

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**20TH MEETING**  
**OF**  
**THE ICA COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**  
Taal Vista Hotel, Tagaytay City  
Philippines  
May 5-7, 1995



**International Co-operative Alliance**  
**Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific**  
New Delhi, India

JCA 01349

20th MEETING OF THE ICA COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES  
FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC  
Taal Vista Hotel, Tagaytay City, Philippines  
May 5-7, 1995

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

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DAY 1 (May 5)

I. OPENING CEREMONIES

The morning program was opened by the playing of the National Anthem, followed by the Cooperative March.

Welcome messages from the Regional Director of the CDA host region, Mr. Dominador Punzalan, and the President of CUP, Mr. Filomeno A. Bautista, Jr. were delivered. Both officials expressed their appreciation for the Committee's choice of the Philippines as the venue of the 20th meeting. They also cited the significance of the gathering in enhancing the development of fishery cooperatives in the Philippines.

Mr. Subash Chandra, Chairman of the ICA ROAP Fisheries Committee, in his Presidential Address, gave the background on the choice of the Philippines as the venue and cited the highlights of the committee's activities in the Asia and Pacific Region. He mentioned the conclusions of the 22nd FAO Ministerial Meeting in Manila which recommended additional action to eliminate overfishing, rebuild and enhance fishstocks, minimize wasteful fishery practices, develop sustainable aquaculture, rehabilitate fish habitats and develop fisheries through new and alternative species.

CDA Chairperson, Prof. Edna E. Aberilla, speaking in behalf of the Philippine government's cooperative development agency, discussed the supportive role of government to the private sector in the development of fishery cooperatives. Under the principle of subsidiarity, CDA acts as a facilitator and partner of the Cooperative Movement in making cooperatives real instruments for social justice and economic development. She commended the cooperative sector through the cup for its initiative and determination in the enactment of the new Fishery Code and the development of more fishery cooperatives and their federations.

Mr. Shoji Uemura, Chairman of the ICA Fisheries Committee cited the intention of the main ICA Fisheries Committee to increase its members. He expressed hope that this meeting will prove to be very informative and meaningful for the development of fisheries and fishery cooperatives in the Asia-Pacific region.

Mr. G.K. Sharma, Regional Director of ICA ROAP, expressed his appreciation for the active role of the Fisheries Committee in the Region. He briefly discussed the various projects and operations of the ICA Regional Office. He also cited the issues and challenges faced by the Cooperative Movement and encouraged the delegates to thoroughly discuss the additional items in the agenda such as the cooperative principles, cooperative charter, and cooperative agenda 21 which is environment conservation and the need to strengthen fishery cooperatives.

The CUP Secretary General, Mr. Felix A. Borja read the message of the Director of ICA. Mr. Bruce Thordarson, whom he also thanked for finding the means and time to send a brief message, as follows:



"On behalf of ICA Geneva, I would like to convey my sincere appreciation to the Cooperative Union of the Philippines for hosting this meeting.

Cooperatives worldwide are at their crossroads, and in this connection the values of cooperatives need to be fully reviewed. By doing so, directions to future course of our cooperativism may hopefully emerge.

As you know, ICA was established 100 years ago. During the past one century, the tiny cooperative heart which was started in England became everybody's heart.

I have heard that you will discuss Principles of Cooperatives, Declarations and Cooperative Agenda 21 at the meeting. I would like very much to hear the result of the discussions, because we need to cover as wide a field as possible.

Herewith I send all of you attending the meeting very best wishes and hope every success of the meeting."

Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) Director Guillermo L. Morales, in his keynote address gave a situationer on the fishing industry in the Philippines, its prospects and challenges. He cited BFAR's various policies, plans and programs for fishery management. The program objectives of BFAR are to enhance the overall productivity of the fishery resources within the limits of ecology and to uplift the socio-economic condition of smallscale fisherfolk. He briefly mentioned various problems encountered by the fishing industry such as need for appropriate fishing fleets for the fishermen, strict enforcement and implementation of fishery laws, rules and regulations, fishing malpractices, lack of facilities for monitoring, control and surveillance, lack of additional skills, knowledge and expertise for fishery technologists and red tide plague in the Philippine's marine waters. He expressed hope that this meeting will find means of making fisheries more beneficial to mankind, particularly the sustenance fishermen and their families who should be given the opportunity to rise above the poverty line.

CDA Chairperson Edna E. Aberilla was assisted by ICA Asia-Pacific Fisheries Committee Chairman Subash Chandra in the formal release of the ICA Asia-Pacific Fisheries Committee Bulletin.

Mr. Robby Tulus reported on the activities carried out by the ICA Asia-Pacific Fisheries Committee since its last meeting in Kuala Lumpur. He cited the various concerns and challenges faced by the Committee, notable among which are: the rapid shrinking resources of the fisheries sector particularly the ODA contribution from the Japanese Government as well as the prevailing budget of ZENGYOREN, the South Korean cooperative fisheries committee in dire need of reconsolidating its resources, alarming continuance of overfishing by big businesses causing depletion of fish stocks, denudation of coastal areas, to name a few. He informed the delegates that this meeting seeks to define efforts to revive fishery coops among member organizations in the Asia-Pacific region which requires well planned technological assistance and cooperation. The idea of strengthening ties between FAO and the ICA Fisheries Committee in setting strategic goals and outputs for the benefit of the latter's individual members was welcomed by Mr. Tulus. He also informed the delegates that the thrust of this meeting is geared towards appraising the current situation and finding ways to achieve managerial strength and organizational renewal within the fishery cooperative sector

## **II. BUSINESS MEETING**

### **Call to Order**

There being a quorum, the Chairman, Mr. Subash Chandra, called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M.

**Present were:**

COUNTRY

INDIA  
JAPAN  
  
MALAYSIA  
MYANMAR  
PHILIPPINES

ICA ROAP

OBSERVERS

MALAYSIA ---  
COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT  
AUTHORITY (CDA)  
CDA CALAMBA EXTENSION OFFICE  
(REGION 4)  
BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND  
AQUATIC RESOURCES  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND  
FISHERY COUNCIL (NAFC)  
PHILIPPINE FISHERIES DEVELOP-  
MENT AUTHORITY (PFDA)  
COOPERATIVE UNION OF THE  
PHILIPPINES (CUP)  
-----  
DEL MONTE PHILS. CONSUMERS  
COOPERATIVE  
DEL MONTE PHILS. CREDIT COOPERATIVE  
CAVITE FARMERS FEEDMILLING AND  
MARKETINGCO-OP (CAFFMACO)

REPRESENTATIVE

MR. SUBASH CHANDRA  
MR. SHOJI UEMURA  
MR. MASAACKI SATO  
DATO HJ. AZIZ BIN MOHD. IBRAHIM  
MR. U. MINN THAME  
MR. FILOMENO A. BAUTISTA, JR.  
MR. FELIX A. BORJA  
  
MR.G.K.SHARMA, REGL. DIRECTOR  
MR. ROBBY TULUS, SENIOR POLICY  
ADVISOR AND SECRETARY OF THE  
ICA COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES FOR  
ASIA & PACIFIC  
MR.A.K. TANEJA, PROJECT SECRE-  
TARY

MS. WAN MAHANI AZIZ  
GEN. ARCADIO S. LOZADA  
  
MR. NESTOR B. FLORES  
MR. ALBERTO SABARIAS  
MRS. ANSELMA LEGASPI  
MRS. ESTRELLA HERNANDEZ  
MR. ROLAND TULAY  
  
MR. JUAN CASPER MERCADO  
  
MR. MANUEL G. ARCINAS  
MR. MODESTO P. LOPEZ  
PROF. JOSEFINA E. GAERLAN  
MRS. PURA L. LIBRODO  
MR. NILO ABUGA-A  
  
MR. RAUL JACUTIN  
DR. OSCAR TAYKO

**AGENDA ITEM NO.1**

**Confirmation of the Minutes of the 19th Meeting of the ICA Committee on Fisheries for Asia and the Pacific**

Mr. Robby Tulus, Secretary of the ICA ROAP Fisheries Committee informed the delegates that copies of the minutes were furnished to the participants in advance. Due to time constraints, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

The Chairman requested the delegates to peruse the minutes and give their comments and observations.

There being none, the minutes of the 19th Meeting was unanimously approved.

## AGENDA ITEM NO.2

### **Report on the Activities of the ICA Fisheries Committee with Special Reference to Asia and the Pacific by Mr. Masaaki Sato, Secretary of the ICA Fisheries Committee**

Mr. Sato presented a prepared text on the activities of ICA with special reference to Asia and the Pacific Region.

He emphasized that due to limited funds, the ICA Fisheries Committee have to concentrate on education and training activities. He mentioned that out of the 28 member organizations of the ICA Central Fisheries Committee, 16 are in the Asia-Pacific Region. This is the reason why most workshops and seminars were done in the Asia-Pacific Region. Another reason is that it is only in the Asia-Pacific Region where cooperatives have been able to develop cooperators' awareness of the importance of fishery cooperatives in improving the quality of life of fishermen.

In relation to ODA, he informed the delegates that 16 ODA seminars were conducted by the Committee during the last 8 years, 16 of which were held in the Asia-Pacific Region. Malaysia and India hosted the ODA seminars twice each upon their request. In order to expand the membership of the ICA Fisheries Committee in Asia and the Pacific, he asked the delegates to consider holding the succeeding workshops in non-member countries to encourage them to join the committee.

He also informed the group that ODA workshops were held in Colombia, Chile and Costa Rica while in Europe, workshops were held in Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

Regarding the budget of ODA for the ICA Fisheries Committee, he explained that the appreciation of the value of the Japanese Yen has greatly reduced the financial capability of the Committee to undertake more programs. This is the reason why compared to 1987, the number of participants and resource persons in the ODA workshops have been reduced. Since the ODA assistance is US \$ denominated, the Yen equivalent became very small.

Mr. Sato referred the participants to page 3 where he summarized the discussions of the Meeting of the Executive Members as well as the Minutes of the Plenary Meeting held at Jakarta, Indonesia Last August 30-31, 1994. He highlighted agenda item no. 4 regarding the approval of the Annual Activity Plan and Budget of fisheries Committee for fiscal year 1995 and the holding of ODA seminar for FY 1995 in Sri Lanka. He added that the probability of naming host organizations for the ODA seminar remained a question and noted Mr. Uemura's statement that member organizations must be treated in equal terms. He likewise cited discussions on draft revision of the Coop Principles, Proposals for the establishment of a Coop Charter in ICA, Coop Agenda 21 and the Proposal of organizing the 2nd International Conference on Fisheries Cooperatives. This last idea must take into consideration the budgetary capabilities of the Fishery Committee. One of the main points in the Jakarta Meeting was how to increase the funds, where to organize this international conference and which organization will be approached as a probable host. These will be discussed during the Plenary Meeting in Manchester on September, 1995.

Mr. Aziz of Malaysia suggested that ICA should combine the results of the different ODA seminars and to furnish the different governments in ICA member-countries, who has the authority to improve fishery cooperatives. The Japanese Government must first know the results before they could be requested to release additional

funds for the ICA Fisheries Committee. This suggestion was noted by Mr. Sato. He further suggested that the recommendations and resolutions of all ODA seminars be summarized. However, Mr. Sato pointed out that they still have to wait for the final results/report of the South American ODA workshops. He will instead start consolidating the recommendations of the 14 ODA workshops into a booklet so that the member organizations can use this in discussing developmental strategies for the fishery cooperative sector with their respective governments.

Mr. Subash Chandra referred to the last ODA seminar held in India in 1993 and requested Mr. Uemura and Mr. Sato that in view of the size of Fisheries Co-operative Movement in India one ODA seminar for women only be organized in India in the year 1995.

Mr. Filomeno A. Bautista from the Philippines, made a suggestion that in summarizing the reports, the Committee should take into consideration what is really relevant in the Asia-Pacific region so that all of these feedbacks can be simplified and made applicable to the Asia Pacific member organizations. He further suggested to Mr. Sato to continue holding ODA seminars that could be affordable to the Japanese Government and added that it's about time that the host countries share in financing these workshops. Asia-Pacific countries do not want to appear as purely mendicants to the Japanese Government.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO.3**

#### **Necessity of Strengthening the Relationship between FAO and the ICA Committee on Fisheries**

Mr. Sato reported on the recent FAO-NGO Meeting on Fisheries held in Rome last March 9, 1995. He noted the presence of environmentalist organizations at the meeting. The meeting became a confusion because of the mixed criteria/qualification of participants.

Regarding the fishery coop sector, the main emphasis should be the improvement of the standard of living of fishermen whether it is undertaken by fishery organizations or associations. He stressed that the coops are the best suited organizations which can best represent the interest of fishermen. He enjoined the group to read the summary report of the FAO Meeting with NGOs.

He highlighted one of the recommendations of the FAO Ministerial Meeting on Fisheries to increase consultation on fisheries with the private sector and NGOs. At this meeting, many ministers responsible for fisheries of FAO member state government were present. It was likewise agreed upon during this meeting that maximum effort and help should be given by the FAO member governments to the fishery cooperative sector.

Another part highlighted by Mr. Sato was the perspective of FAO on coops. He also noted that FAO has maintained its position that Cooperatives are important because every time the ICA holds its Fishery Committee Meeting, FAO sends a representative.

Mr. Tulus reminded the Committee that during the last meeting in Kuala Lumpur, there was a suggestion to formulate a proposal for FAO.

He asked Mr. Sato as to what extent FAO can be requested to assist our fishery cooperatives sector and whether FAO requires the endorsement of the proposal by the respective governments of the member organizations. He also pointed out the

need for the cooperative sector to be recognized as separate entity from NGOs by FAO.

Mr. Chandra, on the other hand, pointed out the need to carefully draft the proposal to FAO in terms of meeting the endorsement and approval of the respective governments concerned. He pointed out the importance of the ICA Committee's recognition by FAO as a distinct sector. He Requested Messrs. Sato and Tulus to draft the proposal.

Mr. Uemura commented that submitting a proposal to FAO will be a good idea from the standpoint of improving the overall fisheries infrastructure as well as in empowering the member-fishermen which is the foundation for the advancement of the fishery cooperative movement. FAO can be most effective if it can put emphasis in providing improved fishery facilities and other environmental amenities for the member fishermen.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 4**

##### **PRESENTATION OF COUNTRY PAPERS**

The Chairman of the Committee requested Mr. Robby Tulus to chair this session. A special welcome was afforded to Mr. U. Minh Thame as delegate from Myanmar, and the Committee hopes to have the active participation of Myanmar in the future.

The following delegates presented their respective country reports, the gist of which is appended to this minutes:

1. Mr. Subash Chandra, Managing Director, FISHCOPFED and Chairman, ICA Committee on Fisheries for Asia and the Pacific
2. Mr. Shoji Uemura, Vice-President of ZENGYOREN and Chairman of the ICA Fisheries Committee
3. Mr. Dato Haji Aziz B. Mohd. Ibrahim, Chairman, ANGKASA Fisheries Committee
4. Mr. U. Minn Thame, Director, Livestock and Fisheries Cooperative Syndicate
5. Mr. Filomeno A. Bautista, Jr., President, Cooperative Union of the Philippines

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 5**

##### **DISCUSSIONS ON:**

- 1) **PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATIVES**
- 2) **COOPERATIVE CHARTER**
- 3) **COOPERATIVE AGENDA 21**

Mr. Sato, Secretary of ICA Fisheries discussed with the participants the ICA Agenda 21. He said that at the time of the congress held in Moscow when Dr. Laidraw presented his paper on Cooperatives in the Year 2000, he pointed out the questions and problems which faced the present day cooperatives. And based on that awareness of the coop status, there were discussions made on the improvement measures of the cooperatives in 1988. And at the time of the Congress held in Stockholm, the present President of ICA, Mr. Lars Marcus presented his paper on the values of cooperatives. The values of cooperatives according to Lars Marcus, means that a sort of precautions be made on the values that leads to principles. Discussion on the matter were made by the world member of the ICA. In 1992, during the 20th ICA Congress in Tokyo, new values of cooperatives were presented by Dr. Books of Sweden. After that, there were discussions that need to revive the current princi-

ples of cooperatives. And Last April 1995, in Brazil, where the Board of Directors Meeting of ICA was held, the draft ideas of revised principles on cooperatives were presented. As what has been already introduced, there are 7 principles (Mr. Sato requested the participants to take their time to read it.). What Mr. Sato would like to emphasize here is that the cooperative principles, the general principles and those principles which may be applied in the fishery sector should be different somehow, particularly with regards to fishery resources and environmental conservation which play much more emphasis on that aspect as well as on the management of fishery resources.

On the management side, it may be common particularly when you draw your attention to the excellent paper written by the Chairman, Mr. Subash Chandra, which is on p. 35 entitled "Should there be any codified principles of cooperation?" As the first step, I would like to ask Mr. Chandra to just briefly explain this so that we can understand what is meant by this paper and so that we should share the common ideas on the basic approach of the cooperative principles.

Mr. Subash Chandra then briefly explained the contents of his paper, which posed the following questions in this behalf:

- \* Principles being fundamental truth, in his opinion, should not be changed. While in case of Co-operative Principles, many changes have taken place.
- \* Originally, the principles were conceived to enrol members in the ICA, hence, if at all needed, their application should be confined only to the membership of ICA.
- \* In view of diversified movement, there is a need to have working principles for each sector separately. He referred to the Rochdale Principles and Raiffeisen Principles, which formed the basis of principles of co-operation. One related to the consumer movement and the other related to agricultural co-operative movement. Consumer Principles did not include credit and agriculture co-operative movement, essentially needed credit. Today, the movement has so much diversified that each sector should have its own working principles and there should not be any straight jacket for the entire co-operative movement.
- \* The Manchester discussions should confine itself to giving a broad definition of co-operatives and values.

He also referred to the discussions held in ICA Regional Assembly in Delhi when it was pointed out that the word "interest" is not in consonance with the religious philosophy of Muslims and hence, in his opinion, the co-operative movement in the Muslim World did not get its roots. However, on this point, it was clarified that at a recent meeting of ICA when this subject was discussed, the word "interest" has been replaced with the word "compensation".

## **AGENDA ITEM NO. 6**

### **RESOLUTIONS OF THE 20th FISHERIES COMMITTEE MEETING**

As discussions ensued on major issues in the region, the following resolutions were adopted by the Committee:

1. A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE INTERCESSION OF THE ICA FISHERIES COMMITTEE IN CONVINCING THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT TO ALLOW THE ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF FISHERY COOPERATIVE FEDERATIONS IN MALAYSIA.

Unanimously approved.



- II. A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE ICA FISHERIES COMMITTEE TO INTERCEDE FOR AND IN BEHALF OF THE JAPANESE FISHERY COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN CONVINCING THE EUROPEAN UNION TO LIFT THE BAN ON JAPANESE FISHERY PRODUCTS.

Unanimously approved.

It is the desire of the ICA Asia-Pacific Fisheries Committee that the above resolutions be tabled and discussed at the Main Fisheries Committee Meeting, to be held in Manchester on September 18, 1995.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 7**

##### **VALIDATORY SPEECH BY DR. GUILLERMO MORALES, DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES**

Dr. Morales in his closing speech enlightened the participants about the new policy of the Government of the Philippines and its objective to strengthen the fishery sector by empowering the poor fishing communities. He emphasized the new thrust of the government to move from the hitherto traditional fishing to making fishing communities more pro-active in managing coastal resources themselves, and hence acquire more ownership of the abundant natural resources which derives from good management practices. The previous focused on economic motivation alone, yet make traditional fisher people more dependent. The latter creates more sustainability as it relies on a holistic approach where benefits will derive from good environmental, economic as well as social management.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO.8**

##### **VENUE & DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was unanimously approved that the next meeting of the ICA Fisheries Committee for Asia and the Pacific be held in conjunction with the Regional Assembly meeting of the ICA ROAP, scheduled for 1996 in Malaysia. The exact date and venue will be announced by the Secretary to all members, as soon as the Regional Assembly dates are confirmed.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 9**

Mr. Robby Tulus, Secretary of the Committee, delivered a Vote of Thanks on behalf of the Committee, and made particular mention about the good attendance at this meeting and the good results which ensued. He offered special thanks to the CUP for their hard and effective work in organizing this meeting at Taal, and for their warm hospitality.

There being no other business, the Chairman called for the adjournment of the 20th Meeting of the ICA Committee on Fisheries for Asia and the Pacific.

sd/-  
Subash Chandra  
Chairman

sd/-  
Robby Tulus  
Secretary

## DEVELOPMENT OF FISHING INDUSTRY IN PHILIPPINES

In spite of vast fishery and aquatic resources in Philippines, fishery sector registered the slowest growth in the past, for which the main factors are denudation and uncontrolled rapid destruction of fishery resources, excessive harvesting (even use of dynamite, poison and electricity as fishing methods) and pollution of inland and coastal waters. Government agencies like Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) are making efforts for environment conservation and regulation on over exploitation of fishery resources. However, strict enforcement of fishery laws is still a difficult task for them.

Cooperative Laws enacted in March 1990 provide for formation of Multi-Purpose Cooperatives. Proposal for organization and development of Fishery Cooperative Federations at provincial and national levels have been mooted. Objectives of these federations will include, establishing fish processing facilities, providing training in various aspects of fishery and market development. Limited financing to fishery cooperatives is also being done by government banks.

Development Strategies include, creating of a task force to promote organization and development of fishery cooperative federations and broadbasing the membership of primary fishery cooperatives; fixing the responsibilities of fishery cooperatives for conservation, rehabilitation and management of fishery areas. The task force will assist establishing common service facilities for fish culture, fish processing, packaging and marketing of fishery products both locally and abroad. Integrating fishery cooperatives at national federation, which will advocate for

government policies, will provide a conducive environment for growth and development of fishery cooperatives and take care technology-transfer and marketing and export of fishery cooperative products and arranging government finance and facilities fishery projects.

## ROLE OF FISHERIES COOPERATIVES IN MYANMAR

BY U MINN THANE

Senior Aquaculturist

Fishery occupies fourth rank in earning foreign exchange besides being an important sector of Myanmar's economy. Myanmar has a diverse fishery resources. Exploitation of fishery resources by private sector has been encouraged because the state have changed centralized economy policy to more liberal market-oriented policy. 102 fishing vessels, formerly owned by the State, have been sold out to private sectors and seven joint ventures with foreign companies have been established, which are operating profitably.

After formulation of Cooperative Societies Law in 1992, ten fisheries cooperatives with 634 members have been formed and are properly operating on fishing, aquaculture, processing, cold storage, ice plants, fish meal plants and pellet feed mills. Total manpower engaged in aquaculture is to the tune of 20 to 100 thousands.

Typical of Southeast Asian in nature, fisheries resources in Myanmar includes various kinds of sharks, skates, groupers, snappers and some of the large pelagic fish belonging to tuna group. Small scale marine fisheries dominates in terms of number of fishermen involved and amount of catch landed in Myanmar where commercial sector includes joint ventures, cooperatives and private companies. Total fish capture in 1993 was to the tune of 772.4 thousand MT. After promulgation of the Aquaculture Law, production of Indian and Chinese carps, has been promoted in the

country, which is relatively more advanced than brackish water or marine culture. The area under aquaculture is about 30,000 ha. which can be extended to additional 100,000 ha. as fallow and virgin land is lying unused.

As regards shrimp farming, which is still primitive in nature, trap and hold method of productivity is applied yielding annually from 100 to 150 kg. per ha. Efforts are underway to syndicate livestock breeding and fisheries cooperatives to promote shrimp farming upto Semi-intensive type. To supply pellet feed for shrimp and prawn, a pellet feed mill has been established. Demonstration farms for shrimp and prawn are being developed to boost the shrimp and prawn production, which is still lagging in meeting the growing demand.

ACTIVITIES OF NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FISHERIES  
COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS (ZENGYOREN) OF JAPAN

Shoji Demura  
Vice President, ZENGYOREN

Prof. Ian MacPherson, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Victoria University, Vancouver, Canada has been working as head of the Study entrusted by the ICA on Principles of Cooperation. A reply to the questionnaire received from Prof. MacPherson along with the reactions of our member organizations was sent. A revised version of the Principles of Cooperatives is likely to be presented for adoption. Though Principles of Cooperatives need to be applicable to all types of cooperatives, their importance is much more in order to manage fisheries cooperatives.

Conservation of resources and environment is quite important for fisheries cooperatives to make their sources of livelihood available for member fishermen in future. ZENGYOREN therefore implemented the following activities in the last FY:

- 1) A pamphlet of the three year (1993-95) FCA Movement Plan was drawn up and distributed to ZENGYOREN's member organizations for implementation;
- 2) The Eighth National FCA Movement Exchange Forum was held in Tokyo on 1st Feb., 1995.

3) A paper, 'Prospectus of Japan's Fisheries in 10 Years Time' .lm6

was published to provide guidance to future directions to FCA movement and fisheries policies, based on the objective analysis of current situations surrounding fisheries.

4) ZENGYOREN continued to serve as Secretariat of the ICA .lm6 Fisheries Committee and organized the 16th Seminar on fishery cooperatives for South East Asian Countries in October 1994.

## DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERMEN INDUSTRY IN MALAYSIA

Supervision of Fishermen's Association or Fishermen's Cooperative Society is done by the Malaysian Fisheries Development Authority (LKIM). Presently the structure of Fishermen's Association/Cooperative Societies is as under:

Area Fishermen's Association	66
State Fishermen's Association	11
National Fishermen's Association	1
Fishermen's Cooperative Societies	31
Association of Fishermen's Coop. Societies	3

Supervisory role in developing fisheries sector in Malaysia is divided under the Ministry of Agriculture. The Fisheries Department is responsible for the Management of Fish Sources, Licensing and Enforcement, Training and Development, Research and Fresh Water Fishing; whereas LKIM looks after implementation of PPL/AQUA Projects, Registration of Fisheries Association, Management of Marketing Complex, Fishermen's Socio-economy and Basic Infrastructure & Complex Facilities.

Emphasising on the Social Development of Fishing Community, the LKIM is making efforts to create a fishing community that is ready to accept innovation oriented towards development and can help in promoting a comfortable environment in fishing villages. Their efforts aim to create physical amenities in fishing villages, and promote the leadership and entrepreneurship.





## FISHERIES COOPERATIVES IN INDIA

India has very vast and rich fishery resources, both marine as well as inland. It occupies seventh rank in fish production in the world and contributes 3% of the total world fish produce. India's marine fish production is to the tune of 2.57 MT while in case of inland it is 1.8 MT. However, the per capita consumption of fish in India is merely 6.2 kg.

Government of India is emphasizing on modernization of the traditional and mechanized sectors and introduction of a judicious mix of imported and indigenous resources for optimum utilization of EEZ fisheries resources. Development of offshore pelagic fishery, reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on High School Diesel used by mechanized boats, introduction of plywood craft and assistance to states for implementation of Marine Fishery Regulations are some components proposed for development of fishery sector.

With the establishment of 46 commercial fish seed hatcheries in different parts of the country increased availability of fish seed has become possible. With a view to provide composite services to fish farmers, 372 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) covering 0.27 million ha. have been established by the Government.

Fisheries being the most hazardous profession, the Centrally sponsored Group Accident Insurance Scheme for Active Fishermen has been sanctioned. The scheme is being implemented by the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Ltd. (FISHCOFPED).

The structure of fishery cooperatives include: one National level Federation, 17 State level Federations, 108 Central (Dis-

-trict) level federations and 9,369 primary societies.

#### NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FISHERMEN'S COOPERATIVES LTD.

Established in 1980, the National federation started functioning in 1982. Its membership stood at 59 which included Government of India and the National Cooperative Development Corporation. The activities of the federation include promotional, business and welfare activities.

Insurance of fishermen is one of the main welfare activities of the federation, under which a 24 hour cover of Rs.25,000 against death or full permanent disability and Rs.12,500 against partial disability is available. Financial relief amounting to over Rs.40 million was arranged to the 2685 families of the victims upto September 1994. Besides two more schemes - Fish Pond and Pond Fish Insurance have also been formulated and being implemented by the federation.

FISHCOPFED arranged Net Making Machines for six primary societies in different states under its Transfer of Technology Programme. It implemented a Health Care and Family Welfare Programme through 70 fishery cooperatives in the states of Rajasthan, U.P., Bihar and West Bengal and nearly 10,000 families of members of fishery cooperatives were covered. Member Education to fishermen members of cooperatives was also one of the big projects, implemented by FISHCOPFED. It also organized two International Cooperative Alliance Fisheries Committee (OCA) Seminars on Fisheries Cooperatives in India where very important subjects were covered by Foreign and Indian Experts.

FISHCOPFED published a quarterly bilingual magazine for free publication among its members. On behalf of ICA Committee on Fisheries, of which the Managing Director is the Chairman, it published an international Fisheries Cooperative Bulletin.

DATA Bank of the federation, which is fully computerised, collects, analyses the Data on Fishery Cooperatives and periodically brings out a Statistical Bulletin giving useful information on fishery cooperatives.

FISHCOPFED provides consultancy in the field of fishery and for formulation of projects for financial assistance from different financing institutions to fishery cooperatives.

WELCOME REMARKS  
by  
**MR. DOMINADOR C. PUNZALAN**  
Director, CDA Calamba Extension Office (Region IV)

Participants, guests, distinguished officials of ICA, CDA, CUP and BFAR, Ladies and Gentlemen, Good Morning.

We at the Cooperative Development Authority - Calamba Extension Office is indeed very pleased and at the same time honored having the 20th Meeting of the ICA Committee on Fisheries for Asia and the Pacific conducted in the Philippines but specifically because you chose Region IV as venue of this important occasion.

Based on our records, Region IV, considered the premier region in the Philippines has the largest number of registered and operating fishery cooperatives. although it may not compare to Japan and South Korea Fishing Coops, we are hopeful we can attain some degree of successes sooner or later; due to the strong support the government and the private sector is extending to the Philippine Cooperative Movement. In fact, our modest way of welcoming all of you is to bring you to Cardona Fishery Cooperatives in the province of Rizal - about 21 kilometers south of the City of Manila. We hope to see all of you there. The 3rd day of your meeting to see for yourselves a typical Philippine Fishery Cooperative.

In behalf of CDA Region IV, we welcome all of you in the Philippines and at the City of Tagaytay. We certainly would wish you a successful meeting and an enjoyable stay here.

Thank you very much.

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\* Delivered during the Opening Ceremonies of the 20th meeting of the ICA Committee on Fisheries for Asia and the Pacific held at Taal Vista Hotel, Tagaytay City, Philippines on May 5, 1995.

PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH  
FOR  
THE MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES FOR ASIA AND  
THE PACIFIC HELD AT TAAL VISTA HOTEL, TAGAYTAY CITY ON  
5TH MAY 1995

I feel privileged to join the host in welcoming the guests and participants to this meeting of ICA Committee on Fisheries for Asia and the Pacific. Before I deal with the issue of working of this Committee, I would like to recall that for certain reasons this Committee was in hibernation during the year 1988-92. It was in 1992, the meeting of the Committee was held in Jakarta (Indonesia) to adopt a new constitution and elect its chairman, vice chairman, etc., and it was in this meeting that the members put the onus of the responsibility on my shoulders to Head this Committee.

In order to activate the Committee and to establish better ties with the fisheries cooperatives movement in the countries in the region and establish more effective coordination with the ICA Main Fisheries Committee, a meeting of the Committee was held in 1992 in Japan with the support of ZENGYOREN and we had a good representation.

Again in 1993, another meeting was held in Koela Terenganu, Malaysia. The time of this meeting was synchronized with the timing of ICA Fisheries Committee ODA Seminar and I expected better participation. However, only three countries viz. Japan, Malaysia and India participated in this meeting.

Before taking a decision to convene this meeting in Philippines, the matter was discussed and it was decided that the invitation should be extended to National Level Fisheries Cooperative Institutions in the countries of the region and also to the National Level Cooperative Organizations so that in case fisheries cooperatives of some countries are not in a position to attend or if they do not depute their representatives, the national cooperative union/federation may participate and take home the concept of organizing and strengthening of fisheries cooperatives to their countries. I am happy to report that

because of this decision of the Committee we got better response in this meeting. I expect Uzbekistan, Indonesia, and Thailand would join us. I welcome them all.

I would also like to state that since my taking over as Chairman of this Committee, there has been a very effective coordination between the ICA Fisheries Committee and this Committee. The Chairman of the ICA Fisheries Committee, Mr. Uemura and Secretary, Mr. M. Sato are present here today, which testifies their interest in the activities of this Regional Committee. I welcome them.

The Asia Pacific Region is one of the largest regions. I feel that I am not exaggerating the activities of ICA Regional Office for Asia & the Pacific when I say that since the taking over the office of Regional Director, ICA, ROAP by Mr. G.K. Sharma, a new life has been infused in the movement of this region. His dynamic approach has established a very good rapport with the Governments and the movements in the countries of the region. His approach has resulted in steps taken by the various Governments in democratizing the cooperatives and amending their cooperative laws providing for greater autonomy to the cooperative movements. I acknowledge with gratitude his contribution to the fisheries cooperatives movement of the region and particularly the revival of this Committee in the year 1992. I welcome Shri G.K. Sharma and confidently hope that his support will continue to be available to this Committee in abundant measures in the future.

I would like to acknowledge with gratitude the support given by the Cooperative Union of the Philippines in the organization of this meeting. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the President, especially Mr. Borja and the staff of the Cooperative Union of the Philippines.

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\* Delivered by MR. SUBASH CHANDRA, Chairman, ICA Fisheries Committee for Asia and the Pacific during the Opening Ceremonies of the 20th meeting of the ICA Committee on Fisheries for Asia and the Pacific held at Taal Vista Hotel, Tagaytay City, Philippines on May 5, 1995.

Coming to the agenda of the meeting, there has been a constant interaction between the Main Committee and the Regional Committee and the agenda has been finalized in consultation with the Secretary of the ICA Fisheries Committee. After the issue of the letter of invitation, the matter was further discussed and we came to the conclusion that this Committee should also formulate a view about the issue of cooperative principles, which will be discussed in September, 1995 in Manchester. ICA Fisheries Committee in its last meeting held in Jakarta assigned this job to me and I have done my work with the best of my ability. Since Mr. G.K. Sharma is present here I would like him to guide us on the issue of cooperative principles and the charter.

Further, keeping the need of active collaboration between FAO and this Committee, invitation was extended to Mr. Hota of FAO, who had also confirmed his participation. However, because of some unforeseen reasons, he could not make it convenient to be here. I also extended invitation to the Director General, FAO, Bangkok and the Asst. Director General, FAO, Delhi to make it convenient to participate. As already indicated there is a need for effective coordination between these two organizations and I would request Mr. M. Sato to initiate the issue with the hope that this Committee would be able to come out with some pragmatic recommendations in this behalf.

The world fisheries scene is passing through a phase of turmoil. Many problems are engaging the attention of experts, politicians and leaders. Some of these problems may be issued here for discussion. But what are we doing to improve the lot of poor fishermen. In my opinion, this should be the main concern of fishery cooperatives particularly in many countries of this region.

Coming to the fisheries situation in the region, there are many problems most of them relate to environment, pollution, over fishing, poverty of the fishermen, etc. I am reminded of the 22nd FAO Conference for Asia & the Pacific held in Manila which observed about non-sustainable fisheries in the following words and I quote:

"A number of countries have considerable experience in the planning and implementation of integrated approaches to coastal area management. Moreover, the important role of the fisheries sector in many countries has resulted in accumulating awareness of the challenges and difficulties of achieving fisheries which are sustainable at a level economically and socially attractive to those earning their living from the sector.

These increases in production have not been without adverse consequences. Reports of over exploitation of fish resources began to be made as early as the mid-1970s and towards the end of that decade conflict between industrial trawl fishermen and artisanal fishermen using traditional gears became a common occurrence.

Resources are over exploited either because of the need of people to survive or because of the profit motive. The open access nature of many resources is, almost always, the necessary condition for such over exploitation.

It is generally appreciated that sustainability cannot be achieved under conditions of extreme poverty.

The profit motive is apparent in, for example, non-sustainable aquaculture practices, and the introduction of industrial and semi-industrial vessels to inshore fishing grounds, contributing to the over exploitation of the fish resources and often generating conflict."

An analysis of the above, suggests that increased production has its own adverse consequences. The conflict between the trawl fishermen and artisans fishermen have become a common apparent. The poverty of the fishermen results in over exploitation and it is well recognized that the conditions of the extreme poverty are not congenial to sustainability. I am more worried about the "profit motive" which is said to be apparent in this process. Cooperatives are non-profit making organizations. Let us sincerely analyze as to what efforts cooperatives could make to improve the scenario and creation of sustainable fisheries with the object of minimising disputes and improving the socio-economic conditions of the fishermen. Here I would also like to add that the participants have taken into consideration the conclusion of this Ministerial Meeting organized by FAO in Manila in 1995 which recommends additional actions viz eliminate overfishing, rebuild and enhance fishstocks, minimize wasteful fishery practices, develop sustainable aquaculture rehabilitate fish

habitat and develop fisheries for new and alternative species.

Since every country has its own problem, I would not like to make any particular suggestion in this behalf and would urge on the participants to describe their problems in the perspective of the situation obtaining in their countries and suggest measures as to how cooperative efforts could improve the situation which doing so that may also discuss this major issues affecting the fishery cooperative movement, such as dual control on F.Cs, leasing policy of inland waters, fish marketing, etc.

It would not be out of place here to inform that because of the effective relationship between the Main Committee and the Regional Committee a number of activities could be organized in the region. I would particularly like to refer to the ODA Seminars organized by the Committee in the region during the year 1993 in Malaysia and India conducted by the experts from Japan, Malaysia and India. During the year 1995, India has offered to organise one seminar exclusively for women. This has been proposed keeping in view the need to develop fisherwomen through cooperatives and issue of gender integration. Fisherwomen perform a very important role in fisheries and it is essential that the cooperative movement ensures that their conditions is improved through cooperative activities and they participate in the management of fisheries cooperatives.

Another important activity is the annual event organized by ZENGYOREN viz. seminar on fisheries cooperatives. I would like to place on record my heart-felt appreciation for the conduct of this programme by ZENGYOREN. One of the most issue, which I would like to draw your kind attention is related to Committee itself. The Committee does not have any resources. Earlier, Swedish Cooperative Association used to support ICA, ROAP fort this Committee but further that is stopped. It may not be irrelevant to add that Government of Japan supports the activities of the ICA Fisheries Committee. May I take this opportunity to sincerely request the Governments of the countries in the region to provide funds to be contributed to the Asia Pacific Fisheries Cooperative Development Fund, which may be instituted in ICA, ROAP so that this Committee is strengthened and its activities become regular and vibrant.

FISHCOPFED, India has contributed to the activities of the Committee in its own little way. One of these was the publication of a book viz. "Fishing Industry and Fisheries Cooperatives" written by Daman Prakash, Regional Consultant, ICA FISHCOPFED, India also publishes "Asian Fishery Cooperative Bulletin" on behalf of this Committee. It also provided consultancy services to the Philippine Cooperative Movement to suggest measures for development of fishery cooperative in Philippines. A report was submitted to Cooperative Union of the Philippines and Mr. General Lozada was kind enough to appreciate the suggestions made in this report. Currently, we are negotiating a deal on dry fish marketing with the Consumer Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka.

Please permit me to add that in the renewed activities of the Committee, ICA, ROAP has played a very important role and I feel it as my duty to recall the services of Mr. Robby Tulus, who despite his very busy schedule accepted my request to continue as Secretary of the Committee. The services of Mr. A. Taneja of ICA ROAP in the organization of this meeting deserve our full appreciation, I extend him my personal thanks. Before closing I would like to present a souvenir to the President of CUP in recognition of the job CUP has played in organizing this event. With these words, I once again thank the guests and participants.

Thank you once again.

## MESSAGE

by

**PROF. EDNA E. ABERILLA**  
Chairperson  
Cooperative Development Authority

Mr. Sharma, Reg. Dir., ICA ROAP,  
Mr. Shoji Uemura, ICA Fisheries Committee Chairman.  
Mr. Subash Chandra, National Federation of Fishermen's  
Cooperatives Ltd., India, Managing Director,  
Mr. Robby Tulus, ICA Committee on Fisheries for A/P Secretary,  
Mr. Filomeno A. Bautista, Jr., CUP President,  
Mr. Felix A. Borja, CUP Secretary General,  
Mr. Dominador Punzalan, CDA Director for Region 4.  
Friends and Fellow Cooperators:

I wish to add my own welcome to those already expressed for our distinguished guests; and my own expression of thanks to the International Cooperative Alliance. The ICA has been very active in economic and sociocultural activities and has been instrumental in efforts towards establishing lasting world peace. It implements these goals, through international activities based upon the spirit of mutual support and democracy.

The Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) has deep respect and gratitude for the ICA, as an organization that confronts environmental destruction and poverty, and which devotes itself to the construction of a society that contributes so much to the cause of peace and humanity.

As the Philippine Government's regulatory agency for cooperatives, the CDA has also been contributing towards the same cause within its own sphere of influence. This is done at every opportunity and in accordance with the 'declared policy of the State' of fostering the creation and growth of cooperatives as a practical vehicle for promoting self-reliance and harnessing social justice. Accordingly, Government encourages the cooperative sector to undertake the actual formation and organization of cooperatives, and likewise, create an atmosphere that is conducive to the growth and development of these cooperatives. The Government, is therefore looking to the cooperative sector for its leadership in fisheries cooperative development.

We are, therefore, glad to cite, in this regard, CUP's thrust in the development of more fishery cooperatives and their federations, during the remaining years of the 20th century and beyond towards the attainment of the PHILIPPINES 2000 vision. We, in Government, likewise commend the co-op sector's initiative and determination in pushing the enactment of a new fishery Code that is making a "rough sailing in Congress."

I, therefore, consider it highly significant that the Philippines is hosting this Meeting of the ICA Fisheries Committee for Asia and the Pacific, which promotes, collaboration among fishery cooperatives in the various countries of the region. I am informed that "Environment and Sustainable Development" will be discussed from diverse viewpoints at this meeting. I anticipate that enthusiastic and active discussions will be conducted on these important issues.

In conclusion, may I wish you a successful, and fruitful meeting. To our guests and friends from overseas, may your stay in the Philippines be an enjoyable one.

Welcome once again and MABUHAY to all of you! Thank you for coming to the Philippines.



S P E E C H

by

MR. SHOJI UEMURA

Chairman, ICA Fisheries Committee

Distinguished guests, delegates, friends, ladies and gentlemen !!  
Good morning !!

First of all, I would like to thank Mr. Filomeno Bautista, Jr. President of Cooperative Union of the Philippines and Mr. Felix Borja, Secretary General of CUP for your excellent preparation for the meeting.

I would like to also express my gratitude to Prof. Edna E. Aberilla, Chairperson of Cooperative Development Authority and Dr. Guillermo Morales, Director of Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) for their logistic support to this meeting.

Of course, I must thank Mr. Chandra, Chairman of this Committee and Mr. Robby Tulus, Secretary, for planning this meeting.

ICA Fisheries Committee has carried out many of its educational activities in this region in close cooperation with ICA Committee for Fisheries for Asia and the Pacific. This is quite natural because almost 60% of the membership of ICA Fisheries Committee are from this region.

In view of the importance of fisheries cooperatives in this region, the main ICA Committee for Fisheries intend to increase membership from this area. And, for this purpose, we want to focus our area of activities more precisely to meet the needs of potential member organizations.

I understand that today's meeting would provide us with various information which I hope will help make ourselves become closer to each other, think together common problems that we have in this region for better solutions.

I sincerely wish that this meeting will prove to be really informative and meaningful for the development of fisheries and fisheries cooperatives in Asia and the Pacific.

I wish for every success of the meeting.  
Thank you very much.

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\* Delivered during the Opening Ceremonies of the 20th meeting of the ICA Committee on Fisheries for Asia and the Pacific held at Taal Vista Hotel, Tagaytay City, Philippines on May 5, 1995.

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

by  
DIRECTOR GUILLERMO L. MORALES  
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

Cooperation is a beautiful word. It connotes the coming together of a group of individuals who interact harmoniously with one another and unite into one body in a spirit of camaraderie to attain a common goal that would benefit them all.

Today, the Philippines is blest with our coming together to the 20th meeting of the International Alliance Committee on Fisheries for Asia and the Pacific. We have come from our respective countries for an exchange of ideas on the cooperative movement in the area of fisheries. Hopefully, we will come up with plans, strategies, and programs that will promote and enhance greater cooperation and foster better relations among our countries. Exerting our concerted efforts to find means of making fisheries more beneficial than ever before to mankind, particularly the sustenance fishermen and their families who should be given the opportunity to rise above the poverty line.

As you well know, the Philippines is composed of more than 7,100 islands. Its archipelagic nature makes its fisheries of utmost importance to its economy. The fishing industry provides livelihood to some one million individuals, who make up 5% of the country's labor force, and their dependents. Aquaculture employs 258,480 fisherfolk; municipal fisheries, 675,677, and commercial fisheries, 56,715.

Philippine Fisheries is made up of marine and inland resources. Marine resources cover a total territorial water area of 220,000,000 hectares. Broken down into 26,600,000 hectares for the coastal part and 193,400,000 hectares for the oceanic portion, including the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). The shelf area, with depth of 200 meters, covers 18,460,000 hectares; the coral reef area, 27,000 square kilometers. The coastline is 17,460 kilometers long. On the other hand, the inland resources consist in freshwater and brackishwater swamplands of 338,393 hectares; freshwater and brackishwater fishponds with an aggregate area of 253,854 hectares, and lakes, rivers and reservoirism with an aggregate area of 250,000 hectares.

The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources under the Department of Agriculture has not been amiss in performing its mandated role as guardian of the country's fisheries. Fishery laws, rules and regulation have been formulated and implemented for the conservation and protection of our fisheries and aquatic resources. In support to these, policies, plans, and programs have been devised for fishery management so that our marine and inland resources may continue to produce the Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY).

In 1993, we came up with the 5-year Medium-Term Fisheries Management and Development Plan (MTFMDP), which is aligned with the government's vision for Philippines 2000. It is designed to enhance the productivity of the country's fishery resources. Backed by a funding of P219,209,000.00, this program is geared towards the management of coastal resources, aquatic and lake areas.

The program's objectives are to enhance the overall productivity of the fishery resources within the limits of ecology and to uplift the socio-economic condition of smallscale fisherfolk. We have aimed to double aquaculture productivity from 1.2 MT per hectare per year to 2.4 MT; Double the number of priority bays and gulfs for coastal resource management from the current 12 to 24; improve operating efficiency of the commercial fishing fleet by 7%. In consonance with international standards; organize fishery law enforcement and provide support facilities to 50% of the country's coastal municipalities; reduce post-harvest losses by 5% and promote value-added products.

Cooperative Development came about in 1976 with the launching of the integrated fishery industry development plan. Our partner in this endeavor was the Bureau of Cooperatives Development, now known as the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA).

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\* Delivered during the Opening Ceremonies of the 20th meeting of the ICA Committee on Fisheries for Asia and the Pacific held at Taal Vista Hotel, Tagaytay City, Philippines on May 5, 1995.

The promotion and organization of cooperatives were not pursued as we had planned. These were hampered by the lack of technical manpower on fishery cooperatives. However, from 1976 to 1980, the village association, which came to be known as the "Samahang Nayan" was set up. The number grew and eventually this organization attained the stature of a full-fledged cooperative.

Today, we have fishing cooperatives in almost all provinces of the country. The latest count, as of December 31, 1993, gives us the information that 325 such cooperatives now exist in the Philippines. Of that number, 47 are established and the 278 others are newly registered. Hopefully, many more will be organized to address the needs of our sustenance fishermen.

Our sustenance fishermen are unhappy because their fishing operations are confined to municipal waters. With their small boats, they cannot ply offshore waters where a much bigger fish catch awaits them. Here is where an appropriate fishing fleet is needed. Perhaps, here is where your cooperation can come in.

In fishery law enforcement, implementation of rules and regulations is not as desired. We have always campaigned vigorously against illegal fishing, such as dynamite fishing, fishing with fine-meshed nets, fishing with poisonous substances, and the like. To this day, however, these malpractices persist. We cannot keep watch over and safeguard our water resources, especially in marine areas, as we should, because we lack facilities for Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)—specifically, speedboats, so that we can really go after and catch dynamite fishers who do not only kill the fish and destroy their habitats but also plunder our coral reefs.

Our fishery technologists and researchers supplement their skills, knowledge and expertise with trainings in your countries and elsewhere. We welcome such opportunities for them and we deeply appreciate your sharing of knowledge and expertise by this means. Our doors are also open to you for training in our fishery technologies.

Our marine waters have also been plagued by red tide blooms, causing adverse effects on the livelihood of our fisherfolk in the affected areas. There is a dearth in literature on red tide in our country and we cannot give the solution to our problem on this destructive phenomenon. We can only go as far as monitoring the occurrence of red tide blooms and banning the gathering and sale of shellfish and other sea products in areas where this menace holds sway, and telling the people to clean their seashores of garbage. Perhaps, your assistance and cooperation can be of great benefit to us in this area.

I have mentioned just a few of our problem areas. Certainly, we have more where your cooperation can be a big help to us. I am sure that in the course of this meeting, our respective needs will surface, and we can work together in finding entry points for our cooperation for one another. May this meeting give leeway to our commitment of extending a hand where needed and turn out to be a big success.

THANK YOU, AND GOOD MORNING. HAVE A NICE DAY!

M E S S A G E

by

DR. BRUCE THORDARSON

Director

International Co-operative Alliance

Geneva, Switzerland

On behalf of ICA Geneva, I would like to convey my sincere appreciation to Cooperative Union of the Philippines for hosting this meeting.

Cooperatives worldwide are at their crossroads and in this connection the values of cooperatives need to be fully reviewed. By doing so, directions to future course of our cooperative may hopefully emerge.

As you know, ICA was established 100 years ago. During the past one century, the tiny cooperative heart which was started in England became everybody's heart.

I have heard that you will discuss Principles of Co-operatives. Declarations and Co-operative Agenda 21 at the meeting. I would like very much to hear the result of the discussions, because we need to cover as wide a field as possible.

Herewith I send all of you attending the meeting very best wishes and hope every success of the meeting.

Sincerely yours,

BRUCE THORDARSON

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\* Read during the Opening Ceremonies of the 20th meeting of the ICA Committee on Fisheries for Asia and the Pacific held at Taal Vista Hotel, Tagaytay City, Philippines on May 5, 1995.

## Vote of Thanks

by

MR. FELIX A. BORJA

Secretary General

Cooperative Union of the Philippines

The Secretary General of CUP Mr. FELIX A. BORJA, expressed the thanks and appreciation of the Committee and CUP to the following Agencies and Organizations:

To the ICA Central Fisheries Committee headed by Mr. Shoji Uemura and Mr. Masaaki Sato for their attendance and financial support to the holding of the 20th Fisheries Committee Meeting;

To the ICA-ROAP headed by its Director, G.K. Sharma for his presence and the support of his staff in the organization and conduct of the Meeting;

To the Cooperative Development Authority headed by its Chairperson, Prof. Edna E. Aberilla and Region IV Director Dominador Punzalan for their attendance and support;

To the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, through its Director, Dr. Guillermo L. Morales for his keynote address and valuable support to CUP in hosting the meeting;

To the National Agricultural and Fishery Council for the technical assistance of its Secretariat;

To the following cooperatives for their donations and attendance of their leaders:

Del Monte Philippines, Inc. Employees Credit Cooperative  
Del Monte Philippines, Inc. Employees Consumers Cooperative  
LIMCOMA Development Cooperative  
Cavite Farmers Feedmilling & Marketing Cooperative (CAFFMACO)  
BANAPRA Development Cooperative  
PLDT Employees Credit Cooperative  
PLDT Service Cooperatives

and to the Cardona Group of Fishery Cooperatives for hosting the study visits.

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\* Delivered during the Opening Ceremonies of the 20th meeting of the ICA Committee on Fisheries for Asia and the Pacific held at Taal Vista Hotel, Tagaytay City, Philippines on May 5, 1995.

20th MEETING OF THE ICA COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES  
FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Taal Vista Hotel, Tagaytay City, Philippines

May 5-7, 1995

List of Delegates/Guests/Observers and Staff

**DELEGATES**

**INDIA**

1. Mr. S. Chandra  
Chairman, ICA Fisheries Committee for Asia & the Pacific  
Managing Director  
National Federation of Fishermen's Coops. Ltd.  
Sahakar Bhavan  
66, Tughlakabad Institutional Area,  
M.B. Road, New Delhi - 110062, India

**JAPAN**

2. Mr. Shoji Uemura  
Chairman, ICA Fisheries Committee  
c/o ZENGYOREN, 7th Floor, Coop Building  
1-1-12, Uchikanda  
Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo 101, Japan
3. Mr. M. Sato  
Secretary, ICA Fisheries Committee  
ZENGYOREN, 7th Floor, Coop. Building  
1-1-12, Uchikanda  
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo-101, Japan

**MALAYSIA**

4. Dato Hj. Aziz Mohd. Ibrahim  
Chairman  
ANGKASA Fisheries Committee  
4-B, Jalan Masjid Negeri  
Taman Mutiara (Green Lane)  
Penang, Malaysia
5. Ms. Wan Mahani Aziz (Observer)  
Personal Secretary to Dato Haji Aziz bin Mohd. Ibrahim,  
Chairman of ANGKASA Fisheries Committee  
4-B, Jalan Masjid Negeri  
Taman Mutiara (Green Lane)  
Penang, Malaysia

**MYANMAR (formerly BURMA)**

6. Mr. U. Minn Thame  
Director

Livestock and Fisheries Cooperative Syndicate  
Yangon, Myanmar

**PHILIPPINES**

7. Mr. Filomeno A. Bautista, Jr.  
President  
Cooperative Union of the Philippines  
CUP Bldg., Roces Avenue cor. Mother Ignacia St.  
Quezon City
8. Mr. Felix A. Borja  
Chairman, CUP Fisheries Committee  
Secretary General, Coop. Union of the Philippines  
c/o CUP Bldg., Roces Avenue cor. Mother Ignacia St.  
Quezon City

**ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific**

9. Mr. G.K. Sharma  
Regional Director  
International Cooperative Alliance Regional Office for  
Asia and the Pacific  
Bonow House, 43 Friends Colony (East)  
New Delhi 110065
10. Mr. Robby Tulus  
Secretary  
ICA Committee of Fisheries for Asia and the Pacific  
International Cooperative Alliance Regional Office  
for Asia and the Pacific  
Bonow House, 43 Friends Colony (East)  
New Delhi 110065
11. Mr. A.K. TANEJA  
Project Secretary  
International Cooperative Alliance Regional Office  
for Asia and the Pacific  
Bonow House, 43 Friends Colony (East)  
New Delhi 110065

**SPECIAL GUESTS**

12. Dr. Guillermo L. Morales  
Director  
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources  
3rd Floor, Arcadia Bldg.  
Quezon Avenue, Quezon City

13. Prof. Edna E. Aberilla  
Chairperson  
Cooperative Development Authority  
5th Floor, Ben-Lor Bldg.,  
1184 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City
14. Gen. Arcadio S. Lozada  
Administrator  
Cooperative Development Authority  
5th Floor, Ben-Lor Bldg.  
1184 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City
15. Mr. Dominador Punzalan  
Regional Director  
CDA Calamba Extension Office (Region IV)  
Barachina Building, Crossing  
Calamba, Laguna

#### **OSERVERS**

16. Mr. Juan Casper G. Mercado - -  
Harbor Master IV  
Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA)  
Union Square I  
145 15th Avenue, Cubao, Quezon City
17. Mr. Alberto Sabarias  
Cooperative Development Specialist II  
CDA Calamba Extension Office (Region IV)  
Barachina Building, Crossing  
Calamba, Laguna
18. Mr. Nestor B. Flores  
Cooperative Development Specialist II  
CDA Calamba Extension Office (Region IV)  
Barachina Building, Crossing  
Calamba, Laguna
19. Mr. Roland Tulay  
Assistant to the Chief  
National Agricultural and Fishery Council (NAFC)  
DA Bldg., Elliptical Road  
Diliman, Quezon City
20. Ms. Anselma Legaspi  
Division Chief  
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)  
Arcadia Bldg., 860 Quezon Avenue  
Quezon City



21. Ms. Estrella Hernandez  
Officer-in-Charge, IAS-FISSD  
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)  
Arcadia Bldg., 860 Quezon Avenue  
Quezon City
22. Mr. Manuel G. Arcinas  
Vice-President for Luzon  
Cooperative Union of the Philippines  
c/o Banapra Development Cooperative  
No. 98 Evangelista St., Batangas City
23. Mr. Modesto P. Lopez  
Treasurer  
Cooperative Union of the Philippines  
Roces Avenue cor. Mother Ignacia St.  
Quezon City
24. Prof. Josefina E. Gaerlan  
Director  
Cooperative Union of the Philippines  
Roces Avenue cor. Mother Ignacia St.  
Quezon City
25. Mrs. Pura L. Librodo  
Director  
Cooperative Union of the Philippines  
Roces Avenue cor. Mother Ignacia St.  
Quezon City
26. Mr. Nilo Abuga-a  
President  
DMPI Consumers Cooperative  
c/o Del Monte Philippines, Inc.  
Bugo, Cagayan de Oro City
27. Mr. Raul Jacutin  
Director  
DMPI Credit Cooperative  
c/o Del Monte Philippines, Inc.  
Bugo, Cagayan de Oro City

#### **SECRETARIAT**

28. Ms. Nancy F. Márquez  
Administrative & Finance Officer  
Cooperative Union of the Philippines  
Roces Avenue cor. Mother Ignacia St.  
Quezon City

29. Ms. Rosalinda S. Giron  
Cashier & Disbursing Officer  
Cooperative Union of the Philippines  
Roces Avenue cor. Mother Ignacia St.  
Quezon City
30. Ms. Corazon P. Legaspi  
Program & Operations Officer  
Cooperative Union of the Philippines  
Roces Avenue cor. Mother Ignacia St.  
Quezon City
31. Mr. Rogel Lotayo  
Driver  
Cooperative Union of the Philippines  
Roces Avenue cor. Mother Ignacia St.  
Quezon City