr. Rolf Akeby clarified that the Trade Contact Missions in Asia had not been dropped but had been only deferred for the time being.

(e) ESCAP Trade Promotion Centre

The information given in the agenda notes explaining the activities of ESCAP Trade Promotion Centre in Bangkok was noted. The Secretary informed the meeting that he had circulated the list of Trade Information Centres which have been established in various countries of the Region from where they can find out the export markets and where there are potentials for them to export products from their respective countries.

(f) International Trade Forum

The Secretary informed the meeting that the ROEC wrote to organisations that they should advise their business organisations to get themselves enlisted on the free mailing list of "International Trade Forum", which is a very useful quarterly journal, published by ITC, Geneva, for the benefit of institutions who are interested in international trade.

(g) UNCTAD V

The information given in the agenda notes was noted. The members appreciated action on the part of the Secretariat of the Sub-Committee in keeping them informed of the important developments at the UNCTAD V meeting held in Manila.

Agenda Item No.4 : To consider the recommendations made by the ILO/SIDA Workshop held in Singapore in January 1979

A brief account of the ILO-SIDA Workshop held in Singapore in January 1979 was given by the Secretary to the Sub-Committee. The sub-committee was also informed of the 10 fellowships which were offered under this Project and that 10 persons from the region were sent to Sweden to attend a seminar on Export Promotion for one month. After the seminar, these fellows were taken to various countries in Europe on trade contact mission.

Mr. Rolf Akęby, Team Leader of ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project who was present by invitation gave details of their activities and the progress made so far and of the Project's future programme.

The meeting was also informed about the conclusions and recommendations which were made by the participants at the Singapore Workshop.

The Sub-Committee suggested that at the end of each national workshop, which are now being planned under the COOPTRADE Project in most of the countries of the Region, a Coordinating Committee at the national level should be constituted by the cooperative movement in each country and this Committee should pursue the follow-up action on the recommendations of the national workshops by identifying the products which have potential for export and by formulating action programmes for promoting their exports.

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

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

Agenda Item No.5 : To consider about the future of ICTO

The Secretary drew pointed attention of the members of the sub-committee to the following recommendations made by the participants of the Regional Workshop on "Strengthening of Inter-Cooperative Trade Relations", which was held in Singapore in January 1979 under the ILO-SIDA COOPTRADE Project and requested the members that in view of the past experiences of ICTO and its present position they may like to express their views as to what they think about the future of ICTO.

"The participants noted that an attempt has already been made in the region, to further cooperative trade through a body established by cooperatives in the Region. They further noted that it had made little headway and they recommend that this body be strengthened by broadening its membership base and taking on the added responsibilities of collaboration and coordination of export commodities, failing which another body be constituted to provide a central point for discharging these responsibilities."

Mr. Rolf Akeby clarified that the above recommendation merely reflected the views of the participants at the Regional Workshop who wanted to stress that we should make use of the cooperative trading organisation in Singapore.

He said that he could not give any definite opinion in the matter till he had assessed the real scope for export potential of cooperative products in each country.

Mr. Rolf Akeby further said, "When we started the ILO Project one year ago, we did not know enough about the situation in the Region, It is better to wait until we find where the real scope is and this may be possible after the national workshops have been conducted. Let cooperative organisations in each country find out their potentials and discuss how they want to export their commodities. I think, we have to first start at that level. The export of all cooperative products should be canalised through cooperative national organisations. When that has been done, at that stage, a discussion should be started to find out whether there is also a need for a regional organisation."

Most of the members expressed the opinion that ICTO being the international cooperative trading organisation of the cooperative sector, all member organisations in the Region have a joint responsibility to make it a success. They also emphasised the need for strengthening the internal cooperative marketing structure in each country which they thought was a necessary pre-requisite before international trade operations are undertaken in any country.

The discussion on the subject concluded with remarks from the Chairman that the Board of Directors of ICTO would take a decision on this matter rather than this sub-committee making any hard and fast decision in this regard.

Agenda Item No.6 : How can member movements help in extending their collaboration to COOPTRADE Team

The Sub-Committee noted with pleasure that the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka and the National Cooperative Union of India had assisted the ILO-SIDA Project Team in holding national workshops on promotion of export trade in Sri Lanka and India.

The Sub-Committee decided that ICA member-organisations in the Region should give wide publicity to the on-going COOPTRADE Project and its objectives in their respective countries. It was further urged that they should also assist the Project Team in holding of national workshops on promotion of export trade and make sure that cooperative business organisations in their countries sponsor right type of candidates for participating in these Workshops.

Agenda Item No.7 : To consider the proposal of the French Cooperative Movement

Mr. Claude Scheurer explained to the members of the sub-committee the objectives and activities of the Economic Bureaus which have been set up by the Economic Sub-Committee of the ICA Committee on Agriculture. He informed that there could be possibilities of providing financial and technical assistance

from the French and other cooperative movements in the developed countries for setting up joint ventures as may lead to promotion of cooperative international trade. He said that they were trying to assist not only the marketing of products of the developing countries but could also consider proposals to provide them equipment for processing of their products so that they acquire better opportunities to export their finished products. He invited the cooperative movements in the Region to inform them about the products they were interested to export to European countries and also about the kind of assistance, whether technical, financial or equipment, that was required by them. He said that after examining the proposal somebody from the Economic Bureau would visit them and explore the possibilities of evolving a mutually agreed arrangement for working together.

Agenda Item No.8 : To examine the list of exportable items

The sub-committee requested the member organisations to study carefully the list of exportable items from each country of the Region as identified by the ITC Adviser and further supplemented by the information given by the participants in the Regional Workshop at Singapore. They were requested to examine the possibilities of developing intra-regional trade in these goods with cooperative business organisations in the Region.

Mr. Rolf Akoby informed that a few more items had been identified by them and that a revised paper on the subject would be prepared by them during the second part of 1980. He requested the members of the sub-committee that he would be grateful if the business organisations in the Region could keep him informed, about the progress made by them in this respect.

It was decided that the final paper prepared by the COOPTRADE Project on the subject should be circulated by the Secretariat of the Committee to all member-movements in the Region.

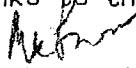
Agenda Item No.9 : Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

The Secretary informed the meeting that the ROEC had received information from ICA London office that the Second International Cooperative Trade Conference will be held in Moscow from 9-11 October 1980, and that one day at the Conference will be devoted to consider how to promote trade from the developing countries. He said that he had already sent a circular letter to all member-organisations in the region requesting them to intimate the names of cooperative business organisations in the Region to whom invitation may be issued by ICA London office for participating in this trade conference.

Mr. Claude Scheurer informed that the Economic Bureau was planning to issue in December 1979 a questionnaire to ICA member organisations in all countries and he requested the sub-committee to ensure that member organisation in the Region furnish replies to this questionnaire as that would help the ICA Economic Sub-Committee to know about the requirements of member organisations in the developing countries.

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

cc: Chairman & Members of the Committee
Members of the ICA Council for S-E-A ;
Director, ICA, London and SCC, Stockholm.


M.K. Puri
Secretary,
ICA Sub-Committee for Trade Dev.

267/1/80

ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia

THIRD MEETING

Venue Petaling Jaya (Malaysia)

Dates 20 November 1979



*International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
and Education Centre for South-East Asia, "Bonow
House", 43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110024, India*

21 January, 1980

MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE ICA COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER
COOPERATION FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD AT PETALING JAYA, MALAYSIA
ON 20 NOVEMBER, 1979

The Third Meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia was held in the Board Room of the MCIS at Petaling Jaya (Malaysia) on 20 November 1979.

The following were present :-

1. Mr. Akira Kurimoto, Japan
2. Mr. Ali Hossain, Bangladesh
3. Mr. M.A. Haque, Bangladesh
4. Mr. B. Krishnappa, India
5. Mr. Djoko Basuki, Indonesia
6. Dato Ahmad Yunus, Malaysia
7. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Philippines
8. Mr. A. Paramanathan, Singapore
9. Mr. Joseph Edward, Singapore
10. Mr. R.S. Jayaratne, Sri Lanka
11. Mr. Jaya Herat, Sri Lanka
12. Mr. Anan Chamnankit, Thailand

Secretary : Mr. M.K. Puri, Specialist in Consumer Cooperation, ICA ROEC, New Delhi.

Special Invitee : Mr. Chong Thin Huatt, Malaysia

ICA ROEC Staff

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

In attendance

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

Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome by the host movement

Dato N.A. Kularajah, President of the Cooperative Union of Malaysia welcomed the members of the Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of Malaysia.

Agenda Item No.2 : Remarks by the Chairman

In the absence of Mr.S.Nakabayashi, Chairman of the Committee, the members unanimously decided to appoint Mr.Akira Kurimoto, Alternate Councillor for Japan, as the Chairman for this meeting.

After thanking the members for the honour they had bestowed upon him in asking him to chair the meeting, Mr.Kurimoto conveyed Mr.Nakabayashi's regrets for his inability to attend the meeting. He informed that Mr.Nakabayashi had to attend an urgent meeting of the Japanese Cooperative Consumers Union (JCCU) in which the Board of Directors of the Union had to review implementation of the mid-term plan of the Union. He informed that Mr.M.Kobayashi too could not come to Malaysia for the same reason.

Mr.Kurimoto gave a brief account of the Annual Meeting of the O.C.C.P, held in Manchester (U.K.) in September 1979. He informed the members that a Working Group had been appointed by the OCCP at their meeting in Copenhagen in September 1978 to examine the role and objectives of the ICA Consumer Committee and to suggest guidelines for its future activity. The recommendations of the Working Group have stressed the importance of greater efforts : a) to initiate discussions on the crucial problems of cooperative consumer policy, b) to communicate information to both ICA members and to organisations outside the cooperative movement, c) to collaborate with other appropriate ICA committees, d) to represent on behalf of the ICA cooperative consumer interests to other international or non-international organisations and to collaborate with governmental and non-governmental agencies for consumer affairs, dealing with the problems and interests of consumers, particularly with consumer protection, e) to collect information about consumer policy initiatives in the ICA member organisations, f) to publish information and results of work of the Committee through the proposed "COOP Consumer" a quarterly magazine and with the use of other channels.

He further informed that while reviewing the work of the Consumer Committee the Working Group has remarked that more could be achieved in the future by pursuing a more limited number of objectives, in a more deliberate manner and that efforts should be made to improve communications between member organisations, the Secretariat and the ICA Headquarters in London.

The Working Group has recommended to replace the existing News Letter, Consumers Affairs Bulletin with a quarterly magazine, "Coop Consumer". It will be one of the primary tasks of "Coop Consumer" to inform and debate all new initiatives in the field of consumer policy of relevance to ICA members. The magazine will moreover seek to inform a wider circle of the activities of the Consumer Committee and will ensure that all shades of opinion in the debate on consumer policy are heard.

The Working Group in their report has further emphasised that the Consumer Committee must apply itself to securing a greater degree of understanding for the cooperative movement in its important role as watchdog for the consumer.

Mr. Kurimoto informed that Mr. S. Nakabayashi, President of the JCCU, had emphasised at the OCCP meeting the need for paying greater attention for seeking active involvement and participation by the members, particularly the housewives, in the affairs of their consumer cooperative societies.

The Working Party's recommendation to change the name of the OCCP to "Committee for Cooperative Consumer Affairs" had been accepted.

Agenda Item No.3 : Remarks by the Regional Director

Mr. R. B. Rajaguru, the Regional Director said, "I have little to add to what the Chairman has already said about the OCCP and INTERCOOP meetings, held in Manchester in September 1979, but I would like to focus attention of the members of the Committee on other aspects which I think are of importance to us in this Region. First, is a growing importance of consumer cooperation in the rural areas in most of the developing countries in South-East Asia. Perhaps, some of you may have already heard, of the tremendous programme that has recently been launched in India to open 200,000 outlets, both through cooperatives and other channels, to make available the basic essential commodities to the mass of people who live in rural areas. Possibly, this is a trend which is likely to take place in most of the developing countries where there is growing concern about the consumer in rural areas. We should focus our attention and see how we could strengthen such a movement and what management skills are needed to make extension of consumer activities to the rural areas more effective.

Another aspect that has been mentioned by the Chairman is that of consumer protection. This is a matter which is growing in importance and the consumer protection is becoming a strong move in the West.

Another aspect, which is relevant to both these situations, is that of involvement of women in consumer affairs in each country. Women have a dominant part to play in the buying of daily necessities. I would think that the members of the Committee would agree that, by and large, the involvement of women in cooperative activities in this part of the world has been rather poor. Perhaps, we could consider how we could find ways and means of getting more of the women involved both in the Committees of management or where that is not feasible, at least, in informal groups, so that they could make vital contribution to that area."

The members proposed that the ICA Consumer Affairs Committee should be requested to supply regularly to the Secretariat of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia at New Delhi, copies of their agenda notes and minutes of their meetings.

Agenda Item No.4 : Confirmation of minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting, second in the series, held on 4 December 1978 at Bangkok, Thailand, were confirmed.

Agenda Item No.5 : Matters arising out of minutes of the last meeting

Pre-Seminars on Consumer Cooperation

The Secretary of the Committee informed that five Pre-seminars on Consumer Cooperation were held in the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia during February-May 1979.

On the basis of the performance of the participants at the above pre-seminars, 20 participants were selected for attending the 21st International Seminar on "The Development of Consumer Cooperatives in South-East Asia". This seminar was conducted by the Swedish Cooperative Centre (SCC) in collaboration with the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA) in Sweden from 4th September to 26th October, 1979.

As regards holding of similar seminars for the personnel of consumer cooperatives in the remaining countries of the Region, the Secretary informed that on a request from the ROEC the SCC have already agreed that they would conduct the next International Cooperative Seminar on Consumer Cooperation for participants from the remaining countries of this Region in the spring of 1983. Final dates have yet to be worked out. As usual, the International Seminar would be preceded by Pre-seminars in these countries.

Agenda Item No.6 : Presentation of significant development in the field of consumer cooperation in the Region

At the request of the Chairman, some members made a brief statement regarding the significant developments in the field of consumer cooperation in their respective countries.

Banladesh

The position was that there was only a very limited scope for organising separate consumer cooperative societies in the country, except among employees in big establishments and industrial undertakings. In rural areas, consumer goods were being distributed through multipurpose cooperative societies.

Indonesia

There were only a few separate consumer cooperative societies among different wings of armed forces and civil servants. The multipurpose cooperative societies in rural areas were being encouraged to undertake distribution of basic consumer goods.

Philippines

The Government in Philippines was keen to depress prices of essential food items like fish, vegetables and other staple foods, With a view to provide some relief to the consumer population in urban areas efforts were being made to organise cooperative super palenghes (supermarkets) in big cities. In respect of rural population, the basic consumer goods were being supplied to them through

multipurpose cooperative societies, for the present in selected areas only. Under the Regional Cooperative Development Programme, financed by the Canadian International Development Authority (CIDA), three cooperative complexes were being developed which also include consumer cooperative stores. It was intended to multiply these complexes so as to cover other parts of the country in the near future. There was now a shift in government policy for greater attention for the promotion and development of consumer cooperatives.

India

Consumer Cooperative Movement was well advanced serving more than five million member families besides a very large number of non-member families. The Government had launched a big programme to extend consumer cooperative activity in rural areas. It was intended to have a cooperative retail outlet in each village or a group of villages covering a population of 2,000. The Government was giving financial assistance for development of managerial skills and the purchase of shop equipment, besides contributions in the share capital of these societies. A number of foreign experts were assisting the movement, under an ILO/SIDA Project. Recently, two Regional Distribution Centres had been developed, one in Coimbatore and the other in Madras.

Sri Lanka

There were very few separate consumer cooperative societies in the country. Consumer goods were being distributed through a net work of multipurpose cooperative societies and their branches all over the island. Almost all households in the country were members of these societies.

The new Government had liberalised import and export trade and also taken various steps to relax regulations on internal trade. As a result, Sri Lanka had experienced a sudden influx of imported consumer goods, including vehicles. Unfortunately, the cooperative movement was not geared to face competition from the private and public sector enterprises. The result was that 60 per cent of the consumer sections of the multipurpose cooperative societies ran at a loss during 1978. A relaxation in the rationing of basic consumer goods resulted in a decline of their turnover. Nevertheless, the popularity and the important role played by cooperatives among people was evident from the fact that only 5 per cent of them have left cooperatives and transferred their ration books to private dealers.

The Cooperative Wholesale Establishment continued to be the main supplier of imported consumer commodities to the cooperative sector which still depends largely on the public corporations and government departments for supply of goods. Recently, attempts had been made to build up the Sri Lanka Cooperative Marketing Federation (MARKFED) to be the wholesale supplier of consumer articles. It had started imports of a few consumer goods in a limited way. It is expected that there will be an increase of imports by the MARKFED in the near future. Certain large primary cooperatives too had started importing consumer goods like textiles, vehicle and motor spare parts etc.

A mention was also made of the fact that the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka had recently launched a Project for Consumer Education and Information among Women through Cooperatives in Sri Lanka with financial and technical assistance received from Swedish Cooperative Centre, Swedish International Development Authority and the Consumer Guilds in Sweden. The objectives of the Project can be very broadly stated as the education of consumers particularly the housewives in Sri Lanka, in regard to the value of consumer information, nutrition information, quality consciousness and to create among them an awareness of the role that cooperatives can play in promoting and protecting consumers interest.

Thailand

At the end of December 1977, there were 160 cooperative stores in operation with a total membership of 286,136 and a total annual sales turn-over of over Baht 1,177 million. The cooperative stores were facing strong competition from private trade and because of lack of adequate working capital and managerial skill they were finding it difficult to compete with them. However, three big cooperative societies in Bangkok viz. the Phranakorn, Krungdhob and the one in Chulalongkorn University are carrying out their operations very well. They have experienced and forward looking managements and are setting up department stores and supermarkets. At present, there are 11 retail outlets of Phranakorn and Krungdhob societies operating in various areas of Bangkok Metropolis.

More than 70 per cent of the total sales of consumer cooperative societies are to their own members. It is interesting to note that about 60 per cent of the total members in consumer cooperative societies are women.

The Consumer Cooperative Federation of Thailand was registered in 1975 but it has not so far been able to develop its functions as a wholesale society.

Malaysia

There were 124 consumer cooperatives and 98 other cooperatives having multipurpose objects with consumer activity as one of their functions in Peninsula Malaysia in 1977. The total membership was 107,923 and the share capital MS\$12,582,290. There were 313 units of cooperative shops comprising four supermarkets, 32 mini markets, 231 retail shops and 46 others. The total sales turnover amounted to MS\$67 million.

A number of cooperative shops were being operated at district level and those established under the Federal Land Development Authority. Rubber or Palm oil schemes, in the new villages were generally doing well. The success of these shops was, to a large extent, due to the fact that the settlers in the Scheme live together in a compact community, away from the towns. The cooperative shops were normally the only place they could go for their essential goods. All dues of the cooperative societies were deducted at the end of each month from their income.

In towns, small cooperative shops cannot survive against stiff competition from private shops. The current thinking was to grow big and to establish cooperative supermarkets and to locate them where they could best serve the common consumers particularly the middle and lower income groups. The Malaysian Cooperative Supermarket Society at Kuala Lumpur had been established on this basis and with the support and patronage of the consumers, the cooperative supermarket had proved to be a successful venture.

The main problems confronting consumer cooperative movement in Malaysia were : a) Inadequate share capital, b) Inexperienced management, c) Lack of proper stock-control, d) Inefficient control of operating expenses, e) Absence of a strong and efficient wholesale society, f) Inefficient support from members and g) Stiff competition from private business.

Japan

As on 31 March 1979, there were 650 consumers cooperative societies with 1,723 retail outlets and over six million households as members. The annual sales turnover at retail level amounted to over Yen 830 billion. The membership had increased by more than 200,000 during the year.

In order to establish a firm basis for the development of the consumer cooperative movement in the country, the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union had launched a mid-term plan whose objectives are to thoroughly strengthen the organisational and managerial structure of the cooperatives all over the country, through democratic administration, as well as to deepen the collaboration among them and consolidate the national level collaboration. The main features of the mid-term plan were a) to promote members activities and develop cooperative movement based on local community, b) to improve management skills, c) to improve the merchandising policy and techniques, d) to enlarge the skills of COOP employees and to cultivate motivated manpower and e) to strengthen the prefectural unions and regional level collaboration among cooperatives, f) the establishment of JCCU regional branches and g) the intensification of national level collaboration in the fields of finance, mutual aid and exchange of personnels.

During the International Year of the Child, the consumers cooperative movement in Japan had raised funds from its ordinary members for financing ICA Project "Buy a Bucket of Water". The Movement had also submitted a petition to the Government to ensure safety of toys and baby foods and to take suitable measures to bring about necessary reforms in children education.

Agenda Item No.7 : Presentation of Paper by Mr.Chong Thin Huatt, General Manager of M.C.S.S.Ltd. on "Consumer Cooperation in Malaysia"

Mr.Chong Thin Huatt, General Manager of the Malaysian Cooperative Supermarkets Society Ltd., who was present in the meeting on a special invitation, gave an interesting and informative talk on the subject of "Consumers Cooperative Movement in Malaysia", which was followed by a lively discussion.

Agenda Item No.8 : Review of National Seminars on Consumer Cooperation in four countries and the International Seminar in Sweden

The written information which was circulated by the Secretary in the meeting was noted.

The members of the Committee desired to place on record their sincere appreciation and hearty gratitude for the generous assistance provided by the SCC and SIDA for arranging training in consumer cooperation for participants from South-East Asian countries.

Mr.R.B.Rajaguru, Regional Director, requested that the concerned national organisations meet with the participants and discuss their experiences and suggestions and also get them to submit a detailed report about the seminar. He requested also that copies of the reports submitted by the participants to their respective national organisations be made available to the ROEC. He suggested that the national organisations inform the ROEC how far they think that the training received by their people has been relevant to their needs and their future programming in the field of consumer cooperation on that basis. He also emphasised the importance for a serious and careful approach in the selection of participants for international seminars and their follow-up at the national level. He informed that a follow-up of the above seminar at the regional level was being contemplated by the SCC in collaboration with ROEC in the near future.

Agenda Item No.9 : A Talk by Mr.Akira Kurimoto on the history of Consumer Cooperative Movement in Japan and its Experiences

Mr.Akira Kurimoto, acting Chairman of the Committee, gave a brief talk on the History of Consumer Cooperative Movement in Japan and its Experiences. He listed the followings as some of the lessons from the experiences of the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Movement : a) Vital importance of practicing cooperative principles, e.g. democratic administration and sound expansion of coops, b) Integration of cooperatives based on long and medium term planning, c) Consolidation of wholesale functions and development of own brand products, d) Active involvement of members, especially of women and their participation in day-to-day cooperative operations, e) Education and staff training in cooperative philosophy and modern management techniques, f) Leading role in general consumer movement, against price-hikes, sale of hazardous goods and pollution, g) Collaboration with other cooperatives and labourers' welfare organisations and h) Efforts for international cooperation and lasting peace.

While concluding his talk Mr.Kurimoto hoped that some of the experiences of the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Movement might be of some help or guidance to movements in the South-East Asian countries.

The members of the Committee proposed that a Regional Seminar on Consumer Cooperation particularly with reference to Members' Participation be arranged in Japan as the Japanese experience was much more useful and more relevant to conditions in South-East Asian context. The Chairman informed the meeting that the matter of holding the seminar in Japan would be taken up with IDACA and JCCU Board of Directors and the decision to this effect would be notified to ROEC in due course.

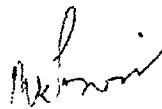
Agenda Item No.11 : Remarks by the Chairman

In his concluding remarks Mr. Akira Kurimoto said that he had been very pleased to preside over the meeting and expressed his happiness over the fact that attendance at this meeting had improved as compared with the last year's meeting. The Chairman expressed his satisfaction at the successful conduct of the meeting. He hoped that some steady progress could be made. He said that we should try to implement and study in detail about the experiences of each country which was expressed and presented at the meeting and should have follow-up national seminars.

Agenda Item No.12 : The Date and Venue of the Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee should be convened along with the next meeting of the ICA Regional Council and that the date and venue for the meeting will be fixed by the ICA Regional Director in due course.

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



M.K. Puri,
Secretary & Specialist in
Consumer Cooperation

cc: Chairman & Members of the ICA
Committee on Consumer Cooperation.
cc: Members, ICA Council for S-E Asia.
cc: Chairman, OCCP, FDB, Roskildevej 65, DK-2620 Albertslund (Denmark)
cc: Director, ICA, London (U.K.)
cc: Director, SCC, Stockholm (Sweden)

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