

P. E. WEERAMAN

AGENDA NOTES

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

SEVENTEENTH MEETING

Venue **MANILA, PHILIPPINES**

Dates **DECEMBER 8-9, 1975**

**International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office
& Education Centre for South-East Asia,
43 Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110-014, India**

International Cooperative Alliance

17TH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA

AGENDA AND MINUTES

Manila, Philippines

7th December 1975

International Cooperative Alliance
Regional Office & Education Centre
for South-East Asia
43, Friends' Colony, New Delhi-14

12 November 1975

SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA
MANILA, PHILIPPINES - 8th & 9th DECEMBER 1975

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AGENDA NOTES
FOR THE
SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA
MANILA, PHILIPPINES
8TH & 9TH DECEMBER 1975

ITEM 1. WELCOME

1. Mr. Ben P. Faustino, Member of the Council and General Manager, Central Cooperative Exchange of the Philippines, will welcome the Members of the Council on behalf of the Filipino Cooperative Movement.

ITEM 2. OBITUARY - Mr. Syoji Matsumura, Japan

2. The death of Mr. Syoji Matsumura, Managing Director of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan and a Member of our Council, on 25th August 1975 after a short illness is reported to the Council with deep regret.

*(and) of Mr. M. J. Lane, Int. of Coop. Dev. & Health
& Mr. J. J. Conroy about a month ago*

ITEM 3. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

3. Mr. P. E. Weeraman, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia, will welcome the Members of the Council on behalf of the ICA and introduce the agenda of the meeting.

ITEM 4. BACKGROUND PAPERS ON THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT OF EACH COUNTRY

4. All the member-organisations in the Region have been requested to send in papers containing up-to-date information on their respective cooperative movements. Papers received before the meeting will be circulated.

ITEM 5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 16TH MEETING, COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

5. The minutes of the last meeting held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, were circulated to all the members. No comments have been received. The minutes may be confirmed. For minutes see appendix "A" in these Notes.

6. Action taken on the minutes is given below under Item No. 6 of these Agenda Notes.

ITEM 6. FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON THE MINUTES

7.	Page No.	Para No.	Summary of the minute	Action taken
	3	8	The meeting requested the Regional Director to follow-up the question of contributions from member-organisations to the funds of the ROEC.	Particulars of contributions are given at para 11 of the Agenda Notes.
	9	26	Referring to the Resolution of "the Promotion of Agricultural Cooperatives in the Region" (Resolution 2, para 3), the Chairman suggested that the Regional Office should undertake a study of "How the Cooperatives can help to create an awareness among the members and general public of the need for increasing food production," and the Chairman said that such a study will be most helpful in the present situation of world-wide scarcities and shortages of foodgrains.	This is reported at para 103 of the Agenda Notes.
	10	27	It was decided that an Expert Group be formed by the ICA to go into this question (Food Production) and to produce a report on the subject. An Ad hoc Committee consisting of the members of India, the Philippines, Korea, Malaysia and Thailand was appointed to draft guidelines for the Terms of Reference of the Export Group.	This is reported at para 103 of the Agenda Notes.

ITEM 7. ADMINISTRATION SECTIONASSESSMENT REPORT

8. The Team appointed to make an assessment of the work of the ROEC submitted its report in January 1975. Copies of this report were circulated among the members of the Council for their comments and suggestions. Comments were received from some of the members and forwarded to the head office of the ICA. These comments are given in Appendix "B". The Assessment Report has since been considered by the Executive and the Central Committee of the ICA. The concluding observations of the Team are as follows :

"The Team has found much evidence of the extremely valuable work of the ROEC since its inception, and of its impact on cooperative development in the Region. Appreciation of its services has been freely and widely expressed. "

"At the same time, however, it is clear that the needs of the member-organisations in the Region are changing as these organisations develop in strength and economic viability. In particular, their needs are becoming more technical and specialised; also they are multiplying rapidly. "

"Meanwhile the resources of the ROEC have not increased to meet these growing demands, and there is no immediate prospect that they will. Therefore, certain major shifts in emphasis in the work of the ROEC are inevitable to enable it to cope. The only viable approach is to redefine the functions of the ROEC in such a way as to enable them to be carried out by a relatively small staff."

"In indicating new directions which the ROEC could take, the Team were motivated by their desire to see ROEC able to respond to the changing needs of the member-organisations in the Region with the same dynamism which has characterised its activities in the past decade. Prominent in this new perspective would be its primary role in coordinating cooperative activities within the Region, dissemination of information, and last but not least, in acting as a catalyst for new ideas. "

"A corollary to this shift in emphasis is that increasingly member-organisations - stimulated, guided and advised by the ROEC - are in a position to assume more of the responsibility, and a greater share of the costs, for co-operative development in the

priority's fixed -

- ① TLCC
- ② national seminars
- ③ in-depth case studies
- ④ guidelines for Exec & Dir
- ⑤ Teacher-Trip program

"Region. This has been happening as evidenced by the many concrete instances cited earlier. Nevertheless, the pace of this development will have to be accelerated. It is in this context that the Team recommendations outlined in the body of this report should be viewed."

"This report should not end on this regional note, however, since in the last analysis co-operative development is not just a regional affair. Co-operatives in other parts of the world have as much stake in this development as those within the Region. If the report is regarded as sounding a note of appeal to the more advanced movements, this would certainly not be too far off the mark."

DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CHAIRMAN

9. Taking the opportunity of the Chairman's visit to New Delhi in September 1975 (16th to 21st), the Director of the ICA and the Regional Director and the other officers of the ROEC had discussions with the Chairman regarding the work of the ROEC and the recommendations of the Assessment Team.

80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ICA

10. The ROEC celebrated the 80th anniversary of the ICA in New Delhi on the 20th of September 1975 with the President of India as the Chief Guest. The President of the National Cooperative Union of India, Mr. R.G. Tiwari, presided over the ceremonial meeting. Dr. S.K. Saxena, the Director of the Alliance, and Mr. N.A. Kularajah, Chairman of the ICA Regional Council, were also present at this well-attended function. The President of India, Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the Minister of State for Industry and Civil Supplies, Government of India, Mr. A.C. George, the Director of the Alliance (Dr. S.K. Saxena), the Chairman of the Regional Council (Mr. N.A. Kularajah), and the President of the National Cooperative Union of India, (Mr. R.G. Tiwari), spoke at the function. Greetings were received from ICA members and international organisations.

MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUNDS OF THE ROEC

11. The ROEC is glad to report that the following member-organisations have contributed the amounts mentioned against their names, towards meeting a part of the costs of the ROEC for the financial year 1974-75 :

Member-Organisations	Local currency	Indian Rs.
1. Cooperative Federation of <u>Australia</u>	A\$ 1,000	11,507.30
2. National Cooperative Union of <u>India</u>	Rs.25,000	25,000.00
3. Dewan Koperasi <u>Indonesia</u>	US\$863.32	7,216.30
4. Sepah Consumers' Cooperative of <u>Iran</u>		5,500.00
5. Central Organisation for Rural Cooperatives of <u>Iran</u>		1,598.00
6. Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of <u>Japan</u>	£1,528.91	28,634.48
7. National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of <u>Korea</u>	US\$1,250	10,000.00
8. Cooperative Union of <u>Malaysia</u>		10,000.00
9. National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka	£50	926.50
10. Cooperative League of <u>Thailand</u>		8,000.00
11. <u>Singapore Coop Union</u> Rs 3250		
12. <u>all above upto no 5.</u>	Total :	108,382.58

12. The member-organisations in Bangladesh, Pakistan, the Philippines and Singapore are expected to make their contributions in due course.

13. Requests for similar contributions for the fiscal year 1975-76 have been sent out to the member-organisations. The Cooperative Federation of Australia has already paid its contribution of A\$1,000/- (Rs.10,445/-) for the year 1975-76. *The CEAC has completed payment of \$10,000 for the Office Building as promised in 1968 (with 10 years)*

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & TRADE FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA

14. For the year 1974-75, contributions have been received from the member-organisations in Australia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, the Rep.

of Korea, Malaysia, Thailand and Sri Lanka amounting to £450/-. Reminders have been sent to the member-organisations in the other countries.

STAFF CHANGES

15. The services of Dr. Dharm Vir, Joint Director (Education) and Specialist in Education Methods in the ROEC, have been temporarily lent to the ILO till the end of December 1975. The ILO has given a short assignment of nine months to Dr. Vir as Consultant in Cooperative Education in the ILO/SIDA Project in Colombo, viz., the Cooperative Management Services Centre. Dr. Vir will resume his duties on 1st January 1976.

16. Mr. M.V.Madane, Joint Director (Technical Assistance & Trade) has been allowed to accept a one-year assignment in Afganistan as Cooperative Adviser (Credit & Supply) with the FAO with effect from 8th November 1975.

17. Mr. M.K.Puri has been appointed to the ROEC as its Specialist in Consumer Cooperation with effect from January 1976. Mr. Puri held the substantive post of Joint Registrar of Cooperative Societies of Haryana State, India. He was the first General Manager of the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India and was Managing Director of the Haryana State Cooperative Sugar Federation at the time of his selection for appointment to the ROEC. He has long and varied experience of cooperative work, having been an Officer in the Cooperative Service for 25 years and served on secondment in various important positions in the Cooperative Movement of India. He has also been a Resource Person at our seminars. He has been trained in Canada and Sweden, specialising in Cooperative Management and Consumer Cooperation respectively. He is 50 years of age.

ITEM 8. EDUCATION CENTRE18. SECTION I - FOLLOW-UP ACTION TAKEN ON THE MINUTES
OF THE LAST MEETING

Page No.	Para No.	Summary of the Minute	Action taken
5	10.6	The Swedish Cooperative Centre should continue to hold its International Seminars in Sweden so that participants from the Region would be able to derive the maximum advantage from them.	<p>The Director, SCC has been informed of the recommendation of the Council. The SCC would hold its international seminars as and when necessary. During April-May, 1976, the SCC will be holding the 17th International Seminar on Leadership through Education for ten women cooperators from Asia and ten from Africa.</p> <p>The SCC has indicated that it would like to provide training linked to current projects. The SCC would be prepared to organise training programmes for such projects on the basis of the expressed needs of the movements in the Region rather than the SCC itself offering a training programme and recruiting participants. This implies that requests for training in Sweden should emerge from the movements in the Region.</p>
6	11.4.2	The Chairman suggested that further details re. the proposed Asian Conference on Coop. Management to be held in the Philippines be discussed between him, the ROEC and the CCE.	The details re. the proposed Conference on Coop. Management were worked out between the Chairman of the Regional Council, the Gen. Manager of the CCE and the officers of the ROEC.

Page No.	Para No.	Summary of the Minute	Action taken
7	12.2	Mr. Ismail Din, Member for Malaysia indicated that ANKASA would like to get assistance from ICA ROEC for holding a National Seminar on School Cooperatives.	Dr. Dharm Vir, Specialist in Member Education, was deputed to assist ANKASA in holding their National Seminar on School Cooperatives.
11	30	The Director (Education) said that participants of the Regional Seminar on Agricultural Coop. Marketing to be held in Japan would, as far as possible, be selected from the staff of the projects surveyed by the ICA Study Team.	In spelling out the qualifications for the participants, it was suggested that at least one of the participants from each country should be a full-time managerial person working in the area covered by the Coop. Marketing Societies studied by the ICA Teams in their Surveys of Cooperative Agricultural Marketing Projects. The countries in which such studies were carried out are India, Indonesia, Iran, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand. Three participants were from apex marketing organisations which were associated with the Surveys.

SECTION II : REVIEW OF EDUCATION ACTIVITIES - SEPTEMBER 1974 to OCTOBER 1975

19. The period reported on to the last meeting was October 1973 to August 1974.

20. The following educational activities were carried out by the Education Centre during the period September 1974 to October 1975 :

A. REGIONAL SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

A.1 Regional Seminar on the "Development of Dairy Cooperatives in South-East Asia"

21. A Regional Seminar on the "Development of Dairy Cooperatives in South-East Asia" was held by the ICA ROEC in collaboration with the

National Cooperative Union of India and with the assistance of the National Dairy Development Board of India at Anand, Gujarat State, India from 3rd to 22nd February, 1975. Eighteen participants from Bangladesh, India, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand attended the seminar.

22. The seminar programme consisted of lectures, group discussions and field visits. The field visits were very carefully organised. Participants individually selected functional areas of interest to them in the context of their jobs and studied these aspects either singly or in groups of two or three during field visits under the supervision of a technical officer. The results of field studies were then discussed at seminar meetings with technical officers. Thus the seminar was carried out in a highly practical manner.

A.2 Regional Conference on "The Role of Women in Cooperative Development"

23. As part of its contribution to UN International Women's Year, the ICA ROEC and the Cooperative Union of Malaysia jointly held a Regional Conference on "The Role of Women in Cooperative Development" at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 21st to 28th July 1975. Seventy-five participants and observers from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Pakistan, Singapore, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Papua New Guinea attended the conference. The FAO, ILO and UNICEF also sent observers. The Conference discussed a wide range of issues which had a direct bearing on the fuller participation of women at all levels of the cooperative movement. The Conference was divided into five groups, each of which was given a topic for discussion. These topics were: women's participation in (i) Consumers'

(ii) Thrift and Credit, (iii) Industrial, (iv) Agricultural Cooperatives and (v) Education Programmes for women.

A.3 Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with Special Emphasis on Distribution Methods."

24. A Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with Special Emphasis on Distribution Methods" was held in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan, the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA) and the National Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives (ZEN-NOH) in Tokyo from 2nd to 22nd September, 1975. Twenty-two participants from 10 countries and observers from Japan in addition to participants and from the ILO Office in Tokyo, attended the seminar. The countries represented at the seminar were Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

25. The seminar dealt mainly with the marketing of fruits, vegetables and livestock products.

26. There was a programme of study visits for five days in Korea organised in collaboration with the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) and another for seven days in Japan. Case studies of primary societies visited by the participants were prepared ^{in advance} by the ROEC.

A.4 Open Asian Conference on Consumer Cooperation

27. An Open Asian Conference on Consumer Cooperation was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 23rd to 28th October 1974, in collaboration with the Cooperative Union of Malaysia. 11 delegates and observers from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand attended the conference. ESCAP, FAO and ILO sent observers. A special

feature of the conference was that it was conducted on a self-financing basis. In view of the foreign exchange difficulties, the ICA provided financial assistance to the participants from Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

28. An important recommendation of the Conference was that the ICA ROEC should constitute a Regional Working Party on Consumer Cooperation to give sustained attention to the development of the Consumer Cooperative Movement in the Region.

B. NATIONAL SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

29. The following five workshops on the subject of "Retail Management in Consumer Cooperatives" were held in Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore. The aim of the workshops was to give practical training in retail management in consumer cooperatives through lectures and practical work.

9-14 September 1974	Bangkok, Thailand
8-12 October 1974	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
15-19 October 1974	Singapore
19-25 October 1974	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
11-16 November 1974	Bangkok, Thailand.

30. The Swedish Cooperative Centre made the services of Mr. Rolf Holmgren and Mr. Bengt Nerlund available to the workshops as Resource Persons. The member-organisations in these countries met all the local costs.

31. The following subjects were dealt with at the workshops :

1. Background about the Economy
2. Sales Planning
3. Goods Display
4. Stock Control
5. Leadership
6. Organisational Structure and Democratic Leadership
7. Comparative Study of Private and Cooperative Shops
8. Warehousing and Wholesaling, and
9. Economics of Consumer Cooperatives.

31. Dr. Dharm Vir, Specialist in Cooperative Education, assisted as a Resource Person at the Course on School Cooperatives held by ANGKASA in Malaysia from 16th to 31st December 1974.

32. Mrs. M.D' Cruz, Assistant (Education), assisted at the National Seminar on "The Role of Women in Cooperatives" held by the Cooperative Union of Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur on 9th and 10th November 1974. She gave a talk on the subject of "Review of Women's Cooperative Activities in South-East Asia." She assisted the Union in drawing up a programme for involving women in cooperatives.

33. Mrs. M.D' Cruz participated as a Resource Person in the National Seminar on "How to Raise the Standard of Living - The Cooperative Way" held by the Cooperative Union of Malaysia in Penang, Malaysia, from 2nd to 6th December 1974.

34. Mr. Daman Prakash, Assistant (Audio-Visual Education) assisted the National Centre of Cooperative Education of the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) in conducting their "Teaching Techniques Workshop" held from 25th to 28th January 1975.

35. Mr. Daman Prakash gave a talk on "Audio-Visual Education" to the participants of the 43rd Basic Training Course at the same Centre from 12th to 15th May 1975.

C. TEACHERS' DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES 1974-1976

36. The following three teachers participated in the Teachers' Development Programme of 1974-75 :

1. Mr. Supah bin Haji Mohd. Noh,
Senior Lecturer
Cooperative College of Malaysia
2. Mr. Mohd. Abdul Quadir
Lecturer
Bangladesh Cooperative College

3. Mr. Muhammad Rafique
Lecturer
West Pakistan Cooperative College.

37. Mr. Supah Noh of Malaysia and Mr. Quadir of Bangladesh were attached to the Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management, Poona.

Mr. Muhammad Rafique of Pakistan was attached to the Cooperative College of Malaysia.

38. The following six teachers took part in the Teachers' Development Programme of 1975-76 :

1. Mr. R. Thirunarayanan
Lecturer, Cooperative Training College
Madras, India.
2. Mr. Imam Chourmain, M.A.S.
Lecturer in History & Practices of Cooperation
C/o Dewan Koperasi Indonesia
Jakarta, Indonesia.
3. Mr. In Joon Seol
Assistant Professor
Agricultural Cooperative College
Kyungki Do, Republic of Korea.
4. Miss Rosa L. Niduzza
Researcher I
Agricultural Credit & Cooperatives Institute
College, Laguna, Los Banos, Philippines.
5. Mr. M.G. Siriwardana
Gampaha Cooperative Education Centre
Gampaha, Sri Lanka.
6. Mr. Thavil Larsprasert
Senior Lecturer
Cooperative Training Centre
Bangkok, Thailand.

39. In addition to studying the teaching methods, curricula etc., being followed by the Cooperative Colleges in Korea, Japan and the Philippines, the teachers were given an opportunity to take part in the Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing" held in Tokyo, Japan, in September 1975. An eight-day workshop on the use of the case study method was also conducted for these teachers with the assistance of ACCI, Philippines.

The teachers were of the opinion that they needed training facilities in both the subject matter and the techniques of teaching.

40. ICA/NCUI COOPERATIVE EDUCATION FIELD PROJECT, INDORE DISTRICT, INDIA

The field project was continued. It is now in its fifth year. Our responsibility for the Project will end on 30th June 1976. The National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) has decided to take over and run the project from 1st July 1976 with technical guidance from the ICA ROEC.

At the 80th Anniversary of the International Cooperative Alliance, Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the President of India, commended the project in the following words :

"I would like to stress in this context the crucial role of cooperative education. I am glad to know that the ICA which has adopted Education as one of its important activities has been providing expertise and sharing its experience in organising a pilot project on cooperative education for a selected group of primary societies in Indore District of Madhya Pradesh in collaboration with the NCUI and the Madhya Pradesh State Cooperative Union. This project which was started in February 1971 has now completed four years. The results have been so satisfactory that the societies themselves have now started coming forward to provide additional funds for continuing the programme. The project has shown mainly that cooperative institutions at the primary and district level have to be actively involved in the educational work and that an integrated approach should be adopted to education whereby emphasis is placed on meeting the entire requirements of the families for the agricultural operation and for their other occupations to the maximum possible extent through the society and in having a farm guidance service as an integral part of the services provided by the cooperative societies. This is a concrete example of how the experience and the resources of international cooperative movement have helped in guiding the cooperative movements in the developing countries. I have no doubt that the ICA will continue to assist the countries in this region in organising similar cooperative efforts."

41. It is encouraging to note that the NCUI has formulated ten cooperative education projects in certain less developed States of India incorporating some of the features of the Indore Project. The Kaira

District Cooperative Union, Gujarat State, has already started a similar project on its own. The ICA also trained a Cooperative Education Officer from Bangladesh with a view to the Bangladesh National Cooperative Union starting a similar project. Several trainees from other countries in the Region also visited the project and were provided with necessary orientation about the project.

E. CONSULTATIVE AND ALLIED SERVICES

42. Mr. J.M.Rana, Director (Education), visited Dacca, Bangladesh from 10th to 13th December 1974 and discussed with the authorities of the Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union their proposal to start a Cooperative Education Project on the lines of the ICA/NCUI Cooperative Education Field Project in Indore, India.

43. Mr. J.M.Rana attended the ICA's 43rd International Seminar on the theme of "Technical Assistance - Need and Response" held in Dresden from 7th to 14th September 1975. He presented a Case Study on the ICA/NCUI Cooperative Education Field Project at the seminar.

44. Mr. J.M.Rana visited Nagpur and gave a talk to the trainees of the Higher Diploma in Cooperation at the D.R.Gadgil Cooperative Training College from 14th to 17th August 1975. He also gave a talk to the field workers of the Wardha District Cooperative Bank on "Recent trends in cooperative development."

45. Mrs. M.D.Cruz, Assistant (Education), attended the 17th Session of the Indian Council of Social Welfare at Bombay from 10th to 12th January 1975.

SECTION III : PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES FOR JULY 1976 TO JUNE 1977A. REGIONAL SEMINARS

46. Member-organisations have suggested the following subjects for these meetings :

- | | | |
|-------|--|---|
| i) | Regional Seminar on Cooperative Insurance and Promotion of Savings | : Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan. |
| ii) | Effective Teaching Methods to Educate and Train Cooperative Member and staffs | : National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) of Korea. |
| iii) | Participation of Cooperatives in Industries. | : ANGKASA of Malaysia. |
| iv) | Inter-Cooperative Trading - Domestic as well as Intra-regional Trading. | : ANGKASA of Malaysia. |
| v) | Member-Education Seminar for Leaders of Cooperatives and Teachers of Cooperative Institutions. | : ANGKASA of Malaysia. |
| vi) | Youth Participation in Cooperatives. | : National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka. |
| vii) | Role of Cooperatives in Agricultural Production | : National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka. |
| viii) | Techniques and Methods of Cooperative Education & training | : National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka. |
| ix) | Cooperative Management | : National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka. |

The following are recommended :

47. Regional Seminar on Cooperative Insurance and Promotion of Savings

Venue : Japan
 Duration : 21 days (1-21 September 1976)
 Participants: 25

48. The ICA Regional Office holds every year one seminar in Japan in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives and IDACA.

The above subject has been proposed by the Central Union of Agricultural / with other national organisations of agricultural cooperatives. The seminar will have technical assistance from the National Mutual Insurance Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives and the Central Cooperative Bank for Agriculture and Forestry of Japan.

49. Regional Seminar on Development of Cooperative Industries

Venue : India
 Duration : 21 days (March-April 1976)
 Participants: 25

50. The proposal to hold the above seminar was made at the earlier meetings of the Council and found general acceptance. India has offered to play host. The seminar will deal with all types of industries, i.e. those owned by (i) workers, (ii) farmers and (iii) consumers.

B. REGIONAL CONFERENCES

51. Member-organisations have suggested the following subjects for the Open/Regional Conferences :

- | | | | |
|------|---|---|---|
| i) | Expansion of Inter-Cooperative Education and Training | : | National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) of Korea. |
| ii) | The Emergence of Capitalistic Tendencies in Cooperative Enterprises | : | ANCKASA of Malaysia |
| iii) | International Cooperative Trade. | : | National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka. |
| iv) | Cooperative Credit | : | Chairman of the Regional Council. |

52. The following is recommended :

53. Asian Open Conference on Cooperative Credit

Venue : Open
 Duration : One week

54. The response to the two Open Conferences held so far has been exceedingly encouraging. The first Open Asian Conference on Consumer

Cooperation held in Malaysia was attended by 119 participants and observers of whom a total of 54 were foreign participants and observers. It is expected that over 110 participants and observers will take part in the second Asian Conference on Cooperative Management to be held in Manila, Philippines.

55. The first Open Asian Conference provided an opportunity to a large number of leaders of the cooperative movements in the Region to review recent trends and problems, to discuss technical questions and to further develop collaboration. The second open conference is being held immediately before the Council Meeting so that the Council and Sub-Committee members would find it easier to attend it. This arrangement may be continued in respect of the third conference now proposed. Its venue should therefore be the same as that of the Council Meeting in 1976.

56. As in the previous years, the conference will be held on a self-financing basis.

57. As suggested by the Chairman of the Council when he visited our office in September this year, we propose that the third Open Conference should be on the subject of "Cooperative Credit."

6. TRAINING COURSES

58. On the basis of the recommendations of the ICA Assessment Team, the comments received from Council Members on the report and the suggestions received from member-organisations, it is suggested that the ICA ROEC holds two training courses on the following two subjects which are of vital importance to the cooperative movement. It is suggested that these training programmes be conducted at the premises of the ICA ROEC in view of the facilities available there.

59. Training Programme for Teachers of National Level Training Colleges in the Techniques of Teaching

Venue : ICA ROEC, New Delhi
 Duration : 2 months (tentative)
 Participants: 12 to 15

60. Training in participative teaching techniques and techniques of audio-visual education will be emphasized in the course. Subject-matter training will also be given to some extent during the seminar period and through field visits.

61. The Teachers' Development Programme would now be converted into the above training programme and the objectives of the Teachers' Development Programme would be achieved through this training course. This course will be planned and conducted by the ROEC.

62. Training Programme on Cooperative Management

Venue : ICA ROEC, New Delhi
 Duration : 2 months (tentative)
 Participants : 12 to 15 middle level managers.

63. It is necessary to introduce modern and scientific management into cooperative organisations; hence a course on the above subject would fill an important gap. This programme may serve as a model to the national cooperative training centres which may later on like to incorporate in their courses some elements of the above programme and adapt their training programmes keeping in view the local situations.

D. Meeting of the South-east Asian Specialists Group on Cooperative Training (SEASPECT)

64. As suggested by the Council meeting held in November, 1974 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, SEASPECT has been constituted. The representatives of

the national cooperative training centres of the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand have been nominated as members of the Group. It is proposed to hold a meeting of SEASPECT for one week in February 1976. Some lectures by experts will also be arranged for the members of the Group on selected aspects of audio-visual education, participative teaching techniques,* and modern management techniques.

E. Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS)

65. In response to a widely-felt need to improve the supply and quality of materials used in cooperative education and training in the Developing Countries, the Cooperative Education Techniques Project was launched in 1973 by the Head Office of the International Cooperative Alliance with financial assistance made available by the Cooperative League of the U.S.A.

66. The initial task with which the Project was charged was to carry out a survey of educational materials and techniques used in the developing countries with a view to identifying the main areas of action required to improve the existing situation. As a result of this survey a report was made, recommending, inter alia, the establishment, within the framework of the ICA and its Regional Offices, of a Cooperative Materials Advisory Service.

67. As a follow up of the above report, the ICA Head Office and the two Regional Offices have started the above service. The CEMAS service whose functions are given below would be supported by advice from the South-East Asian Specialists' Group on Cooperative Training (SEASPECT).

- i) to collect materials, and information on materials available to and/or used by cooperative institutions in Developing Countries, for the purpose of compiling an inventory of such materials;

- ii) to provide advice and information regarding the use and availability of suitable materials to potential users in the developing countries and, where possible, to facilitate the exchange of such materials; and
- iii) to produce proto-type materials where special need for such is identified.

F. Demonstration Project in the Field of Teacher Training ✓

68. The teacher training programmes need to be supplemented by a demonstration project where modern teaching techniques sought to be introduced in the Region, could be applied in a selected national cooperative training centre. This exercise could result in the identification of the techniques of training teachers relevant to the local situation besides being a source of guidance in the field of teacher training. The experience gained from, the Indore Project has confirmed that the concepts and practices recommended by the Seminars should be applied in field projects to test their validity.

G. Proposal to start new Cooperative Education Field Projects ✓

69. The results of the Cooperative Education Field Projects in India have been very encouraging, in terms of its practical acceptance inasmuch as the cooperative education programme in India is being revised on the basis of the experience gained from the Indore Project. In view of this, it is felt that the search for educational techniques that are relevant to the local needs should continue and therefore that demonstration projects should be established in one or two other countries of the region and gradually each country of the region should have an education field project.

H. Women and Cooperatives

70. It is proposed to carry out a survey of the role of women and the extent of their participation in the cooperative movements of a few countries

of the region as a follow-up of the recommendations of the Women's Conference held in Malaysia in July this year. The aim of the study would also be to indicate how women's participation in the cooperative movement can be increased.

71. In pursuance of the recommendations of the Women's Conference, it is proposed to hold four national basic courses in Cooperation for women cooperators. It is recommended that these courses may be organised in Sri Lanka, Malaysia, the Philippines and India.

J. National Seminars

72. The following member-organisations have requested ICA assistance for holding national seminars :

J.1 Malaysia - ANGKASA

Seminar subjects : (i) Integration and the Expansion of the Cooperative Movement, and
(ii) School Cooperatives.

Sri Lanka - NATIONAL COOPERATIVE COUNCIL

Seminar subjects : (i) Cooperative Land Settlements,
(ii) Management of Cooperative Farms, and
(iii) Member education and Training of Teachers.

73. The ROEC will further discuss the question of holding these national seminars with the member-organisations concerned and give them the necessary assistance.

74. Country-wise break-up of Participants and Observers at ICA Regional Seminars and Conferences held during October 1974-November 1975.

Country	Asian Conference on Consumer Cooperation Oct., 1974	Regional Seminar on the "Development of Dairy Coops. in S. E. Asia" Feb., 1975	Regional Conference on "The Role of Women in Coop. Development" July 1975	Regional Seminar on "Agri. Coop. Marketing with Spl. Emphasis on Distribution Methods" Sept., 1975
Australia	-	-	-	-
Bangladesh	2	2	2	2
India	5	5	4	4
Indonesia	8	-	3	1
Iran	-	-	-	-
Japan	2	-	3	-
Korea, Rep. of	-	2	-	3
Malaysia	21	1	5	2
Nepal	1	-	1	1
Pakistan	-	-	1	-
Philippines	-	2	4	1
Singapore	11	-	3	1
Sri Lanka	1	3	2	3
Thailand	3	3	3	4
Papua & New Guinea	-	-	1	-
Total :	54	18	32	22
<u>OBSERVERS</u>				
FAO	1	-	1	-
ILO	2	-	1	-
UNESCO	-	1	-	-
ESCAP	1	-	-	-
UNICEF	-	-	1	-
OTHERS	61	-	-	-
TOTAL:	65	1	3	-

ITEM 9. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRADE SECTIONPart I75. Action taken on the Minutes of the last meeting

Page No.	Para No. of the minute	Decision of the Council	Action taken
8	21	"The Chairman further suggested that the Regional Office should collect information on the cooperative travel agencies operating in advanced countries, such as Germany and Denmark, and prepare an information and use of cooperative travel agencies in the Region."	Information has been collected and compiled. This has been brought out in cyclostyled form and sent to all member organisations.
8	22	It was decided that the Member for Iran and the Regional Office should coordinate further action concerning Asian Cooperative Development Bank.	Detailed discussions were held with member-organisations, governments and banking institutions in Iran concerning ACDB. Report at para (90 to 98).
10	27	"It was decided that an Export Group be formed by the ICA to go into this question (follow-up of Resolution 2, para 3 of the Top Level Conference) and to produce a report on the subject. An Ad hoc Committee consisting of Members for India, the Philippines, Korea, Malaysia and Thailand was appointed to draft guidelines for the Terms of Reference of the Export Group."	On the basis of the recommendations of the Ad hoc Committee, the Regional Office has proposed a Study of the Role of Cooperatives in increasing Food Production in South-East Asia. Report at para 103. (Also see appendix "D").

PART IIA. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

76. Important developments in respect of technical assistance projects handled by the Regional Office are as follows :

Dairy Development Fund for Poona District, India.

77. An Agreement has been made between the ICA Regional Office and the Poona District Cooperative Milk Producers Federation, for the supply of skim milk powder worth approximately Indian Rupees Five lakhs (Rs. 500,000) as a part of ICA's total assistance to this project formerly known as the Bhor Project. The powder will be given to the Federation over a period of three years in order to enable the Federation to convert the powder into liquid milk for sale during summer months when the fresh milk supply is inadequate.

78. The Federation has agreed to create a Dairy Development Fund to which the proceeds from the sale of liquid milk, produced from this powder, will be credited. Withdrawals from the Fund will be made by the Federation in consultation with the ICA Regional Office.

79. It is hoped that this Fund will become a source of assistance for the further development of cooperative dairying in Poona District.

Fisheries Assistance Project in Sri Lanka

80. Arrangements are being made to procure a 4-wheel drive Jeep and equip it with the necessary tools and instruments to serve as a mobile motor repair van for servicing marine diesel engines.

Fishery Assistance to the Philippines

81. A project has been prepared for the development of transport, storage and marketing of fish in the Zambales Province of the Philippines and sent to the Head Office for finding a donor organisation. The project

envisages assistance through the ICA in the form of a refrigerated motor van and a marketing expert for a period of one year.

Gift of Incubators for Women Cooperators of Bangladesh

82. The Swedish Association of Guilds has gifted two incubators each worth Rs.22,600 to the Rangunia Thana Central Cooperative Association at Rangunia (Bangladesh) for the use of women cooperators in Rangunia. The ICA Regional Office made the arrangements for the purchase and shipment of the incubators to Bangladesh in the first week of June, 1975.

Gift of Irrigation Equipment to a Bangladesh Cooperative

83. The Cooperative Maritime Services of Canada has made a gift of irrigation equipment worth Canadian \$2,000 to the Rangunia Thana Central Cooperative Association in Bangladesh. The equipment was purchased and shipped by the Regional Office to Bangladesh in April 1975.

Gift of Cement to Bangladesh

84. The Swedish Cooperators, through the Swedish Cooperative Centre, have gifted a sum of Sw. Cr.80,000 for the purchase of cement to the Rangunia Thana Central Cooperative Association. The Regional Office has requested the International Cooperative Trading Organisation (ICTO) at Singapore to arrange for this.

Other Projects

85. No progress was possible in the matter of securing assistance for the other projects formulated by the Regional Office and submitted to the Head Office in the previous years.

Handwritten note:
 All the information
 to be given to
 (Am. L. L. L.)

B. PROMOTION OF COOPERATIVE TRADE

Cooperative Trade Development

86. Clearing house functions for the promotion of cooperative trade and the supply of information were continued during the year. As the ICTO has now become operational, trade enquiries received in the Regional Office are being redirected to the ICTO.

Trade Information Bulletin

87. The "ICA Trade News" continued to be issued monthly. The journal completed the sixth year of its publication in June 1975.

ILO Project for Cooperative Trade Promotion

88. The International Labour Office (ILO) has prepared a project for assisting cooperative trading organisations in the Asian Region. It envisages the recruitment of three experts for collecting information on cooperative trade and organising a workshop and training programmes in the Region.
89. The ILO office in Bangkok has discussed the project with the Regional Director and the Joint Director, Technical Assistance and Trade. The ILO project should prove useful for the development of the activities of ICTO.

C. ASIAN COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT BANK

90. Following up discussions at the previous Council meetings, ICA representatives paid two visits to Iran for detailed discussions with cooperatives and government authorities in Iran. The first visit was paid by Dr. S.K. Saxena, Director of the ICA, who was accompanied by Mr. R.P.B. Davies, General Secretary of the ICA and Mr. M.V. Madane, Joint Director, TA&T. During this visit discussions were held with

representatives of all ICA member-organisations of Iran. During these discussions general support was expressed by all members to the ACDB proposal. Mr. Sassani informed Dr. Saxena at this meeting that the Government of Iran had expressed its support to the proposal.

91. The second visit was paid by the Regional Director and the Joint Director, Technical Assistance and Trade, during August 1975. During this visit, they had discussions on this matter with the Government and bank authorities in Iran. Mr. J. Sassani, Member for Iran was instrumental in **arranging** these meetings was also present at these meetings.

92. These meetings were with the Minister for Cooperatives and Rural Affairs, the Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Iran and the Vice-President of the National Bank of Iran. The Minister and the ^{Central} officials of the Bank were very positive to the idea of forming a cooperative development bank for Asia.

93. The discussions revealed that some of the provisions governing the operation of banks in Iran may prove difficult of compliance. For example, banks permitted to operate as foreign commercial banks are required to offer at least 60 per cent of their share capital to organisations in Iran and only 40 per cent can be subscribed by organisations outside Iran. Secondly, though the Bank Act provides that the share capital to be collected and deposited with the Central Bank of Iran before submitting the proposal for registration of the Bank should be at least (only) 3 million US dollars, the Deputy Governor of the Bank informed the ICA representatives that no bank is at present registered unless it is able to collect 30 million U.S. dollars as share capital.

94. The Joint Director, Technical Assistance and Trade, visited Kuala Lumpur during October 1975 and held discussions with Mr. N.A.Kularajah, President of the Cooperative Union of Malaysia, and certain officers of the Ministry of Finance concerning this proposal. It was gathered that the Government of Malaysia would not at present favour the establishment of new foreign banks. Normally foreign banks will have to offer 51% of their share capital to local share holders. Although the law provides ^{for} 2 million Malaysian dollars as the share capital necessary for registering a bank, it was explained that it was government's policy to insist on a share capital of 5 million dollars. However, it was also indicated that in view of the present policies of the Government of Malaysia to encourage cooperative development, it may be possible to waive some of the conditions depending upon the details of the proposal submitted.
95. The discussions in Iran reveal that it is difficult to develop ^a the proposal on the lines of foreign commercial bank. Even if certain conditions are waived by the Government of Iran, it is very unlikely that a bank there can be registered with a share capital of less than 30 million US dollars. In the case of Malaysia also, the amount required is 5 million Malaysian dollars.
96. In all the discussions held in Iran and Malaysia, it was generally indicated to us by the parties with whom we had these discussions that there would be no difficulty in registering a Bank on the lines of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) which will set up an office and engage itself in providing development finance to cooperatives in the Region. Such a Bank would be treated as a Development Finance Institution and

not all the conditions imposed on foreign banks would be applicable to such an institution. Such a Bank will not be able to engage itself in the normal banking activities of accepting local deposits and doing current banking business.

97. On the basis of the above discussions it is proposed that future action should be on the following lines :

A Bank providing both development and trade finance should be treated as a long-term objective and the proposal should now be developed in the direction of establishing only a development finance institution which will raise, internationally, funds for development and provide finance for projects sponsored by cooperatives in the Region. It would be an Asian Cooperative Development Bank on the lines of the Asian Development Bank.

Such a Bank will function only as an office. Its funds could be kept or invested in any part of the world. The Bank will lend against the guarantee of its share holders.

98. As there is support for such a bank from the government and the Central Bank of Iran, Teheran would appear to be a suitable location for the Headquarters of the proposed Asian Cooperative Development Bank.

D. STUDIES IN THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE MEMBERS OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN THE REGION.

99. Apropos the resolution of the Top-Level Cooperative Leaders' Conference in this regard, the Council was informed at its last meeting that Indonesia and the Philippines had been selected as the two countries in which studies should be made of the living conditions of the members of agricultural cooperatives. See appendix C for a copy of the Resolution.

100. In consultation with the Dewan Koperasi Indonesia (DKI), it has been decided that the study in Indonesia should be made in respect of members of agricultural cooperatives producing vegetables around the capital city of Jakarta. A similar study should also be made in respect of the members of agricultural cooperatives engaged in the production of rice.

101. The Regional Office has requested the DKI to prepare a preliminary note giving the basic economic data of the two areas to enable the ICA to determine the scope of these studies. The preliminary note is awaited.

102. Philippines: During his visit to Manila in July 1974, the Joint Director (TA&T) discussed the proposal with the General Manager of the Central Cooperative Exchange, and the members of the staff of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Institute of the Philippines (ACCI). It was then agreed that the subject of the study should be selected after ACCI had published its findings of a comprehensive nation-wide survey it was undertaking, covering all aspects of the rural economy. A copy of the survey report has not been received yet in the Regional Office. As soon as it is received, the selection of an area for a more intensive study of the living conditions of the members of agricultural cooperatives will be made.

E. STUDY OF THE ROLE THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT COULD PLAY IN THE TASK OF INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION IN THE COUNTRIES SERVED BY THE ICA REGIONAL OFFICE FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA.

103. Apropos the resolution of the Top-Level Cooperative Leaders' Conference in this regard and on the basis of the discussion at the last Council Meeting concerning the role of cooperatives in creating awareness

among members and the general public of the need for increasing food production, the ICA Regional Office has prepared a proposal for conducting a Study to determine the role the cooperatives could play in this field. An outline of the project is given as Appendix D 104. The financing of the Study from the Cooperative Development Fund has been approved by the Executive Committee of the ICA at its meeting in October 1975. The COPAC also is contemplating the holding of a Symposium on "The Role of Cooperatives in the Development of the Rural Poor" in 1977. The study proposed to be made by the ROEC should be useful for the purposes of the Symposium as well. Action will be taken to organise the study when formal approval is received from the Head Office. It is expected in the near future.

F. COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT FUND

105. In response to the request made at the last meeting for information on the steps taken by member-organisations to create Cooperative Development Funds in their countries, replies have been received from Australia, Bangladesh, Iran, Japan (Fisheries Cooperative Movement), Malaysia and the Philippines. While Bangladesh has listed five ways of collecting money for the Fund, Malaysia, Iran and Japan do not consider it necessary to establish such a Fund. In the Philippines, a Cooperative Development Fund has been established by a Presidential Decree dated April 14, 1975, and a representative of the Cooperative Movement has been nominated to the Managing Committee of the Fund. The Cooperative Federation of Australia is in a state of reorganisation and re-structuring and they are not in a position to give consideration to the establishment of the proposed Fund for at least two years, i.e. till the end of 1976.

G. JOINT VENTURES

106. No proposals have been received from the movements in the Region for the establishment of joint ventures with cooperatives of other countries in the region, as suggested at the last meeting.

ITEM 10 : PUBLICATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND LIBRARY SECTIONI. Publications

107. The following publications have been issued during the period under review (July 1974 to October 1975).

"Cooperation in the United States of America" by B.K. Sinha.

108. The publication is an outcome of the study of cooperatives in the United States of America made by Mr. B.K. Sinha, former Director (Cooperative Training) in the Department of Cooperation of the Government of India. The Author has analysed the different sectors of the cooperative movement in the USA and made suggestions which may be adopted by the cooperative movements of the developing countries.

"Report of the Regional Conference of Principals and Teachers of National Cooperative Training Institutions."

109. This publication contains the Report of the Regional Conference of Principals and Teachers of National Cooperative Training Institutions held in Djakarta, Indonesia, from 12th to 25th June 1974.

"Cooperative Member Education and Communication."

110. This publication contains the Report of the Regional Seminar on "Cooperative member education and member communication" held in Tokyo, Japan, from April 3-25, 1974. It also includes two case studies of Member Education and member communication activities of two primary agricultural cooperative societies in Japan by Dr. Dharm Vir, Joint Director (Education) and Specialist in Educational Methods of the Regional Office.

"Amalgamation of Primary Agricultural Cooperatives in the Republic of Korea " by Lionel Gnawarhana.

111. The publication is an outcome of a study made of the amalgamation of primary cooperatives in the Republic of Korea. The book explains briefly the structure of the agricultural cooperative movement in Korea, factors that motivated, and the procedures adopted in, amalgamation. It outlines the problems the Korean agricultural cooperative movement faced in creating large societies and the problems that are faced by the newly established large societies.

"Manual for Study Circle Leaders" by Dharm Vir.

112. The publication is the third revised edition of this publication.

"The ICA in South-East Asia" by P.E. Weeraman.

113. This is a brochure containing information about the activities of the International Cooperative Alliance in the South-East Asian Region and serves as an introduction of the ICA Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia. It is a revised version of an earlier brochure published under the same title.

"A Handbook of Communication and the Cooperative Teacher"

by Daman Prakash.

114. The publication is intended to serve as a guide or handbook for teaching personnel involved in cooperative education and training programmes in the Region. Various aspects of communication, educational technology, teaching methods and material have been discussed in the book. A number of

illustrations have been included to facilitate the efforts of the users in making their own teaching tools.

"80th Anniversary Celebrations of the ICA - Souvenir."

115. The Souvenir was brought out on the occasion of the 80th Anniversary Celebrations of the ICA held on September 20, 1975, at New Delhi.

Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, President of India, was the Chief Guest on this occasion. The Souvenir contains the speeches made on the occasion and the messages received from the UN Agencies, the international governmental and non-governmental organisations, and the member organisations of the ICA in the Region and the GLUCA's representative in India.

Speeches on Cooperation

Speech No.13 : Sixteenth Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia - M. Senanayake.

116. It contains the speeches made on the occasion of the inauguration of the 16th Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 31st October, 1974. The speeches made by Mr. P.E. Weeraman, ICA Regional Director, Mr. T.B. Wlangaratne, Minister of Foreign and Internal Trade, and the inaugural address of Mr. Maithripala Senanayake, as acting Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, have been included in this booklet.

Speech No.14 : "Introducing Indian Cooperative Laws vis-a-vis Cooperative Principles" by P.E. Weeraman.

117. The booklet contains the speech made by Mr. P.E. Weeraman introducing the book "Indian Cooperative Laws vis-a-vis Cooperative

Principles" at its ceremonial release by Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, then Minister for Agriculture (and now President of India) on Friday, 26th April, 1974.

Speech No.15 : "The Aims and Principles of Cooperatives and Their Application in the Developing Countries" by P.E. Weeraman.

118. This is the text of the lecture given by Mr. P.E. Weeraman at the ILO/DANIDA Regional Seminar on "Trade Unions and Cooperatives in Workers Education" held by the ILO and Danish International Development Agency at Ankara, Turkey, from 12th to 24th March, 1973.

Speech No.16 : "80th Anniversary of the International Cooperative Alliance" by F.A. Ahmed.

119. The booklet contains the speech made by Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, President of India, on the occasion of the 80th Anniversary Celebrations of the ICA held in New Delhi on 20th September, 1975.

120. The following two publications were reprinted during the period under review:-

- i. "The Cooperative Principles" by P.E. Weeraman.
- ii. "The Need of Planning for a Cooperative Set-up" by P.E. Weeraman (speech No.8).

II. Publicity

121. The ICA Regional Bulletin was issued quarterly. The feature "spotlight" was continued giving accounts of the following:-

- i. Urban Cooperative Banks in Gujarat.
- ii. Seoul Cooperative Dairy Society, Rep.of Korea.
- iii. The Pigdamber Agricultural Service Cooperative Society, Indore District, India.
- iv. The Jido Agricultural Cooperative Society, Rep.of Korea.

122. A revised and enlarged brochure containing a comprehensive report of the four years of work of the ICA/NGUI Cooperative Education Field Project, Indore, was brought out in August, 1975.

123. A revised "Catalogue of Publications" listing the various publications brought out by the RO&EC, along with excerpts of the Reviews made on some of the publications, was issued in July, 1975.

III. Collection of Cooperative News

124. The collection of cooperative news from the Region was continued during the period under review. The news was used in the Regional Bulletins as well as supplied to the Head Office for use in its journals.

IV. Press Releases

125. The practice of issuing press releases after the conclusion of seminars, conferences and other important events was continued. These were sent to all cooperative journals in the region.

V. The Library

126. There are over 12,000 volumes, 660 bound periodicals and nearly 5,000 booklets in the library now. The library subscribes to many journals and also receives many on a complimentary basis. Altogether 200 journals are received by the library. It acts as a clearing house of information on books and documentation. The library has been extensively used by cooperators, cooperative organisations, students and scholars.

VI. Documentation Services

127. During the period under review one issue of the "Annotated Bibliography" (half-yearly supplement) and two issues of the "Documentation Bulletin" (quarterly) were brought out.

VII. Supply and Exchange of Literature

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

VIII. Consultative Services

129. The Library maintains close relations with the cooperative libraries of the Region and extends consultative assistance as and when required by them.

IX. Survey of Cooperative Libraries

130. In continuation of the survey of cooperative libraries in the Region the Librarian visited Iran in September, 1975, and made a study of the working of the library of the Central Organisation for Rural Cooperatives. He made similar studies in ~~Japan~~ and Thailand in 1974.

X. The Meeting of the Working Party of Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers.

131. The Librarian participated in the Working Party's Meeting held in Helsinki in September, 1975.

PUBLICATIONS PROGRAMME FOR THE YEAR 1975-76

132. The following publications are under print.

1. "Consumer Cooperation."

This publication contains some selected papers on consumer cooperation presented at the Asian Conference on Consumer Cooperation held in Kuala Lumpur in October, 1974, and its recommendations.

2. The Report of the Conference on "The Role of Women in Cooperatives".

This publication contains the Report of the Regional Conference on "The Role of Women in Cooperatives" held in Kuala Lumpur, in July 1975, in collaboration with the Cooperative Union of Malaysia.

3. The Report of the Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special reference to distribution methods".

This is the Report of the Regional Seminar on the subject held in Tokyo in September, 1975, in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan and IDACA.

133. The following publications are under preparation.

1. "Readings in Cooperative Management".

This publication will consist, among others, of papers read at the Seminars on "Personnel Management in Cooperatives" and "Cooperative Management" held in Delhi and Manila respectively.

2. "Development of Dairy Cooperatives".

This publication will contain the Report of, and some selected papers presented at the Regional Seminar on "Cooperative Dairy Development in South-East Asia" held at Anand, India, in February 1975 in collaboration with the National Cooperative Union of India.

3. "Role of Women in Cooperatives".

This publication will contain some papers presented at the Regional Conference on "The Role of Women in Cooperatives" held in Kuala Lumpur, in July 1975.

4. "Indian Cooperative Rules vis-a-vis Cooperative Principles" by P.E. Weeraman, R.C. Dwivedi and P. Sheshadri.

This is a companion volume to "Indian Cooperative Laws vis-a-vis Cooperative Principles" published in 1973-74.

134. Cooperative Series.

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

135. Speeches on Cooperation.

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

136. Publicity.

IC: Regional Bulletin - 4 issues will be brought out during this year. Other publicity material will also be produced.

ITEM 11 : DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND TRADE FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA

137. The ICA Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Trade for South-East Asia is scheduled to meet on 7th December 1975 in Manila. A resume of the decisions taken by the Sub-Committee will be given to the Council at the time of the meeting.

ITEM 12 : RELATIONS WITH MEMBER ORGANISATIONS IN THE REGION

138. The ROEC continued to maintain close liaison with member-organisations in the Region through correspondence, personal visits, etc.

139. The Regional Director paid a visit to Pakistan from 30th March to 8th April 1975 to acquaint himself with the latest developments in the Cooperative Movement there.

140. The Regional Director, together with the Joint Director (T&T), visited Iran in August 1975 and had discussions with the cooperative leaders and bank officials regarding the establishment of the proposed Asian Cooperative Development Bank (ACDB).

ITEM 13 : RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

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

142. ESCAP: The Regional Director participated as an observer in the Thirty-first Session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Far East (ESCAP) held in New Delhi from 26th February to 7th March 1975.

143. ARRRO : The Joint Director (T&T) attended the 5th General Session of the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organisation (ARRRO) held in Manila from 24th February to 3rd March 1975.

144. FAO : The Joint Director (P&PR) and Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation participated in the FAO Expert Consultation on the Development of Food Marketing Systems in large urban areas in Asia held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 24th March to 2nd April 1975.

145. UNITED NATIONS : The Regional Director attended the Regional Conference of Non-Governmental Organisations held by the Office of Public Information of the United Nations in Bangkok, Thailand from 27th to 29th May 1975.

146. ILO : The Regional Director attended the 8th Asian Regional Conference of the ILO in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 30th September to 9th October 1975.

147. ICFTU : The Joint Director (P&PR) and Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation, gave a talk on "The Role of Cooperation in Social and Economic Development" at the Training Course of the International Confederation of Trade Unions (ICFTU) at Bangkok, Thailand on 30th September 1975.

ITEM 14 : VENUE AND DATES OF THE NEXT MEETING

148. The venues and dates of the previous meetings are as follows :

<u>Meeting No.</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Dates</u>
First	New Delhi, India	October 20-22, 1961
Second	Tokyo, Japan	April 13-14, 1962
Third	New Delhi, India	May 1-2, 1963
Fourth	Tokyo, Japan	April 17-18, 1964
Fifth	Newra Eliya, Sri Lanka	November 18-19, 1964
Sixth	New Delhi, India	November 25-26, 1965
Seventh	Manila, Philippines	October 24-25, 1966
Eighth	Tokyo, Japan	November 2-3, 1967
Ninth	Kuala Lumpur; Malaysia	November 13-14, 1968
Tenth	Tehran, Iran	March 1-2, 1969

<u>Meeting No.</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Eleventh	Seoul, Rep. of Korea	May 8-9, 1970
Twelfth	New-Delhi, India	February 17-18, 1971
Thirteenth	Melbourne, Australia	November 8-9, 1971
Fourteenth	Chiengmai, Thailand	November 19-20, 1972
Fifteenth	Tokyo, Japan	October 30, 1973
Sixteenth	Colombo, Sri Lanka	November 1-2, 1974.

149. The venue and date of the Eighteenth Meeting may be fixed by the Council. Paragraph 37 of the Minutes of the last meeting may be referred to in this connection.

ITEM 15 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

*Report re election of Kevine
Recognition of Dr Brown
Resolution - Brown*

ITEM 16 : VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR

*Ask ICA to approve
Name ~~BA~~ as
ICA Council for Asia*

16.1 DAACA ~~BA~~ Advisers matters

17. Vote of thanks to the Chair

LIST OF APPENDICES

<u>Appendix</u>	<u>Description of document</u>
A	Minutes of the 16th Meeting of the ICA Council for S.E. Asia held in Colombo, Sri Lanka on November 1 & 2, 1974.
B	Comments received from some Members of the Council on the Report of the Assessment Team.
C	Resolutions Nos. 2 and 3 of the Asian Top-Level Cooperative Leaders' Conference held in Tokyo, Japan in October, 1973.
D	A Study of the Role the Cooperative Movement could play in the task of increasing food production in the countries served by the ICA Regional Office for South-East Asia.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE
Regional Office & Education Centre
for South-East Asia
43, Friends' Colony, New Delhi-14

14 February 1975

MINUTES OF THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE
ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD IN
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA ON NOVEMBER 1-2, 1974

1. The Sixteenth Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia of the ICA Regional Office & Education Centre for South-East Asia was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka at the Holiday Inn Hotel, on 1st and 2nd November, 1974.

2. The meeting was formally inaugurated by the Acting Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Mr. Maithripala Senanayake, on 31st October 1974. The meeting was presided over by Mr. N.A.Kularajah, Chairman of the ICA Council for South-East Asia. Mr. G.S.Dayananda, President, National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, welcomed those present. The inaugural meeting was also addressed by Mr. T.B. Ilangaratne, Minister for Foreign and Internal Trade, Government of Sri Lanka and Mr. P.E. Weeraman, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia.

3. The following were present :
Members of the Council

1. Mr. N.A.Kularajah, Chairman and Member for Malaysia,
2. Mr. I.Hunter, Member for Australia,
3. Mr. Faizur Rahman Khan, Alternate Member for Bangladesh,
4. Mr. A.M.Yahya, Member for Bangladesh,
5. Mr. R.G.Tiwari, Member for India,
6. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia,
7. Mr. Djoko Basuki, Member for Indonesia,
8. Mr. J.Sassani, Member for Iran,
9. Mr. S.Matsumura, Member for Japan,
10. Mr. Byung Hang Choi, Member for Korea,
11. Mr. Tal Chun Hong, Member for Korea,
12. Mr. Ismail Din, Member for Malaysia,
13. Mr. B.P.Faustino, Member for the Philippines,
14. Mr. M.G.Yadao, Alternate Member for the Philippines,
15. Mr. Mak Kam Heng, Member for Singapore,
16. Mr. Koh Watt Seng, Member for Singapore,
17. Mr. G.S.Dayananda, Member for Sri Lanka,
18. Mr. L.M.V.de Silva, Member for Sri Lanka,
19. Mr. Pradit Machima, Alternate Member for Thailand,
20. Mr. Kitty Panich, Alternate Member for Thailand.

Special Invitees

1. Mr. A.K. Isaac, Member for Singapore, ICA Sub-Committee for Agriculture & Trade, Singapore,
2. Mr. H. Togawa, Managing Director, IDACA, Tokyo,
3. Mr. Y. Daneau, Member, ICA Assessment Team,
4. Mrs. L. Stettner, Secretary/Rapporteur, ICA Assessment Team.

ICA Regional Office Staff

1. Mr. P.E. Weeraman, ICA Regional Director for S.E. Asia,
2. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education),
3. Mr. M.V. Madane, Joint Director (TA&T).

Absent

1. Mr. Javed Ahmed Qureshi, Member for Pakistan.

In Attendance

1. Mr. Shiro Futagami, Assistant Manager, International Dept., Central Union of Agri. Coops., Tokyo,
2. Mr. Sharbabaki Khan, Sepah Consumers Cooperative, Tehran,
3. Mr. A.H. Ganesan, Personal Assistant to Regional Director ICA RO & EC, New Delhi.

Agenda Item No. I : WELCOME

4. Mr. G.S. Dayananda, President of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, welcomed the Members of the Council to Sri Lanka and thanked them for accepting his invitation to hold the meeting in Colombo.

Agenda Item No. II : INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY MR. P.E. WEERAMAN

5. Mr. P.E. Weeraman, ICA Regional Director for S.E. Asia, welcomed the Members of the Council to the Sixteenth Meeting. He also welcomed the Members of the Assessment Team and the special invitees to the meeting. He thanked the host organization, the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka and its President, Mr. Dayananda, for the excellent hospitality and courtesy extended by them. He said that for the first time the Council is being represented by two members from each movement, one representing the agricultural and the other the non-agricultural sector of the movement, and hoped that the expansion of the Council will make it more representative of the movements in the Region. He welcomed the new members of the Council.

Agenda Item No.III : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE FIFTEENTH MEETING HELD IN TOKYO

6. The minutes of the Fifteenth Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia (then known as the ICA Advisory Council for S.E.Asia) held in Tokyo, Japan on 30th October 1973, which had been circulated earlier, were confirmed.

Agenda Item No.IV : BACKGROUND PAPERS ON THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT OF EACH COUNTRY

7. Papers giving information on the latest developments in the Cooperative Movements of their countries were presented by the members for Australia, India, Iran, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The Member for Bangladesh did not prepare a paper. He informed the meeting that his government had accepted the Cooperative Sector as one of the key sectors for the development of the economy. To develop a true cooperative movement, the nomination of directors in apex level cooperatives and other bodies of the government had been abolished. The cooperatives were run by elected board members. He thanked the Regional Director of the ICA for helping his Union to redraft the bye-laws of the Union and hoped that this would bring unity among the different sections of the movement.

Agenda Item No.V : ADMINISTRATION SECTION

8. The information given in the agenda notes was noted by the Council. The Regional Director informed the meeting that the member-organisations in Singapore and Thailand had also agreed to contribute to the funds of the Regional Office. The meeting requested the Regional Director to follow-up the question of contributions from member organisations to the funds of the Regional Office and requested the member organisations to confirm their contributions and remit them early to the Regional Office.

Agenda Item No.VI : EDUCATION CENTRE

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

10. The Council noted the following activities :

10.1 The Asian Top-Level Cooperative Leaders Conference held in Tokyo, Japan, in October 1973 and the follow up action taken

on the recommendations made by the Conference, specifically the guidelines presented by the Government of India on Co-operative legislation in conformity with one of the recommendations of the Conference and based on the ICA Regional Office's publication: "Indian Co-operative Laws vis-a-vis Co-operative Principles."

10.2. The Regional Seminar on "Member Education and Member Communication" with special reference to Japan held in Tokyo, Japan, from April 3 to 25, 1974 in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives and the IDACA.

10.3. The Regional Conference of Principals of National Cooperative Training Institutes and Selected Teachers of Cooperative Training Colleges held at Jakarta, Indonesia, from 12th to 25th June, 1974. This Conference adopted a draft Constitution for the proposed Specialist Group on Cooperative Training. This Constitution was approved by the Council unanimously with a slight modification.

10.4. On the seminar evaluation reports presented to the Council, the Chairman doubted if any useful purpose would be served by asking the participants to fill in evaluation questionnaires. He felt that only senior participants attending Experts' Conferences could make proper evaluations and added that participants are likely to give only praiseworthy remarks in view of the nice treatment given them.

10.4.1. The Regional Director informed the meeting that the Regional Seminars of the ICA are attended by senior people and that their conclusions are of a mature nature, and that they are in a position to make proper evaluation of the organisation of seminars, the papers presented, their programmes, study visits etc. The Member for Australia supported the view of the Regional Director, and said that evaluation by senior level participants would be very useful. The Director (Education) said that the objective of the evaluation exercises is to improve the quality of future seminars and with this aim in view, the participants are given an opportunity to express their views on the organisation of the seminar as a whole. He felt that evaluation questionnaires should be circulated among all the seminar participants irrespective of their seniority, since getting a feed-back is important in any educational programme. The Member for Thailand said that he attended the Principals' Conference held in Jakarta and found that the evaluation was very useful.

10.5 The Director (Education) informed the meeting about his attending the AGITCOOP meeting and the FAO Symposium on the "Promotion of Cooperatives in Developing Countries" held in Budapest, Hungary from 2nd to 14th September 1974, and gave a resume of the important discussions held in these two meetings.

10.6 ICA/SCC National Seminars on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing" held in Sri Lanka, India and Bangladesh. The Council felt that the participants from the Asian countries would be greatly benefited by attending the International Seminars held in Sweden and from the practical experience gained by visiting the cooperatives in Sweden. The Council recommended that the Swedish Cooperative Centre should continue to hold its International Seminars in Sweden so that participants from the Region would be able to derive the maximum advantage from them.

10.7 An Executive Development Seminar held by the Malaysian Cooperative Insurance Society in Kuala Lumpur in June 1974 in which the ICA RO & EC had collaborated.

10.8 The Consultancy services rendered by the staff officers of the Regional Office.

10.9 ICA/NCUI Field Project in Cooperative Education. As suggested at the last meeting, a concrete case for extending the duration of the Project was put up to the Council. The Council approved of the extension of the project by one more year, viz., July 1975 to June 1976.

Section III : PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES FOR JULY 1975-JUNE 1976

11. The Council approved of the following activities scheduled for the financial year 1975-76 :

11.1 Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with special emphasis on Distribution"

Venue : Japan
Duration : 21 days in September 1975
Participants: 25

This seminar will be held in collaboration with the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives and the IDACA.

11.2 Regional Seminar on "the Role of Women in Cooperatives"

Venue : Malaysia
Duration: 2-3 weeks in July/August, 1975
Participants: 25

The Chairman said that Malaysia would be glad to host this seminar, and the time and other details could be worked

out by the ICA RO & EC and the Cooperative Union of Malaysia.

OR

11.3 Regional Seminar on "The Development of Cooperative Industries"

Venue : India
Duration: 21 days in May '76
Participants: 25

11.4 Asian Conference on Cooperative Management

Venue : Manila, Philippines
Duration: 3 days in November 1975
(19 - 21 November, 1975)
Participants: To be nominated by the Member Movements

11.4.1 The Chairman suggested that this Conference be held on a self-financing basis and that it would be very useful to the movements in the region. He said that the recent Asian Conference on Consumer Cooperation held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia was a grand success judging from the number of participants who attended it.

11.4.2 The Chairman further said that conferences of this nature would not seriously affect the ICA financially as the costs of organising conferences of this type would be minimal. He said that a conference fee of US \$10 should be charged from the participants to meet the secretarial costs. He suggested that further details of the proposed conference could be discussed between him, the RO & EC and the Central Cooperative Exchange. The Council unanimously agreed with this proposal. The Member for the Philippines invited the RO & EC to hold the Conference in his country which was accepted with thanks.

National Seminars

12. The Director (Education) requested the member movements to send their requests to the ICA RO&EC for holding national seminars on topics of interest to them. He mentioned that notice of a minimum of six to eight months is necessary, if resource person from Sweden are to be secured.

12.1 The Director (Education) mentioned that requests for national seminars from the member movements were now less than before. The Chairman mentioned that one of the reasons for this may be that the member movements are holding the national seminars on their own.

12.2 Mr. Ismail Din, Member for Malaysia, indicated that ANGKATA would like to get assistance from the ICA RO & EC for holding a National Seminar on School Cooperatives.

TEACHERS EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

13. The Council approved of the continuation of this programme as recommended by the Conference of Principals held in Jakarta, Indonesia in June 1974.

ICA/NCUI COOPERATIVE EDUCATION FIELD PROJECT

14. This project would be continued for one more year, i.e. up to June 1976.

REGIONAL COOPERATIVE HOUSING RESEARCH PROJECT

15. The Regional Director read out a letter from the Director of the Alliance where he had indicated the desire of the International Cooperative Housing Development Association (ICHDA) and the ICA to have a research project to strengthen the existing housing programmes in the developing countries of the region, and to improve housing and family planning schemes in these countries. The project would cover India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Iran. This, the Regional Director said, had been planned as a follow-up of the recommendations made at the Housing Seminar held in Kuala Lumpur in 1970. He requested the collaboration of the member movements in this project. The Council welcomed the proposal made by the ICA and the ICHDA, and requested its members to ask their respective member-organisations to extend all possible assistance to the sponsors of the project in its implementation.

Agenda Item No. VII : TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRADE

16. The Council reviewed the activities of the Technical Assistance and Trade Section during the period under discussion and noted the follow-up action taken on the recommendations made at the last meeting of the Council.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

17. The Council noted that the ICA and the German Cooperative Consumers Congress had agreed to gift some quantity of skim milk powder to the Bhor Dairy Project to enable the Dairy to convert the powder into fresh milk in the lean months. The revenues obtained from the sale of additional milk would help the Poona Milk Federation in clearing its old debt.

18. The Council noted that the ICA had now agreed to make a grant of £5,000 to the Ceylon (Sri Lanka) Cooperative Fish Sales Union for purchasing various items of fishing equipment required by them. The Regional Director informed the meeting that the Confederation des Organismes de Credit Maritime Mutuel of France had agreed to contribute £2,000 and the balance £3,000 would be granted by the ICA from its Development Fund. The Member for Sri Lanka thanked the ICA and the donor Cooperative organisation in France for this assistance.

19. The Chairman suggested that the assistance rendered by the ICA through the Malaysian Cooperative Insurance Society Malaysia to the Filipino Cooperative Movement for the establishment of a Cooperative Insurance System should also be recorded. The assistance rendered by the ICA in the formation and development of Cooperative Insurance in the region, he said, should also be recorded. The Member for the Philippines thanked the ICA and the Chairman, in his capacity as the General Manager of the MCIS, for the assistance given them in setting up a Cooperative Insurance System in the Philippines.

COOPERATIVE TRADE

20. Information given in the agenda on the promotion of Cooperative Trade in the region such as the issue of trade information bulletins, discussions with INTERCOOP AND VAF and the contacts provided to different organisations for promotion of trade was noted.

21. The Chairman suggested that coordination between different cooperative travel agencies in the Region would be vital for the development of cooperative travel, and suggested that the Joint Director (Technical Assistance and Trade) should collect all the relevant information relating to cooperative travel in the region and assist the cooperative travel organisations to contact each other with a view to increasing their business turnover to the mutual advantage of the cooperatives. The Chairman further suggested that the Regional Office should collect information on the cooperative travel agencies operating in advanced countries, such as Germany and Denmark, and prepare an information glossary for the information and use of cooperative travel agencies in the Region. The Council unanimously agreed with this proposal of the Chairman and requested the Regional Office to take necessary action in the matter.

ASIAN COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT BANK (ACDB)

22. The Council was informed by the Joint Director (TA&T) of the work done so far for the establishment of the ACDB. He said that there was now a better understanding of the ACDB proposal due to the discussions recently held at various

regional and international meetings organised to discuss cooperative credit. The Chairman remarked that this particular topic was on the agenda of several Council meetings, and the time had now come to take concrete action as had been done regarding the ICTO. He suggested that some leading members of the Council connected with banking business, like the Member for Iran (General Sassani), and Mr. Ismail Din, the Member for Malaysia, should take the initiative to set up this Bank. He said that Iran is now in a position to give assistance due to her strong financial position. He suggested that the Member for Iran should help the Regional Office in organising a meeting of promoters in Tehran. The Member for Malaysia, Mr. Ismail Din, suggested that Japan should also be included in the meeting of promoters, as cooperative banking is quite advanced in that country. The suggestion of the Chairman was welcomed by the members. The Member for Iran said that he would study the regulations etc. in Iran and in due course coordinate with the Regional Office about further action in the matter.

JOINT VENTURES BETWEEN COOPERATIVE MOVEMENTS

23. The Joint Director (TA&T) requested the members to persuade their movements to send to the Regional Office concrete suggestions on the specific fields in which they would like to establish joint ventures with other cooperative movements. The Member for Sri Lanka indicated that his movement would be very interested in establishing a joint venture for the production of fertilizers and requested the Regional Office to help his movement.

COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT FUND

24. The Joint Director (TA&T) requested the members to send to the Regional Office information on the various steps taken by them for the creation of Cooperative Development Funds in their respective countries.

FOLLOW UP OF THE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE TOP-LEVEL CONFERENCE

25. The Council was informed of the follow up action taken on the resolutions adopted by the above Conference concerning Long-Term Agricultural Development Programme through Agricultural Cooperatives and Technical Assistance.

26. Referring to the Resolution on "the Promotion of Agricultural Cooperatives in the Region" (Resolution 2, para 3), the Chairman suggested that the Regional Office should undertake a study of "How the Cooperatives can help to create an awareness among the members and general public of the need for increasing food production," and the Chairman said that such

a study will be most helpful in the present situation of world-wide scarcities and shortages of foodgrains. The member for India said that this particular aspect of increasing food production is being attempted by the governments of the countries of the Region. The Chairman said that even though the governments were doing this, the cooperatives should supplement the efforts of the governments to reach the ultimate goal of self-sufficiency. The Member for Australia supported the proposal of the Chairman. The Member for Bangladesh, while supporting the proposal said that a programme on this line is being attempted in the Chittagong district of his country. The Member for Japan said in view of the overall scarcity of rice in the world, the Japanese Government had lifted the restriction on rice production and farmers would be encouraged to produce more rice from March 1975. He agreed with the proposal made by the Chairman to make a study of the question under discussion.

27. It was decided that an Expert Group be formed by the ICA to go into this question and to produce a report on the subject. An Ad hoc Committee consisting of the Members for India, the Philippines, Korea, Malaysia and Thailand was appointed to draft guidelines for the Terms of Reference of the Expert Group. The Chairman requested the Ad hoc Committee to meet immediately after the Council meeting to discuss the guidelines for preparing the Terms of Reference. It was decided that based on the suggestions of the above Ad hoc Committee, the Regional Office should finalise the Terms of Reference and take further action for constituting an Expert Group.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE TRADING ORGANIZATION (ICTO)

28. The Joint Director (A&I) informed the meeting of the work done by the ICTO Board from the date of registration of ICTO. He also informed the Council of the Board's decision to request its members to remit 20% of the share capital subscribed by them to ICTO's bank account. He also added that Sri Lanka had agreed to apply for the membership of ICTO. He also expected Iran, Thailand and India to join the ICTO in due course. He stated that action would now be taken to issue shares etc. through the Company Secretary of the Organisation. The Member for the Philippines, who was also the Chairman of the Select Committee which was in charge of setting up of the ICTO, informed the meeting that the Board had decided that there would be only one nominee on the Board from each organisation, irrespective of the size of the share capital subscribed by it. Another decision of the Board, he informed, was to exclude non-cooperatives from the membership of the ICTO.

29. The Council recorded its appreciation of the spade

work done by the Chairman and the members of the Select Committee for the establishment of the ICTO. The Council also placed on record its appreciation of the assistance given by the Singapore National Cooperative Union and its affiliates to the Select Committee in its work.

SURVEY OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MARKETING PROJECTS-FOLLOW-UP

30. The Member for Japan informed that as a follow-up action on the Survey held in Korea, two additional seats would be given to the Korean Movement at the next Regional Seminar on Marketing with emphasis on Distribution to be held in Tokyo in 1975. The Director (Education) said that participants of this particular seminar would, as far as possible, be selected from the staffs of the projects surveyed by the ICA Study Team.

Agenda Item No. VIII : PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS SECTION

31. While reviewing the work done by the Section during the last year, the Chairman said that the section had done a very good job this year and the publications of the RO & RC were comprehensive and useful. He cited the example of the Report of the Asian Top-Level Cooperative Leaders' Conference held in Tokyo last year, and recorded his appreciation of the work done by this section. The Member for India agreed with the Chairman and said that the publication on "Indian Cooperative Laws vis-a-vis Cooperative Principles" had been found very useful by his movement in changing the policies of the Government. He suggested that the ICA should bring out a publication to educate the Ministers on cooperative policy. The Regional Director said that if any member organisation wanted the assistance of the ICA Regional Office in its discussions with the Government in regard to policy etc., the ICA would be glad to give any assistance possible. The Member for Singapore said that a publication to educate the Registrar of Cooperative Societies about his duties, rights, etc. could also be very useful. The Member for the Philippines expressed his appreciation of the publication bringing out the Report of the Top-Level Conference "in such a short time." He suggested that copies of this publication should be sent to all governments in the Region. The Regional Director thanked the members for their appreciation of the work of this section.

32. The Council noted that the following publications would be brought out during the year July 1974-June 1975 :

- i. Readings in Cooperative Management,
- ii. Pre-Testing and Evaluation of Communication Material,
- iii. Cooperation in Japan

- iv) Cooperative Series,
- v) Speeches in Cooperation, and
- vi) ICA Regional Bulletin - four issues.

Agenda Item No. IX : DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ICA
SUB-COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE & TRADE

33. The Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Agriculture and Trade briefed the Council on the important recommendations that had been made by the Sub-Committee at its meeting held on 31st October 1974.

Agenda Item No. X : RELATIONS WITH MEMBER ORGANISATIONS IN
THE REGION

34. The Information given in the agenda notes was noted by the Council.

Agenda Item No. XI : RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

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

Agenda Item No. XII : DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ICA ASSESSMENT TEAM

36. The Council was informed of the inability of the Chairman of the Assessment Team, Prof. K.F. Svardstrom, to be present at the meeting. The members expressed the view that they would like to hold separate discussions with the Assessment Team. Therefore it was decided that the Team should hold separate interviews with each country delegation on the 3rd November 1974.

Agenda Item No. XIII : VENUE AND DATES OF THE NEXT MEETING

37. The Member for the Philippines invited the Council to hold its next meeting, Seventeenth in the series, at Manila, Philippines. The Member for Iran said that they would like to host the Council Meeting in 1976 and the Member for Indonesia invited the Council to hold its meeting in 1977 in his country. The Council thanked these members for their invitations and accepted the invitation of the Member for the Philippines to hold the next meeting in his country. The other two invitations were accepted on a tentative basis.

Agenda Item No. XIV : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION
OF THE CHAIR

38. Mr. Weeraman, the Regional Director, thanked the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka for playing host to the meeting and for the wonderful hospitality extended by them

to the Council Members and the ICA staff.

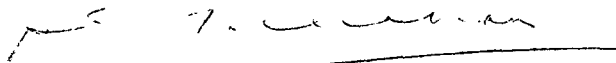
39. Mr. Weeraman added that he would be retiring before the next meeting of the Council and he would therefore take the opportunity to thank the Chairman and all the Members of the Council for the support, guidance and collaboration given by them to him during his tenure of office as Regional Director.

40. The Chairman expressed his thanks to the hosts, the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, for hosting the meeting.

41. The Chairman, on behalf of himself and all members of the Council, expressed his deep appreciation of Mr. Weeraman's work and said that during his six years' tenure as Regional Director "he has done a lot for us. He has guided the Regional Office in many ways with various activities," and said that "the Council has seen a marked improvement in the activities of the Regional Office during his period as Regional Director." He said that as he felt very sentimental about Mr. Weeraman's retirement, he was unable to express as fully as he wished to and expressed his sincere gratefulness to Mr. Weeraman for his services to the ICA and to the movements in the Region and requested the members to express their appreciation of Mr. Weeraman's services by applauding. The members responded with loud applause.

42. Mr. Weeraman again thanked the Chair and the other members of the Council for their appreciation of his work.

43. The Meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair, which was passed unanimously.



P.E. Weeraman
ICA Regional Director and
Secretary, ICA Council for S.E. Asia

New Delhi,
February 14, 1975

Av.

COMMENTS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ICA REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST
ASIA ON THE ASSESSMENT REPORT

1. INDIA

1.1 National Cooperative Union of India, New Delhi.

The focus of assessment of the Team appointed by the I.C.A. to carry out the assessment of work of I.C.A. Regional Office and Education Centre, New Delhi, was to recommend major shift in the emphasis in the work of ROEC and to re-define its functions. The report deals with various activities which the Regional Office is carrying out at present and have made suggestions as to how and in what direction these activities should be modified so that the Regional movement and the member organisations may be more benefited, keeping in view at the same time the limited financial and human resources at the disposal of the ROEC. A brief of the recommendations is given below:-

Shift in Emphasis

(a) The work of the ROEC must relate to a greater degree than in the past on the initiative and activities of the member organisations in order to satisfy their differentiated requirements.

(b) The future activities of ROEC must be more oriented to the needs of the national movements so as to turn the office responsive to the needs of member organisations. The Regional Office must also encourage the member institutions to take initiatives in line with and according to maturity and economic viability of member organisations.

These are important recommendations since they give a definite direction to the Regional Office to make their programmes in tune to the needs of member institutions and also to make efforts to accelerated growth of cooperative institutions in the countries of the region.

Keeping in view the above broad directions the team made the following recommendations on various subjects:-

1. EDUCATION

- (i) The ROEC should lay greater emphasis in organising National Seminars as they have several distinct advantages viz. (i) they are more tailored to the more specific needs of member organisations and (ii) they eliminate the problem of language. The ROEC may assist member organisations in holding seminars by assisting them to plan and organise programmes, circulate advance information throughout the region, providing background materials and resource persons and circulating the report of the seminars.

- (ii) Referring to the Seminars having sub-regional character, the Assessment Team appointed out that "the distinction is roughly between the Eastern and Western part of the Region" and recommended that ROEC may organise sub-regional seminars as such seminars have various advantages i.e.
- (a) facilities the choice of more specialised subjects,
 - (b) selection of more homogeneous group of participants,
 - (c) " member institutions will shoulder more responsibility for the success of the seminars and
 - (d) saving of travel cost.

It is though an important recommendation but the division and distinction of region as Eastern and Western is not very rational.

- (iii) The Team recommended that Regional Seminars should continue to be the most important activity of education centre. Their value lies in (a) broader perspective provided on the regional movement (b) platform for generating the new ideas (c) coordination of view and (d) rich documentation.

The Team rightly recommended that the subject of the selection for the regional seminars should be made in consultation with the member organisations, keeping in view that the subjects selected are such that they are both specific and of interest to the participants in the broader prospective of development problems of the region. The Team also recommended that the approach in the regional seminars should be more practice-oriented beginning, of course, with theoretical discussions.

As regards the selection of participants for the Regional Seminars the team has recommended that "although the member organisations must make the selection, the ROEC can refer back for further consideration those nominates which it feels to be either over qualified or under qualified". The Team further recommended that selection of same candidate for participation in more than one seminar should be avoided to provide opportunities to spread as widely as possible. It also suggested that teachers from national cooperative college and training institutions should also be nominated for regional seminars in addition to others.

Another important recommendation relating to the regional seminars is that background papers should be got prepared and circulated quite in advance which should be more analytical and problem-oriented. As regards resource persons for the regional seminars the team recommended that resource persons from outside the region should be better briefed on local conditions. The team preferred a mix lecture from

abroad as a source of new ideas and from the region as a source of more specific knowledge of local problems.

These suggestions are intended to benefit large number of people by participation in seminars to be organised by ROEC. We are already including faculty members of Training College/Centre/VMNIGM. As regards selection of resource persons from the region the ROEC should take into confidence the member organisations in the country from which it intends to invite the resource person for a seminar. The Team recommended that the practice of taking participants from region to study cooperative developments of more economically advanced countries should be continued because this provides an opportunity to them for exposure to new ideas in a new environment as well as on-the-spot observation of modern productive and commercial techniques. The Team recommended the idea of conducting pre-seminars as an instrument of selecting candidates for international seminars.

FOLLOW-UP

The Team stressed the importance of follow up of the Seminars and recommended that the nominating organisations should require the participants to submit both written and oral reports for wider dissemination and nominating organisations should be encouraged to experiment with proven techniques. It also recommended that a follow-up seminar should be convened after some years for further discussion at a very advanced level.

The recommendations of the Study Team referred to above regarding national seminars, sub-regional seminars, regional seminars and related matters such as selection of subjects, participants etc. will go a long way in improving the contents and practical utility of the seminars. Since the movement in each country is at a different level of its development and the problems are different, emphasis on national seminar is important and useful. This will also bring the, ICA closer to the national movements in more specific manner.

The study team appreciated the Conference of experts and top level cooperative leaders who are in a position to policy decisions within other movements and recommended for their countries.

TEACHING OF TEACHERS

The recommendations of the Team is that ROEC should give more attention to the need for better coordination between the educational activities of national cooperative business federations and national cooperative colleges and training institutes with other movements in the region and with the I.C.A. Regional Office and Education Centre. For this purpose the Team made the following recommendations:-

- (i) ROEC should strengthen its services in the field of collecting and disseminating teaching material, visual aids and other training materials for the use by cooperatives in the region and also prepare such material to a limited extent.
- (ii) possibility of ROEC sponsored seminars for training course on participating teaching techniques should be considered.
- (iii) Teachers exchange programme should be continued on regular basis with emphasis to benefit the participants in terms of new teaching techniques, new ideas and opportunity for a further research on topics on which the teachers are currently engaged.
- (iv) There should be coordination between the nominating organisation and the organisations of the host countries to ensure that the appropriate institutions are selected for study.
- (v) The period of programme should be extended.
- (vi) The participants selected should measure up to the necessary qualifications and should be briefed in advance as to that to expect and what is expected of them.
- (vii) The participants should be required to submit a final report to sponsoring organisations as well as to the host institutions and to the ROEC.

These recommendations are very vital since they will strengthen the training institutions in different countries of the region. If implemented the movements of different countries will come closer to each other in the region.

WOMEN AND COOPERATIVES

The Team has made the following recommendations about the activities which ROEC should undertake in regard to women and cooperatives:-

- (i) Helping women to form their own cooperatives.
- (ii) Organise conferences and training seminars for women,
- (iii) preparation of dissemination of information materials for women cooperatives.
- (iv) establish contacts with member organisations to stimulate their efforts to encourage women into their activities,
- (v) Identification of priority projects for technical assistance.

- (vi) locate prospective donors particularly among cooperative women groups, in developed countries.

The Team recommended that the Regional Office should ensure that technical and financial assistance actually reached to the intended beneficiaries.

The recommendations are very practical and timely particularly when efforts are being made to involve women in the cooperative movements in larger number in various capacities. The Regional Office may also consider to arrange visits of women groups to advance countries under International Seminars particularly in countries like Sweden where women are intimately involved in the cooperative work.

III. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Team identified various limitations as regards the functions of ROEC in the field of providing financial and technical assistance to the movements in the region. It has made the following recommendations to this effect:-

- (i) The Regional Office should re-double its efforts and help member organisations to keep informed as to its prospects and required procedures for this kind of assistance, to identify and describe priority projects for which assistance is needed and to prepare feasibility studies.
- (ii) The ROEC should try to increase its usefulness and stimulate to channel for direct assistance from cooperatives, other non-governmental organisations and governments.
- (iii) The Regional Office should assist the member organisations in the recruitment of technical experts for specific projects. It should maintain a more complete and upto date roster of available technical experts.

These recommendations will provide greater possibilities for financial and technical assistance from different movements and non-governmental and governmental sources. It should be ensure that only such foreign experts are taken into possess real expertise and are given orientation in the local situation. There are several constraints as regards financial assistance. It would be better if the Development Funds constituted at the I.C.A. London level is strengthened to help the regional movements through the Regional Office.

COOPERATIVE TRADE

The Team has recommended that the Regional Office should undertake the following activities in regard to International Trade.

- (i) To provide initial access to information and training in respect of regional and international marketing,

- (ii) To arrange initial contacts between cooperative business in different countries,
- (iii) To bring about expansion in economic collaboration between the member-organisations of the region for mutually advantages, "Joint-Ventures" of various kinds involving pooling of resources.
- (iv) Assist regional trade meetings or applied seminars designed to bring together potential cooperative trade partners in specific commodities for initial contacts with each other.
- (v) Arrange specialized job oriented training courses especially designed for specific cooperative trade or joint ventures.

These recommendations will promote to large extent commodity trade in the Region on Cooperative to Cooperative basis. However in the implementation of these suggestions the business institutions at the national level in each country of the Region.

RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION

The recommendations of the Team is that the ROEC should perform the important functions of coordinating and stimulating research in the region. In this context the Team has specified the following functions of ROEC.

- (i) Consultation with the member organisations about priority areas of research.
- (ii) provide member organisations with technical help.
- (iii) Make available to them reference material and bibliographical information and encourage collaboration of joint Research projects.
- (iv) Close liaison with cooperative researchers in Universities and other research institutions.
- (v) Collaborate with the research department of I.C.A. Headquarters in the project of introduction of a register of research on cooperatives in developing countries.

The I.C.A. should also take up under research and documentation activities, publication of thesis on Cooperation for a research degree as awarded by the University. This will add to the literature of Cooperation.

PUBLICATIONS

- (i) The recommendations of the Committee is that the published proceedings of various Seminars and Conference should be distributed more widely throughout the region.
- (ii) The Team has not favoured setting up of an Editorial Board for the bulletin published by the I.C.A. Regional Office.
- (iii) The Team has recommended that appearance and contents of the publications should be improved.

The recommendations are valuable and provide a guideline to the Regional Office and Education Centre for making the publications more useful and available to a large number of people. In this context it is suggested one copy each of the I.C.A. publications should be made available to the members of the I.C.A. in India free of cost and also to others in the region.

COUNCIL

The team has made the following recommendations :

- (i) ROEC must find ways and means to achieve the closer coordination with member organisations to seek their views on the planning of ROEC activities, through more direct contacts of ROEC personnel with member organisations.
- (ii) In order to make the Council more involved in the work of the Regional Office and Education Centre the team made the following recommendations:-
 - (i) The membership of Council should be rotated every two years.
 - (ii) There should be Vice-Chairman elected on the presumption to take over or to succeed on the outgoing Chairman.
 - (iii) Chairman and Vice-Chairman should be chosen from different regions.
 - (iv) The Chairman and Vice-Chairman should attend Quadrennial Congress of the I.C.A.
 - (v) The Chairman and Vice-Chairman should meet with ROEC in Delhi atleast once in a year for consultation.
 - (vi) For each meeting of the Council a substantive theme should be selected for discussion at future meeting.

- (vii) The member organisations should select such representatives on the Council who had interest in the work of ROEC and availability of time to devote Council's work.

These are practical recommendations and will improve the work of ROEC. However, it may be added that there should be two Vice-Chairmen, of them one should always be from India so that he may be readily available to the ROEC for consultation. When the Chairman of the Council is from India both the Vice-Chairmen should be from outside India.

STAFFING OF THE ROEC

The Team made the following recommendations:-

- (i) A serious effort should be made to ensure as wide a geographic spread as possible with respect to appointments from various countries of the region.
- (ii) Permanent staff of ROEC should not be expanded at this point of time as the member cooperatives can assume more of the responsibilities and also the expenses.

The following comments are given on the recommendations:-

- (i) The office staff is necessarily to be from India since it will not be attractive for persons from outside countries to come on the existing pay scales. Geographic spread would be desirable for the posts of Joint Directors and above.
- (ii) There is need of expansion of the technical staff on the Regional Office & Education Centre in view of the accelerated development of Cooperative Movement in the Region. There are various problems which are being faced by the cooperative movement in each country which perhaps the international institutions are not in a position to study objectively and suggest solutions. The additional resources for additional technical staff may however be raised from within the region.

(R.C. Dwivedi)
Executive Director

Sd/-

R.G. Tiwari
President

1.2 National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing
Federation of India Limited, New Delhi

I have gone through the Report of the Team appointed by the I.C.A. to assess the work of the Regional Office. The report has rightly brought out the substantial contribution made by the Regional Office since its establishment, particularly keeping in view the limitations and constraints under which it has to necessarily function. The Cooperative movements in the South-East Asian region are closer to each other and there is a considerable inter-change of ideas between them than it was a decade ago. The credit for such happy development in no small measure goes to the Regional Office which has created many opportunities for the purpose.

2. The mutual cooperation amongst the movements has now been facing what may be called the second generation problem. What I mean is that there is a great need for finding avenues of exchange of technology as also channelling of assistance in a greater measure, particularly in areas where two or three movements can arrive at coordinated functional arrangement either in regard to processing or in regard to supply of raw-materials like animal feeding stuff, etc. on a long-term basis.

3. All our movements in the region are finding the need for structural changes. Considerable thinking has already gone into this problem in Japan and perhaps in some other countries also. The economic viability of the cooperative business enterprises greatly depend upon the structural pattern as this determines their ultimate competitive character. This is one aspect where there is scope for greater exchange of ideas.

4. The study team has also come out with certain salient recommendations in regard to technical assistance specially in regard to preparation of feasibility study report and action on the part of the Regional Office for channelling inter-government assistance. The Study report has rightly suggested intensification of activities on the part of the Regional Office. I hope this will be of help to the movements in the developing countries.

5. I hope, you will put forward specific proposals before the national movements in the region in regard to the role they can play in the future activities of the Regional Office, keeping in view the recommendations of the assessment team. Any such proposal received from you, will find whole hearted consideration by our Federation.

(G.K. Sharma)
Managing Director

2. SRI LANKANational Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, Colombo-3.

At the very out-set, we wish to express our thanks to the Assessment Team for their very valuable observations and conclusions. Whilst welcoming the active assistance and guidance of the Experts and Specialists belonging to Western Countries we would like to suggest that it is high time that the leaders of the Cooperative Movements of this Region are provided with their rightful place in not only assessing the activities but in shaping the future programmes of the Regional Office and Education Centre.

2. We give following comments on the assumption that the future activities and programmes of the ROEC must be guided by a clearcut long term vision and an objective plan for the development of Cooperatives with a view to reshape the destinies of the people of this Region.

Changing Needs of Member Organisations in the Region

(a) It is becoming more and more clear that agricultural production should be accelerated at high and constant rates with two motives in mind.

- (i) With a view to achieve self sufficiency in food.
- (ii) With a view to supply raw materials for industry.

It is true that the work of Cooperatives in this field is much influenced by the policies of respective governments. Nevertheless, the ROEC should do everything it could to further the cooperative endeavours in this very important field.

A common but an important problem facing the countries of this Region is the question of radical land reforms. The need for a serious and comprehensive study-involving research of a high level is needed to evolve a correct agrarian policy involving the Cooperative Movement.

Cooperative farms of different types are emerging replacing private farms and plantations in some of the countries. The ROEC should draw and implement a suitable programme with a view to coordinate activities of these cooperative farms and to disseminate advanced experience where necessary.

(b) Cooperative activities of the Region are more or less confined to the field of distribution. We mean that Cooperatives of this Region can claim only for a very little percentage of the total production. If the cooperatives are to reshape the plight of poverty stricken members in a substantial way, it should concentrate much in the field of production. Hence we suggest that ROEC should evolve a programme with a view to encourage cooperatives in the matter of production and to render such assistance as and when necessary.

(c) The advantages to be gained from joint actions by trade unions and cooperatives in the less developed countries of the world have been increasingly recognised in recent years. It is the expressed opinion that both movements could act with more effectiveness in the developing countries if they collaborate more closely with each other. We suggest that ROEC should use all ways and means to create an atmosphere of mutual trust between cooperatives and trade unions which are conducive to coordinated decisions and the implementation of joint activities on the problems of the cooperatives and trade union movements.

(d) While welcoming the role assigned to women in the cooperative movement the role of the youth in the movement must assume an increasingly important position in the future activities of the ROEC. Some form of urgent action in this regard is much needed in view of the youth unrest, most prevalent in the countries of the Region. In our view the Cooperative Movement holds good and it could be used as a means to counter-act the situation. In view of the fact, it is opportune for the ROEC to evolve a suitable programme, in consultation with the movements of the Region, to solve this pressing problem of the day.

(e) The student population of the developing countries cannot be neglected since they claim for a substantial percentage of the total population. Moreover they have with them the future leaders and prospective members of the movement. As such, it is very important and the situation demands that necessary attention should be paid in bringing up the students population in a way conducive to the aspirations of the movement. Hence, we suggest that the endeavours of School Cooperatives should be encouraged and they should be given opportunities to meet students delegations and discuss their common problems. The ROEC could draw up a plan to coordinate the School Cooperatives of the region and disseminate useful information and literature among them.

Regional Seminars - Selection of Subjects

Whilst appreciating the observation "that emphasis should be on subjects that are both specific and of interest to participants in the broader prospective of the development problems of the Region," we suggest that when ROEC make preparations to hold Regional Seminars it should request the National Cooperative organisations to submit their observations regarding the subjects to be included.

Selection of Participants

Whilst we appreciate the observation that "member organisations should nominate, in addition to cooperative members and staff and government officials, also teachers from National Cooperative Colleges and training institutions," we would like to further recommend that as far as possible these representatives should be young people. Where there is a possibility to nominate "observers" increasing attention should be paid to nominate representatives from women's cooperatives and School Cooperatives.

Assistance to Build up Libraries

If the officers of cooperatives are to discharge their responsibilities efficiently, it is very important to equip them with most recent achievements in the field of technology, science and economics. Of course, today the subject of Cooperation embraces a wide field of activities which were unknown to cooperatives in the days of Rochdale pioneers. Under the circumstances, it is vital that ROEC should help national cooperative organisations to equip their libraries with most up to date publications on allied subjects. With this in view the ROEC could negotiate with cooperative organisations of the developed countries and other international organisations to help build national libraries in the Region. Literature and publications both from capitalist and socialist worlds are appreciated.

Technical Assistance

Most of the cooperative colleges and cooperative education centres are not well equipped with modern teaching equipment and other facilities. It is important that the ICA focus its attention on this aspect to improve the education and training activities of these institutions.

3. KOREA

"This is related to your letter of May 9, 1975 requesting my comment on the Report of the Assessment Team of the ROEC activities. I am afraid I do not have much to say about it but a warm appreciation for the efforts of you and of the team. It is admirable that such a specific and valuable assessment could be made in that short period of time by the "small team."

"The report, I feel, could be improved just a little bit if the general statements were simplified or eliminated. For instance, the objectives or contents of each activity of ROEC are reiterated, sometimes in quite long paragraphs. The fact that the prime readers of the report would be those who are well aware of the activities may help justify above suggestion."

"I also feel that the consistently affirmative notes or encouragement for the ROEC to pursue or expand the activities might arouse the readers' doubts on the institution's capability to carry out the "snow-balling" burden. But I am sure that each member cooperative should share the burden of the ROEC."

"After all, I am convinced that only the will of the cooperative families to join the concerted effort will guarantee the bright future of the ROEC and of all of us as well."

4. AUSTRALIA

"I have read the report and referred it to the President of the Cooperative Federation of Australia, Mr. M.J.Lane. I am pleased to advise that we agree basically with the findings of this report. I have been asked by Mr. Lane to confirm this to you."

NOS. 2 & 3
RESOLUTIONS/ADOPTED BY THE ASIAN TOP-LEVEL
COOPERATIVE LEADERS CONFERENCE IN TOKYO, JAPAN
25-27 OCTOBER, 1973

2. Resolution on "The Promotion of Agricultural Cooperatives"

ALSO RECOGNISING the need for agricultural cooperatives to play a dynamic role in national agricultural development:

The Conference recommends that governments in the Region should make a more concerted effort for effective implementation of land reforms introduced in the respective countries.

The Conference also recommends that agricultural cooperatives in the Region should be strengthened in order that they may be able to perform as many activities as possible related to agricultural development including animal husbandry and fisheries.

The Conference further recommends that efforts should be made to mobilise human resources to strengthen cooperative activity and implement the recommendations of the Open World Conference held in Rome for such mobilisation.

The Conference also recommends that governments in the Region should adopt a price support policy for major agricultural commodities including animal husbandry and fishery products in order to ensure fair returns to the producer.

3. Resolution on the Living Conditions of the Members of Agricultural Cooperatives in the Region.

CONSIDERING the present agricultural conditions in the Region the Conference recommends that agricultural development projects, inclusive of agro-based industries, animal husbandry and fisheries be developed across national boundaries by making use of cooperatives as central organs in the process

and that the cooperatives should be given preference in the trade of agricultural commodities and inputs within the framework of the respective national policies.

Within the framework of the Cooperative Development Decade the ICA Regional Office and the AARRO should take up studies in the living conditions of the members of agricultural cooperatives in the Region, and prepare a model programme for better living conditions for this vulnerable class of society.

AV.

APPENDIX "D"

A Study of the Role the Cooperative Movement could play in the task of increasing food production in the countries served by the ICA Regional Office for South-East Asia.

1. On the advice of its Council, the ICA Regional Office for South-East Asia has undertaken a study on the role which the Cooperative Movements of the South-East Asian Region could play in the task of increasing food production.
2. The object of the study is to determine the contribution that the Cooperative Movement of each of the countries selected for this study could make for the attainment of self-sufficiency in the matter of food by that country. Such study should be made in depth by an Expert having the required competence. "Food Production" will mean the production of both cereal and non-cereal food.
3. This study should be undertaken only if a member-organisation applies to the ICA for this service.
4. The Expert will be required :-
 - i) to assess the present contribution of the cooperatives of the selected country in the matter of food production in that country;
 - ii) to assess, in the context of that country's national development plans, the further role that the cooperatives could play in the food production effort of that country;
 - iii) to recommend ways and means of increasing food production through cooperative effort and of creating among the members of cooperatives and the general public a greater awareness than has obtained hitherto, of the need to increase the food production effort; and
 - iv) to recommend necessary changes and improvements in respect of cooperative organisations and facilities to enable the Cooperative Movement to make this contribution to the country's food production effort.
5. The cooperatives that should receive special attention in this study will be those for agriculture, fishery, dairying and live-stock production.
6. The matters that should be studied in this connection are the structure of the cooperatives, and their activities such as supply of credit and other inputs, processing and marketing, training and extension.

7. The study should be made, to begin with, only in two countries of the region and further studies should be undertaken only if the results are satisfactory.
8. The period of study: At least three months will be necessary for the study in each country. Of these, two months will be necessary for studying the position of that country in regard to cooperatives and food production and one month for writing the report.
9. Personnel: It is expected that one Expert could make a study of two countries during the next financial year (1975-76) spending six months in all.
10. Costs: The Expert will have to be recruited by the ICA. There should be an Associate Expert provided by the Cooperative Movement of the country concerned. The costs of the Expert will have to be met by the ICA and its member organisations in the Region.

Taking the remuneration offered to short-term experts by the ILO as our yardstick, the remuneration of the Expert will have to be as follows :

(a) Salary	US \$1,490	Rs.12,000 per month
(b) Per diem allowance of Rs. 225/-		<u>Rs. 6,750 per month</u>
		Rs.18,750 per month
(c) International travel costs of the Expert would be		Rs.20,000

Altogether an Expert for this study would cost around Rs.150,000 for six months.

In addition to this sum of Rs.150,000/-, the member movement concerned should bear the internal travel costs of the Expert and the Associate Expert. It is estimated that the costs to each member movement would be around Rs.15,000/- in addition to the salary of the Associate Expert as follows :

Travel of Expert and Associate Expert	Rs. 10,000
Secretarial salary for a month (Stenographer)	Rs. 2,000
Stationery	Rs. 2,000
Miscellaneous	Rs. 1,000
Total :	<u>Rs. 15,000</u>

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE
Regional Office & Education Centre
for South-East Asia
43, Friends' Colony, New Delhi-110 04 (India)

5th January 1975

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE
ICA COUNCIL FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA HELD IN
MANILA, THE PHILIPPINES, ON 7TH DECEMBER 1975

1. The Seventeenth Meeting of the ICA Council for South-East Asia was held at the Philippine Village Hotel, in Manila, the Philippines, on the 7th December 1975. Mr. N.A.Kularajah, Chairman of the Council, presided.

2. The following were present :

(a) Members

1. Mr. N.A.Kularajah, Chairman and Member for Malaysia (Non-agricultural)
2. Mr. I.Hunter, Member for Australia (Agricultural)
3. Mr. R.G.Tiwari, Member for India (Non-agricultural)
4. Mr. Tapeshwar Singh, Alternate Member for India (Agricultural)
5. Mr. Eddiwan, Member for Indonesia (Non-agricultural)
6. Mr. Djoko Basuki, Member for Indonesia (Agricultural)
7. Mr. K.Yoshida, Member for Japan (Agricultural)
8. Mr. Ju In Song, Member for Korea (Agricultural)
9. Mr. Ismail Din, Member for Malaysia (Agricultural)
10. Mr. Khan Amir Abdullah Khan, Member for Pakistan (Agricultural)
11. Mr. B.P.Faustino, Member for the Philippines (Agricultural)
12. Mr. Monico Yadao, Alternate Member for the Philippines (Non-agricultural)
13. Mr. Mak Kam Heng, Member for Singapore (Non-agricultural)
14. Mr. M.Kulasegaram, Member for Singapore (Agricultural)

15. Mr. G.S. Dayananda, Member for Sri Lanka (Non-agricultural)
16. Mr. L.M.V. de Silva, Member for Sri Lanka (Agricultural), Alternate
17. Mr. Pradit Machima, Member for Thailand (Non-agricultural)
18. Mr. Prachuab Burapharat, Member for Thailand (Agricultural)
19. Mr. R. Shahr-babaki Khan, Alternate Member for Iran (Non-agricultural)

(b) Secretary:- Mr. P.E. Weeraman, ICA Regional Director for South-East Asia

(c) Observers:

1. Mr. Malte Jonsson of the Swedish Cooperative Centre, Stockholm, Sweden
 2. Mr. H. Togawa, Managing Director, IDACA, Tokyo, Japan
 3. Mr. W. Kidston, former Member for Australia
 4. Mr. S. Futagami, Asst. Manager, International Dept.
- (d) Other ICA Regional Office staff: CUAC, Tokyo

1. Mr. J.M. Rana, Director (Education)
 2. Mr. Lionel Gunawardana, Joint Director (Publications) & Specialist in Agricultural Cooperation
 3. Mr. M.K. Puri, Specialist in Consumer Cooperation (designate) and Joint Director (Technical Assistance and Trade) - (designate)
 4. Mr. S.S. Avadhani, Personal Assistant to Reg. Director.
3. The following Councillors were absent :
1. Mr. M. Raushan Ali, Member for Bangladesh (non-agricultural)
 2. Mr. A.M. Yahya, Member for Bangladesh (Agricultural)
 3. Mr. Taghi Salem, Member for Iran (Agricultural)
 4. Mr. M. Kobayashi, Member for Japan (Non-agricultural)
 5. Mr. Tal Chun Hong, Member for Korea (agricultural)

AGENDA ITEM NO.1 : WELCOME

4. Mr. B.P. Faustino, Councillor for the Philippines, welcomed the Councillors on behalf of the Cooperative Movement of the Philippines.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2 : OBITUARY

5. Mr. Kularajah moved a vote of condolence on the deaths of Mr. Shoji Matsumura, the Councillor for Japan, and Mr. R.J. Lane, Councillor for Australia. The meeting observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased councillors.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3: INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

6. Mr. P.E. Weeraman, referring to the death of Mr. S. Matsumura, former member of the Council and Managing Director of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan, said, "It is a great loss. As you know, Mr. Matsumura was with us last year and he has been a worthy successor to Mr. Yanagida. He was a great supporter of the ICA and we miss him from our midst." Mr. Weeraman next referring to the death of Mr. M.J. Lane, member of the Council and President of the Cooperative Federation of Australia, said, "Mr. Lane did not have the opportunity of attending any of our meetings. He was actually coming to this meeting and it is very unfortunate that we lost him. He was one of the most dedicated cooperators that I have met in Australia. He was one of the foremost cooperators of Australia. He too was a great supporter of the ICA. We are sorry that he is not with us today."

7. On behalf of the ICA, he welcomed the Councillors and the others present.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4: BACKGROUND PAPERS ON THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT OF EACH COUNTRY

8. The Chairman stated that the country background papers giving the present position of their respective movements received from the members had been circulated and suggested that as usual instead of reading the papers in full, the Councillors should mention the special developments and changes that had taken place in their respective movements since the last meeting of the Council.

9. The oral reports made by the representatives of the national cooperative movements are given in appendix I.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SIXTEENTH MEETING

10. The minutes of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Council held at Colombo, Sri Lanka, were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6 : ADMINISTRATION SECTION

11. Action taken on the minutes of the last meeting: The follow-up action taken on the minutes relating to the Administration Section, as reported in the Agenda Notes was noted.

12. 80th Anniversary of the ICA : The celebration of the 80th Anniversary of the ICA in New Delhi with the President of India as Chief Guest on 20th September 1975 was noted with appreciation.

13. Contributions to the funds of the ICA ROEC :

The contributions made to the funds of the ROEC by the members for the financial year 1974-75 were reported as follows :

	Rs.
1. Cooperative Federation of Australia (A\$1,000)	11,507.30
2. National Cooperative Union of India	25,000.00
3. Dewan Koperasi Indonesia, Indonesia (US \$863.32)	7,216.30
4. Sepah Consumers Cooperative of Iran (5,500.00
5. Central Organisation for Rural Cooperatives of Iran	1,598.00
6. Consumer Cooperative Society, Ministry of Labour, Iran	1,200.00
7. Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan	28,634.48
8. National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, Korea	10,000.00
9. Cooperative Union of Malaysia	10,000.00
10. National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka	926.50
11. Cooperative League of Thailand	8,000.00
12. Singapore National Cooperative Union	3,250.00
Total: Rs.	1,12,832.58

roughly equal to US \$ 14,100/-

It was also reported that the Cooperative Federation of Australia had paid its contribution of A\$1,000/- for the year 1975-76.

14. Building Fund :

The Regional Director reported that the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan had completed the payment of Sterling Pounds 10,000/- towards meeting the cost of the ROEC office building as promised in 1968 and that although it was promised to be paid in ten years, the payment had

was received with loud applause.

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

The following member-organisations had made their contributions of Sterling Pounds 50/- each for the year 1974-75 :

1. Cooperative Federation of Australia,
2. National Cooperative Union of India,
3. Dewan Koperasi Indonesia of Indonesia,
4. Central Organisation for Rural Coops of Iran,
5. Central Union of Agricultural Coops. of Japan,
6. National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of the Republic of Korea,
7. ANGKASA of Malaysia,
8. Cooperative League of Thailand, and
9. National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka.

16. Staff Changes :

The staff changes reported in paragraphs 15, 16 and 17 of the Agenda Notes relating to Dr. Dharm Vir, Mr. M.V. Nadane and Mr. M.K. Puri were noted.

The appointment of Mr. M.K. Puri as the Specialist in Consumer Cooperation with effect from January 1976 was noted with acclamation by the Council.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 : ASSESSMENT AND PRIORITIES OF THE ROEC

17. Assessment of the ROEC :

The report of the team appointed to assess the work of the ROEC and the report of the Experts' Consultation held on 5-6 December 1975 on the "Trends, Problems and Changing Needs of the Cooperative Movements in South-East Asia and the Role of the ICA in this regard" were introduced by the Regional Director.

The report of the Experts' Consultation is given as appendix II.

18. Priorities of the ROEC

The recommendations of the Experts' Consultation were considered by the Council and the following priorities were fixed for the guidance of the Regional Office and Education Centre:

- (i) The Regional Office should hold frequent Regional Conferences of top-level cooperative leaders.

- (ii) The Regional Office should assist the national movements to hold national and sub-national level seminars on cooperative leadership and management.
- (iii) The Regional Office should undertake and publicize in-depth case studies of cooperatives in which the problems of cooperative leadership and management have been dealt with successfully.
- (iv) The Regional Office should formulate and supply to member-organisations detailed guidelines on the respective functions and powers of chief executives and boards of directors for incorporation in the bye-laws of cooperatives. It was also suggested in this connection that the Regional Office should hold a Regional Seminar on "the relationship between chief executives and boards of directors in cooperative organisations."
- (v) The Regional Office should, in addition to the present teacher development programmes of the ROEC, organise training and refresher courses for the faculties of the national level cooperative training and educational institutions engaged in training the trainers and educators in the lower tiers of the training and education complex. The teacher development programme itself should be expanded and extended to cover training in the cooperative educational and training institutions of the more developed countries, even outside the region.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 : EDUCATION CENTRE

19. Action taken on the minutes of the last meeting:

Mr. J.M.Rana, Director (Education) stated that the recommendation of the Council that the Swedish Cooperative Centre (SCC) should continue to hold its International Seminars in Sweden was communicated to them. While agreeing to the request, the SCC had stated that it would organise training programmes in Sweden for cooperators working in specific projects in the Region. Requests for such training should originate from the member movements and should be coordinated by the ICA ROEC.

The other action taken on the minutes was noted.

Activities of the past year

20. Mr. Rana gave information on the activities carried out by the Education Centre from September 1974 to October 1975. In regard to the Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with Special Emphasis on Distribution Methods," Mr. Rana said that on the basis of the background information submitted by the participants, it appeared that not a single participant was connected with the Marketing Projects studied by the ICA Marketing Survey Teams, even though it was specifically laid down in the qualifications prescribed for participants that one of the participants nominated to the seminar from each country should be from an area studied by the Survey Teams. This indicated the need of follow-up work in respect of these marketing projects by the member movements. In this connection, the Chairman thought that it was possible that marketing survey reports were yet under consideration by the member movements.

21. Mr. Rana said that the Teacher Development Programme had been expanded during the current year, and six teachers had been selected for participation in the programme.

22. Mr. Rana said that it was highly encouraging that Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the President of India had commended the ICA/NCUI Cooperative Education Field Project in Indore District. Mr. Rana then read out the relevant extract from the speech of the President delivered at the celebrations of the 80th anniversary of the ICA in New Delhi.

"I would like to stress in this context the crucial role of cooperative education. I am glad to know that the ICA which has adopted Education as one of its important activities has been providing expertise and sharing its experience in organising a pilot project on cooperative education for a selected group of primary societies in Indore district of Madhya Pradesh in collaboration with the NCUI and the Madhya Pradesh State Cooperative Union. The project which was started in February 1971 has now completed four years. The results have been so satisfactory that the societies themselves have now started coming forward to provide additional funds for continuing the programme. The project has shown mainly that cooperative institutions at the primary and district level have to be actively involved in the educational work and that an integrated approach should be adopted to education whereby emphasis is placed on meeting the entire requirements of the families for the agricultural

operation and for their other occupations to the maximum possible extent through the society and in having a farm guidance service as an integral part of the services provided by the cooperative societies. This is a concrete example of how the experience and the resources of international cooperative movement have helped in guiding the cooperative movements in the developing countries.

23. Mr. Rana said that it was very rewarding that the results of the Project had been recognised not only by the member-organisation but also by the head of the State. Mr. Rana added that the NCUI was starting ten cooperative education projects in the less developed States of India on the basis of the experience gained in the Indore Project. He also informed the Council that the National Cooperative Union of India was re-structuring its entire education programme by incorporating some of the features of the Indore Project.

24. Mr. Rana added that Dr. Dharm Vir who was currently working on a short-term assignment with the ILO Project in Sri Lanka had also formulated a Cooperative Education Project on lines somewhat similar to those of the Indore Project. The proposal to start a project in Bangladesh could not be implemented for unavoidable reasons.

25. Mr. L.M.V.de Silva said that similar projects should be started in one or two countries of the Region. Mr. Rana added that the ICA ROEC would try to start a similar project in one other country of the Region and that it was contemplating starting such project in a sub-region other than that of South Asia.

Programme of Activities for July 1976 to June 1977

26. The Chairman remarked that he was very happy that the member-organisations had forwarded a number of suggestions with regard to the subject of Regional Seminars.

27. Mr. Rana said that since the circulation of the Agenda Notes, a letter had been received from the NCUI proposing that the ICA ROEC should, in collaboration with the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organisation (AARRO) and the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), hold a conference on the "Role of the Cooperative Movement vis-a-vis the Poor."

28. Taking into account the suggestions made in the Agenda Notes and the discussions at the Experts' Consultation on the "Trends, Problems and Changing Needs of the Cooperative Movements in South-East Asia and the Role of the ICA in this regard," that had just preceded the Council Meeting, the Council decided that the following Regional Seminars should be held :

- (i) Regional Seminar on "Cooperative Insurance and the Promotion of Savings" in collaboration with the IDACA

Venue : IDACA, Tokyo, Japan
 Duration: 21 days (1-21 September 1976)
 Participants: 25

- (ii) Regional Seminar on "The Relationship between the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive in a Cooperative Organisation"

Venue : Australia or Malaysia
 Duration: Two weeks (March/April, 1977)
 Participants: 25

(Note on (ii): Mr. Weeraman said that the seminar should be held in a country where the relationship between the chief executives and the boards of directors was exemplary. From this point of view, Australia seemed to be a good venue. The seminar could be held in March or April 1977.

It was agreed that Mr. I.H.Hunter would consult the Cooperative Federation of Australia and inform the ICA ROEC in about three months whether it would be possible to hold the seminar in Australia. In case Australia was not in a position to host the seminar, the Chairman as a Councillor from Malaysia said that two member organisations in Malaysia, viz. the Cooperative Union of Malaysia and the ANGKASA, would play host to the seminar in Malaysia.

Asian Conference on "Cooperative Credit and Financial Management"

29. It was decided that the third Open Asian Conference should deal with the subject of "Cooperative Credit and Financial Management."

30. It was agreed that the conference should be held on a self-financing basis. The Council discussed the question of charging a higher registration fee and felt that the fee should continue to be a token contribution by the participants towards meeting the secretariat expenses of the host movement. However, it was agreed that the amount charged (US dollars 15/-) was insufficient and that it should be raised to US\$ 25 per participant.

31. The Chairman said that the venue of the conference was normally decided having regard to the venue of the meeting of the Council. Mr. Weeraman mentioned that Mr. Sassani had already invited the Council to hold its next meeting in Iran. Mr. Rana added that the NCUI had written to the ICA ROEC that they would like to host the Open Asian Conference in India. The Council gratefully accepted both the invitations. Bombay was suggested as the tentative venue of the conference as it would facilitate the attendance of the conference by the Councillors who attend the Regional Council meeting in Iran.

32. It was agreed that further details regarding the conference should be decided by the ICA ROEC in consultation with the Chairman of the Council.

Training Programmes for Teachers

33. Mr. Rana indicated that a programme of training teachers of national level cooperative training colleges in the techniques of teaching would be carried out in place of the Teacher Development Programme in 1976-77 having regard to the availability of funds. He indicated that preparatory discussions had been held with the Swedish Cooperative Centre and the ILO International Centre for Advanced Technical and Vocational Training in Turin (Italy) to hold a joint training programme and it had been proposed that a 2-month training programme be held in Delhi to be followed by a 2-month training programme in Turin. The Turin Centre would send a couple of Resource Persons to the training programme in Delhi, and in turn the Director (Education) of the ICA ROEC would go as a Resource Person to the training programme at the Turin Centre. The Council approved of the proposal.

Programme of Training in Cooperative Management

Venue : ICA ROEC, New Delhi
 Duration : 2 months
 Participants: 12-15 Middle-level Managers

34. The Council approved of the above programme.

35. The Chairman suggested that the above training programme should be carefully planned keeping in view the diversity of the conditions that obtained in the cooperative movements of the Region. The Director (Education) agreed with the suggestion of the Chairman and said that the background of the participants and the position of the organisations from which they come would be taken into careful consideration when formulating the above programme. He added that this

programme was intended to serve as a model for replication by national cooperative training centres.

36.. The Director (Education) said that this particular programme as well as the Teacher Training Programme and the Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS) would be efforts to improve the teaching standards of the cooperative colleges in the Region. The Director (Education) added that as the South-East Asian Specialist Group on Cooperative Training (SEASPECT) had been constituted, this body would be able to provide valuable assistance in this effort. He added that a proper liaison would be maintained with the AGITCOOP as well.

Meeting of the South-East Asian Specialist Group on Cooperative Training (SEASPECT)

37.. The Council noted the information given in paragraph 64 of the Agenda Notes welcomed the setting up of SEASPECT.

Cooperative Education Materials Advisory Service (CEMAS)

38.. The Council noted the information given in paragraphs 65, 66 and 67 of the Agenda Notes and welcomed the introduction of this service.

Demonstration Project in the Field of Teacher Training

39.. The Council approved of the proposal to start this project in one of the national cooperative training centres in the Region. The objective of the project would be to identify appropriate teaching techniques for use in the selected national centre. The experience gained from the Indore Project confirmed the view that concepts and practices recommended by seminars should be applied in field projects to test their validity. If found suitable, they could thereafter be applied in demonstration projects.

Cooperative Education Field Projects

40. The Council agreed that cooperative education field projects should be started in two movements of the Region. The member movements should make proposals to the ICA ROEC in this regard. The Council stressed that financial responsibility for conducting these projects should be borne to the maximum possible extent by the member movements concerned and the ICA should provide the expertise and some supporting financial help.

Women and Cooperatives

41. The Council noted that a Regional Conference on "the Role of Women in Cooperative Development" had been held in Kuala Lumpur in July 1974. Taking into account the recommendations of that conference, the Council recommended that the member movements should constitute national committees of women cooperators to develop educational and other programmes in order to increase women's participation in cooperatives. The Council further recommended that an Asian Council of Women Cooperators be constituted.

42. The Chairman remarked that the involvement of women in the cooperative movement was of critical importance for accelerating the development of the cooperative movement and necessary steps should be taken by the member movements in this regard.

43. The Council suggested that the ICA ROEC should carry out a survey of the "Role of Women and the extent of their participation in the Cooperative Movement" in a few selected countries with a view to recommending how women's participation in the cooperative movement could be accelerated.

44. The Council also agreed that the ICA ROEC should hold four national basic courses in Cooperation for women cooperators on the basis of requests made by member movements. The Council noted that such courses may be conducted in Sri Lanka, Malaysia, the Philippines and India.

National Seminars

45. The requests received by the ROEC from the member organisations to provide assistance in holding National Seminars were noted and the Council recommended that the ROEC should provide assistance to the organisations mentioned below within the limitations of its overall work programme:

(i) ANGKASA, Malaysia

Seminar subjects: (a) Integration and the Expansion of the Cooperative Movement.

(b) School Cooperatives.

(ii) National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka:

Seminar subjects: (i) Cooperative Land Settlements,
(ii) Management of Coop. Farms,
(iii) Member Education and Training of Teachers.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRADE SECTION

46. The follow-up action taken on the minutes of the last meeting relating to Technical Assistance and Trade was noted.

Technical Assistance

47. The creation of a Dairy Development Fund in connection with the Bhor Project, the present position of the Fishery assistance project in Sri Lanka, the proposal for a fisheries project in the Philippines, the gift of two incubators from the Swedish Association of Guilds for the Women cooperators of Bangladesh, the gift of irrigation equipment worth 2,000 Canadian dollars by the Cooperative Maritime Services of Canada and the gift of 80,000 Swedish kroners by Swedish cooperators to the Rangunia Thana Central Cooperative Association in Bangladesh reported in paragraphs 77 to 84 of the Agenda Notes were noted.

48. It was reported that no progress had been possible in securing assistance for the other projects formulated by the Regional Office and submitted to the Head Office in previous years. In this connection Mr. Hunter of Australia mentioned that Mr. G.A.J. Beytagh, Chairman of the Agricultural Committee of the Cooperative Federation of Australia, and he had discussed with the Australian Development Assistance Programme their increased involvement in the non-government aid programme. He requested that information on all these projects be sent to the Cooperative Federation of Australia to examine the possibility of obtaining assistance for them from the Australian Development Assistance Programme.

49. The information given in the Agenda Notes (paragraphs 86 to 89) relating to the clearing house functions performed by the Regional Office and the issue of the "ICA Trade News" was noted.

Asian Cooperative Development Bank

50. The position explained in paragraphs 90 to 98 of the Agenda Notes was noted. The Regional Office was requested to put up a definite proposal to the members after obtaining the Government of Iran's approval. The Council also appointed a Committee consisting of Messrs. J. Sassani, Basuki and Ismail Din and a member from Japan, if available, with Mr. Sassani as Chairman, to take necessary action in this regard.

Studies in the Living Conditions of the Members of Agricultural Cooperatives in the Region

51. The position reported in paragraphs 99 to 102 of the Agenda Notes was noted. The Council decided to await the reports of ACCI of the Philippines and the DKI of Indonesia referred to in the Agenda Notes.

Study of the Role the Cooperative Movement could play in the task of increasing food production in the countries served by the ICA Regional Office for South-East Asia

52. The position reported in paragraphs 103 and 104 of the Agenda Notes was noted. Mr. Weeraman added that the original estimate of Rs.150,000 for the employment of an Expert had been reduced to Rs.110,000 and that this money would be made available from the Cooperative Development Fund of the ICA. The Council was very appreciative of the approval of funds for this purpose by the ICA.

Cooperative Development Fund

53. The position reported in paragraph 105 of the Agenda Notes was noted.

Joint Ventures

54. Mr. Weeraman reported that he had received a proposal from the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka for a joint venture with a cooperative in Japan in processing synthetic textiles.

55. Mr. Dayananda, explaining the position in Sri Lanka, said that there were 125,000 member-employees in the cooperative textile manufacturing enterprises in the handloom and powerloom sectors. Textiles worth Rs. 20 million could not be sold the previous year because the cooperatives did not have their own finishing equipment and . . . They had discussed with the government authorities the proposal to have a joint venture with a cooperative or private sector organisation in another country and had obtained government's approval of it.

56. Mr. de Silva added that the textile cooperatives formed a large sector of the Sri Lanka cooperative movement and that they were working both handlooms and powerlooms, that the government supplied yarn to these cooperatives, that the government had set up huge textile mills and that the private that sector had a large number of small finishing plants and whenever the cooperatives went to the private sector for these services, they had raised their charges for these services inordinately. The Council suggested that Sri Lanka Council should put up a concrete proposal to the Regional Office.

57. Mr. Hunter added that such a proposal when received should be circulated by the RO among the member movements in the Region. He also said that a feasibility report should be submitted along with the proposal and that he would be glad to examine the possibility of getting necessary assistance for it.

58. Mr. Khan Amir Abdullah Khan said that they were in need of a fertiliser plant for the cooperatives in Pakistan and the Chairman suggested that the Pakistan movement should put up a proposal on the lines suggested in regard to the Sri Lanka proposal.

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

59. The information given in paragraphs 107 to 120 of the Agenda Notes on publications and in paragraphs 121 to 131 on Publicity, the collection of cooperative news, press releases, the library, documentation services, the supply and exchange of literature, the library's consultative services, the survey of cooperative libraries and the librarian's participation in the meeting of the Working Party of Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers was noted. The publications programme for the year 1975-76 as given in paragraphs 132 to 136 was noted.

60. The Joint Director (Publications) requested the Councilors to get their movements to send in success stories from time to time for publication in the Regional Bulletin.

61. In regard to publications, the Chairman suggested that in addition to publishing reports of seminars, it would be very useful if the working papers submitted to these seminars were also published as he thought "they are well worth printing and they give details of the subject-matter." He added that it was not of much interest to know the recommendations made by the participants. What was more important were the working papers which "give ideas more or less as text books," and illustrated his point with examples of the working papers submitted to the Seminar on "Cooperative Housing" held in Malaysia in 1970 and the recent Open Asian Conference on "Cooperative Management" held in Manila from December 1 to 4. He added that one would not get to know the subject-matter of the conference by reading only the recommendations of the conference.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ICA SUB-COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND TRADE

62. As the Sub-Committee meeting had been postponed for the following day, there was no discussion under this item.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: RELATIONS WITH MEMBER ORGANISATIONS IN THE REGION

63. The information given in paragraphs 138 to 140 of the Agenda Notes was noted.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13 : RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

64. The information given in paragraphs 141 to 147 of the Agenda Notes was noted. Mr. Weeraman referred to his attending a Conference of the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) of the Asian and Pacific region, held by the Office of Public Information (OPI) of the United Nations and that he had suggested to this conference that the representative of every UN agency in a country should hold a half-yearly conference with the non-governmental organisations of that country which work in fields of interest to such agency so that such UN agency would come to know the needs of the non-governmental sector and that this proposal had been accepted by that conference. For instance, he added, the ILO representative in a country should hold a half-yearly conference with the representatives of cooperatives and trade unions of that country.

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

65. The invitation from the Cooperative Movement of Iran to the Council to hold its 18th Meeting in Iran, in the first week of November 1976, was gratefully accepted.

AGENDA ITEM NO.15 : ANY OTHER MATTER WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

The Name of the Council

66. Under this item, the Council decided to recommend to the ICA authorities that its name be changed to "ICA COUNCIL FOR ASIA" in view of the fact that the 14 countries served by the Regional Office belong to an area extending from West Asia to Australia. It was made clear that the name of the Regional Office should remain as it is.

Retirement of Dr. Mauritz Bonow

67. The Council received with acclamation the information given by the Regional Director that the building of the Regional Office had been named "BONOW HOUSE" by the Central Committee of the ICA.

68. The Council unanimously adopted the following resolution :

"In view of Dr. Mauritz Bonow's retirement from the Presidentship of the ICA after a long period of outstanding service to the World Cooperative Movement, the ICA Council for South-East Asia places on record its deep gratitude to Dr. Mauritz Bonow for his inestimable

services to the Cooperative Movement of the South-East Asian Region, particularly the key role he played in starting the Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia and his continuous and strong support of it. The Council wishes Dr. Bonow a long and happy retirement."

AGENDA ITEM NO.16 : INSTITUTE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF
AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION IN ASIA (IDACA)

69. Instead of holding a separate meeting of the Board of Advisers of IDACA, Mr. Togawa, the Managing Director of IDACA, wished that its affairs be discussed by the Council as such.

(i) The minutes of the 12th Meeting of the Board of Advisers held in Colombo in November 1974 were accepted as correct.

(ii) Mr. Togawa informed the Council of the activities carried out by IDACA since the last meeting of the Board of Advisers. The seminars and courses held after the last meeting were classified as follows :

- (a) Project-oriented seminars;
- (b) General Training Courses in Agricultural Cooperatives; and
- (c) Seminars held in collaboration with the ICA and the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organisation (AARRO).

70. He reported that project-oriented seminars were of short duration and were for participants recruited from areas where agricultural development programmes were being implemented. He found that due to the seminars being of short duration, it was difficult to expect the participants to get a full understanding of the working of multipurpose cooperative societies and of government policies in respect of agricultural and cooperative development in Japan. The participants had evinced keen interest in technical problems of agricultural production such as those relating to fertilizers, farm chemicals and farm machinery. However, such technical matters were not priority areas in these seminars.

71. Areas of common interest were found to be :-

- i) The achievement of modernization and industrialization,
- ii) The main factors for high productivity in agriculture and the role of the cooperatives in this regard,
- iii) The achievement of 100 per cent involvement of farmers in cooperatives,

- iv) Government policies for agricultural and cooperative development, and
- v) The development of new farm land and the introduction of new crops, the formation of groups within cooperatives and the problems relating to the amalgamation of societies. These were factors in farming; but understanding the concept of a farming complex seemed difficult for the participants.

72. There were two project-oriented seminars. One was held in March 1975 for 7 participants in all, from the Philippines, Malaysia and Thailand. One society studied was a reclamation cooperative society where all the members were settlers and the other was an ordinary amalgamated multipurpose society which is now making efforts for the development of new crops. The other project-oriented seminar was held for 14 participants from Thailand. The participants of this seminar were from the village level.

73. As regards general training courses in agricultural cooperatives, Mr. Togawa reported that the participants of the general training course were generally government officers. They were generally of two types: (i) those who work in cooperatives as Assistant Managers, Managers or Directors, and (ii) those who work in government departments concerned with cooperative development. There were 19 participants in such a course held from September to December 1974. They were all from Asian countries.

74. A seminar on "the Role of Cooperatives in Community development" was held in collaboration with RECA of IARRO in July-August 1975 and another seminar was held in August 1975 for four Brazilian cooperators.

75. A Regional Seminar on "Agricultural Cooperative Marketing with Special Reference to Distribution Methods" was held in collaboration with the ICA ROEC in September 1975. There were 23 participants 6 of whom were cooperative teachers.

76. A general training course in Agricultural Cooperatives was being held under the Colombo Plan from October to December 1975 with 20 participants of whom two were from Brazil and 3 from Africa whilst the rest were from the countries of the Region.

77. Reviewing the activities to be carried out in the next year (1976-77), Mr. Togawa reported that the basic policy of the activities of IDACA continued to be on the lines discussed and confirmed by the previous meetings. He said that emphasis was placed on project-oriented seminars whilst the Colombo Plan courses would relate to studies of multipurpose cooperatives,

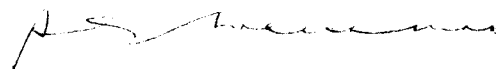
practical ways of running a cooperative, study visits at village level and observation of the working of cooperative organisations and of facilities afforded by them at village prefectural and national levels. He said that much importance was attached to the follow-up of these activities. This was done by issuing booklets and brochures giving information on the recent developments and achievements in the Japanese movement. to former participants.

78. The programme of activities for the next year (1976-77) would be as follows :

- i) A project-oriented Seminar for 15 participants from Thailand to be held from June to July 1976;
- ii) A project-oriented seminar of 4 weeks duration for 8 participants from the Philippines and Brazil in June-July and October-November 1976 respectively to study the role and functions of agricultural cooperatives in agricultural development;
- iii) A Regional Seminar to be held in September 1976 in collaboration with the ICA ROEC for 25 participants for a period of three weeks. The Council decided that the subject of this seminar should be "Cooperative Insurance and Promotion of Savings."
- iv) A Colombo Plan Course for general training in Agricultural Cooperatives to be held for 2½ months from October to December 1976 for 20 participants.
- v) A seminar to be held in collaboration with RECA of AARRO on the "Role of Cooperatives in Community Development" in March 1977 for 15 participants for a period of 3 weeks
- vi) A special course of short duration (2 weeks) for a small number of cooperators provided the cost of international travel is borne by the participants or their organisations.
- vii) The publication of IDACA News and other reference books as usual.

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

79. Mr. Hunter of Australia moved a vote of thanks to the Chair and in this connection expressed the appreciation and the best wishes of the Council to Mr. Kularajah who had been Chairman of the Council for a number of years. This was carried with acclamation.



New Delhi,
January 9, 1976

P.E. WEERAMAN
ICA Regional Director &
Secretary, ICA Council for S.E. Asia