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AGENDA NOTES

And MINUTES

***ICA Council
for South-East Asia***

TWENTYFOURTH MEETING

Venue MANILA (PHILIPPINES)

Dates NOVEMBER 11-12, 1982



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

TWENTYFOURTH MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA
Manila (Philippines) - November 7-15, 1982

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Annexe

Minutes of the 23rd Meeting of the Council held
at Seoul, Korea, on 29th & 30th October, 1981.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 : WELCOME

1. Brig. Gen. A.S. Lozada, President, Cooperative Union of the Philippines will welcome the members of the Council on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of the Philippines.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 : INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

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

ii. Remarks by ICA Director.

iii. Remarks by SCC Representative.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 : ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

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

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 23RD MEETING

4.1 The Minutes of the last meeting held at Seoul, Korea, have been circulated to all the members.

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

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

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

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

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

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 : ADMINISTRATION

7.1 The ROEC is glad to report that the following member organisations have contributed the amounts mentioned against their names to the funds of the ROEC for the financial year 1981-82 :

Name of the member-organisations	Contributions paid in Indian Rupees
1. National Cooperative Union of India	25,000
2. Japanese Joint Committee on Cooperatives	29,000
3. National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, Korea	9,576
4. Cooperative Union of Malaysia	1,666
5. Cooperative Union of the Philippines	1,578
6. Cooperative League of Thailand	8,000
7. Singapore Amalgamated Services Cooperative Organisation	3,250
TOTAL	Rs. 78,070

7.2 The total received for the year was Rs.78,070 and this generous support of the member-organisations is acknowledged with deep appreciation.

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

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

7.3 For the year 1981-82, contributions have been received from the member-organisations in Australia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand amounting to £ 355/- and are acknowledged with thanks.

Other members are kindly requested to forward their contributions early.

Concessions by the Government of India

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

Staff Changes

7.5 Dr. G. Ojha who was working as Research Officer for the Small Farmer Research Study has now been appointed to work as Education Officer (AVA) in the CEMAS Unit of ROEC until 31st July 1983.

7.6 Mr. Daman Prakash, working as ILO Expert in Training Aids, Organisation of Production Unit and Production of Material at Jakarta, Indonesia, has been given a further extension of no-pay leave upto 13th July, 1983.

7.7 Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, has been promoted to Officer Grade I with effect from 1st January, 1982.

7.8 Mr. Ulf Bergstrom, a Swedish national, has been appointed to the ROEC as its Specialist in Cooperative Trade with effect from 29th August, 1982 on a two year assignment.

7.9 Mr. B.D. Pandey, Librarian & Documentation Officer, has been released on no-pay leave to work with ILO/UNDP Cooperative Training Project in Jakarta, Indonesia, for a duration of two months (23rd August to 22nd October, 1982).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 : EDUCATION CENTRE

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

8.1 Action has been initiated to carry out the programme of activities approved by the Council for the year July 1982 - June 1983.

Section - II: Review of Educational Activities
August 1981 to July 1982

REGIONAL SEMINARS/CONFERENCES

8.2 SCC/ICA Sub-Regional Follow-up Seminar
on Agricultural Cooperation

A Sub-Regional Follow-up Seminar on Agricultural Cooperation was held by the ICA ROEC in Colombo, Sri Lanka in collaboration with the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, from 27th July to 11th August 1981. The seminar was attended by 24 selected participants from Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. These participants had earlier attended the ICA/SCC and ICA/CUAC/IDACA seminars on the subject of agricultural cooperation.

The objectives of the seminar were:

- (i) To discuss problems in agricultural cooperative credit, marketing, supply of agricultural inputs and board of directors - executive - member relations in agricultural cooperatives.
- (ii) To discuss aspects the participants had been able to learn from the seminars they attended earlier and aspects they were able to implement and problems faced by them, if any.
- (iii) To discuss overall usefulness of the seminars held by the ICA and SCC as well as by the ICA/CUAC/IDACA on Agricultural Cooperation to the participants and what modifications are needed, if any, in holding these seminars.

The seminar discussed the following subject areas:

1. Credit (including savings),
2. Supply of agricultural inputs,
3. Agricultural Marketing,
4. Board of directors - paid executive - member relations.

The participants presented case studies specially prepared for the seminar by them on Agricultural Cooperation with special reference to the above subject areas. Presentation of case studies on each of the subject areas was followed by group work based on case studies and lectures delivered on the particular subject. Study visits were arranged to agricultural cooperatives in Sri Lanka for a period of one week and in Kerala State, India, for another week.

8.3 SCC/ICA Sub-Regional Follow-up Seminar on Agricultural Cooperation

A Sub-Regional Follow-up Seminar on Agricultural Cooperation was held in collaboration with the Cooperative League of Thailand in Bangkok from 23rd November to 5th December followed by study visits in Malaysia from 6th to 16th December 1982 in collaboration with ANGKASA and Farmers Organisation Authority (FOA). The seminar was attended by selected 25 participants from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Rep. of Korea, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

The objectives of the seminar, the subject areas covered and the methodology followed were the same as in 8.2.

Study visits were arranged to agricultural cooperatives in Thailand and Malaysia.

8.4 Regional Seminar on Development of Consumer Cooperation in South-East Asia

In deference to wishes of the ICA ROEC Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia, the cooperative movement in Japan agreed to host in Tokyo, a Regional Seminar on Development of Consumer Cooperation, for participants from South-East Asian countries. Accordingly, ICA ROEC in collaboration with Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union (JCCU), Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (CUAC) and the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA) organised a Regional Seminar on Development of Consumer Cooperation in Japan from 1st to 21st September 1981. The seminar was preceded by one-week study visits in the Rep. of Korea from 24th to 31st August 1981 where the participants were afforded an opportunity to study distribution of consumer goods in

rural areas through the network of agricultural cooperative multipurpose societies, supported by the Retail Distribution Section of the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF).

The objectives of the seminar were as follows:

- (i) to study planning and management of cooperative super-markets in Japan,
- (ii) to study modern techniques of distribution as are being followed by consumer cooperatives in Japan,
- (iii) to learn from the Japanese and Korean experiences in regard to distribution of consumer goods in urban and rural areas,
- (iv) to discuss questions concerning development of consumer cooperatives in the participating countries, keeping in view the experiences of the Japanese and the Korean movements.

The subjects dealt with at the seminar were Japanese Economy; History of Japanese Cooperative Movement; Administration of Consumer Cooperatives in Japan; Organisational Activities of Consumer Cooperatives; Merchandising Policies; Store Operations and Staff Training. After discussion of various subjects, participants were taken on a four-day study tour to Nada-Kobe Consumers Cooperative Society, which is the biggest in Asia and fifth largest in terms of membership and sales-turnover in the world. At the end of their study visit the participants discussed the special features of the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Movement and also appropriate strategies for developing effective and viable consumer cooperative movements in their respective countries.

One of the seminar recommendations was that the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Movement should be requested to organise at least one Regional Seminar in alternate years for employees of consumers cooperatives in developing countries of the South-East Asian Region and that they may also provide facilities for on-the-job training to selected employees.

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8.5 2nd Follow-up Programme for Cooperative Teachers

A Follow-up Programme for Cooperative Teachers was held in Los Banos, Philippines, from 10th November to 15th December 1981 in collaboration with Agricultural Credit and Cooperatives Institute (ACCI). 21 trainers from India, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand who had taken part in 1978 and 1980 courses on Training Methodology and Techniques and who had completed their assignments were invited to take part in the course. The objectives of the programme were:

- (i) To discuss the utilisation of the training received by the participants in the Regional Courses with special reference to the use of teaching techniques learnt by them.
- (ii) To review, comment on and to improve the training materials produced by the participants as per the assignments completed by them and thereby sharpen the skills of the participants in production of training materials.
- (iii) To enable the participants to study the activities of the selected cooperative organisations in the Philippines.

The programme was based on the work of the participants themselves and it concentrated on practice teaching by the participants with the aid of the material produced by them viz. management cases, training packages and role plays and improving both the training material and the teaching skills of the participants. An important recommendation of the participants was that the South-East Asian Specialists Group on Cooperative Training (SEASPECT) should pay special attention to improving trainee-evaluation techniques.

8.6 7th Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management

The 7th Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management was held in Manila, Philippines, from 5th to 11th November 1981 in collaboration with the Cooperative Union of the Philippines and other member organisations of the ICA in the Philippines. The Ministry of Agriculture and the Department of Cooperatives in the Philippines also lent their support to the Conference. The conference was attended by 177 participants as

detailed below. An observer from the ILO also attended.

<u>Countries</u>	<u>No. of participants</u>
India	10
Rep. of Korea	3
Malaysia	64
Philippines	83
Singapore	15
Sri Lanka	1
Thailand	1
	<hr/>
Total	177
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The theme of the conference was "Cooperation among Cooperatives". The following three subjects were discussed at the conference.

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

After the subjects were introduced by the experts specially invited for the purpose, the conference was divided into three commissions which discussed each of the subjects in depth. The reports of the commissions were then discussed and adopted at the plenary session.

The participants also made one-day study visits to cooperative institutions in and around Manila.

8.7 Regional Course in Training Techniques and Research Methodology for Cooperative Staff Training in S-E Asia

The Regional Course in Training Techniques and Research Methodology for Cooperative Staff Training in South-East Asia was conducted at Pune, India, from 4th January to 27th March 1982 in collaboration with the Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management (VMNICM), Pune and the National Cooperative Union of India.

The course was attended by 25 participants from ten countries of the Region, namely, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand. Of these, three participants from Afghanistan were sponsored by the FAO Project on Agricultural Cooperatives Training in Afghanistan and the costs were borne by the FAO.

The objectives of the course were as follows:

- (i) to enable the participants to use the lecture method effectively with the help of audio-visual aids and impart them skills in preparing their own course materials,
- (ii) to enable the participants to learn some techniques of research so as to enable them to carry out library/field research studies,
- (iii) to enable the participants to teach through the case method and to enable them to prepare their own cases, and
- (iv) to study selected areas of cooperative management, namely, (a) cooperative enterprise and environment, and (b) principles and process of management.

The course programme based on participative techniques was divided into the following five parts:

- Part-I : Audio Visual Aids & Curriculum Development.
- Part-II : Study Visits to Coop. Training Institutions in India.
- Part-III : Cooperative Management.
- Part-IV : Research Methodology
- Part-V : Workshop on Management Cases.

The participants prepared six training packages based on visual aids, and ten management cases. Practice teaching was an important element of the course. The participants also had an opportunity to visit for two weeks a variety of cooperative organisations and cooperative training institutions in India. They also carried out field work for preparation of management cases which gave them an insight into the

working of cooperative organisations.

8.8 Regional Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Credit

Philippines

A Regional Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Credit was conducted in Manila, Philippines, from 23rd March to 17th April 1982 in collaboration with the Cooperative Union of the Philippines. Nineteen participants from Bangladesh, India, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines and Sri Lanka participated in the seminar.

The objectives of the seminar were :

- (i) to review the present state of agricultural credit cooperatives in the region and their contribution to agricultural development and ways of building up a strong cooperative credit system,
- (ii) to discuss effective loaning procedures, supervision and guidance in the use of credit and methods of recovery,
- (iii) to discuss effective ways of mobilisation of funds including saving by cooperatives in the region, and
- (iv) to consider questions of providing credit to small farmers.

The subjects discussed by the seminar included cooperative credit planning, resource mobilisation, production-oriented credit, provision of credit to small farmers, effective methods of loan recovery, better living activities and integration of services.

The participants carried out study visits to cooperative credit institutions in the Philippines and Thailand. A visit was made to FAO Regional Office in Bangkok where the participants discussed with the FAO officers problems concerning agricultural credit system in Asian countries with particular reference to small farmers.

8.9 Regional Meeting-cum-Workshop for Women Cooperative Leaders

Sri Lanka

This activity was held by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka in Hikkaduwa, Sri Lanka, from 4th to 17th July 1982. The participants were presidents and secretaries of National Cooperative Women's Committees and

Coordinators of Women's Cooperative Activities. In all there were 22 participants from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

The objectives of the programme were :

- (i) to review the progress made in the setting up of women's committees at national and other levels and to assess their performance and effectiveness,
- (ii) to identify constraints in the setting up of Women's Committees and to find ways and means of establishing a recognised status for such committees, and
- (iii) to identify meaningful programmes as will help the education of women, the development of leaders and as will enhance their increased involvement in cooperative activities.

The participants had an opportunity of learning about the activities of the SCC/ICA Women's Cooperative Consumer Information and Education Project which is now in its third phase and is working with 30 societies.

The meeting adopted a set of recommendations which, it is hoped, will further the development of women's committees and women's involvement in cooperative programmes in the region.

NATIONAL SEMINARS/COURSES8.10 Workshop on Cooperative Retail Management, Thailand

A National Workshop on Cooperative Retail Management was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 28th July to 8th August 1981. Twenty-three participants attended the seminar.

8.11 Seminar for Directors of University Cooperative Stores in Thailand

A National Seminar for Directors of University Cooperatives Stores in Thailand was held from 16th to 21st November 1981 in collaboration with the Cooperative League of Thailand. The seminar was attended by 21 participants.

8.12 Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers in Malaysia

A National Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers was held in Malaysia from 15th to 27th February 1982. This was a follow-up of the ICA Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers held earlier in Manila during April-May 1981. Twenty-five participants from various cooperative organisations in the country participated in the workshop.

8.13 Seminar on Consumer Cooperation, Malaysia

A National Seminar on Consumer Cooperation was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 12th to 23rd March 1982. Twenty-three participants attended the seminar.

8.14 Seminar-cum-Workshop for Women Cooperators, Philippines

A National Seminar-cum-Workshop on Better Living through Cooperatives was held in Manila, Philippines, from 2nd to 4th April 1982. Forty participants from the Philippines participated in the seminar.

8.15 Workshop on Cooperative Retail Management, Philippines

A National Workshop on Cooperative Retail Management in the Philippines was assisted by the ICA ROEC. The Workshop was held in Los Banos from 13 th to 25th April 1982. It was attended by 18 participants and four observers.

8.16 Workshop on Cooperative Retail Management, Philippines

A workshop supported by the ICA on Cooperative Retail Management was held at Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines, from 3rd to 15th May 1982. It was attended by 25 participants and three observers.

8.17 Seminar for Fishery Cooperatives, Malaysia

A National Seminar for Fishery Cooperatives was held in Kuala Trengganu, Malaysia, from 10th to 15th May 1982 by ANGKASA in collaboration with the ICA ROEC. Forty participants who are presidents, managers and board members of fishery cooperative societies in Malaysia attended the seminar. The seminar reviewed the present situation of fishery cooperatives in Malaysia. The major areas discussed by the seminar were credit facilities to fishermen, supply of fishing gear through cooperatives, marketing of fish and organisational problems in fishery cooperatives.

8.18 In-house Training for Employees of Super Palengke in Supermarket operations, Philippines

An In-house Training Programme for Employees of Metro Manila Consumer Cooperatives was carried out on Super Market operations as a follow-up of ICA/SCC Consultancy Mission in April/June 1980. The programme was held from 20th to 26th May 1982. Fifty participants took part in the programme.

8.19 Seminar on Better Living Activities through Agricultural Cooperatives, Sri Lanka

A National Seminar on Better Living Activities through Agricultural Cooperatives was held by the National Cooperative Council

of Sri Lanka from 13th to 23rd June 1982 in Kandy, Sri Lanka, in collaboration with the ICA ROEC. The subjects discussed by the seminar included better living activities in agricultural cooperatives, income generating activities for farm families, savings promotion, nutrition, family health and family welfare.

8.20 Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS)

Information on and/or copies of the educational materials were collected and supplied to various cooperative organisations, training institutions and educators in the Region. A number of requests from individual cooperators and educational institutions in different countries were also complied with. Exchange of educational material among different CEMAS Units was continued during the period.

As usual requests from training institutions in India for films on loan were received and complied with. During the period under review 18 films and 2 film strips were sent on loan to the training institutions. In addition, 35 film shows were arranged in our conference hall for visitors to our office.

The Cooperative Film Catalogue was updated during the year and was made available to all member organisations and cooperative training institutions in the Region.

A handbook on Adult Psychology and Educational Methods has been brought out.

Additions to the inventory of case studies, role plays and training packages based on audio-visual aids have been made through the work done by the participants of the ICA Training Methodology Course. This material is made available to the training colleges on request.

Manual for preparation of training material based on visual aids is being revised in the light of experiences obtained at various courses of Training Methodology where it has been used.

The Joint Director (Education) participated in the two courses conducted by CEMAS in regard to the Field Education Development (FED) Project in Zambia in May/June 1982. Preparations have also been made to hold a workshop of cooperative education personnel in India where FED material will be introduced and tested. Arrangements are also being made for the visit of Mr. Bo Engstrom, ICA H.Q., CEMAS Officer, to visit India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia and the Philippines in connection with the FED Project.

8.21 Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers in Sri Lanka

5th year of operation

As recommended by the Evaluation Team, the Term of the Project has been extended by a further period of 2 years. The Project has completed its fourth year of operation.

The services of Mr. Olle Turnbull, Western Cooperative College, Saskatoon in Canada, were obtained for the period of one month (5.8.81 to 5.9.81) to orient the Project personnel and some other functionaries in developing job-related curriculum. Mr. Turnbull assisted the Project in formulating job-related curriculum for the training of retail shop managers in multipurpose cooperative societies on the basis of field work carried out by him in collaboration with project personnel in five multipurpose cooperative societies in Kandy area. Some learning elements were also produced for training the retail shop managers. Financial assistance for Mr. Turnbull's services was provided by the Canadian Development Foundation.

The project refined the field study programme for cooperative teachers. The project assisted selected multipurpose cooperative societies in developing internal training programmes.

A symposium was held to consider ways in which examination system for cooperative employees being trained by the District Cooperative Education Centres can be improved. The Symposium was found useful by both the examiners and the trainers as this was the first time that many of the participants were exposed to the concepts about examination and the evaluation systems practised elsewhere.

Training material on teaching techniques was produced for us of teachers in the District Cooperative Education Centres. Also some subject matter training materials which will be directly used by the teachers were also prepared in the form of training packages based on visual aids.

The development of Internal Training Systems in selected multipurpose cooperatives is being continued. A manual on this aspect is under preparation.

8.22 Cooperative Consumer Education Project for Women in Sri Lanka

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This Project has completed its fourth year and is in its third phase now covering 29 Multipurpose Cooperative Societies and one Credit Cooperative Society. The activities of the project have now spread to 14 out of the 27 districts in the country. The spillover effect of project activities has been such that over 50 other societies which are not part of the project are also actively carrying out the various programmes as refined and implemented by the project itself.

The project provided followship facilities to three women leaders, one from India and two from Thailand, during the course of 1981 and also to the Education Officer (Women) of Moshi ICA Regional Office during the course of June 1982.

The main areas of emphasis of the project are consumer protection, consumer education, family health and family welfare, balanced diet, nutrition and health, breast feeding, child care, preventive health, improvement of kitchens and home gardening while at the same time exploring the possibilities of involving women in income generating activities as would help them to improve their family income.

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The project has completed 18 wells under the ICA Buy a Bucket of Water Programme, assisted by SCC and by local collections. The Women's Committees of the societies have been mainly responsible for the preliminary negotiations as to gifting of land, organisation of voluntary labour, construction etc.

8.23 Project for Enhancing Income Generating Activities among Cooperative Members' Housewives in Thailand

This project is being implemented by the Cooperative League of Thailand with the assistance of the Cooperatives Promotion Department. The project is being financially supported by the Swedish Cooperative Centre (SCC) through the ICA ROEC. The main focus of the project is to provide income generating opportunities to housewives of members and their families with a view to involving member families also in the cooperative development activities of the region. The ILO Cooptrade Project now in operation in Bangkok, Thailand, is considering the possibility of providing this project a short-term consultancy to improve their products with a view to entering international marketing.

8.24 Women's Cooperative Education Project in India

This project which is being worked out by the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) will be financially supported by the SCC through the ICA ROEC. The preliminary surveys have been completed during the course of January-March 1982 and the NCUI has prepared a preliminary document, which will be processed early for further action.

8.25 Consultancy and Allied Services

The Regional Director and the Director (Education) assisted the ILO National Seminars on Setting National Cooperative Standards and Policy held in Thailand, Sri Lanka and India.

The Specialist in Consumer Cooperation made a preliminary investigation regarding setting up a Cooperative Regional Warehouse for Consumer Cooperatives in Thailand. This investigation has been found very useful by the Thai Movement and it is expected that a project in this regard may be formulated later by the Thai Movement.

The Education Officer (Women & Youth) carried out a study on the Role of Women in Fishery Cooperatives in Japan in collaboration with the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan during the period 25th October to 7th November 1981.

The Librarian and Documentation Officer provided consultancy services to the Libraries of the Cooperative League of Thailand and the Cooperative College of Malaysia in November 1981.

From time to time the officers of the ICA ROEC gave lectures at various training centres and courses other than those directly organised by the ROEC either in the form of regional or national seminars

Section III : Proposed Programme of Activities
July 1983 - June 1984

The ICA and SCC has appointed an Evaluation Team comprising Dr. S.K Saxena and Mr. Karl Forelstrom to review and assess the regional programme activities of the ICA during the period 1975-80. Mr. M.Matsuhira from Japan was coopted as a member for the assessment work relating to this Region. The assessment team's report is expected to give guidelines for future work planning and to identify a strategy and priorities to be followed in formulating programmes oriented to the needs and problems of the Region. The report of the evaluation team is not yet available and the programme proposals given below may have to be modified in the context of the recommendations of the Evaluation Team. The modified proposals will be put up at the time of the meeting.

✓ 1. TOP LEVEL COOPERATIVE LEADERS' CONFERENCE

Theme : Enhancing Cooperative Capability
 Venue : Tokyo (Japan)
 Duration : 3-12 November 1983
 Participants : ~~About~~ 60 including Secretariat

*Also Rep. in
 Summary
 Meeting
 Secretariat*

The Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan has agreed to host the above Conference from 3rd to 12th November 1983. Contacts have been taken up with the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organisation (AARRO) and the International Labour Office (ILO) to co-sponsor the conference. The theme of the conference is 'Enhancing Cooperative Capability'.

The proposed subject areas are as follows:-

- (I) Cooperatives and National Development (Two Papers).
 (i) government role and policy for cooperative development, (ii) cooperative organisational structure for effective performance.
- (II) Integrated Cooperative Rural Development.
 (two papers on practical experiences)
- (III) Cooperatives and the Poor (two papers)
 (one paper would be on Technical Assistance)

Two days will be reserved for field visits to cooperative organisations in Japan.

The participants to the Conference will include leaders of the cooperative movement from the voluntary side, members of the ICA Regional Council and Ministers/Commissioners of Cooperative Development in the Region. It is also expected that ICA London, Swedish Cooperative Centre, Stockholm, and other international bodies concerned with cooperative development would send participants.

✓ 2. REGIONAL ~~SEMINAR~~ ^{CONFERENCE} ON INTEGRATED COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Venue : Seoul (Rep. of Korea - Tentative)
 Participants : 25 15
 Duration : 3 weeks in 2nd half of 1983.

The Seminar will be held in Seoul in collaboration with the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, Seoul. Objectives of the seminar would be to review the situation in regard to integrated cooperative activities aimed at promoting agricultural cooperative development in various countries of the Region, to discuss the problems of achieving coordination and integration of various activities of agricultural cooperatives such as credit, supply, farm guidance and marketing and to study the techniques whereby such coordination/integration has been achieved especially in the Republic of Korea and Japan.

3. SUB-REGIONAL SEMINAR FOR FISHERY COOPERATIVES

Venue : Open \leftarrow Sri Lanka
 Participants : 24
 Duration : Two weeks

Sub-Regional Seminar will be held for Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. The participants at the seminar will comprise managers, presidents and board members of fishery

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cooperatives. The focus of the seminar will be management problems of fishery cooperatives and ways of ensuring further development of fishery cooperatives.

The Sri Lanka Fisheries Cooperative Federation has proposed the above Seminar. They have suggested that organisation of women's groups in fishery cooperatives be given special attention at the Seminar.

✓ 4.

SEASPECT MEETING AND FOLLOW-UP OF SCC/ICA
PRINCIPALS AND SENIOR TEACHERS COURSE

Venue	:	Open
Participants	:	25
Duration	:	15 days

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It is proposed to hold the 4th meeting of the SEASPECT - South-East Asian Specialists Group on Cooperative Training - the members of which are the principals of national level cooperative training colleges. Along with this meeting a follow-up programme for the principals and senior teachers who had participated in the SCC/ICA/ILO/MATCOM course in Sri Lanka/Sweden would be held.

The main subject areas to be discussed would include curriculum development and evaluation methods. The above programme will also review the utilisation of the training received by the participants of the above course and the follow-up work carried out on their action commitments.

✓ 5.

SUB-REGIONAL COURSE ON TECHNIQUES OF
AUDIO-VISUAL INSTRUCTION

Venue	:	Manila, Philippines (Tentative)
Participants	:	25
Duration	:	1½ to 2 months

The courses held by the ICA ROEC on Training Methodology and Techniques have been found very useful in the Region. A

specialised course on Audio-Visual Instruction is proposed in view of the efficacy of audio-visual instruction as a communication tool and the greater feasibility of its adoption by the cooperative training institutions in the Region. Special attention would be given in the course to enabling the participants to properly use the audio-visual equipment, and to assisting them in producing training material based on audio-visual aids and to practice teaching.

The course would be conducted with the assistance of ACCI and possibly Communication Foundation of Asia, Manila.

The countries to be included in the Sub-Regional Course would include - Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand, India and Sri Lanka.

Another course next year would be conducted for the remaining countries.

6. REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON FIELD EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT (FED) MATERIAL

Venue	:	Open
Participants	:	25
Duration	:	One month (first half of 1984)

The ICA-CEMAS, London, has developed proto-type Field Education Development Material - FED Pack - aimed at improving the performance of cooperatives in developing countries through local education. The material has been tried out in selected countries of East and Central Africa. It will be tested in India in November this year. The workshop will be held with a view to presenting the field education development strategy and material to the Chief Executives and the Cooperative Education Officers of the member-organisations as well as officers responsible for cooperative education development in the Government Cooperative Departments, so that local cooperative education programmes could be made more effective in the various countries of the Region. The possibilities of starting Field Education Development Projects in selected areas in a few countries would also be examined.

✓ 7. THIRD MEETING OF THE REGIONAL WORKING PARTY
FOR COOPERATIVE PRESS FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Venue : Manila (Philippines)
Participants : 12
Duration : 6 days in the first half of 1984.

Those working editors/information officers and publicity managers who are nominated as members of the ICA ROEC Working Party in the Region will attend. The agenda for the meeting will be formulated after consultation with the members and it would be outlined to the Council at the time of the meeting.

8. NATIONAL SEMINARS AND CONSULTATIVE SERVICES

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

9. COOPERATIVE EDUCATION MATERIALS ADVISORY SERVICE (CEMAS)

The CEMAS Unit in Delhi would try to hold 2-3 national level courses with a view to training cooperative trainers for training local field education officers with the aid of FED Training Pack.

It is proposed to produce some Case Studies of Successful Cooperative Organisations during the year. These materials will be useful to cooperative colleges as well as cooperative field educators.

10. PROJECTS

The following projects will be continued during the year :

- i. Teachers' Training Project in Sri Lanka.
- ii. Project for Consumer Education and Information through Cooperatives in Sri Lanka.
- iii. Women's Cooperative Education Project in India.
(Indian Project is expected to be operational during the year 1982-83)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 : TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRADE

Part I : Technical Assistance

9.1 During the course of the year, the ICA Regional Office received the following requests for technical assistance:

1. A proposal to set up a regional warehouse for consumer cooperatives in Thailand.
2. Project for Income Generating Activities for Women Members of Multipurpose Cooperative Societies in Sri Lanka.

1. Regional Warehouse in Thailand

The preliminary investigations have already been carried out by the Specialist in Consumer Cooperation in ICA Regional Office and his investigation report together with the project idea has been sent to the Swedish Cooperative Centre for their consideration. In case the project idea is approved by the SCC, they have been requested to depute a Swedish Expert to carry out a detailed feasibility study in this regard.

2. Income Generating Project

A request for assistance in this sector has been made by the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka. This project will be a further extension of the ongoing Consumer Education Project in Sri Lanka. The SCC has agreed to support a feasibility study in the first instance.

9.2 Follow-up Consultancy Services to Super Palengke, Manila

As a follow-up of the previous SCC-ICA Consultancy Mission to the Metro Manila Consumers' Cooperative Society (in March-May 1980) an Inhouse Training programme for employees of the Super Palengke was arranged from 20th to 27th May, 1982.

On a request from the management of the Super Palengke, their working results for the year 1981 were reviewed by our Specialist in Consumer Cooperation and his comments furnished to the President of the Board of Directors of the society for his consideration.

Part II : Promotion of Cooperative Trade

9.3 Appointment of Specialist in International Trade

In view of increasing emphasis by member organisations on the need for promotion of international trade of cooperative business organisations in this region, the ICA Regional Office requested the Swedish Cooperative Centre to provide the services of an expert on international trade at the Regional Office. The SCC has made available the services of Mr. Ulf Bergstrom, a Specialist in Cooperative Trade to work with the ROEC initially for a period of two years from 28th August, 1982. It is hoped that the various member organisations will make best use of the expertise available to improve the cooperative trade situation.

9.4 ICA-ILO Regional Pilot Workshop on Advanced Marketing and International Trade

One of the important activities of the ICA Regional Office and ILO COOPTRADE Project has been the training of cooperative personnel in export handling, export techniques and export management.

The ILO and the COOPTRADE Project have jointly developed a MATCOM Training Pack on Advanced Marketing and International Trade. The ILO in collaboration with the ICA ROEC will hold a joint Workshop from 28th November to 11th December, 1982 in New Delhi to test the training pack as a suitable instrument to training of cooperative managers in the field of export marketing and to assess whether the material can be used effectively by trainers in

training institutions and in business organisations. It is proposed to invite to this Workshop six trainers and fourteen managers from 12 countries of the region.

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

PUBLICATIONS

10.1 The following publications were brought out during the period under review: (October 1981 to September 1982)

i. Enhancing Women's participation in Cooperative Activities:

The publication comprises working papers, selected background papers and the report of the Regional Seminar on "Enhancing Women's participation in cooperative activities" held by the ICA ROEC in Kandy, Sri Lanka, in September 1980.

ii. The Role of Women in the Japanese Agricultural Cooperative Movement by Mrs. M. D'Cruz

This is the report of a two-week study on the subject undertaken by Mrs. M. D'Cruz, Education Officer in the ICA ROEC. The report analyses the role played by women in the activities of the Japanese agricultural cooperatives. It also discusses the position of rural women in Japan, women's association within the cooperatives, their objectives and activities and how effectively they are able to link their activities with those of the agricultural cooperatives for the mutual benefit of members and their families.

iii. Report of the Regional Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Credit.

This is the report of the Regional Seminar held on the subject in the Philippines and Thailand in March-April 1982.

iv. Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management, Manila, 1981 - Report and Papers in Press.

The publication consists of working papers presented at the Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management held in the Philippines in November 1981. The theme of the conference was on "Cooperation among cooperatives" and the publication includes papers on "Cooperation among members at the local level", "Cooperation among cooperatives within a country" and "Cooperation among cooperatives on a regional and global basis", and the Conference Report.

- v. Adult Psychology and Education Methods -
- A Hand-Book by Dharm Vir (in Press).

This publication consists of three parts. The first part deals with "Adult Psychology", the second deals with "Methods and techniques" and the third contains educational materials which can be used in the training of adults. The publication has been prepared under the Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS) of the ICA ROEC by Dr. Dharm Vir, Specialist in Educational Methods and Joint Director (Education) in the ICA ROEC.

- vi. Report on Activities - 1981.

A report on the activities carried out by the ICA ROEC during the calendar year 1981 has been brought out in printed form. It also includes information on the activities scheduled for 1982, holidays that will be observed by the ICA ROEC during 1982, and lists of technical staff in the ROEC besides the collaborating member organisations in 1981. The report, brought out for the first time, has been appreciated by the member organisations and other contacts of the ICA. It is proposed to make it a regular yearly publication.

- vii. Report of the Sub-Regional Workshop on
Cooperative Press and Publicity (Mimeo).

This is the report of the Sub-regional workshop held on the subject in Bangkok from 26th April to 6th May 1981.

- viii. Report of the Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative
Librarians and Documentation Officers (Mimeo).

The publication consists of the report of the Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers held in the Philippines in April 1981.

- ix. Report of the Regional Seminar on Organisation and
Development of Cooperative Fisheries (Mimeo).

- x. Report of the Sub-Regional Follow-up Seminar on
Agricultural Cooperation, Sri Lanka (Mimeo).

- xi. Report of the Sub-Regional Follow-up Seminar on Agricultural
Cooperation, Thailand/Malaysia (Mimeo).

These publications are the reports of the activities carried out on the subjects held in the Rep. of Korea in March 1981, in Sri Lanka in July 1981 and in Thailand and Malaysia in November/December 1981 respectively.

10.2 PUBLICITY

10.2.1 The ICA Regional Bulletin was issued quarterly. The feature "spotlight" was continued giving details of the following success stories:

- i. Byeogje Agricultural Cooperative Society - Republic of Korea, October 1981 issue.
- ii. Mulukanoor Cooperative Rural Bank - India January 1982 issue.
- iii. Sorosoro Ibaba Cooperative - The Philippines April 1982 issue.
- iv. Derm Bank Nang Buat Agricultural Cooperative Society, Thailand July 1982 issue.

10.2.2 Collection of Cooperative News

Collection of cooperative news from the region for use in the ICA Regional Bulletin was continued during the year under review. Members of the ICA Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press for South-East Asia continued to send cooperative news, features, success stories. It was agreed at the last Working Party meeting held in Indonesia that names of members of the Working Party who supply news items to the Bulletin will be mentioned at the end of such news items.

10.2.3 Press Releases:

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

10.3 Second meeting of the ICA Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press for South-East Asia

10.3.1 The ICA Regional Working Party on Cooperative Press for South-East Asia, a forum for cooperative journalists from the Region, met in Jakarta (Indonesia), from 24th to 29th May 1982. The second meeting of the Working Party was held in collaboration with the ICA member-organisation in Indonesia - the Dewan Koperasi Indonesia (DEKOPIN).

Members from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Republic of Korea and Thailand attended the meeting. Ten observers, who were editors of cooperative journals from Indonesia, also participated in the meeting.

The theme of the meeting was "Ensuring Reader Appeal of Cooperative Journals".

The meeting was formally inaugurated by Drs. Sularso, Director of Cooperative Extension on behalf of the Director General of Cooperatives, Indonesia. The inaugural meeting was also addressed by Mr. J.K. Lumunon, Vice Secretary General of the Dewan Koperasi Indonesia, Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (Publications and Public Relations), ICA ROEC, and Secretary of the Working Party, and Mr. Djabaruddin Djohan, Member for Indonesia.

The meeting reviewed the present position of cooperative press in the participating countries, discussed the problems faced by them in the production of these journals and ways and methods of creating and ensuring reader appeal of cooperative journals.

A workshop session was held where selected publications were taken for discussion regarding their contents, adequacy of coverage, style of presentation of news and general get up of the journals etc. The following recommendations were made:

(1) that editors of cooperative journals and information officers of cooperative organisations in the region should continuously send news coverages on important cooperative developmental activities to the ICA Regional Bulletin. A digest of

these news should be sent by the ICA ROEC to cooperative journals in the Region;

(2) that, cooperative journals published in the Region in English should be sent to the editors of cooperative journals in the other countries ;

(3) that a scheme of exchange of working journalists between cooperative journals in the region should be drawn up by the ICA. A journalist/information officer may be given opportunity under this scheme to be attached to a journal in another country on a working-cum-learning assignment.

10.3.2 "Cross Meetings" of Coop and other journalists

The meeting noted that "cross meetings" of cooperative journalists with other journalists working with the daily press have been organised and found very useful in Indonesia. The meeting suggested that members of the Working Party should take initiative in arranging such cross meetings which, it felt, will help the cooperative journalists to enrich their knowledge in journalism and the other journalists to know more about the working of cooperative organisations for an objective presentation of news and views in their respective papers.

10.3.3 Seminar in Sweden

The Working Party recommended that the ICA ROEC should request the Swedish Cooperative Centre (SCC) to hold a training seminar in Sweden for cooperative journalists and information officers from the Region. The working party noted that as the cooperative journals brought out by the Swedish Cooperative Movement have a better coverage, larger circulation and serve as effective spokesmen of the movement, the experience of the Swedish Movement would be of immense benefit to cooperators from the Region.

A study visit programme for a few cooperative societies within Indonesia was also arranged to acquaint the members with the working of cooperatives in Indonesia.

10.4 Publications Programme for 1982-83

The following publications would be brought out during the year 1982-83:

- i. Open Asian Conference on Cooperative Management, Philippines, 1981.

The publication which is in press now will be completed during the year

- ii. Adult Psychology and Education Methods - A Handbook.

This publication is now in press and will be completed during the year under review.

- iii. Report on Activities - 1982.

A report of the activities carried out by the ICA ROEC during the year 1982 will be compiled and issued.

- iv. Readings in Cooperative Marketing.

As recommended by the ICA Sub-Committee on Agricultural Cooperation at its last meeting, papers on cooperative marketing from each of the countries served by the ROEC will be included in this publication.

- v. Cooperative series.

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

- vi. Speeches on Cooperation.

Important speeches on matters of cooperative relevance and interest will be brought out under this series.

- vii. Publicity.

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

LIBRARY AND DOCUMENTATION SERVICES10.5 LIBRARY

There are 15,250 volumes including bound periodicals on cooperatives and allied subjects and nearly 5,000 booklets in the library now. The library subscribes to many journals and also receives many on a complimentary basis. Altogether over 200 journals are received in the library. It acts as a clearing house of information on books and documentation. The library is being used extensively by the cooperators, cooperative organisations, students and scholars.

10.6 DOCUMENTATION SERVICES

1. Documentation Bulletin for South-East Asia:
 Issued Volume XIV, No. 1-2
 Volume XIV, No. 3-4, (in press)
 Volume XV, No. 1-4 (under preparation)
2. Annotated Bibliography of Literature on Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia
 1979 issues (in press)
 1980 issues (under preparation)
3. Technical Documents
 Two lists of books on Cooperation and Allied Subjects, pages 54, prepared at the request of FAO/UNDP/PACTA Project, Kabul.
4. Six training packages and technical papers issued and distributed on Cooperative Library and Information Science.
5. Issued: Report of the Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers of South-East Asia, held at Los Banos, Philippines, April 14-29, 1981.
6. ICA Library Catalogue, Part-IV (Cumulative list of library books since 1962-1975).

10.7 SUPPLY AND EXCHANGE OF LITERATURE

The library undertakes the exchange of material with other libraries. It supplies on request for mimeographed material on cooperative subjects. It also acts as a clearing house of cooperative literature especially in English language publications published by the member movements.

10.8 LIAISON AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

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

10.9 PROMOTION AND CONSULTATIVE SERVICES

The ICA ROEC Librarian and Documentation Officer has been actively involved in the promotional activities of the Cooperative library development of South-East Asia. During 1981-82 the following consultative services were provided by him:

1. 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.
2. ILO/UNDP Cooperative Training Project in Jakarta has requested the expert services of the ICA ROEC Librarian and Documentation Officer (LDO) to advise and assist their Project in the promotion and development of cooperative library, documentation and information system and services in Indonesia. The Librarian and Documentation Officer has been released to work with ILO/UNDP Project for a duration of two months (23rd August to 22nd October 1982).

3. FAO/UNDP/PACTA Project, Kabul, requested ICA ROEC to advise the Project in book selection and procurement of books and journals for their library.

10.10 NATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR COOPERATIVE LIBRARIANS
AND DOCUMENTATION OFFICERS : MALAYSIA

A National workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers was held by the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia in collaboration with the Cooperative College of Malaysia from 15th to 27th February 1982. 25 participants from various cooperative organisations in the country participated in the workshop. This was a follow-up of the ICA Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers held earlier in Manila during April-May 1981.

The Workshop discussed subjects connected with library and documentation and information services and their role in cooperative education and training, cooperative library and its management, library routine, accessing, lending operation, binding, sources of cooperative information, classification theory, concept and practical role of libraries in community, periodicals, publication and press cutting services, cataloguing-theory and practical, documentation and information services. The workshop also provided guidance in practical work such as accessing, classification, cataloguing, documentation and bibliographical work.

National Information System:

The Workshop explained the need and importance of setting up a cooperative information system and services aimed at supporting decision-making and research in the promotion of the cooperative movement. They felt that besides teaching, and training, another important component of retrieval and dissemination of knowledge, is the establishment of a well equipped library and information centre.

The Workshop emphasised the need to conduct follow-up courses for persons who supervise libraries and for the persons who work in the libraries. It recommended the formation of a National Working Party for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers to be affiliated to the proposed Regional Working Party for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers of South-East Asia.

The Workshop also recommended the publication of the Cooperative College of Malaysia's Library Catalogue for distribution to all cooperative libraries in Malaysia.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 : IDACA Activities

The outline of the activities of IDACA

- I. Training Programmes from July 1981 to June 1982
1. Training Programme for Thais on Agricultural Development Project

The course has been organized by the three host organizations - CUAC, ZEN-NDH and UNICOOPJAPAN - with financial assistance from JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency).

The course was organized over the last seven years, in collaboration with the Thai agricultural cooperative movement, for local leaders of agricultural cooperative in the maize development project areas with a view to providing them with an opportunity of studying Japanese experiences on the overall business activities undertaken by agricultural cooperatives in Japan.

Period: July 6 - August 7, 1981

No. of persons who attended: 20 officials and staff of agricultural cooperatives and ACFT officials and employees.

Country that participated: Thailand

Place of study visit: Matto-city and Kanazawa city primary agricultural cooperative societies in Ishikawa prefecture.

2. ICA Regional Seminar on the "Development of Consumer Cooperation in South-East Asia"

This seminar was organized on the basis of an agreement between ICA and CUAC/IDACA. In 1981, it was decided at ICA regional council meeting that a seminar on the Development of Consumer Cooperation should be held under the auspices of Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union (JCCU) in collaboration with CUAC and IDACA.

The expenses for the implementation of the seminar was met by CUAC/IDACA and JCCU on the fifty-fifty basis.

Period : September 1 - 21, 1981

No. of persons who attended : 19

Countries that participated : Bangladesh (2), India (5),
Korea (2), Malaysia (3),
Singapore (2), Sri Lanka (2),
Thailand (3).

Place of study visit : Nada-Kobe consumer's cooperative in
Hyogo prefecture and Mikkabi-cho
primary agricultural cooperative
society.

3. Training course for the Cooperators from Selected Countries

This course was organized by CUAC/IDACA for leaders of agricultural cooperatives in selected countries with financial assistance from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries on the basis of discussions between CUAC and agricultural cooperative movement of developing countries which are members of ICA. Concerning the theme of the training course, emphasis was placed upon organisation and activities of Japanese multi-purpose agricultural cooperatives.

Period : September 28 - October 27, 1981

No. of persons who attended: 13 (of which 8 were from
Sri Lanka and Malaysia 5)

Countries that participated : Sri Lanka, Malaysia.

Place of study visit : Yumoto and Kanegasaki-cho primary
agricultural cooperative societies
in Iwate prefecture.

4. IDACA's Special Training Course

In deference to wishes of members of the ICA Council for South-East Asia, it was agreed after discussions among CUAC, IDACA and ICA ROEC that a special course be organized in the interest of members of cooperative movements in ICA member countries who desire to study the actual conditions of various activities undertaken by the agricultural cooperative movement in Japan.

With CUAC as the main host organization, this special training course was held first last year in consultation with ICA ROEC, thus finally meeting the requests of members of ICA Council for South-East Asia. Taking opinions of ICA regional council meetings into full accounts, the course is to be organized. However, it is not certain whether or not the course should be held every year.

As for the expenses, international airfares and some allowances during stays in Japan will be borne by CUAC and IDACA.

Period : November 3 - 22, 1981

No. of persons who attended : 17

Country that participated : India

Place of study visit : Dhkawa and Ayauta-Nanbu primary agricultural cooperative societies in Kagawa prefecture.

5. Training Programmes for National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Korea (NACF)

This is one of the memorandum trainings based on the agreement memorandum between NACF and CUAC. The course was tailored for middle level employees of NACF to upgrade and enrich knowledge and experiences by studying the theories and practical implementation of the Japanese agricultural cooperative movement.

NACF met the costs of direct expenses related to the training such as board and lodging and travel expenses during study visit for participants, while incidental expenses such as lecturer's allowance, miscellaneous expenses of Japanese attendant during the seminars and etc. were borne by Japanese side.

Period : March 6 - 20, 1982

No. of persons who attended : 12 employees of NACF middle level cadre.

Country that participated : Republic of Korea.

Place of study visit : Kamookashi and Keihoku primary agricultural cooperative societies in Kyoto prefecture.

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

This is also one of the training courses which takes place yearly on the basis of the agreement memorandum between CACCC and CUAC. The course is designed for officials, employees and councilors of CACCC.

International Airfares were borne by CACCC, while all the other expenses during the training in Japan were met by CUAC and the course was conducted in Japanese language.

Period : April 3 - May 4, 1982

No. of persons who attended : 5 (of which 3 regional board of councilors of CACCC and 2 senior employees of CACCC;

Country that participated : Brazil

Place of study visit : Kokawa-cho and Minabe primary agricultural cooperative societies in Wakayama prefecture.

7. General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under the Colombo Plan

This is the most traditional and time-honoured course which IDACA has ever conducted. In fact, it has been uninterruptedly held every year as part of the government technical cooperation programme since inception of the institute

The course is designed mainly for government officers who are engaged in the agricultural cooperative activities, aiming at upgrading their leadership and management capacity.

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

This is the only training course organized on the government to government basis in which business and management of the multi-purpose agricultural cooperatives in Japan are taught.

There were 20 applicants for the course this year, but it turned out at the final stage that 18 persons took part in the course.

As for the expenses for implementation of the course, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is to meet the cost of international airfare and board and lodging.

Period : May 17 - June 20, 1982

No. of persons who attended : 18 mainly government officers in charge of cooperatives.

Countries that participated : 17

Bangladesh (2), Brazil (1),
Burma (1), Egypt (1), Fiji(1),
India (1), Indonesia (1),
Kenya (1), Liberia (1),
Malaysia (1), Nepal (1),
Paraguay (1), Peru(1),
Philippines(1), Sri Lanka(1),
Tanzania(1), Thailand (1).

Place of study visit: Tohaku and Kurayoshi primary agricultural cooperative societies in Tottori prefecture.

II. Follow-up and Re-Union Programme of IDACA

IDACA/CUAC held the 5th re-union meeting for ex-participants of IDACA courses/seminars from Indonesia from 28 January to 7th February 1982. The re-union meeting was sponsored jointly by Indonesian Cooperative Council (DEKOPIN) and CUAC/IDACA in collaboration with the ICA ROEC. The re-union meeting was held in four places and attended by 22 persons out of 67 ex-participants of IDACA.

The purposes of the re-union, as is obvious, is to firstly evaluate and grasp by hearing from them whether the courses/seminars have been relevant to their needs or not, secondly to know how the experiences gained from Japanese movement have been utilized in the country and to get them acquainted with the latest development in the agricultural cooperative movement of Japan.

The Japanese team, which was composed of four persons, namely two from CUAC and two from IDACA made some visits to local cooperatives to understand the actual conditions of agriculture and cooperative movement in Indonesia.

The team also had an opportunity to attend one-day seminar in which two representatives of the team gave the participants talks on "the present situation of agricultural cooperatives", "educational activities of agricultural cooperatives" and "credit business of agricultural cooperatives" in Japan respectively.

III. Survey and Research Project

In response to the request made by the government of Thailand, the government of Japan through JICA decided to cooperate in conducting a study on Agricultural Cooperatives Promotion Project in Thailand, as a part of technical cooperations of the government, and it was also agreed that the study should be conducted jointly by the teams of both Thailand and Japan. The government of Japan therefore, requested IDACA through JICA to extend assistance in implementation of the project. In order to realize the request, a preliminary feasibility study was made from 1979 to 1980 by despatching experts to Thailand.

On the basis of the study made, JICA further requested IDACA to make a contract for implementation of feasibility study on the project. So, a study on Agricultural Cooperatives Promotion Project in Thailand was conducted again in July 20, 1981 on the basis of the contract between JICA and IDACA.

A full-scale survey was implemented for 59 days starting from July 29, 1981.

The main purpose of the study consisted of the following two items.

1. To formulate concrete plan for upbringing and strengthening four agricultural cooperatives which will be model cooperatives in Thailand.
2. To transfer technology to people concerned with cooperative development in the process of carrying out the survey.

The report of the survey was reviewed and completed together with Thai counterparts.

And the final report was submitted to JICA and the project came to an end in February 25, 1982.

Plan of the activities of IDACA from
July 1982 to June 6, 1983

1. . RECA Seminar

On the basis of agreement between the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organization (AARRO) and CUAC, the seminar is to be organized twice every three years at IDACA for high-ranking government officials of AARRO affiliated countries on the role and function which Japanese agricultural cooperatives fulfil in the promotion of agriculture and the development of rural communities.

The seminar usually lasts for the period of two weeks and is attended by 20 delegates.

In the 1982 of RECA seminar, it was attended by 13 delegates for the period of two weeks.

Period : July 5 - 20, 1982

No. of persons who attended : 13 mainly high-ranking
government officials
4 AARRO secretariats

Countries that participated : 11
Republic of China(1), Egypt
(1), Jordan(1), Ethiopia(1),
India (2), Indonesia (1),
Korea (1), Liberia (1),
Malaysia (1), Maldives (2),
Philippines (1).

Place of study visit : Towada-city and Kizukuri-cho
primary agricultural cooperative
societies in Komori prefecture.

2. Training Programme for Thais on
Agricultural Development Project

At the request of ACFT of Thailand, the course is organized under the auspices of Zen-oh, UNICOOPJAPAN and CUAC.

It is designed mainly for officials and employees of the agricultural cooperatives in the areas of the maize development project to provide them with practical knowledge and experiences on organization, business activities and management of the multi-purpose agricultural cooperatives in Japan.

As many of the cooperators in the areas in which the above project has been implemented have already undergone the training courses, the government of Japan has made a request to JICA that the number of the participants be reduced from conventional 20 to 19 this year. This course will end this year.

Period : July 23 - August 23, 1982

No. of persons attending: 10 local leaders in the
maize development project areas
who are recommended by ACFT.

Participating country: Thailand

Place of study visit: Isahaya and Unzen primary
Agricultural cooperative societies in
Nagasaki prefecture.

3. ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar

In line with the agreement between ICA and CUAC/IDACA, the institute conducts a seminar once a year, accepting 25 participants in the region of South-East Asia.

The theme of the seminar this year is on "Multi-purpose Agricultural Cooperatives with special reference to activities of Agricultural Cooperative Women's Associations".

Period : September 1 - 21, 1982

No. of persons attending : 25

Participating countries : countries in the region

Place of study visit : Niigata prefecture

4. Training Course for the Cooperators from Selected Countries

On the basis of discussions held between the CUAC/IDACA and the agricultural cooperative organizations of developing countries which are members of the ICA, CUAC/IDACA invites two countries to this country through member organizations of ICA Regional Council in the developing countries for training concerning the activities of agricultural cooperatives in Japan.

This course is being implemented with the subsidy from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

IDACA will meet the costs of airfares and board and lodging and daily allowance during the period of the course.

The countries to which invitation is extended this year are Malaysia and Indonesia.

Period : September 28 - October 27, 1982

No. of person attending : 13

Participating countries: 1) Malaysia 8
of which 3 are leaders at
the national level and 5
leaders at the local level,
2) Indonesia 5
core-leaders of the Dewan
Koperasi Indonesia

Place of study visit : Fukushima prefecture

5. IDACA's Special Training Course

This year an invitation is expected to be extended principally to a participant in the region of South-East Asia.

Only those participants who are recommended by ICA Regional Councillors of the respective countries through consultations with the secretariate of ICA ROEC can be accepted.

Regarding the programme in 1982, the theme for this year is on "Agricultural Cooperatives and Formulation of Regional Agricultural Promotion Plan".

Detailed information is still under discussion with ICA ROEC.

IDACA will meet the cost of international airfare.

Period : November 17 - December 8, 1982

No. of persons attending : 20

Countries inviting : 12

Place of study visit: Shizuoka prefecture

Publication of IDACA News

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

The news is circulated directly to about 2,000 people who took part in trainings at IDACA.

Plan of Follow-up and Re-Union Programme of IDACA

The 6th follow-up and Re-union is scheduled to be held in Bangladesh and Nepal for a period of 2 weeks beginning from the middle part of January 1983. As usual people from CUAC and IDACA in collaboration with ICA ROEC will be despatched to deepen mutual understandings between visiting cooperative movements and Japanese cooperative movement.

will help
Mosh.

IDACA Activities in 1983

The outline of the activities of IDACA

I. Training programmes

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

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

2. General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives under the Colombo Plan (Tentative)

The course for 1982-83 is under negotiation with the Japanese Government and Japan International Cooperation Agency. The course for 1983 is tentatively scheduled to start from early May for a period of 2 months with 20 participants from 20 countries. All the expenses of the course will be met by JICA, including international airfares. It is advised, therefore, that those who wish to study Japanese agricultural cooperatives should direct all inquiries to respective governments and send application through the Japanese Embassy.

3. ICA Regional Seminar to be organised in collaboration with CUAC/IDACA (Tentative)

This seminar is to be held in collaboration with ICA ROEC and CUAC/IDACA by inviting 25 participants selected by ICA ROEC from member countries in the Region on the subject of "Integrated Cooperative Action for Agricultural Development".

The duration of this seminar is under consultation, with ICA ROEC.

4. Training Course for the Cooperators
from Selected Countries (Tentative)

This course is organized by IDACA or leaders of agricultural cooperatives in selected countries with financial assistance from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. In 1983, the course will be held for 6 and 5 agricultural cooperative leaders from Malaysia and Indonesia respectively to provide an opportunity of studying organisation and activities of Japanese multi-purpose agricultural cooperatives.

The duration of the course is under consultation with the government. The Japanese Government will meet the costs of international travel, board and lodging. The place of study visit is not decided yet.

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

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

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

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

13.2 Small Farmer Research Study on Cooperatives and Small Farmer Development

A Technical Meeting on Cooperatives and Small Farmer Development was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in collaboration with the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka from 16th to 22nd February 1982. There were 31 delegates from India, Sri Lanka, Thailand and observers from the ILO, FAO and the Royal Netherlands Government.

The purpose of the Technical Meeting was to look at the experiences gathered in the action oriented research programmes carried out under this project in Thailand, Sri Lanka and in India and to draw broad conclusions as would help to evolve methodologies of intervention which would be effective and useful in the small farmer situation in most of Asia.

The workshop was emphatic in stressing the need for a special focus on the small farmer if the benefits of development programmes were to be enjoyed by the large mass of the people who were mostly landless labourers or small farmers. The workshop also took a look at the action programmes that emerged in Sri Lanka and Thailand during the course of the research study and also reviewed the various problems faced by such programmes with a view to finding ways and means of ensuring that programmes so initiated would have a reasonable chance of success. A report of the Technical Meeting was circulated among the participants.

13.3 Buy a Bucket of Water Programme - Four countries in the Region viz. India, Thailand, Philippines and Sri Lanka had sought assistance under this programme to construct wells to provide clean drinking water in deprived areas. Of the proposals approved, over 60 have been completed so far and 20 are in the process of construction. The number of families benefited from the wells completed is well over 2000.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 : RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

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

1. FAO : The ROEC helped the FAO PACTA Project in Afghanistan on arranging and coordinating several programmes for participants from Afghanistan.

2. ILO : The ICA was actively involved with the ILO in two National Seminars on Setting Effective Cooperative Training Policies and Standards in Asian Countries held in Thailand and Sri Lanka during November 1981/January 1982.

3. UN/ESCAP : (i) The Cooperative League of Thailand represented the ICA ROEC at the Committee on Agricultural Development held at Bangkok from 12-18 January 1982. (ii) The Regional Director attended the 38th Session of UN/ESCAP at Bangkok, Thailand, from 23 March - 3 April 1982. (iii) The Regional Director attended the meeting of UN/ESCAP on "Measuring and Monetizing Social Benefits of Projects for the Rural Poor" held at Bangkok from 27 September to 1 October, 1982.

4. UNDP : The Director (Education) attended the UNDP Seminar on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries held in New Delhi on 23rd April to 1st May, 1982.

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

15. The Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan has kindly agreed to host the next Regional Council Meeting in Tokyo in November 1983 followed by a Top Level Cooperative Leaders Conference; The Councillor for Japan would extend the invitation.

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

16.1 Silver Jubilee Celebrations of ROEC in 1985

The ICA ROEC New Delhi will be completing 25 years in 1985. Regional Councillors are kindly requested to make suggestions for appropriate celebration of this event. Some suggestions for consideration are listed below:-

- i. A regional function may be arranged along with the ICA Regional Council where the Council meeting is held.
- ii. Some appropriate international/regional conference may be held to mark the occasion.
- iii. A publication dealing with cooperative development of the Region, during the last 25 years, based on countrywise contributions, may be brought out. The contributions would try to assess the role played by the ICA ROEC.
- iv. A special fund be raised through the member-organisations to meet at least part of the costs of the celebrations approved.

The Councillors are kindly requested to make their suggestions so as to enable the ROEC to formulate the Silver Jubilee Programme.

16.2 Follow-up of ICA Activities by National Organisations

This is a matter that has been brought before the Council several times. Perhaps the Councillors would like to review follow up practices and suggest improvements.

16.3 Closer Relationship with Governments

At the meeting of the Council held in Thailand in 1978, a proposal was made by a Councillor for Malaysia that the Registrars/Commissioners/Directors of Cooperative Development be invited to attend the Regional Council Meeting as Observers. It was then agreed that if a particular Movement made a request for the Registrar's attendance, then invitations would be sent out to that Registrar.

In view of the need for closer collaboration with Governments to intensify cooperative effort the matter is placed before the Council for its consideration.

16.4 The Need for Perspective Planning 3 years/5 years

It is suggested that each national cooperative movement undertakes the preparation of a perspective plan of 3 years or 5 years, and identify areas where the ICA ROEC could be of assistance.

This will help the ICA ROEC too to determine priorities and provide an effective support.

16.5 Over the past several years the Secretariat has placed before the Regional Council the experiences gathered from project oriented approaches and has suggested that the project approach be given greater emphasis and priority. It would appear that the process of project identification and formulation is in itself not without difficulties and that some of the National Cooperative Organisations do not have the competencies for such tasks. However, it is suggested that, if the preliminary basic identification of needs is done by the NCOO concerned, the ICA ROEC Secretariat could assist in the development of the project document and assist the NCOO in this regard. This aspect of Project Approach is once again placed before the Regional Council for its consideration.

16.6 Consideration of the Report of the ICA/SCC Evaluation Team

This will be discussed if the Evaluation Report has been made available to the member countries before the Regional Council Meeting.

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

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

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

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

1. The inauguration ceremony of the 23rd Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia and its various Sub-Committees was held at the Koræana Hotel, Seoul (Korea), on 27th October 1981 at 10.30 a.m. The meeting was attended by a large and representative gathering of cooperators and government officials. In the absence of H.E. Mr. Koh Kun, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea, H.E. Mr. Kang In Hee, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, was the Chief Guest and read the Congratulatory Address of the Minister.

2. Hon. Mr. Duck-Yong Rhee, Chairman and President, National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, in his Opening Address welcomed the distinguished Regional Councillors and said that he was happy that the NACF was able to host the 23rd Meeting of the Regional Council. He briefly explained the reorganisation that was taking place in agricultural cooperatives, especially the conversion from three tier to a two tier system. He was hopeful that the deliberations of the Council will give a new emphasis and a new direction to the activities of the ICA ROEC

3. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, ICA ROEC, in his address thanked the Chairman & President of NACF for the kind invitation extended to the Regional Council to hold the 23rd Meeting in Seoul, Korea. He also thanked the NACF and its staff for the excellent arrangements made and for their very generous hospitality. He also conveyed the warm greetings of the Director, ICA, Dr. Saenger, to the NACF and to the Regional Councillors and said that the Director wished the meeting every success. He thanked also the Presidents and staff of the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives and the National Livestock Cooperatives Federation for their presence and the kind hospitality extended to the Regional Councillors. He went on to say that the problems facing the cooperatives in many countries in Asia were very many, and was hopeful that the Regional Councillors would be able to address themselves to these urgent problems - such as the role of governments vis-a-vis cooperatives, the manpower problems in cooperatives, the problem of member relations and strengthening of cooperatives, one problem of

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

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

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

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

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

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

7. The following were present :

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

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

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

Observers : 1. Mr. Chong Thin Huatt, Malaysia
 2. Mr. Haji Aziz Mohd. Ibrahim, Malaysia
 3. Mr. Abdul Manan Abdul Majid, Malaysia
 4. Mr. Anan Chamnanit, Thailand
 5. Mr. M.J. Shah, India

ICA ROEC Staff : 1. Mr. J.M. Hana, Director (Education)
 2. Dr. D. Vir, Joint Director (Education)
 3. Mr. L. Gunawardana, Joint Director (PPR)
 4. Mr. M.K. Furi, Joint Director (TAT)

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

Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome

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

Agenda Item No. 2 : Remarks by the Regional Director

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

10. During the course of this meeting it is our intention to place before you a report on the activities conducted by the ROEC since the last meeting of the Regional Council and we are also placing before you a programme of activities for 1962-83 on which we would like

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

Agenda Item No. 3 : Election of Chairman

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

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

12. The Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the ICA Regional Council held on 15th and 16th November 1960 at Colombo, which had been circulated earlier, were confirmed.

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

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

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

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

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

Evaluation of ROEC Activities

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

15. Dr. S.K. Saxena, SCC - I would like first of all to thank you and through you the Regional Councillors as well as our Korean hosts for all the facilities and courtesies which have been extended to me and more particularly the fact that this item has been taken earlier on the agenda which will give me a bit more time to get a feed back from you. I might also take this opportunity for apologising for any inconvenience caused by my late arrival on which I had no control. He referred to the four main heads for Evaluation - the terms of reference of the evaluation which were given on page 25 of the Regional Council Agenda. He said the basic focus of the evaluation was not to sit in judgement, not to prove or disapprove, but to improve. That was the basic focus. Also to see how the work of the ROEC could be made more relevant to the needs of the member organisations. He said: "You might ask, what is the reason that so soon after 1975 we are undertaking the evaluation at this stage and I think the sponsors, ICA and SCC, would give two reasons. First is simply that from time to time organisations have evaluation to see if there are any specific needs which have not been included or any point of emphasis which ought to be undertaken by the organisation and, secondly and more importantly, the reason that the pace of change in the cooperative movements is so fast that there is always a risk that an institution might get behind with the pace of changes. These are the two reasons. The methodology to be adopted is one of questionnaires, interviews with a number of people, visits to some on going actual educational activities and getting extensive reports from those movements which are not going to be visited. Incidentally, the movements which are to be visited because of the factor of time are: the Filipino Movement, the Sri Lanka Movement and the Indian Movement. All this is in addition to detail and indepth discussions with the ROEC people as well as selected participants, about five from as

many countries as we visit.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thailand

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

Sri Lanka

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

India

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

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

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

The statement made by Mr. Tiwari was noted.

Philippines

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

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

Malaysia

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

Indonesia

- tendency towards a greater involvement and participatory activities of members
- a junior Minister for Cooperatives appointed.
- government assistance and guidance seem to lead to governments control or interference, but through democratization of organisation and management, government involvement gradually reduced to guidance on infrastructures only. State interference is mostly to break across sectoral barriers.
- with the commencement of the Third Five Year Development Plan, secondary cooperatives were gradually involved in guidance and development activities, like channelling of fertilizers, pesticides, marketing of agricultural products, channelling of consumer goods.
- building up of the Cooperative Academy for Western Indonesia in Bandung, the cooperative movement collected a sum of Rupiah 250 million in 1980.
- meaningful economic activities - rice processing and marketing, channelling of agricultural inputs, marketing of other agricultural products like copra, rubber, pepper, cloves marketing, rural electricity supply and supply of consumer goods. Cooperatives have also commenced handling sugarcane.

JapanAgriculture

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

Consumer

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

Korea

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

Agenda Item No. 8 AdministrationContributions to the funds of the ROEC

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

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

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

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

Concessions by the Government of India

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

Staff Matters

25. The following were reported :

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

Agenda Item No. 9 : Education Centre

Review of Education Activities

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

Regional Seminars and Conferences

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

National Seminars/Courses

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

4. Course in Credit, Supply and Marketing for Afghanistan India, 26 November to 2 January 1981.
5. Fishery Cooperatives' Seminar
Malaysia, 23-27 February, 1 81
6. Course in Cooperative Education Methods and Audio Visual Techniques
Thailand, 13-24 July, 1980.
7. Course in Case Method of Teaching for Cooperative Teachers
Philippines, 6 October to 5 November, 1980.
8. Workshop on Cooperative Retail Management
Malaysia, 6-18 October, 1980.
9. Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS) - Information given in the agenda was noted by the Council.
10. Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers in Sri Lanka &
11. Project for Women's Consumer Education and Information through Cooperatives in Sri Lanka
Information given in the agenda notes on these two projects was noted by the Council. The D(E) informed that both these projects have been subjected to both internal and external evaluations and the reports of both the evaluations were very positive.
12. Consultative and Allied Services
Information given in the agenda was noted. The D(E) made a special mention of the consultancy service rendered to the Phranakorn Cooperative Store Ltd., Bangkok, to study their leakage problem and to help them to solve their leakage difficulties.
27. Dr. Saxena raised the question of ICA ROEC organising courses etc. for non-member countries. It was pointed out that over the past several years the ROEC had been working with Nepal and more recently with Afghanistan. The general view was that such activities should be viewed as supportive activities and which would eventually lead these countries into the ICA's membership. Mr. Rolf Akeby indicated that on his recent visit to Burma, inquiries were made there in regard to joining ICA. This information was warmly received.

Proposed Programme of Activities, July 1982 - June 1983

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

1. ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar in Japan

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4. Regional Course in Cooperative Management

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

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

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

5. Regional Seminar on Manpower Management and Cooperative Development

Venue : Malaysia (Angkasa)
 Duration : 3 weeks (between January & March 1963)
 Participants : 25

6. Sub-Regional Seminar on Strengthening National Cooperative Organisations

Venue : Open
 Duration : 3 weeks (2nd half of 1962)
 Participants : 20 (from Afghanistan, Australia, India, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand)

33. The Secretary informed the meeting that the ICA ROEC will negotiate with member organisations regarding the venue for this seminar. He said that another Sub-Regional Seminar could be held in 1963 for the remaining countries.

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

Venue : New Delhi
 Duration : 2 weeks (between 1st November and 15th December, 1962)
 Participants : 15

8. Commodity Conference on Spices

Venue : Sri Lanka
 Duration : 1 week
 Participants : 15

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

9. Sub-Regional Workshop on Cooperative Press and Publicity

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

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

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

11. Top Level-Cooperative Leaders' Conference

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

National Seminars & Consultative Services

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

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

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

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

CEMAS

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

Teachers Training Project in Sri Lanka

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

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

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

Women's Cooperative Education Project in India

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

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

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

Possibility of starting projects in other countries

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

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

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

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

Agenda Item No. 10 : Technical Assistance and Trade Section

Technical Assistance

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

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

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

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

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

Trade

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

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

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

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

Continuation of ILO/SIDA Cooptrade Project by ICA ROEC

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

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

Publications

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

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

Publicity

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

Collection of Cooperative News

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

Press Releases - information given in the agenda was noted.

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

Library - information given in the agenda notes was noted.

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

Publications Programme for 1981-82

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

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

Agenda Item No. 12 : IDACA Activities

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

Training Programmes

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

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

Survey Project - information given in the agenda was noted.

Follow-up and Re-union Programme of IDACA

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

Programme of Activities, 1982

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

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

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

1. We started IDACA Special Seminar with joint budgeting with CUAC from this year. Looking at the participants from India, almost all of them are officials of state or national level cooperative organisations. We hope that the next participating country will send middle level employees of cooperatives to meet the original purpose of starting this seminar.
2. The Training Course for the Cooperators from Selected Countries is conducted by subsidy of budget from Ministry of Agriculture,

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

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

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

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

Agenda Item No. 12 : Decisions and Recommendations of the Sub-Committees of the Regional Council - Agriculture, Fisheries, Consumer, Trade

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

65. Sub-Committee on Agriculture

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

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

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

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

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

66. Sub-Committee on Fisheries

1. ICA Sub-Committee for Cooperative Fisheries met on 28th October 1981 under the Chairmanship of Mr. Aziz Ibrahim, Malaysia. Representatives of Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand attended.

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

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

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

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

5. The Chairman informed that the FAO will be holding a seminar for Fishery Cooperative in Rome in 1982. He suggested that the member-organisations of the ICA approach their respective governments and try to include cooperators in their country delegations.

67. Sub-Committee on Trade

The ICA Trade Development Sub-Committee met in Seoul on 27th October 1981 under the Chairmanship of Dato N.A. Kularajah of Malaysia.

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

Mr. Malte Jonsson from the Swedish Cooperative Centre

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

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

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

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

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

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

68. Sub-Committee on Consumer Cooperation

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Small Farmers Research Study

70. The Secretary informed the Council that the Research Study was over, and that the final reports in respect of the individual country concerned and the overall study were being prepared. These would be presented at a Technical Meeting in Sri Lanka in February 1982. It was hoped that subsequent to this Technical Meeting we would be able to provide some guidelines in regard to the methodologies of intervention in respect of the Small Farmer and the Cooperatives and we are hopeful that this effort will lead to a greater involvement of the cooperatives in regard to the needs of the small farmer.

Buy a Bucket of Water Programme

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

Agenda Item No. 15 : Relations with International Organisations

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



New Delhi
21 December, 1981

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

pk/

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	Petaling Jaya, Malaysia	November 22-23, 1979
Twentysecond	Colombo, Sri Lanka	November 15-16, 1980
Twentythird	Seoul, Rep.of Korea	October 29-30, 1981

International Cooperative Alliance
43, Friends Colony
New Delhi - 110 065, India.

TWENTYFOURTH MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR
SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD AT MANILA (PHILIPPINES)
ON 11th & 12th NOVEMBER 1982

Inauguration Ceremony of the 24th Meeting
of the ICA Council for South-East Asia

1. The inauguration ceremony of the 24th Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia and its various Sub-Committees was held at Hotel Mirador, Manila (Philippines) on 8th November 1982. The ceremonial meeting was chaired by Brig. Gen. A.S. Lozada, Member for the Philippines in the ICA Council for South-East Asia. Besides the members of the Council and of the Sub-Committees, there was a large and representative gathering of cooperators and government officials who also attended the Meeting. The distinguished guests included His Excellency Mr. Arturo R. Tanco, Minister for Agriculture, Hon'ble Orlando J. Sacay, Deputy Minister for Cooperatives, Ambassador Roberto S. Benedicto, Chairman, Philippine Sugar Commission, Mrs. Nelia T. Gonzalez, Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and In-Charge, BCOD, Mr. A.E. Saenger, Director, International Cooperative Alliance, and Mr. Alf Carlsson, Director, Swedish Cooperative Centre.
2. The colourful inauguration function was combined with a prize awarding ceremony where outstanding cooperatives and distinguished cooperators in the Philippines were awarded certificates and citations of merit by the Minister and the Deputy Minister.
3. Welcoming the Councillors, General Lozada explained the recent developments that had taken place in the cooperative movement in the Philippines, such as inclusion of cooperative development as a part of the economic plan of the government, development of a cooperative marketing system in the Philippines, and the gradual transfer of responsibilities from government to the Cooperative Union of the Philippines (CUP) in respect of training, auditing, etc. Gen. Lozada congratulated the ICA ROEC for the effective role it was playing in the propagation of cooperative principles and practices and in promoting friendly and economic relations amongst cooperative organisations in the Region.

4. Addressing the Meeting, Mr. A.E. Saenger, Director, ICA, said that he was happy to see that the government had a positive policy of support for cooperatives and that tax exemptions and other forms of governmental encouragement, would enable the cooperative movement in the Philippines to progress rapidly. He said that overall success of the efforts in the field of cooperatives would closely depend on the attitudes of the governments of the various countries of the region and their support to cooperative efforts.

5. In his address, Mr. Tanco, Minister for Agriculture, emphasised the fact that his government's policy was to reduce government control over cooperatives to the minimum. He said that the management of the Cooperative Education and Training Fund had already been transferred to the CUP, while responsibilities in respect of Cooperative Training, Education and Auditing would be transferred gradually. He also welcomed the support and guidance provided by the ICA ROEC to the Philippines Cooperative Movement.

6. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, in his address extended a warm welcome to the Regional Councillors and the members of the various committees to the 24th Meeting. He thanked the Minister, the Deputy Minister and the Assistant Secretary for their presence and their continuing encouragement and support to ICA activities. He thanked also Mr. Saenger and Mr. Carlsson for taking time out to attend the Council Meeting. He also conveyed the thanks of the Regional Councillors and Committee members and also of the ICA ROEC to Gen. Lozada, the CUP and all other collaborating cooperatives for the warm hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for the Council Meeting.

Minutes of the 24th Meeting of the ICA Council
for South-East Asia held at Manila on 11th & 12th November, 1982

7. The 24th Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia was held at Hotel Mirador, Manila (Philippines), on 11th & 12th November, 1982.

8. The following were present:-

Members

1. Brig. Gen. A.S. Lozada, Chairman & Member for Philippines.
2. Mr. Golam Ali Quaderi, Member for Bangladesh.
3. Mr. Tapeswar Singh, Member for India.
4. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia.
5. Mr. Djoko Basuki, Member for Indonesia.
6. Mr. Shiro Futagami, Member for Japan.
7. Mr. R. Mathimugan, Member for Malaysia.
8. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Member for Philippines.
9. Mr. Roland Tay, Member for Singapore.
10. Mr. C.M.B. Bogollagama, Member for Sri Lanka.
11. Dr. Sopone Phukowluan, Member for Thailand.
12. Mr. Pramote Savigamin, Member for Thailand.

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

Special Invitees

1. Mr. A.E. Saenger, Director, ICA
2. Mr. Alf Carlsson, Director, SCC
3. Mr. K. Fujimoto, Managing Director, IDACA, Tokyo

Observers

1. Dr. R.C. Dwivedi, India.
2. Mr. Ismail Omar, Malaysia.

ICA ROEC Staff

1. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education).
2. Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (PPR).
3. Mr. M.K. Puri, Joint Director (TA).

In attendance

1. Mr. Yukio Abe, IDACA, Tokyo.
2. Mr. Prem Kumar, Personal Assistant to Regional Director, ICA ROEC.

Agenda Item No. 1 : Welcome

9. Brig. Gen. A.S. Lozada, President, Cooperative Union of the Philippines, welcomed the Regional Councillors on behalf the host organisations. He stressed the challenges facing cooperatives and was hopeful that the deliberations at the Council Meeting would help in narrowing down the problems, identifying priorities and formulating programmes for effective action.

Agenda Item No. 2 : Introductory Remarks by:

1. Mr. A.E. Saenger, Director, ICA
2. Mr. Alf Carlsson, Director, SCC
3. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, ICA ROEC

10. Mr. Saenger in his opening remarks touched on wide variety of matters pertaining to recent developments in the ICA, and the Regional Offices and activities of the ICA.

11. He explained briefly the circumstances that led to the ICA HQ being shifted to Geneva and hoped that with the restructuring of the ICA HQ staff, the Regional Offices would be able to be in closer contact with head quarters.

12. He referred to the Central Committee Meeting in Rome and drew attention to two important resolutions passed at the meeting - (1) On Development Policy for the ICA, and (2) the Motion on Peace, and requested the Councillors to take necessary follow-up action in respect of these resolutions.

13. He outlined the steps taken by the ICA in regard to restructuring of the ICA and requested all Councillors to make available their views.

14. He also drew the attention of the Councillors to Development Assistance and requested the Councillors to consider the feasibility of a suggestion made by one of the Executive Committee members for the setting up of a "Inter Cooperative Development Committee" in each country which could coordinate all development assistance vis-a-vis cooperatives. He mentioned also the recent successful experience of "movement to movement" assistance wherein the Swedish Cooperatives had initiated a technical assistance programme for the Zambian Cooperatives in association with the Zambian Cooperative Union. Another matter on which the Director sought the assistance of the Councillors was in building up a Roster of Experts - he suggested that each country have its own roster as that would help in identifying suitable persons for technical assistance programmes.

15. Mr. Saenger referred to the Development Fund of the ICA, which had very meagre funds generally and suggested to the Councillors to consider the possibility of setting apart a small percentage of the collections made by them for various Cooperative Functions and Celebrations, to be sent on to the Cooperative Development Fund.

16. The Director said that it was his view that in the developing countries, development of cooperatives would not be possible without the involvement and support of government.

17. Referring to the United Nations, Mr. Saenger drew attention to the fact that UN was a multi-faceted organisation - cooperatives, however, were not getting much attention. He requested the Councillors to urge on their government delegations to the General Assembly to press for the setting up of a unit for Cooperative Affairs in the Economic-Social Department of the U.N.

18. He also drew the attention of the Councillors to the possibility of technical assistance through the U.N. Capital Development Fund - he, however, emphasised the fact that proposals for which assistance is sought from this Fund would have to come within the country frame drawn up by the government in each country for UN assistance.

19. He made reference to the Evaluation Committee's Report which was before the Councillors and urged that the Councillors in their deliberations indicate clearly the way in which the Regional Offices could assist them in their development efforts.

He wished the Meeting all success.

20. Mr. Alf Carlsson, Director, SCC in his address appealed to the Regional Councillors to use the limited time for the deliberations with a direction towards the future. He referred to the Evaluation done by Dr. Saxena and his team on the past work of the Regional Offices and the recommendations with regard to the future orientation of the work of the ROEC. He said that one of the reasons why he was attending the Council Meeting was to listen to the views of the Councillors on the recommendations which have been made by the Evaluation Team as these would help the SCC in their negotiations with SIDA for continued assistance. He said he was confident that under the able chairmanship of Gen. Lozada, the deliberations would be quite fruitful.

21. Mr. R.B. Rajaguru, Regional Director, in his brief remarks suggested that the Evaluation report and the Guidelines provided by the SCC be taken up for discussion first, as that would help in determining future orientation and also in modifying the programmes proposed in the agenda, if such became necessary.

Agenda Item No. 3 : Election of Chairman

22. Brig.Gen. A.S. Lorada, Member for the Philippines, 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 23rd Meeting

23. The Minutes of the 23rd Meeting of the ICA Regional Council held on 29th & 30th October 1981, which had been circulated earlier, were confirmed.

24. The Council adopted a vote of condolence on the deaths of (1) Dr. Mauritz Bonow, (2) Miss G.F. Polley, General Secretary, ICA, and (3) Mr. Manuel C. Fabriga, Vice President, CUP. The Meeting observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect to their memory.

25. It was suggested that the ROEC should prepare an appropriate citation in respect of Miss G.F. Polley.

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

26. The Secretary reported that he had a letter from Australia who had regretted their inability to be present. Nevertheless a complete report in regard to what was happening in Australia had been made available to the Council.

Agenda Item No. 6 : Report on "Recent Changes, Trends and Developments of Cooperative Movement in South-East Asia" by the Councillors

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

Australia

- The process of restructuring the National Cooperative Organisation is still proceeding.

- Funds have been made available for research and programmes to be prepared for the coordinated teaching of the subject of Cooperation in secondary schools, and the formation of practical student cooperatives to operate in conjunction with the teaching programme.
- Discussions have been entered into between the financial type cooperatives to explore the possibilities of establishing a Cooperative Banking Facility.
- A new Cooperation Act was passed into law in one Australian State.

Bangladesh

- Creation of a separate division - the Rural Development and Cooperative Division - in the Ministry with a view to improving the sector.
- Amendments to the Cooperative Law likely by end 1982.
- Government decision to make Award to distinguished Cooperative Leaders.

India

- A National Agriculture and Rural Development Bank, known popularly as NABARD, had been set up. Provision had been made for two Directors from the Cooperative Movement on the Board of Directors of NABARD. The Bank will be the source of finance for Cooperatives.
- The Five Year Development Plan of the country once again emphasised the role of Cooperatives.

Indonesia

- Growing emphasis on urban cooperatives.
- Transportation cooperatives - both overland and by sea being developed.
- Government has a positive support policy for cooperatives.
- Growing emphasis on youth cooperatives and school cooperatives.
- Joint venture with Malaysian school cooperatives being considered.
- Position of women's cooperatives improving.
- Govt. will assist in the development of Cooperative Banking System.

JapanAgriculture

- The latest National Congress of Agricultural Cooperatives held on 17 October 1982 adopted three resolutions:
 - (i) against the liberalisation of market for foreign agricultural commodities which might affect Japanese agricultural production, (ii) how to revitalise and restructure Japanese agricultural production - strengthen the demand and supply control function of agricultural cooperatives; to take much more active measures towards the processing and distribution of farm products; to promote legislative activities and publicity activities, (iii) strengthening and revitalisation of the cooperative management of agricultural cooperatives at all levels - primary, secondary and national levels - (a) Rationalisation of Management, (b) Revitalisation of Business Activities in all Aspects, (c) Efficient Operation Business Credit.

Consumer

- More sales through small stores encouraged. Only 600 items of merchandise in small stores. 20% of total sales in consumer coops now done through Han groups.

Korea

- Amalgamation of small-unit cooperatives into large unit cooperatives.
- Five-year Development Plan for managerial improvement of special cooperatives from 1981.
- Improvement in owned-capital mobilisation.
- Expansion of cooperative services of the primary agricultural cooperatives through the expansion of their facilities.
- Saemaul Integrated Rural Development Projects - aimed at enhancing farm household income as well as developing rural communities.
- Acceleration of farm mechanisation.
- Support for increase in food production.
- Fostering Saemaul grassroot organisations.

Malaysia

- New cooperative campus being developed for better training.
- An institute for training of cooperative auditors established.
- Examination of the Cooperative Law with a view to possible revision to meet new situations.
- Housing cooperatives gaining in importance.
- New emphasis on production oriented cooperatives.

Philippines

- Research effort done by the Technical Board on Agricultural credit to look into : (i) management problems, (ii) insufficiency of funds, (iii) weak market position of the cooperatives, (iv) poor membership support. Some of the recommendations of this study are : (1) to improve the business efficiency of agricultural cooperatives - marketing of agricultural produce should be the sole responsibility of cooperatives, (2) emphasis on business orientation in cooperative transactions in order that they may continue giving service to its membership, (3) assistance in selection of cooperative managers and in training cooperative members and leaders on management and business skills, (4) flexible and sound credit assistance to provide substantial working capital and facilities to cooperatives especially during their initial operating period, (5) strengthening the government cooperative development body to enable it to deliver the services which it is expected to perform, (6) to encourage inter-lending fund schemes and centralisation of funds throughout the country, (7) the cooperative sector might think of putting up something like apex cooperative bank.

Singapore

- New Cooperative Act was enacted which is operative from 1.1.1980.
- National apex organisation formed - the Singapore National Cooperative Federation.
- The former Singapore National Union, is now a secondary society - the Singapore Amalgamated Services Cooperative and is affiliated to the SNCF.

Sri Lanka

- Tax consultancy service being expanded to undertake management consultancy and also feasibility studies.
- Small Farmer Project PROCCAS programme being worked successfully.
- Formation of a Coordinating Committee to look into the training programmes of cooperative personnel of all grades through the Regional Cooperative Centres, Education Centres, School of Cooperation and Cooperative Management Services Centre.
- Encouraging inter-district cooperative trade through establishment of district wholesale centres.
- Amendment of Multipurpose Cooperative Societies by-laws to ensure the appointment of Directors to Cooperative Society Boards only by election by members.
- Dairy and livestock farming being done mainly on cooperative basis.
- MCS By-laws amended to give recognition to Women's Committees.

Thailand

- Cooperative development integrated into the National Economic and Social Development Plan of the country.
- Arrangements being made to upgrade and strengthen the management capabilities of the agricultural cooperatives in poor financial condition.
- Increase in foreign aid in assisting and fostering the growth of the cooperatives particularly in the field of agricultural cooperatives.
- New cooperative law is likely to become operative in 1983.
- Steps taken by the Ministry of Education to include the subject of COOPERATION in school curriculum.
- The restructuring of Cooperative League of Thailand under consideration.

EVALUATION TEAM REPORT

28. Mr. A.E. Saenger briefly explained that he met Dr. Saxena and his colleagues at a preliminary discussion held at the SCC, in regard to the Evaluation findings. He said that the views of the Councillors and the views of the Councillors in East and Central Africa would be most useful to finalise the recommendations.

29. Mr. Alf Carlsson in introducing the Evaluation report referred to the need that existed to have an Evaluation of this nature. He also explained the reasons why the SCC worked through the ICA in their technical assistance programmes for cooperatives. He identified three reasons - (1) that working with the ICA ROEC helped in better use of SCC resources, (2) that a better allocation of resources to various technical assistance programmes which will be beneficial for the cooperative movements of the region, could be achieved in this manner, and (3) that this relationship helped SCC to support and strengthen the ICA as the world body of cooperatives.

30. He said that a continued assistance programme would depend on the negotiations which SCC would have with SIDA, based on the recommendations made both by the S.E. Asia Council and the Council for East and Central Africa. He was hopeful that once the Councillors made their views available, SCC would be able to negotiate with SIDA for a Five Year Assistance Programme. He referred to the Guidelines drawn up by the SCC and requested the Councillors to express their views in regard to these. He also referred to the many other recommendations made in the Report about structure of and relationship within the ICA which he said were matters entirely for the ICA to consider.

31. In concluding his remarks Mr. Carlsson referred to the need for the Regional Office to strengthen and support its member organisations and also to the fact that as a step in this direction the SCC had in consultation with the ICA already made available a budget and a specialised officer to promote International Cooperative Trade. By this step the Regional Office could continue with an increased focus in this sector as was available to the Region through the ILO/SIDA Cooptrade Project which was being wound up.

Discussion on the Report :

32. The points that emerged from the discussions are listed below:-

A. General

(1) There was a need for the member organisations in the region to take on increasing financial responsibility, keeping in view their levels of development, to support the activities of the ROEC.

(2) There was a general feeling that the developing countries had little say within the ICA structure, and that there were big gaps in the relationship and communication with the ICA parent body and the member organisations of the developing countries.

(3) The ICA Headquarters should make available more funds to support Regional Office activities.

(4) There was a need to examine the mechanisms within the ICA structure and evolve suitable systems to strengthen the links between Regional Structures and the Central Structures perhaps some form of automatic representation of the Regional bodies in the Central bodies could help.

(5) The Role of Auxiliaries, their membership and the channels of communication between auxiliaries and member organisations of the ICA need to be re-examined and specific procedures adopted.

B. Specific Discussions on the SCC Guidelines

(1) Education and Training should be given continuing emphasis - especially in regard to programmes which support economic activities. The "freezing" of education activity as suggested in the recommendations should not be automatically adopted.

(2) Support for National seminars should not be completely dropped as ICA ROEC supported National Seminars have been very effective. At least specialised fields which are comparatively new to some member movements should be supported by ICA ROEC.

(3) The meeting endorsed the emphasis on strengthening of national organisations and the provision of consultancy services.

(4) The need for research was emphasised.

(5) The need for support in project identification, feasibility studies and project formulation was endorsed.

(6) The need for pilot project and support for such projects was endorsed.

(7) The need for a special focus on women and special problem oriented programmes for women - especially in the field of income generation and in enhancing women's involvement in cooperatives was endorsed

(8) The programmes of the R.C. should reflect (1) member needs as indicated by them, (2) ICA Policy Resolutions, and, where possible (3) the resolutions of the U.N. specialised bodies in respect of cooperative development

The Council noted the administrative procedures set up at the ICA HQ level and the reporting systems for Regional Offices.

33. With these observations, the guidelines as set out by the SCC, were accepted by the Council.

34. The Recommendation of the Evaluation Committee in respect of sub-committees of the Regional Council were noted. It was decided to postpone the re-grouping of sub-committees until the aspect of restructuring of the ICA became more clear.

35. In regard to the Industrial sub-committee it was decided that the secretariat should get in contact with the member organisations and see whether there was still an interest in setting up this committee.

Agenda Item No. 7 : Administration

36. The information given in the agenda was noted.

Agenda Item No. 8 : Education Centre

Review of Education Activities

37. The Council noted the activities carried out by the Education Centre for the period August 1981 to July 1982.

Proposed Programme of Activities - July 1983 to June 1984

38. 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 1983 to June 1984 :-

1. Top Level Cooperative Leaders' Conference

Theme : Enhancing Cooperative Capability
 Venue : Tokyo, Japan
 Dates : November 7-12, 1983
 Participants : About 60

2. Regional Course on Integrated Cooperative Activities for Agricultural Development

Venue : Seoul, Rep. of Korea
 Participants : 15
 Duration : 3 weeks

3. Sub-Regional Seminar for Fishery Cooperatives

Venue : Sri Lanka
 Participants : 24
 Duration : Two weeks

39. There was a request to include participants from Philippines also. The D(E) said that the possibilities will be examined to have two sub-regional seminars. If that was not possible, Philippines could be included in this Sub-Regional seminar.

4. SEASPECT Meeting and Follow-up of SCC/ICA Principals and Senior Teachers Course

Venue : Malaysia (tentative)
 Participants : 25
 Duration : 15 days

40. The D(E) informed the meeting that the Cooperative College of Malaysia had in a preliminary way indicated their willingness to host this particular meeting. So far no final decision had been taken.

5. Sub-Regional Course on Techniques of Audio-visual Instruction

Venue : Manila, Philippines (tentative)
 Participants: 25
 Duration : 1½ to 2 months

6. Regional Workshop on Field Education Development (FED) Material

Venue : Open
 Participants: 25
 Duration : One month (first half of 1984)

7. Technical Conference on Cooperative Credit & Banking

Venue : Malaysia
 Participants:
 Duration : (before Nov. 1983)

8. 3rd Meeting of the Regional Working Party for Cooperative Press for South-East Asia

Venue : Manila, Philippines
 Participants: 12
 Duration : 6 days (first half of 1984)

9. National Seminars / Consultative Services

41. In view of the Evaluation Committee's recommendations, requests for assistance for national seminars would be treated on a special project basis.

10. CEMAS

The information given in the agenda was noted.

11. Projects

The following projects will be continued during the year :-

1. Teachers Training Project in Sri Lanka.
2. Project for Consumer Education and Information through Cooperatives in Sri Lanka.
3. Women's Cooperative Education Project in India.

Agenda Item No. 9 : Technical Assistance and Trade

42. The information given in the agenda was noted.

Agenda Item No. 10 : Publications, Public Relations and Library Section

43. The information given in the agenda was noted.

Agenda Item No. 11 : IDACA Activities

44. The Council noted the activities carried out by IDACA in 1981-82.

Programme of activities 1983

45. The proposed programme of activities of IDACA in 1983 was placed before the Council :

1. Follow-up and Re-Union Programme, Bangladesh and Nepal, January 1983.
2. Training Course for Cooperativa Agricola de Cotia Cooperativa Central (CACCC) in Brazil.
3. General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives, Colombo Plan, May 1983, 2 months, 20 participants from 20 countries.
4. ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar on "Integrated Cooperative Action for Agricultural Development".
5. Training Course for the Cooperators from selected countries, for participants from Malaysia, Indonesia.

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

1. From next year, there would be a change in length and period of the various seminars. The Colombo Plan seminar, the duration of which was one month, will from next year be for a duration of 2 months.
2. On a request from the ICA Regional Office, Moshi, a seminar is being organised for representatives from four countries in that Region.
3. The number of participants of the ICA Regional Seminar will be 15 instead of 25.

4. Re training course for the cooperators from selected countries - inspite of the busy schedule, these will be held. Member countries are requested to make early selections of participants and inform IDACA in due course.

5. Discussions are under way about the Re-Union Programme which would take place in Thailand in 1984.

6. Referring to the Evaluation Report, and in particular, the aspect of financial support for programmes from within the Region, it was pointed out that IDACA was actively engaged in programmes which were of assistance to the other member movements in the Region.

(The R.D. and Mr. Alf Carlsson, Director, SCC drew attention to the complete report of the Evaluation Committee where specific mention was made of the support provided by IDACA to the movements in Asia. Mr. Carlsson expressed his own and SCC appreciation to IDACA for their valuable support.)

7. The need for better selection of participants to the various courses was stressed.

8. Reference was made also to IDACA's own special seminar which was started in 1981. Here again a special request was made that efforts be made to select the appropriate participants and that the selection be made early.

47. The Chairman on behalf of the Regional Council expressed the sincere thanks of the Council and the member organisations for the very effective and valuable support given by IDACA to the development of cooperatives in the Region. This was unanimously endorsed by the Council.

Agenda Item No. 12 : Decisions and recommendations of the Sub-Committees of the Regional Council - Trade, Consumer, Fisheries, Agriculture, Industrial and Credit

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

are given below :

49. ICA Sub-Committee on Trade
Development for South-East Asia

1. The Fourth Meeting of the ICA Sub-Committee on Trade Development met on 8th November 1982 in Hotel Mirador at Manila, under Chairmanship of Mr. Modesto Sa-Onoy, from the Republic of the Philippines.

2. Mr. Modesto Sa-Onoy, Philippines, was elected as Chairman and Mr. Ki Won Suh, Korea, as Vice Chairman of the Sub-Committee for the remaining tenure upto the next ICA Congress in 1984.

3. The Sub-Committee was informed by members from India, the Philippines and Sri Lanka that their Cooperative Apex Organisation at the National level had set up Trade Promotion Groups for Coordinating and reviewing development of Cooperative International Trade in their respective countries.

4. The Sub-Committee was pleased to learn that the Swedish Cooperative Centre had provided the services of a Swedish Expert in Cooperative International Trade in the ICA Regional Office in New Delhi. The Sub-Committee urged the member movements to make full and effective use of the Swedish Expert who had already joined the Regional Office and has considerable practical experience in the field. The member movements were requested to report to the ICA Regional Office about their needs in order of priority and the ways in which ICA Regional Office could assist them meaningfully and effectively.

5. The members of the Sub-Committee placed on record their thanks to Mr. M.K. Puri for his services as Secretary of the Sub-Committee for the last five years and welcomed Mr. Ulf Bergstrom, Specialist in Cooperative Trade as the new Secretary of the Sub-Committee.

6. It was decided that the next meeting of the Sub-Committee will be held in the first week of November 1983 at Tokyo at the time of the Meeting of the ICA Regional Council next year.

50. ICA Consumer Committee for South-East Asia

The ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for South-East Asia met in the Hotel Mirador at Manila on 9th November, 1982, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Chong Thin Huatt from Malaysia.

The meeting was attended by representatives from nine member countries namely India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. Mr. A.E. Saenger, the Director of International Cooperative Alliance and Mr. Alf Carlsson, Director, Swedish Cooperative Centre, also attended the meeting.

1. The Committee requested Mr. Saenger, the Director of the International Cooperative Alliance, to have a review of the existing relationship between the ICA main auxiliary committee on Consumer Cooperation and the Regional Committees and to ensure that the Regional Committees should get due representation and adequate opportunity to influence the policies and programmes of the main Auxiliary Committee. The Consumer Committee for South-East Asia stressed that they do not seek for any charity from the main Committee but they do want to have some kind of structural relationship and close understanding with the main Committee.

2. The Committee placed on record their appreciation of the ICA Regional Office in New Delhi for expeditiously carrying out the preliminary investigations and preparing a project idea for setting up a National Warehouse for Consumer Cooperatives in Thailand. The Committee was delighted to learn that the Swedish Cooperative Centre in Stockholm had already agreed in principle to support this project and that two Swedish experts were visiting Thailand in the first fortnight of December 1982 in order to prepare more accurate estimates and a detailed feasibility.

3. The Committee took note of the request of the first Consumer Cooperatives Conference in Mindanao Island, in the Rep. of the Philippines, for setting up a Regional Warehouse in Mindanao for resolving the serious problem of supply of merchandise to consumer cooperatives on this island.

4. In view of the increasing interest of member movements in Regional Warehousing, the Committee requested the ICA Regional Office to organise a Regional Seminar, preferably in Thailand, on Stock Management and Regional Warehousing. It was suggested that experience of the Swedish and Japanese Consumer Cooperative Movements in this field should also be discussed at this Seminar.

5. On a request from the Committee to provide more frequent international seminar on Consumer Cooperation in Sweden, at least once in every two years, for employees of Consumer Cooperatives from this Region, Mr. Alf Carlsson, the Director of the SCC, said that he was happy to learn of members interest in SCC international seminars but because of financial and manpower constraints of SCC and a substantial increase in costs of holding such seminars in Sweden, it might not be easily possible for the SCC to provide more international seminars for the South-Asian Region. He, however, informed that they would try to explore the possibilities of conducting special tailor made training programmes, of shorter duration, for groups of participants from a few countries .

6. On a request from the Committee to the Japanese Consumer Cooperative Union for a more active support for the development of Consumer Cooperative Movements in countries of the Region, the member from Japan informed the Committee that the JCCU could arrange on-the-job training for three professional employees of Consumer Cooperatives from the Region every year, for a duration of one month, and said that they would consider the possibility of increasing this facility of on-the-job training for five employees every year.

7. As regards holding of more Regional Seminars in Japan, Mr. Fukuda informed the Committee that because of financial and manpower resources they could hold only one Regional Seminar in every five years. He, however, informed that he would consult his Board whether it would be possible for the JCCU to conduct such seminars more frequently in case a part of the travel cost of the participants could be shared by the ICA or the sponsoring movements. Representatives from some of the countries stressed that in view of urgency of the training needs the possibilities of sharing the travel costs by the ICA and or the sponsoring movements should be examined quickly and arrangements should be made to hold more frequent training seminars in Japan so as to benefit from the Japanese experience in Consumer Cooperation which was very relevant to the needs and problems of Cooperative Movements in this region.

8. The Committee recommended that in view of ever increasing competition from the private trade the managements of Consumer Cooperatives should pay particular attention towards sales promotion and effective merchandising.

9. The Committee requested the member movements to keep the Secretariat in the Regional Office, New Delhi, well posted about the Consumer policy and programmes evolved by them in their respective countries.

10. The members of the Committee felt that they could not finish their business in one session of half-day and requested the ICA Regional Director that in future the Committee should be allowed one full day for their meeting so that they could have proper and detailed discussion on each item on the Agenda.

11. It was decided that the next meeting of the Committee would be held in the first week of November 1983 at Tokyo, together with the meeting of the ICA Regional Council for South-East Asia.

51. ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries
for South-East Asia

1. ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries for South-East Asia held its twelfth meeting on 9th November 1982 under the Chairmanship of Mr. Haji Aziz Mohd, Ibrahim.

2. A paper on "Development of Fishery Cooperatives in the Region - Priority Areas for Special Attention" prepared by Mr. S. Chandra, Managing Director, National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives of India was presented in his absence by Dr. R.C. Dwivedi, Chief Executive of the National Cooperative Union of India. The presentation was followed by discussion. The major points recommended by the paper for consideration for adoption by the fishery cooperatives in the Region were :

- a. Development of inland fisheries and cooperative marketing of inland fish.
- b. Adoption of (selected) fishery villages for overall improvement in production, marketing and management of fishery cooperatives, to serve as demonstration units.
- c. Cooperative education of fishermen and training of personnel in fishery coops.
- d. Introduction of accident insurance system for fisherman.

3. The Sub-Committee noted the holding of the Regional Seminar for fishery cooperatives in Japan by National Federation of Fishery Cooperative Association of Japan and expressed its gratitude for providing training facilities for Fisheries Cooperatives in the Region in Japan.

4. The Sub-Committee recommended the following educational activities planned by ICA ROEC to be carried out: (1) Sub-Regional Seminar for Fishery Cooperatives in Thailand, (2) National Seminar on Better Living Activities through Fishery Cooperatives in Sri Lanka.

52. ICA Sub-Committee for
Agriculture for South-East Asia

1. ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture for South-East Asia held its 17th Meeting on 10th November 1982 under the Chairmanship of Mr. R.G. Tiwari.

2. A talk on "Agriculture Cooperatives Movement in the Philippines - Problems and Prospects" was given by Mrs. Nelia T. Gonzalez, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Government of the Philippines. The talk was followed by discussion.

The Crop Insurance System in the Philippines was also explained during the discussion as several members were keen to know about the system.

3. The Sub-Committee noted the following activities carried out by the ICA ROEC in the field of Agriculture:

- a. Research study on "Cooperative and Small Farmer Development : Implication for Government Guidance and Supervision";
- b. Sub-Regional follow-up seminar on Agricultural Cooperative - Thailand;
- c. Regional Seminar on Agricultural Cooperative Credit - Philippines;
- d. National Seminar on Better Living Activities through Agricultural Cooperatives - Sri Lanka;
- e. Preparation of the Publication on Agricultural Cooperative Marketing.

4. The Sub-Committee was informed that the ICA ROEC had conveyed to the SCC the request for holding a Seminar in Sweden on the subject of Management of Agricultural Cooperatives and that SCC response was awaited.

5. Research Studies: The Sub-Committee discussed the proposal for undertaking research studies in the field of agricultural cooperation. The Sub-Committee welcomed the proposal and decided that the member countries should send proposal for research studies to ICA ROEC within the next three months. The ROEC on receiving them can decide on priority areas in consultation with the members and solicit support for these studies through the ICA head office.

Two areas for research were suggested (1) for the eradication of toxin in maize which is caused by a fungus, (2) for evolving a package programme to be implemented by rural coops for the welfare of the rural community.

6. The Sub-Committee recommended that the following educational activities planned by the ICA ROEC be carried out. A Regional Seminar on Integrated Cooperative Activities for Agricultural Development, Republic of Korea & Japan.

7. The Philippine delegation requested that a national seminar on Agricultural Cooperatives be held in the Philippines. There were also other requests.

The Secretariat informed that these requests will be considered depending on policy decisions that will be taken by ICA Authorities.

53. ICA Sub-Committee on Industrial Cooperatives for South-East Asia

1. Member-organisations from five countries had nominated representatives to attend the preparatory meeting of the Sub-Committee. However, only two designated members from Malaysia and the Philippines were present. A few Council members and observers from India, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Sri Lanka attended the meeting.

2. In view of the inability of the designated members to attend the proposed Sub-Committee meeting and in view of the inadequate response, it was suggested that the question of formation of this Sub-Committee be referred back to the Regional Council. Some persons attending the meeting were of the opinion that the question of forming the Sub-Committee may be kept alive.

54. ICA Committee on Cooperative Credit and Banking for South-East Asia

1. The first meeting of the ICA ROEC Committee on Cooperative Credit and Banking for South-East Asia was held on 10th November 1982 afternoon. Eighteen representatives from seven countries attended the meeting. Mr. Manuel Alonzo, Jr. from the Philippines, and Mr. M.M. Vyas from India were elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively.

2. After considerable discussion the Constitution of the Committee was adopted. The Constitution is circulated to the members of the Regional Council.

3. In regard to the immediate work programme, it was suggested that the Secretary should compile, with the assistance and collaboration of the Committee members and member-organisations, a Regional Document detailing cooperative credit and banking situation in the Region.

4. It was decided that a Technical Conference on Cooperative Credit and Banking be held during the year before the next meeting of the Committee. Among the tasks of this conference would be to formulate a plan of action for the Committee and consideration of how to establish a Regional Cooperative Credit Development Fund. The technical conference may also suggest guidelines for promotion and development of cooperative credit and banking in the Region. Malaysia offered to play host to the technical conference and it was suggested that Mr. Ambiah bin Kamdani will be the coordinator for all arrangements in Malaysia.

Agenda Item No. 13 : Relations with member-organisations in the Region

55. The Council noted the information given in the agenda under this item.

56. The Regional Director drew the attention of the Council on the item on Small Farmer Research Study. He informed the Meeting that subsequent to the research study, there was an on-going PROCAS programme supported by Netherlands Embassies in Sri Lanka and Thailand. He had been informed that in India there were some project proposals coming up both in Bihar and Maharashtra States. In view of the recommendations of the Evaluation Committee emphasising more activity in this field he requested the Councillors to examine the possibility of carrying out action oriented research studies in their countries with a view to starting small farmer activity.

Agenda Item No. 14 : Relations with International Organisations

57. The information given in the agenda was noted.

The Chairman Gen. Lozada raised the question of BECA and the proposed Trade Conference to be organised by it - he wanted to know what the position of the CUP should be in this regard. The Director said that he would be meeting with the Chairman of BECA and would be in a position to give a reply thereafter.

58. Gen. Lozada raised also the question of ACO, the Cooperative organisation of ASEAN and suggested that efforts should be made to coordinate activities between ACO and ICA ROEC.

59. The Chairman of ACO, Mr. Eddiwan, Council member for Indonesia, said that the work of ACO was complimentary to ICA ROEC work and that he would keep ICA ROEC informed of their programme of work.

Agenda Item No. 15 : Venue and Date of the next Meeting

60. The invitation from the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan to the Council to hold its 25th Meeting in Tokyo from 3rd to 5th November followed by a Top Level Cooperative Leaders' Conference from 7th to 12th November 1983 was gratefully accepted.

61. The member for Thailand extended tentatively an invitation to the Council to hold its 26th Meeting in Thailand during the first or second week of November.

62. A suggestion was made that future RC Meetings be held before the Central Committee Meeting, as this would help the Chairman of the RC to voice the views of the Region at the Central Committee Meeting. The Director welcomed that suggestion which he would gladly convey the ICA Executive Committee. He actually had hoped that discussion within the Region of the Central Committee Agenda, could have taken place already in 1983.

63. He, however, suggested that once the documents are circulated for the Central Committee that the RO be entrusted with the task of seeking the views of the members and to put them forward in a paper which the Chairman of the Regional Council could deliver at the platform of the Central Committee as the view of the Regional Council.

64. This was agreed to. It was also agreed that the 1984 meeting would be held in November as suggested by the Councillor for Thailand.

Agenda Item No. 16 : Any other matter with the permission of Chair

16.1 Silver Jubilee Celebrations of ROEC in 1985

65. The Regional Council adopted the suggestions put forward by ROEC in principle.

66. Mr. A.E. Saenger made a suggestion that in view of 1985 being the International Year of the Youth declared by U.N., perhaps the international cooperative movement could programme for support in this sector.

67. The Council decided to leave the matter to the Secretariat to come up with draft proposals to which they could react.

16.2 Follow-up of ICA Activities by National Organisations

68. The secretary brought to the notice of the Council the need for:

- i. proper briefing of participants to seminars etc.,
- ii. the need to monitor the background papers prepared by the participant,
- iii. the need for interview of the participants on their return and formulation of follow-up programmes, and
- iv. the need for monitoring of follow-up activities by participants where possible keeping the Regional Office informed of significant development.

16.3 Closer Relationship with Governments

69. The Council was of the unanimous view that we should stick to the status quo.

16.4 The Need for Perspective Planning 3 years/5 years

70. The Council was in full agreement with the proposal mentioned in the agenda.

16.5 Project Identification

71. The Secretary placed before the Council the need for national cooperative organisations to set up some type of capability within their own system to identify needs in the various cooperative sectors and to draw up suitable projects which could eventually be sent on to ROEC, where external funding was required.

The Council noted the suggestion.

16.6 Evaluation Report

See Agenda Item No. 6 (page No. 6).

16.7 Functional Sub-Committees of
the Regional Council

72. The Secretary brought to the notice of the Council the problem faced by the secretariat in inviting nominations for the functional committees of the Council - should the secretariat write to the NCO or the concerned functional national apex? At present at times there were several organisations nominating for the same position.

73. It was suggested that where there was only the NCO as ICA member all nominations would be by the NCO. In other situations, the functional Apex could be contacted.

74. A further suggestion was made that to strengthen the NCO, all nominations should be made through the NCO.

16.8 Open Asian Conferences (OAC)


75. The question of the OACC, the resolutions of such conferences and follow-up action in respect of the resolutions was placed before the Council.

76. The Council was of the view that the resolutions of an OAC should be reported by the Secretariat to the next R.C. Meeting and the Council would decide on what appropriate follow-up action should be pursued by the R.O.

77. In their concluding remarks, the Director, ICA and the Director, SCC, congratulated the Council on the high level of discussions and the quality of the documentation provided for the Meeting, stressed the important role of the Regional Council vis-a-vis the movement of the Region and wished the Council all success.

78. The Meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

New Delhi
17th January 1983


R.B. Rajaguru
Secretary, ICA Council
for S.E. Asia

pk/aa

609/1/1983

International Cooperative Alliance