

# 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific

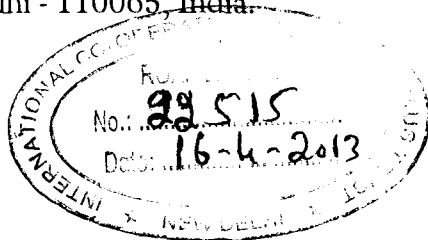
Singapore, 29-30 June, 2000

Progress Report  
of the ICA Regional Director  
**ROBBY TULUS**

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**International Co-operative Alliance**  
Regional Office for Asia & the Pacific  
New Delhi - 110065, India.



# **Progress Report of the ICA Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific**

**To the Fourth Meeting of the ICA Regional  
Assembly for Asia and the Pacific  
June 29-30, 2000**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This report covers a period of 20 months, which is a relatively short interval between the Third Meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific held in Seoul in October 1998, and the current one that is taking place here in Singapore. Yet, within this span of 20 months, no less than 44 events and project activities had been undertaken, as could be seen in the narrative account presented in Appendix I.

The Standing Committee of ICA ROAP, representing the Regional Assembly in between its meetings, has been very active and resourceful, and has officially met 4 times since they were elected at the Third Regional Assembly, the first one in Seoul (October 31, 1998), followed by Stockholm (April 11, 1999), Singapore (July 11, 1999), Quebec City (August 30, 1999), and an informal one held in Tel Aviv in April 2000. As well, the Fourth Meeting of the Executive Council was held in Beijing on October 10, 1999.

As an important governing structure of ICA in Asia and the Pacific, the Standing Committee has taken a proactive stance in giving the Regional Office important and timely advice and directions. And by

virtue of many of these members being also members of the ICA global Board, including Mr. Mu Li as the ICA Vice President, they have been instrumental in integrating the ICA global directions into the regional one. Moreover, with frequent and effective communication occurring between Mr. Bruce Thordarson as our Director General, as well as all levels of staff in Geneva and Delhi/Singapore, the system has been functioning very positively.

As shown during the Induction Ceremony on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2000, we have 5 new members admitted since our last Regional Assembly in Seoul. Two members are from Australia, one from Indonesia, one from Iran, and one from Israel.

## **CONTINUING OUR FOCUS ON MEMBERS**

Focusing on members must be premised on CHANGE, so old moulds can be broken and value addition found. ICA ROAP has initiated and set in motion the engine of change well before the forces of the Economic Crisis unleashed themselves in the mid 1997. As underlined in our previous reports, signs of a financial crisis looming in this region were already detected during the Ministers' Conference in Chiangmai in February 1997, and the pace of change towards greater efficiency was expedited at ICA ROAP with the restructuring and downsizing happening within the Regional office itself in December 1997.

And with the ICA Global Board embarking on its organizational review in 1998 under the leadership of President Roberto Rodrigues, amidst the lingering Asia economic crisis during our Regional Assembly in Seoul, we realized that the time for patchwork is over. Change, reform and member orientation are not mere reference points any longer. They are imperatives, and must be pursued regardless of our limited resources.

Knowing full well that we are member-led, albeit catalytic in nature, ICA ROAP continued to seek ways to increase value-added services to members. Consequently, all of ICA ROAP activities were carried out with "*member service orientation*" in mind first and fore-

most. It is not easy to change this orientation when an organization had been once accustomed to doing business more on the basis of activities (= process based) rather than performance (= results based). In the past, money was "docked" as a block-fund and ready to be used instantly. Since 1997, however, ICA ROAP has to come to grips with a considerably larger mandate albeit with more limited funds and resources. This is where the imperatives of change and reform must be acted on. It was painful when change has to involve restructuring, downsizing, and revamping remunerative scales. Yet it was a challenge that we had to face at ICA ROAP in 1997, in order to maximize efficiency and reach higher performance standards.

Since then we have tried to transform the hitherto "project to project" approach towards a more results-based program approach. Reliance on the sale of the Bonow House was placed at the backburner, lest the culture of "instant funding" will return to haunt ICA ROAP with doing things the old traditional ways. So we strived at capacity building, having our smaller Team feel comfortable with full information access. This refers to actual information available to our ICA employees, not the process by which it is actually shared. By doing so, we are also trying to instill on our ICA **members** that they have equal access to information within ICA ROAP. To actualize it we have, with our limited resources, worked hard on launching our own Website. Thanks to NTUC Income who provided us the needed resources, our own Website <[http:// www.icaroap.org.sg](http://www.icaroap.org.sg)> is now fully operational. In fact, the official launching of our Website took place at the First Asia Pacific Co-operative Forum right in this same building.

To create higher performance standards, we at ICA ROAP changed the way information flows among ourselves and with our members. In particular we began practicing interactive work settings, free flow of information, and other strategies that promote the understanding of others' jobs. Horizontal sharing of information between our units, especially now that we have both the Delhi Regional Office and the Singapore Business Office, must be practiced more frequently and more effectively.

Clearly, we hold the view that technical excellence is the primary means for achieving our co-operative business success. Now that ICA ROAP has its business office in full operation in Singapore, thanks to the generous support of SNCF – our active and strong member – we must acquire technical excellence as our means for achieving higher levels of performance.

## **DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS WITH OUR RICH NETWORK**

Concurrent with our focus to provide the best possible services to members we must also advocate our members' needs to the rich network that we have. They include national and international organizations, with which ICA ROAP must continue to strengthen its ties and strategic alliances. These international partners include our ongoing and longstanding partners such as CCA, DID, MAFF, and ILO, in addition to our own ICA member-based development partners such as JCCU, ACFSMC, JA-ZENCHU & IDACA, SNCF, NCUI, and NACF. In addition, ICA ROAP continues to augment its collaboration with the more newly established partners such as the RABO Bank Foundation, ADB, DFID (UK), CICOPA, AARRO, AGRITERRA, AWCF, the Ministry of Textiles in India, and a number of UN organizations. Dialogue continues with previous partners such as SCC and CCD. Work with FAO - by way of NEDAC - and UNIFEM are going on well, and work with UN ESCAP, WHO, and UNDP is gaining momentum.

Soon after the conclusion of the Third Regional Assembly, a Round Table Meeting was conducted as a joint effort between CCA-CIDA-DID-ICA, to strengthen partnerships between co-operatives in Canada and in Asia. It was attended by a number of policy makers of ICA ROAP, as well as co-operative leaders and some NGOs from Asia and Canada. It was preceded by a research activity conducted by ICA ROAP, and followed by consultations with co-operative leaders in Canada, and a Round Table Meeting in Montreal, Canada. A policy document resulting from the RTMs has been submitted to CIDA for further action.

In addition to facilitating business cooperation among economically strong members in the various sub-regions of Asia, ICA ROAP is also heedful of the need for those member organizations that are still struggling to survive the odds arising from non-conducive policy and legislative environments, as well as those whose members are facing modern-day exploitation that adds to the burden of poverty. As indicated in our Annual Report of 1999, the resilience of so many ICA members in facing the challenges imposed on them by the economic crisis is indeed spectacular. Inspired by such resilience and determination, ICA ROAP made a point to intensify its efforts to keep this positive momentum by creating forums where members can share, learn and act together. The realization of the First Asia Pacific Co-operative Forum 2000, that just concluded yesterday, is one example. The Regional Consultation, followed by the 5th Co-operative Ministers' Conference organized in collaboration with Singapore National Co-operative Federation (SNCF) and All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives (ACFSMC) respectively in 1999, is another one. Worth reminding is the fact that The 5<sup>th</sup> Co-operative Ministers Conference formulated practical guidelines to create a more enabling environment for co-operatives as they aspire for greater sustainability.

The Joint Declaration adopted by the Ministers' Conference focused on two imperatives - first, the need to create and sustain an enabling policy and legal environment conducive to cooperative development, and secondly, the need to establish new forms of cooperation between governments and cooperatives. Encouraged by our member organizations, we have resolved to give the imperatives a more concrete shape. Our Strategic Development Plan for the year 2000-2004 reflects it.

All our ICA staff in Delhi and in Singapore are hardworking, committed, and resourceful. Mr. Guo Yong Kang, Deputy Regional Director, left ICA on his own request to take up a long-term sabbatical, hence it leaves us only with Messrs. B.D. Sharma, Romy Villamin, and Juku Ozawa as small contingent of professional team, supported by our experienced staff in New Delhi.

Other key result areas of ICA ROAP in 1999, which were critical to strengthening co-operative movements in the region, pertain to poverty reduction. First we made special efforts to focus on Central Asia, as well as countries in transition, by way of creating empowering instruments such as training tools and self-help capital formation, to help reduce poverty in these countries. Together with staff from Head Office, ICA ROAP designated Mr. B.D. Sharma to visit Kazakhstan and Kyrgystan. The mission studied the possibilities of establishing a ROAP regional support program for the Central Asian region. A special Symposium on co-operative legislation for economies in transition was organized in Hanoi, Vietnam, which included participants from other countries with transitional or restructured economies such as China, Cambodia, Mongolia, Myanmar, and a number of ASEAN countries. A joint endeavor with ILO was staged in Fiji for the Pacific Island Nations in an effort to understand their socio-economic and cultural realities, and how Co-operatives could play a role in strengthening their development efforts.

We continue to seek ways to strengthen financial cooperatives, for which a special Seminar on the "Positioning of Co-operative Financial Intermediation in post-crisis capital markets and Financial Sector in the Region". We conducted a number of activities in promoting the role of women and youth, and their involvement in decision-making levels in cooperative leadership. We are also seeking ways to reposition co-operatives in the social sector, and formulate HRD strategies by employing hi-tech – but with a "hi-touch" – as we enter the new world filled with information and communication technology (ICT). Cooperatives cannot be left behind in their attempt to provide business and service excellence in the face of new challenges in the 21st century. Our efforts in the year 2000 will, therefore, be further enhanced and directed to pursue new synergies among with our members and international development partners.

## **CONCLUSION**

ICA ROAP remains optimistic that we can break old moulds. Co-operatives have shown that they are remarkably adept in the art of

surviving various odds over more than one century. Technology has changed, economic assumptions have shifted, expectations have soared, and lifestyles have altered. To keep up with this rapid change, we have to continue to build on our collective strength and competence, so new ideas will flow towards the direction of change and generate our collective will to effect this change. We must not only be realistic, but also be bold enough to demand the impossible. And audacity usually pays.

**ROBBYTULUS**  
**Regional Director**



## ICA ROAP ACTIVITIES COVERING THE PERIOD OF NOVEMBER 1998 – JUNE 2000

The **3<sup>rd</sup> ICA Regional Assembly** for Asia and the Pacific was held in Seoul, Korea, on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> October 1998. Mr. Churll-Hee Won, Chairman and President of NACF was elected Chairman of the Regional Assembly, replacing Royal Prof. Ungku A. Aziz from ANGKASA, Malaysia. In addition, the Assembly elected four Vice Chairpersons, namely Mr. H. Kohno, Dr. Yehudah Paz, Prof. Ungku Aziz, and Ms. Teresita de Leon. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan continues as Chairperson of the ICA Executive Council. As a result of these elections, the **Standing Committee** of ICA ROAP has been restructured and is currently composed of the ICA Vice President (Asia Pacific), the Chairperson of ICA Executive Council, and those office bearers of the Regional Assembly.

There were no less than 17 organizational events of ICA ROAP held in conjunction with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional Assembly, and each and every important event was held successfully with no organizational glitch whatsoever. In addition, a Global Forum was also organized following the Assembly by the ICA Head Office.

ICA ROAP owes its gratitude to the NACF for their generous support and organizational skills. In teamwork with the ICA ROAP staff, the whole event has now become a watershed that will hopefully evolve into new heights.

The following are highlights of the “**SEOUL EVENTS**”:

- 1) The **3<sup>rd</sup> ICA Regional Assembly** for Asia and the Pacific was held at the Westin Chosun Hotel, Seoul, Korea, on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> October 1998. Unlike previous Assemblies, this third one was

highlighted by the inclusion of a Cooperative Forum with the theme "***The Role of Cooperatives in the Face of the Asian Economic Crisis***". Also unique to this 3<sup>rd</sup> Assembly was the fact that no less than 17 other meetings were held prior and after the Assembly proper, including the ICA Global Forum, Meetings of Specialised Committees, and a Regional Women's Forum, were held on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> October, followed by a Special Workshop on "Food Security and Fair Trading", jointly designated and implemented by the Agriculture, Consumers and Fisheries Committees for Asia and the Pacific on 27<sup>th</sup> October. The latter was an attempt to promote integration through strategic alliances among relevant sectors within the region. The ICA office in Geneva organised the "Global Forum" which took place right after the closing of the Regional Assembly. With 166 delegates/observers registered for the Regional Assembly, and no less than 220 other cooperators attending various other meetings/events, the entire membership-focussed exercise had the largest attendance ever in this region. The host organisation, the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, in collaboration with the ICA ROAP, managed to weave the complicated organizational threads into a successful ensemble.

- 2) The **1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the ICA Regional Women's Committee** for Asia and the Pacific was held in Seoul on 25<sup>th</sup> October 1998. Eleven members from nine countries; 1 delegate from AWCF; and over 30 observers attended the Meeting. AWCF has been approved has a member of RWC on merit basis (Article 5). The Committee discussed the two-year plan and passed the Constitution. Ms. Rahaiah Baharen has been unanimously elected as the Chairperson of the Committee. The Committee also unanimously elected Ms. Hatsuko Omori, Japan, and Ms. Rameshwari Ramchandra, Singapore, as Vice-chairpersons.
- 3) The **1<sup>st</sup> ever ICA Regional Women's Forum** for Asia and the Pacific was held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1998 at the Agricultural Cooperative College of NACF in Seoul, Korea. A total of 130 women and men representing 19 cooperative organizations and an in-

ternational development agency from 12 countries participated in this landmark and historic event. The Forum recommended to the Regional Assembly that ROAP should take necessary action to: (a) ensure the participation of women in all Specialised Bodies, (b) organise Regional Women's Forum in conjunction with the RA; (c) assist the MOs in different countries to lobby for positive amendments to coop laws and bye-laws to enable more participation of women in decision-making in cooperatives.

- 4) The **31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the ICA Committee on Agriculture** for Asia and the Pacific was held in the NACF office, Seoul (Republic of Korea) on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1998. Sixteen participants from six countries attended the meeting. Dr. V. Kumar (India) and Mr. D.P. Baskota (Nepal) were unanimously elected as Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson respectively. The meeting unanimously adopted the Resolution of Agricultural Cooperatives in Achieving Food Security moved by the JA-Zenchu (Central Union of Agricultural Co-ops of Japan) and decided to forward the Resolution to the ICA Regional Assembly for its approval. The next meeting of the Committee will be held in Kathmandu, Nepal some time in 1999.
- 5) The **31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation** for Asia and the Pacific was held on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 1998 at the NLCF premises in Seoul. 26 members and observers from 11 countries attended the meeting. Mr. H. Tanaka of Japan was re-elected unanimously as Chairperson of the Committee for the second time, while Mr. K. Okayasu from Japan was elected Vice-Chairperson, which post was lying vacant since last meeting.
- 6) The **23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Fisheries Committee** was held in Seoul, Republic of Korea on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1998 in conjunction with the Executive Meeting and Plenary Meeting of the International Co-operative Fisheries Organization (ICFO). In view of a duly approved modified Constitution, it was decided that the priority should be given to secure a formal approval of the ICA Regional Assembly of the revised constitution of the Committee. The re-

vised constitution was later approved unanimously by the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly held on 28<sup>th</sup> of October 1998. The Committee also adopted a resolution on Contribution of Fisheries Co-operators to Food Security. The Resolution was subsequently unanimously adopted by the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly at Seoul on 28<sup>th</sup> October 1998.

- 7) A special workshop on "**Agriculture-Consumers-Fisheries Strategic Alliance**" was held on 27<sup>th</sup> of October 1998 at the Agricultural Co-operative College of NACF in Seoul, Korea. The workshop was attended by 50 participants, which also included two international organizations. It was the first time in ICA's history in this region that three committees joined together to discuss important issues. The participants felt that it is necessary to establish goals for the sectors to be effective and to bring economic benefits to the producers and consumers.

Economic goal is the assured supply of quality goods through contract farming and have an assured market for the products to be sold. Business strategies between agricultural producers and consumers are essential to achieve this goal. The workshop recommended: a) to organize more activities to exchange information between consumer, agriculture and fishery; b) to identify and formulate strategies directions for strategic alliances in the future; c) to select and promote successful experiences in this region from the consumer sector, agricultural sector and fishery sector; and d) to promote ventures, international trade and technology transfer.

- 8) The **4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICA Consumer Sub-committee on University/ College Cooperatives** was held on 25<sup>th</sup> October at NACF, Seoul. 21 participants from 10 countries attended the meeting. Mr. K. Okayasu was unanimously re-elected as Chairperson. Mr. Mohammed Iqbal from Indonesia was unanimously elected as Vice-chairperson. Mrs. M. Climaco from the Philippines was unanimously elected as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairperson.
- 9) The **Regional Co-operative Banking Association (RCBA)** met

for the first time in Seoul on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1998. From the situations presented, it emerged that only a very small percentage of financial co-operatives have been impacted by the financial crisis as they were member-based and member-controlled. This reflected resistance of co-operative system during crisis. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan was unanimously elected as Chairperson and Mr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya as Vice-Chairperson.

- 10) The **ICA Committee on Human Resource Development and Research** met at the office of National Credit Union Federation of Korea on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1998. The Committee felt that in future programmes on Information Technology and Distance Learning should be taken up. The chairman also suggested that CEMAS material must be updated and used. The Global HRD Committee also met at the same day and venue.
- 11) **A Cooperative Research Consultation** was held on 25<sup>th</sup> October 1998 at the NACF Headquarters in Seoul, Korea. Based on the suggestions of the participants and after extensive discussions, the Consultation decided to constitute a group consisting of Mr. Kurimoto (Japan) as chairperson, Mr. M.V. Madane (India), Prof. Won-Seok Chang (Korea), and a few nominees of the HRD and Research committee. Mr. B.D. Sharma, Director, ICAROAP, will be the secretary. This group will work on format of research register; the theme of the Asian Research Conference; and terms of reference of the conference. It was decided that an independent Asian Research Forum be constituted, within the framework of Regional HRD and Research Committee.

In addition to the above policy-related meetings and governance issues, the following development activities were also undertaken:

- 1) ***Study on Strengthening Partnerships between Co-operatives in Asia and Canada***: Based on secondary data and documents available in ICA ROAP, a comprehensive study of status of Asian co-operatives completed. Round Table Meetings for Asian Co-operatives convened on 1-2 November 1998 in Seoul, Korea and 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> November 1998 in Montreal/Ottawa in

Canada. Study along with recommendations of Round Table Meetings is under consideration of CIDA. It is expected that some projects may flow to ICA ROAP.

- 2) A Sub-regional Workshop on "**Co-operative Policy Reforms**" for the sub-region of South, West and Central Asia was organised from 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> January 1999 at Kathmandu (Nepal) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture of His Majesty Government of Nepal; and National Co-operative Federation of Nepal. The workshop was a pre-cursor of Regional Consultation scheduled to be convened in Singapore in July 1999 in order to prepare for the 5<sup>th</sup> Co-operative Ministers' Conference in Beijing (China) in October 1999. 19 representatives of Co-operatives and Governments from Bangladesh, India, Iran, Israel, Nepal, Sri Lanka and two international organisations participated in the workshop. The workshop was inaugurated by His Excellency Hon'ble Girija Prasad Koirala, Prime Minister of Nepal. The workshop reviewed trends in co-operative policy since 4<sup>th</sup> Co-operative Ministers Conference held in Chiangmai in 1997. The participating countries' representatives prepared country action plans in regard to advancement of legislative and co-operative policy reforms.
- 3) The 13<sup>th</sup> ICA/Japan International Training Course on "**Strengthening Management of Agricultural Co-operatives in Asia**" commenced in India on 15<sup>th</sup> January 1999. The course was attended by 15 managers of agricultural co-operatives representing 11 Asian countries. The participants arrived in India to follow the India part of the programme after having completed their 50-day home country assignments during which they produced their draft proposals on agricultural co-operative projects. The participants attended two important segments of the 5-month long training course – review of agricultural co-operative situation in the region and development project design and appraisals including field study visits. The India part of the programme was conducted at the IFFCO's Fertiliser Management Development Institute (FMDI) at Gurgaon and the project design module at the Institute of Rural Management at Anand. The India part of the

programme concluded on 27<sup>th</sup> of February. Before proceeding to Japan on 5<sup>th</sup> March to participate in the Japan part of the programme at IDACA for a period of two months, the participants visited Nepal to participate in a comparative study visits programme. The course will conclude on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April 1999 in Japan.

- 4) The **3<sup>rd</sup> Board Meeting of APHCO** (Asia-Pacific Health Co-operative Organisation) was held on 24<sup>th</sup> January 1999 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Nine participants attended the meeting. Detailed discussions were held on "Organizational Development of APHCO" and "Impact of Economic Crisis to the Health Coops". It was agreed that the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of APHCO would be held in Malaysia in October 1999. A regional seminar on "Community-based Hospital and Role of Health Coops" will also be held in conjunction with the General Assembly.
- 5) The **Office-Bearers Meeting of the ICA RWC** (Regional Women's Committee) for Asia and the Pacific was held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1999. The meeting discussed the activity plan of the Women's Committee and the Gender Integration Project for the years 1999 and 2000 and chalked out a strategy to promote the women's participation in decision-making in coops.

The meeting also decided to start preparations for the Regional Women's Forum to be held in Singapore during 2000 and issue a newsletter every month pointing out the achievements and exhorting MOs to promote women's participation in the board of management of co-operatives.

- 6) A Sub-Regional Workshop on the "**Advancement of Legislative and Coop Policy Reforms**" was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> February 1999. The workshop was attended by 41 participants from ten countries and seven international organisations. The workshop was inaugurated by His Excellency Hon'ble Pongpol Adireksarn, Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives, Government of Thailand. The workshop was

hosted by the Co-operative Promotion Department (CPD) of Royal Government of Thailand; and Co-operative League of Thailand (CLT). The workshop critically examined legal diversity in Asia and Pacific region and formulated guide points for advancement of legislative and co-operative policy reforms. The participants also outlined the Action Plans for their respective countries in the areas of legislative and co-operative policy reforms and development of state and co-operative relationships in the spirit of partnership.

- 7) The **2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Regional Co-operative Banking Association (RCBA)** was convened on 25<sup>th</sup> February 1999 in Bangkok. The meeting discussed strategy for enhancing membership of RCBA and reviewed trends in co-operative banking in the region. The RCBA decided to convene Asia-Pacific Seminar on "Role of Co-operative Banks in the Liberalised and Globalised Financial Sector" in conjunction with the Regional Consultation scheduled to be held in July in Singapore.
- 8) A **Steering Committee Meeting** for the Co-operative Leadership Development Manual for Women was held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 27<sup>th</sup> February 1999. Both the ICA and the ILO felt that the "Manual" prepared by the Consultant has not covered several areas and the coverage on co-operatives is insufficient. Hence it was decided that the Manual be redone by ICA/ILO which will be ready by July 1999.
- 9) Mr. Rooberto Rodrigues, ICA President, visited New Delhi from 18 to 20 April to inaugurate the new cooperative complex of the NCUI on 19<sup>th</sup> April. Accompanied by the Regional Director, the ICA President also inaugurated a National Seminar on "Women and Youth" at the same venue. Speaking at the function, Mr. Rodrigues stated that strategic alliances among various sectors of cooperatives, as well as with the private sector, are very essential in order to generate effective partners of productive chains. The ICA President also visited the Regional Office and its Cooperative Information and Research Center.



- 10) The ICA Regional Director (Asia Pacific), attended a workshop on “Financial Systems for Sustainable Resource Mobilization in less Advanced Developing Countries”, organized by the DAC/OECD together with the World Bank, held at the OECD headquarters in Paris. He presented a paper entitled “South-South Cooperation for Cooperative Development”, with reference to financial sector development.
- 11) The ICA ROAP organised the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Campus/Youth Cooperative Seminar for Asia and the Pacific at Quezon City, Philippines, from 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> April. The main theme of the seminar was “Future Leaders Leading Now”. More than 150 delegates and observers from Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Canada participated at the seminar.
- 12) The 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the 13<sup>th</sup> ICA/Japan International Training Course on “**Strengthening Management of Agricultural Co-operatives in Asia**” was held at IDACA (Japan) with study visits in and around Tokyo and in Kochi and Gunma prefectures from 6<sup>th</sup> March to 24<sup>th</sup> April. 15 managers representing agricultural co-operatives from 11 Asian countries took part in the Training Course. The training course received financial support from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan. As well, the MAFF has agreed to finance the 14<sup>th</sup> Training Course.
- 13) The ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific organised a Symposium on “Cooperative Legislation in Economies in Transition” from 25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> May in collaboration with the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance in Hanoi, Vietnam. More than 40 delegates from cooperative movements in the developing and transitional economies in the region, as well as international organizations (UN-ESCAP, ILO, CCA, DID), including resource persons from ASEAN countries, participated in this important Symposium. The event was organized as a precursor to the ICA Regional Consultation to be held in Singapore from 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> July in order to prepare for the 5<sup>th</sup> Cooperative Ministers Conference in Beijing in October.

- 14) The ICA ROAP in collaboration with the Singapore National Co-operative Federation held a Regional Consultation in Singapore from 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> July which was attended by 88 participants from 19 countries, including six international organizations. The overall aim was to assist member organizations and their governments to foster an enabling environment for cooperatives through proper laws and regulations. The Regional Consultation was preceded by three sub-regional workshops organised for the purpose of getting issues that were relevant and close to the broad constituency of cooperatives across the region. The Consultation, after lengthy and in-depth discussions, proposed a number of relevant recommendations to the 5<sup>th</sup> Cooperative Ministers Conference to be held in Beijing from 11<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> October 1999.
- 15) The ICA ROAP Business Office was officially opened on 10<sup>th</sup> July by His Excellency Abdullah Tarmugi, Minister for Community Development, Government of Singapore in the presence of ICA President, Mr. Robert Rodrigues. About 120 participants from different countries and international organizations representing cooperative movements and governments attended the opening ceremony. The ROAP hopes to serve its member organizations in the region from this Business Office, particularly in areas of inter-cooperative trade and business. ICA ROAP is also planning to organize an international trade exhibition in Singapore in the year 2002 to serve the interests of ICA members both regionally and globally.
- 16) The **32<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the ICA Committee on Agriculture** for Asia and the Pacific was held at Grand Plaza Park Royal on 11<sup>th</sup> July. Twenty participants from eleven countries and one international organization (FAO NEDAC) attended the meeting. The meeting was conducted by Dr. V. Kumar, Chairman of the Committee. The meeting recognized that agriculture is the mainstay of national economies of the Asia-Pacific region. However, present trends ushered in by globalization and liberalization have far reaching impact on the majority of the population comprising of farmers and small laborers. ICA Agriculture Committee and NEDAC

agreed to undertake a joint collaborative action plan to strengthen agricultural cooperatives in order to enable them to meet the emerging challenges for the benefit of farming community. After detailed discussions the meeting approved the "ICA Agriculture Committee-NEDAC Joint Statement on Food Security and Sustainable Agricultural Development through Cooperatives". As an action plan, six countries agreed to conduct a "Study on Food Security and Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development through Cooperatives". The next meeting of the Committee will be held in Singapore in conjunction with the Regional Assembly meeting in September/October 2000.

- 17) The **11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICA Committee on Human Resource Development and Research** was held at Hotel Grand Plaza Park Royal on 11<sup>th</sup> July. 28 participants attended the meeting. Professor Ungku A Aziz chaired the Committee meeting. The meeting reviewed the MATCOM materials for updating, and sought to strengthen the network among co-operative colleges and co-operative "minded" universities.
- 18) A **Meeting of Asian Cooperative Research Forum** was held on 11<sup>th</sup> July at Hotel Grand Plaza Park Royal. 12 participants attended the meeting and they decided to form a "core group" that will organize the first Co-operative Research Conference in the year 2000 in conjunction with the ICA ROAP Regional Assembly.
- 19) The ICA Regional Office organized a Seminar on "Positioning of Cooperative Financial Intermediation in Post-Crisis Capital Markets and Financial Sector in the Region" in Singapore from 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> July under the sponsorship of DID and Rabo Bank. 63 participants from 12 countries attended the seminar. The objectives of the seminar were mainly to: (a) critically examine and review the status, role and positioning of cooperative credit and banking institutions in the liberalized and globalized financial sector; and (b) recommend measures for strengthening competitiveness of cooperative banking institutions.

- 20) A University Coop Seminar was held on 27-28 July at the Danang University, Vietnam. The seminar was the second to be conducted by ICA and NFUCA in Vietnam to promote university coops in the country. The seminar was a general orientation on university coops to enable teachers and students to appreciate the idea of university coops, how they operate, and how they can organise one in the school system.
- 21) The Coop College of Malaysia organised a seminar on 2-3 August at the College premises in Petaling Jaya. More than 200 cooperative leaders from all over the country participated in the seminar. Mr. Robby Tulus, ICA Regional Director, made a presentation on "Cooperatives Doing Business Around the Globe: A Challenge or Opportunity" which was highly appreciated by the participants.
- 22) The 9<sup>th</sup> ICA/Japan Training Course for Rural Women Leaders of Agricultural Cooperatives was held at IDACA, Japan, and attended by six participants from three countries (Myanmar, Philippines, and Thailand) from 23<sup>rd</sup> August to 11<sup>th</sup> September.
- 23) The 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Women in Agricultural Coops in Asia and Africa, jointly held by ICA/JA-Zenchu/AARRO/IDACA at Tokyo from 24<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> August, was attended by 32 delegates representing 16 Asian and African countries and three international organisations. The Conference centered on defining and building more concrete measures on food security issues and women-farmer equality and ensuring a better institutional support for them.
- 24) Mr. Bruce Thordarson, Director General, and Mr. Robby Tulus, Regional Director met the President and officials of the Asian Development Bank in Manila in early October 1999 and discussed potential coop development activities in collaboration with ADB. They shared the activities of the ICA in the Asia Pacific region, and those globally, and explored the possibilities of making coops in the Asia region viable models for micro-finance and poverty alleviation strategies being pursued by the Bank.

- 25) The 2<sup>nd</sup> APHCO Board Meeting was held in Kuala Lumpur on 8<sup>th</sup> October. Seven members from Japan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and India attending the meeting.
- 26) The regional seminar on “Cooperative Healthcare in the new Millennium” was held in Kuala Lumpur on 9<sup>th</sup> October. 80 participants attended the seminar from seven countries.
- 27) The 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of APHCO was held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 1999 at Armada Hotel in Kuala Lumpur. 22 participants from six countries attended the meeting.
- 28) The ICA Regional Executive Council Meeting was held in Beijing on 11<sup>th</sup> October. 13 members, six representatives from partner organisations, the President/ DG/DDG of ICA and four observers attended the meeting. The meeting decided that in view of broadening of the Standing Committee of the RA, which will serve as a coordinating body for the region, the Executive Council would no longer be in existence.
- 29) The 5<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Cooperative Ministers' Conference was convened by ROAP in Beijing from 11<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> October. The Conference was hosted by the Government of People's Republic of China and the ACFSMC. 163 participants from 24 countries and 8 international organisations participated in the Conference. The Conference was the culmination of the long efforts by the ICA ROAP, which conducted issue-based workshops in Kathmandu, Bangkok, and Hanoi, and a Regional Consultation in Singapore during July. Based on the recommendations of the Regional Consultation, the 5<sup>th</sup> Conference deliberated and formulated specific recommendations on the following issues: (i) Autonomy and independence; (ii) Recognition; (iii) Fair playing field; (iv) Legal existence; (v) Self-regulation; (vi) Capitalisation; and (vii) Official development assistance. Deliberations of the Conference culminated into a Joint Declaration highlighting a new approach to coop development. The Conference constituted a Steering Committee that will monitor the progress of implementation and report to the next Ministers' Conference to be held in Nepal.

- 30) The ICA Regional Director, Robby Tulus, participated at a Global Conference organised by the ICA Global Women's Committee in Quebec City on 29<sup>th</sup> August and presented a paper on "Some Experiences in Goal-oriented Training and Education within the context of mainstreaming Gender".
- 31) He also participated in the International Cooperation Days 1999 organized by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in Ottawa, Canada, on 16-17 November 1999, and presented a paper on 'Toward Local Ownership' at a panel discussion on 'Micro Finance: The Impact of Alliances'."
- 32) A National Conference on Local Governance and Coop Development was held on 8-10 November in the Philippines. Organised by the Philippine Cooperative Center, the Conference brought together around 300 participants from the government and coop sectors. Among the issues discussed were the role of the State in the coop development and the various possibilities by which local government units can enter into joint undertaking with coops. Mr. Romy Villamin presented a paper on "Cooperatives and the Changing Role of the State" at the Conference.
- 33) The 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICA Consumer Sub-committee on University/College Coops was held in Bali, Indonesia, on 29<sup>th</sup> November. 22 members/observers attended the meeting. In addition, 30 students from different parts of Indonesia also attended the meeting as observers.
- 34) The Regional Director and the Coordinator of ILO, Ms. Teresita de Leon, facilitated a Workshop on Co-operative Development in Nadi, Fiji, organized by the ILO Office for the Pacific. It was attended by 40 participants from a number of Island countries in the Pacific, as well as delegates from Australia and Japan.
- 35) The Regional Director, Robby Tulus, and the ICA Director (Membership), Mats Ahnlund, visited Australia and New Zealand to introduce the services ICA can offer if co-operatives from Australia and New Zealand are to join the ICA.

- 36) The 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation was held in Bali, Indonesia, on 30<sup>th</sup> November. 31 members/observers attended the meeting. The Committee finalised the work plan for 2000-2001.
- 37) The Consumer Coop Forum was held in Bali, Indonesia, on 1<sup>st</sup> December. The theme of the Forum was "What is value of the consumer coop in Asia". 30 participants from nine countries attended the Forum.
- 38) A seminar on University Coops was held in Thai Nguyen, Vietnam, from 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> December. About 40 participants attended the seminar. Mr. Juku Ozawa presented a paper on the situation of University Coops in Asia.
- 39) The 14<sup>th</sup> ICA-Japan Training Course on Strengthening Management of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia commenced on 12<sup>th</sup> November 1999. 15 participants from nine countries attended the Training Course. The Home Country Assignments component was held in respective countries during 12<sup>th</sup> November to 2<sup>nd</sup> January. Part-I of the programme commenced on 3<sup>rd</sup> January at IFFCO-FMDI. The component on Management Leadership development was held at IRMA during 16<sup>th</sup> January to 19<sup>th</sup> February. Study visits in Thailand were held during 23<sup>rd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> February. Part-II of the programme is held at IDACA in Japan during 1<sup>st</sup> March to 22<sup>nd</sup> April.
- 40) The ICA ROAP Planning Meeting was held in New Delhi on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> January. In addition to ROAP staff, the Dy. Director General and Head of Development, ICA Geneva attended the meeting. The work plan and budget for the year 2000 were finalised at this meeting.
- 41) The 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICA Committee on HRD and Research was held in Bangkok on 24<sup>th</sup> February. 18 members from seven countries and 3 international organisations attended the meeting. A seminar on Information Technology was also held on 25<sup>th</sup> February. About 35 participants attended the seminar. The objectives of the seminar were: Appreciation of the value of informa-

tion technology and its uses in cooperative education and training; and Decision on next steps to take towards networking among cooperative training institutions in Asia and the Pacific. Resource persons were drawn from the Asian Institute of Technology, UNDP and CISCO Systems.

- 42) Mrs Rahaiah Baهران and Mr. Robby Tulus participated at the AWCF Regional Conference on “Gender impact of globalization of the economy; Challenges to Co-operatives in the new Millennium”, held in Bangkok from March 6 to 8, 2000. Mrs. Rahaiah Baهران sent a solidarity message to an audience of no less than 170 participants, composed of women and men co-operators, as well as UN and NGO representatives, and Mr. Robby Tulus presented his paper on “Visioning of Co-operatives in the new Millennium”, in a joint session with Remedios Rikken, Chairperson of “Filipina” a national NGO in the Philippines addressing issues on Women in politics.
- 43) The APHCO Board Meeting was held in Kerala, India, from 27 – 28 March, attended by 12 delegates. Dr. Shoji Kato presided over the meeting and stressed on the need for NGO members to link up with the ICA. The next meeting will be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, during March 2001.
- 44) The ICA, in collaboration with the National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) and the Canadian Co-operative Association held a Regional Workshop on Co-operative Data Bank in Gurgaon, India, from April 3 to 7, 2000. Data bank professionals/practitioners from Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, India and the ICA Head Office in Geneva participated in the Workshop, which was inaugurated by the Regional Director of ICA (Asia Pacific) and presided over by Mr. P.K. Mishra, Managing Director of NCDC. Presentations were made by well-known E-Professionals, elaborating on the finer points on e-commerce and how electronic trade could revolutionize the way the world do business.



We anticipate a large number of participants at the First Research Conference for Asia and the Pacific on 24-25 June, 2000, and also for the Second Women's Forum on 26<sup>th</sup> June, and the First Asia Pacific Co-operative Forum (CO-OP FORUM 2000) on 27-28 June 2000. By the time this report is read at the Regional Assembly, we would know the exact numbers, as well as the outcome of these events.

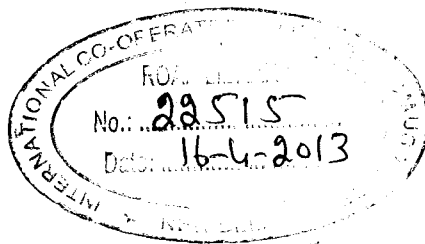
**Robby Tulus**

June 20, 2000

# **Fifth Meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia & the Pacific**

**CEBU, PHILIPPINES  
21st February 2003**

## **AGENDA NOTES**



**International Co-operative Alliance  
Regional Office for Asia & the Pacific  
9, Aradhna Enclave, (Ring Road),  
Sector-13, R. K. Puram,  
New Delhi-110066. India.**

## **AGENDA NOTES**

### **AGENDA ITEM 01 : OFFICIAL OPENING**

Following joint opening ceremony of 2<sup>nd</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum and Regional Assembly on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of ICA Regional Assembly will be officially opened on 21<sup>st</sup> February by Mr. Ivano Barberini, President of ICA. Mr. Ian Macdonald, Director General of ICA may give his remarks. Mr. Mu Li, Vice President of ICA and Chairman of ICA Regional Assembly will chair.

### **AGENDA ITEM 02 : APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Delegates would be requested to accord formal approval of Agenda.

### **AGENDA ITEM 03 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD IN SINGAPORE ON 29<sup>TH</sup>-30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2000.**

Minutes as enclosed at Annexure-1 were circulated to all the delegates and member organizations. No suggestions/observations/amendments have been received. Minutes may be approved.

### **AGENDA ITEM 04 : PERUSAL OF MINUTES OF ICA ROAP STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS SINCE LAST REGIONAL ASSEMBLY.**

Since last Regional Assembly, five meetings of the Standing Committee were held. Confirmed minutes of these meetings are enclosed at Annexure-2. Necessary follow-up action on these minutes has already been completed. Hon'ble delegates of the Regional Assembly may kindly peruse.

### **AGENDA ITEM 05 : ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF ICA ROAP STANDING COMMITTEE.**

According to ICA Regional Assembly Rules (Article 3 (g), ICA Regional Assembly shall elect maximum of six members in addition to Chairperson and two Vice Chairpersons. Since Chairperson of ICA Regional Assembly is Vice President of ICA from Asia-Pacific region, the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of ICA Regional Assembly will elect two Vice Chairpersons and six members of Standing Committee.

ICA ROAP Secretariat had already written to member organizations to propose their nominees for election as member of Standing Committee. Information so received will be placed before the Standing Committee which may recommend electoral procedures and proposals for consideration of Regional Assembly.

**AGENDA ITEM 06 : PROGRESS REPORT FROM REGIONAL DIRECTOR, ICA ROAP.**

Progress Report will be presented before the Regional Assembly.

**AGENDA ITEM 07 : APPROVAL OF WORK PROGRAM/BUDGET OF ICA ROAP FOR 2003.**

The Work Programme/Budget for 2003 as approved by the Standing Committee is enclosed at Annexure-3. Regional Assembly may kindly approve.

**AGENDA ITEM 08 : REPORTS FROM ICA ROAP SPECIALISED COMMITTEES.**

Chairpersons of the following Specialised Committees will present their report at the time of Regional Assembly:

- (a) Women's Committee
- (b) Consumer Committee
- (c) Agricultural Committee
- (d) Regional Cooperative Banking Association
- (e) HRD Committee

**AGENDA ITEM 09 : REPORT OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> COOPERATIVE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE HELD IN NEPAL FROM 3<sup>RD</sup> TO 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2002.**

The 6<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Cooperative Ministers' Conference was convened by ICA ROAP in Kathmandu (Nepal) from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> April 2002. The Conference was hosted by His Majesty's Government and Cooperative Movement of Nepal. It was attended by cooperative ministers, government officials, cooperative leaders and chief executives of 17 countries of Asia-Pacific region and eight international organizations. The theme of the Conference was establishing relevant legislation and policy for cooperatives in the new millennium.

Conclusions and Recommendations are enclosed in a printed booklet for perusal of the delegates.

The Conference, in line with its past tradition adopted a Joint Declaration known as "Kathmandu Declaration". The Declaration calls upon the governments to formulate and implement public policy and other sectoral policies that support development of member-based cooperatives.

The Conclusions and Recommendations of the Conference have been circulated to the governments and member organizations of ICA in Asia-Pacific region for taking appropriate action to implement the Recommendations. Regional Assembly may kindly peruse for further suggestions, if any.

**AGENDA ITEM 10 :       REPORT AND NEW ISSUES ARISING FROM 2<sup>ND</sup>  
ICA REGIONAL COOPERATIVE FORUM.**

Delegates are aware that 2<sup>nd</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum hosted by NATCCO of the Philippines has been planned on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February. All the member organizations have been informed. We expect nearly 200 participants in this Cooperative Forum, besides local participants.

The theme of the Forum is “ COOPERATIVES: PAST 10 YEARS AND 10 YEARS AHEAD” and sub-themes are the following:

- (a) Asian Values as Reinforcing Element to Strengthen Cooperative Values;
- (b) Cooperatives in Asia-Pacific – An Introspective View;
- (c) Globalisation – Its Impact on Cooperatives in Asia-Pacific; and
- (d) Facing the Future.

Detailed report and issues arising from the Forum will be placed before the Regional Assembly on 21<sup>st</sup> February.

**AGENDA ITEM 11 :       REPORT OF 3<sup>RD</sup> REGIONAL WOMEN’S FORUM.**

Report will be placed before the Regional Assembly by the Chairperson of the Women’s Forum.

**AGENDA ITEM 12 :       REPORT OF 2<sup>ND</sup> ASIAN COOPERATIVE  
RESEARCH CONFERENCE.**

Report will be placed before the Regional Assembly by the Chairperson of the ICA Research Conference.

**AGENDA ITEM 13 :       PRESENTATION OF NEW ILO RECOMMENDATION  
ON COOPERATIVES (ILO RECOMMENDATION  
NO. 193).**

Representative of ILO Geneva will present the new Recommendation on Cooperatives to Regional Assembly.

**AGENDA ITEM 14 :       CONSIDERATION OF VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT  
MEETING.**

The present meeting of Regional Assembly was due in 2002. However, due to unavoidable administrative reasons, the meeting was postponed to February 2003.

In view of this, the next meeting may either be convened in the last part of year 2004 or early 2005. The Standing Committee may be authorized to fix up the date.

As regards venue, delegates/prospective host member organizations may give their proposal at the time of the meeting.

***AGENDA ITEM 15 : CLOSING SESSION***

# Annexure - I

**MINUTES OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE  
ICA REGIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR ASIA & THE PACIFIC  
SINGAPORE: JUNE 29-30, 2000**

**Agenda Item 1: Official Opening**

The fourth Meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific was held in Singapore on 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> June 2000. 100 delegates/observers from Canada, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Thailand, Vietnam and ACCU attended the meeting. In addition special invitees from ILO, CCA, DID, CICOPA, AGRITERRA, AARDO also attended the meeting.

Mr. Mu Li, Vice President, ICA, Asia-Pacific, and Mr. Bruce Thordarson, Director-General, ICA officially opened the meeting.

Mr. Mu Li said since last meeting in Seoul in 1998 cooperatives suffered a great deal due to economic crisis, but in spite of this cooperatives survived and played a positive role in economic development in respective countries. This fully revealed the vitality of cooperatives and efforts made by all cooperators. He hoped that after our RA meeting in Singapore, cooperatives can see further development and also the cooperatives in our region can have more cooperation among cooperatives.

In his welcome address, Mr. Tan Kin Lian, Chairman, SNCF, extended warm welcome to all those present and said that SNCF was pleased to co-host the Regional Assembly Meeting with ICA ROAP. He said that two years ago when we assembled in Korea for the third RA meeting, our region was in the midst of financial crisis. The crisis had severe impact on the economies of the region and on the various business entities. Cooperative business was also affected in varying degrees. Through the good offices of ICA we had useful exchange of ideas and discussion on the impact of the crisis on our cooperatives and on the strategies to overcome this difficulties. We also discussed the impact of the crisis on our individual members especially those from the lower income groups and shared ideas how cooperatives could help the members to face the difficult time. Today in most parts of the region we have emerged successful from the crisis and economic prospects are improving. But our cooperatives are now faced with challenges of the different kinds. Two days ago we participated in the First Asia-Pacific Cooperative Forum and deliberated on the theme "Cooperatives in the New Millennium: Are we Changing?" This topic was timely as our cooperatives have to face a new environment with the emergence of the new economy characterized by globalization, liberalization, increased competition, rapid changes and the advanced technology. Our cooperatives also have to meet the highest expectations of our members and customers. We have to respond to their changing needs. We have to be more innovative in improving the range and quality of our services to meet their needs. We have to use latest technology to improve our efficiency. He hoped that this RA in Singapore would foster a useful exchange of ideas and information and contribute to a better understanding of the challenges of the new economy. He wished all participants a very fruitful discussion, a pleasant stay in Singapore and wished all of them a very successful RA.



Mr. Bruce Thordarson, Director-General, ICA, said the meeting we are going to have today is quite different from the Forum that was attended by well over 300 people, or 500 if we include the Research Conference and other meetings. Today it is only the cooperative family, which is gathered here. We are among ourselves and we have to discuss our future direction. This is, as you know, the statutory business meeting of the ICA for the Asia-Pacific Region. ICA changes its rules to give more of a regional approach, to allow cooperatives in the region to decide among themselves how they wanted their region to develop, to look at the work ICA is doing, to decide future strategy and policy for the region. This is the agenda you have today. Mr. Thordarson hoped that it would be a very productive and fruitful RA.

**Agenda Item 2: Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda, which was updated and circulated at the meeting, was approved and accepted.

**Agenda Item 3: Approval of the Minutes of the 1998 Regional Assembly**

The minutes of the Third Meeting of the RA held in Seoul, Korea, in October 1998, which had been circulated in advance, was unanimously accepted and confirmed by the Meeting without any corrections.

Dr. Yehuda Paz then presided over the meeting.

**Agenda Item 4: Report/Recommendations from the Fourth Meeting of The ICA Executive Council for Asia and the Pacific held in Beijing, October 10, 1999.**

The meeting unanimously approved the minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the ICA Executive Council held in Beijing, China, in October 1999, which had been circulated. The Meeting thus confirms and ratifies the abolishment of the Executive Council as per the recommendations of the Fourth Meeting of the ICA ROAP Executive Council.

**Agenda Item 5: Amendments of the Rules of the ICA Asia-Pacific Regional Assembly**

The proposed amendments to Rules of the ICA General Assembly and to the Regional Assembly (Asia-Pacific), which had been circulated in advance to all members, were unanimously confirmed by the meeting without any further corrections.

**Agenda Item 6: Election of ICA Vice President for Asia and the Pacific**

Prof. Ungku A. Aziz took the podium and said that the Standing Committee (SC) at its recent meeting has concluded unanimously to recommend Mr. Mu Li for the post of Vice President of ICA (Asia-Pacific), which was accepted unanimously by the meeting with a round of applause. The meeting confirmed that Mr. Mu Li has full expression of confidence and support of all ICA members in Asia and the Pacific.

**Agenda Item 7: Election of new Officers/Chairperson for the Regional Assembly**

Mr. Yehuda Paz said that the SC at its recent meeting has proposed the names of the following persons of the SC for approval by the RA :

1. Mr. Mu Li, Chairperson
2. Prof. Ungku A. Aziz, Vice Chairperson
3. Ms. Hatsuko Omori, Vice Chairperson
4. Dr. Yehuda Paz, Member
5. Mr. Chung Dae Kun, Member
6. Mr B.S. Vishwanathan, Member
7. Mr. Tan Kin Lian, Member
8. Mr P.A. Kiriwandeniya, Member
9. Mr. Lius Carrillo, Member

The RA approved the above names of the SC as proposed.

Mr. Mu Li then presided over the meeting. He wished that each and every member of the ICA in this region would be more active in participation in the work. He would like to see the newly elected body to play a new role in a consolidated way. Mr. Mu Li then delegated his authority to the following persons, in the spirit of a genuine teamwork:

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Prof. Ungku A. Aziz | Chairperson of the SC & Vice Chairperson of the Regional Assembly |
| 2. Mr. Tan Kin Lian    | Vice Chairperson of the SC & Chairperson of the Regional Assembly |
| 3. Ms. H. Omori        | Vice Chairperson of SC and the RA                                 |

Mr. Tan Kin Lian, Chairman of the SNCF and having been delegated the Chairmanship of the RA, was then requested to preside over the next session of the meeting.

**Agenda Item 8: Progress Report from the Regional Director, and Presentation of the "Strategic Plan of ICA ROAP: 2000-2004"**

A printed progress report of the RD was made available during the Regional Assembly. Mr. Robby Tulus, Regional Director of ICA ROAP offered a power-point presentation on the ICA ROAP Progress Report. Copies of the ICA ROAP Strategic Plans were also distributed to all participants.

**Agenda Item 9: Remarks by Mr. Mutsutami Harada, President, JA-ZENCHU of Japan**

Mr. Mutsutami Harada, President, JA-ZENCHU of Japan, said: "First of all I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Mu Li for having been re-elected ICA Vice President for Asia-Pacific as well as to the members of the Standing Committee for their elections. I am convinced of their excellent leadership for the Asia-Pacific Cooperative Movement in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is extremely significant that the last meeting of the 20<sup>th</sup> century of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific is

being held here in Singapore, a city that represents Asia in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I am very pleased to have the opportunity to exchange views with cooperators of Asia and the Pacific. On the eve of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we are increasingly concerned over problems, such as global resources, environment and food crisis. Globalization of economy, on the other hand, threatens to cause cross-border mega competition among businesses, delineating winners and losers with possible consequences of environmental destruction and social unrest.

Faced with these problems, we the Japanese agricultural cooperatives believe that the 21<sup>st</sup> century should be a century of symbiosis instead of competition. Countries, urban and rural societies, businesses, organizations and people should respect each other and share benefits in trying to achieve sustainable economic development and well-balanced social development.

Japanese agricultural cooperatives are actively promoting the movement of three symbioses, which we started three years ago. They are (i) symbiosis with consumers through supply of safe and reliable food, (ii) symbiosis with the next generation through fulfillment of multifunctional role of agriculture, and (iii) symbiosis with Asia through cooperation for the development of agricultural cooperatives in Asia.

At our triennial convention in October this year, we are going to deepen this movement furthermore by confirming the important role of agriculture for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and adopt as our basic policy "the century of agriculture and symbiosis".

Let me say a few words on WTO agricultural negotiations and rule on trade, that can cause decline of agriculture in some countries but prosperity in only certain other countries, is not a fair or an equitable rule.

What is really needed is to establish a trade rule, which is fair and equitable for all, i.e. food importing as well as exporting countries and developed as well as developing countries, so that agriculture of all countries can co-exist. We should not forget that there is no other sector than agriculture where the identity of each country can be strongly expressed. Needless to say, multi-functionality of agriculture, smooth implementation of agriculture policy, diversity in natural conditions, differences in historical as well as cultural backgrounds of agriculture of each country deserve to be considered.

In closing I would like to express my appreciation of Mr. Robby Tulus, Regional Director of ICA, everyone of ROAP, Mr. Tan Kin Lian, Chairman of Singapore National Cooperative Federation for their outstanding efforts for the organization of this epoch-making meeting. Cooperatives are a movement. We must build such a happy world through our movement."

#### **Agenda Item 10: Reports from Specialized Committees**

**The 33<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the ICA Committee on Agriculture for Asia and the Pacific** was held in Singapore on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2000. Important decisions of the meeting were:

1. Committee felt concerned about the possible negative impact of globalization and WTO policies on small farmers and their cooperatives and called upon ICA ROAP to bring these concerns to forthcoming Agriculture Ministers' Conference convened by FAO in August 2000 in Tokyo.

2. As decided in last meeting, members should take a quick study on Role of Cooperatives in Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture.
2. Committee decided to continue its focus on the role of cooperatives in following areas: - (a) Sustainable Agriculture Development and Food Security, (b) Agriculture & Rural Finance, (c) Agricultural Trade & WTO Policies, (d) Legislative and Institutional Reforms, (e) Capacity Building of Agricultural Cooperatives.

Mr. Deepak Baskota from National Cooperative Federation of Nepal was elected as Chairperson and Mr. Shil-Kwan Lee from National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Korea as Vice Chairperson of the Committee.

**The ICA Consumer Committee** held its 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting at the Mandarin, Singapore, on June 25. Twenty-eight delegates from India, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Vietnam participated. The meeting was opened by Mr. K. Okayasu, Vice Chairperson, in the absence of Mr. K. Tanaka, who could not attend due to illness. Mr. Kurimoto presided over the rest of the session. The meeting discussed the activities of the Committee and elected its new office bearers for a two-year term. Mr. Tanaka and Mr. Okayasu were re-elected as the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson respectively, while Mr. Mohd. Iqbal from Indonesia was elected as the second Vice Chair of the Committee. The Committee meets again in Seoul, Korea, in conjunction with the ICA General Assembly next year.

**The ICA Consumer Sub-Committee on University Cooperatives** held its 6<sup>th</sup> meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> June at Mandarin Hotel, Singapore. Thirty three delegates from 8 countries attended. Besides discussing other important matters, the Committee elected Mr. K. Okayasu, Japan, Chairperson, Prof. Poo Gee Swee, Singapore, Vice Chairperson, Mr. Mohd Iqbal, Indonesia, Vice Chairperson for the next two years. The members of the Committee visited the NTUC Fairprice Co-op Supermarket at Hogan Point, Singapore, on 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2000, where they studied the operations of the Co-op Supermarket. The next meeting will be held in Seoul, Korea, in 2001, in conjunction with the ICA General Assembly.

**The ICA Regional Cooperative Banking Association (RCBA)** held its third meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> June at the Mandarin, Singapore. The meeting reviewed the trends in cooperative banking and finance and deliberated on strategies for widening the membership base of RCBA. The meeting also decided to undertake a study to analyze the trends in cooperative banking in Asia and the Pacific and another study on the Role of NGOs in financial sector. Mr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya of Sri Lanka was elected Chairperson for a two-year term, while the Chairman of Cooperative League of Thailand and Chairman of National Federation of Urban Coop Banks and Credit Societies of India were elected as Vice-Chairpersons. The Committee appreciated the services of the founder Chairperson, Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan.

**The ICA Regional Women's Committee** had its second meeting at the Mandarin, Singapore, on June 25, 2000. 12 delegates and 41 observers participated at the meeting. Ms. Rahaiah Baharen, chairperson, presided over the session, facilitated by Mr. Juku Ozawa, Secretary. While members made country presentations, the Secretary reported on the activities of the Committee since its first meeting in Seoul, Korea in October 1998. He also presented a work plan for the next two years. The

meeting emphasized the need to appoint contact persons in member organizations and also to get information on cooperative legislation in member countries, which hinders gender equality. The Committee agreed to work closely with AWCF to conduct a survey on the legal situation concerning women's participation. The meeting also suggested that there should be some kind of mechanism for networking between women cooperators within the region. The Committee plans to publish a newsletter at regular intervals, and will be posted on the Website. The meeting re-elected Ms. Rahaiah Baharen, Malaysia and Ms. Hatsuko Omori, Japan, as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson respectively. The meeting also elected Ms. Preema Shanti Sooriyarachchi from Sri Lanka as the second Vice Chairperson. The next meeting of the Committee will take place in 2002 during the next Regional Assembly.

**The HRD Committee** organized a Seminar on Interactive Learning and Training for the members of the ICA HRD Committee for Asia and the Pacific in Mandarin, Singapore, on 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2000. The seminar featured a presentation by Dr. Mohd Saimi Mohd Sohod, Chief Executive Officer of the United Multimedia Sdn Bhd, a IT company based in Kuala Lumpur, on the concept and mechanism for learning/training environment and the process involved in creating that environment. The seminar is part of the effort the regional HRD Committee to create interest in information technology and its use in cooperative education and training.

**Agenda Item 11: Report from the Second Regional Women's Forum  
And the Asia Pacific Co-operative Research Conference**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> ICA Asia-Pacific Regional Women's Forum on the theme of "Transcending Glass Ceiling and Glass Ladder in the New Millennium" was held on June 26, 2000 in Singapore. Madam Yu-Foo Yee Shoon, Senior Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Community Development and Sports, Singapore, was the Guest of Honour at the opening. This forum provided an excellent platform to examine and discuss the roles and opportunities for women in the cooperative movement, to identify the obstacles the women face and came up with possible solutions.

Ms. Lydia Johnson, Regional Manager at the Vancouver City Savings Credit Union, presented the Keynote address on the theme. Panelists Ms. Rahaiah Baharen, Mr Paul Sinnappan, Ms. Teresita de-Leon, Mr. Fujioka and Ms. Kamakshi Balakrishnan, gave over-views of the situation in countries of the region. After the panel presentations, delegates were divided into six discussion groups, facilitated by the panelists. The discussions enabled delegates to understand the 'glass ceiling' and 'glass ladder' situation for women and came out with useful suggestions and comments on how to break the glass ceiling and how to make the glass ladder less slippery. The panel session was moderated by Ms. Lota Bertulfo, Coordinator of Asian Women in Cooperative Development Forum. The Forum concluded with definite strategies to achieve participant's goals to advance gender equality in their cooperatives and anticipation for the next meeting.

**The First Asian Research Conference** was held in Singapore on 24-25 June, 2000 where twenty-six research papers, representing studies on cooperatives undertaken by researchers in Asia (including one from Europe) were presented. The wide range of scientific inquiry included issues on participative democracy, value-based management, gender and youth, strategies and structures, crating employment, renewal and innovation, and supporting community. The Conference was organized

by the ICA Research Committee for Asia and the Pacific and attended by 57 researchers, cooperative leaders and practitioners. Members of the ICA Research Committee headed by Prof. Roger Spear attended the Conference. Mr. Akira Kurimoto, Chairman of the Asian Cooperative Research Forum, led the conference. The next Research Conference will be held in 2002 in conjunction with the ICA Regional Assembly meeting.

**Agenda Item 12: Presentation of ILO Recommendation No. 127**

Ms. Teresita de Leon, Regional Coordinator, ILO-Coopnet/Coopreform informed the meeting that ILO is an inter-governmental organization of the UN system. It was established in 1920 as an autonomous institution associated with the League of Nations. ILO was founded to advance the cause of social justice and, in so doing, to contribute to the establishment of universal and lasting peace.

ILO now proposes to revise its Recommendation No. 127 which was formulated some time in 1966. It has sent a Questionnaire to cooperative organizations in the Asia-Pacific Region. Based on the answers to the questionnaires received from the cooperative organizations in the region, the ILO will try to revise the Recommendation No. 127. She said except for Japan, no other organization has sent their replies. She requested the ROAP to send this questionnaire to its member organizations in the region and expedite the replies.

**Agenda Item 13: Progress report of, and issues emerging from, the Fifth Cooperative Ministers Conference in Beijing, October 1999**

Mr. B.D. Sharma at the ICA ROAP presented to the meeting various Resolutions emerging from the Fifth Cooperative Ministers Conference held in Beijing, China, in October 1999. The Ministers' Conference was preceded by a Regional Consultation in Singapore in July 1999. Based on the recommendations of the Regional Consultation, the 5<sup>th</sup> Cooperative Ministers Conference deliberated and formulated specific recommendations in joint declaration on the following issues: (i) Autonomy and Independence, (ii) Legal Existence, (iii) Recognition (iv) Fair Playing Field, (v) Self-Regulation, (v) Capitalization; (vi) Official Development Assistance; and (vii) Networking. There is a great deal of uniformity on the line of thinking of the representatives of the cooperative movement, experts, academicians who participated in the Forum and the visualizations contained in the recommendations of 5<sup>th</sup> Cooperative Ministers' Conference.

The Regional Assembly was also apprised of the follow-up action on the recommendations initiated by ICA ROAP. Important of which are as follows:

- (a) Recommendations have been sent to member organizations and national governments in the region.
- (b) In a number of countries in the region, the reform process of cooperative laws has been initiated. To name a few of them, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, the Philippines, and Vietnam are currently working on this reform agenda. Most of the countries feel the need for inclusion of the ICIS in the cooperative law.

- (c) ICA ROAP has initiated second critical study of Cooperative Policy and Legislation in Asia-Pacific Region.
- (d) ICA ROAP has set up its Website for better networking with its member organizations.
- (e) Steps have been initiated to set up Cooperative Data Bank and Information Centre.
- (f) Collaboration with International Development Partners, namely, ILO, FAO (NEDAC), ADB is being intensified.

**Agenda Item 14: Report and new issues arising from the First Asia Pacific Cooperative FORUM, June 27-28, 2000**

Mr. Romy Villamin of ICA ROAP said that the First Asia Pacific Cooperative Forum was held in Singapore on 27-28 June, 2000 which was inaugurated by H.E. Megawati Soekarnoputri, Vice President of Indonesia. After inauguration, the Forum went in to discussion on Panel Themes, which were Cooperative Governance, Cooperative Legislation, Globalization and Innovation.

**ISSUES:**

- i. Professional Management
- ii. Uncertain Board/Management Relations
- iii. Restructuring
- iv. Stagnation
- v. Under-capitalization
- vi. Ennui

**RESPONSE:**

- i. Identity of Cooperatives
- ii. Keeping Focus
- iii. Improved governance
- iv. Government partnership
- v. Alliances – strategic and wholesome relationship between cooperatives, government and private sector.
- vi. Information technology

Participants evaluated the overall conduct and results of the forum. The overall rating was better than average. There was a suggestion that more experts from Asia should be heard in the next forum.

The Forum discussed the following themes :-

- i. Cooperative Governance
- ii. Cooperative Legislation
- iii. Globalization
- iv. Innovation
- v. Capital Mobilization
- vi. Cooperative Trade

## **Agenda Item 15: Venue and Date of Next Meeting**

Mr. Luis Carrillo, Chairman, National Confederation of Cooperatives of the Philippines invited the RA to hold its next meeting, the fifth in the series, in Cebu City, Philippines, in the year 2002. The RA was informed that the SC in its next meeting would take a final decision on this matter and inform the members accordingly.

## **Agenda Item 16: Remarks/comments by International Partner Agencies**

**Ms. Lynne Toupin, Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Cooperative Association (CCA),** said: "This is my first opportunity to come into your region since becoming the CEO of CCA last year. I have good fortune of meeting you all and to get an overview of the issues, challenges and opportunities for the cooperative movement in this region. I bring you warm greetings from the 32 members of the CCA, which is the apex organization for anglophone cooperatives in Canada.

I want to reaffirm the commitment of Canadian cooperators to the many deep and lasting partnerships we have formed with cooperatives in the Asia-Pacific region.

Last year, with the support of the Canadian International Development Agency, CCA directed 40% of its total financial resources for international cooperative development to the Asia-Pacific region. The challenges we face in Canada are: dealing with increased competition in the marketplace; reducing fragmentation within the cooperative movement; affordability and implementation of new technology; adding value to membership; developing new grassroots cooperatives; increasing diversity of the membership and within the elected leadership; and raising awareness about the value and values of cooperatives.... Canadian cooperatives want to see thriving dynamic cooperative sectors in every country. Our long-term vision is worldwide cooperative reality. We have come along way together, but there is more to be done. As globalization trends continue, we know that our fate and the fates of co-ops everywhere are very-more tightly woven together, we are interdependent, fundamentally reliant on mutual interest and working ever more closely to achieve our shared missions. We must go forward into this new millennium together. CCA therefore pledges its continued alliance with the ICA as we move forward together in cooperation.

**Mr. Pierre Giguere, Regional Director, Developpement International Desjardins (DID)** said: "DID is celebrating this year its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It coincides with Movement Desjardins 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. DID is currently present in 27 countries in 4 continents. We intervene in the field of financial intermediation, particularly in savings and credit and increasingly in insurance. Our interventions have been at the outset centered on technical assistance to enhance and at times help create institutional capacities. Over the years, we have moved along with our partners to reflect and become involved in broader socio-economic problematic, such as the Poverty Alleviation Agenda in China and in Vietnam, always looking forward in parallel the need for a partner institution to keep aim on their financial viability. Our aim, part of our mission, is to empower the community (women, farmers, and small entrepreneurs) through access to financial services. To carry out this endeavour: (1) we have high quality experts. We have today staff of over 100 Canadians and 300 national experts from the countries we are working with, (2) we develop innovation methodologies and role, (3) we support innovative research, (4) we develop financial partnership with leaders and organizations. We have some challenging partnership



and presently with the IFC and the World Bank notably. We are involved networking not only on institutional capacity building, but also on the environment, legislation, supervision, notably stimulating and satisfying work being done currently in China, Vietnam with Central Banks of these countries. We are strongly convinced the current situation provides cooperative leaders with great opportunities to which we are looking forward to contribute and participate increasingly. Thanks to the ICA for providing us the opportunities to share ideas on occasions like this to enhance our common understanding and better view of the challenges and the opportunities that Together we are facing.”

**Ms. Teresita de Leon, Regional Coordinator, ILO-Coopnet/Coopreform:**

The Coopnet programme of the ILO is to facilitate the process of development of self-reliant, vibrant, peoples'-oriented cooperatives. An effective approach to develop such cooperatives is by way of capacity-building of HRD institutions, apex level federations and support agencies through networking, at the regional, national and sub-national levels. Through such Networking, cooperative leaders, managers, trainers and development workers can exchange experiences and expertise, draw upon from each other's resources, and get inspiration and fresh ideas from their counterparts, Networking thus can smoothen the process of development of self-sustaining, self-manged and pro-active cooperatives.

Coopreform stands for Inter-Regional Programme for Structural Reform through Improvement of Cooperative Development Policies and Legislation. The programme aims at to assist in the creation of a enabling environment in which cooperatives and cooperative type organizations can develop as viable member-oriented enterprises. The programme adopts a macro-systems approach whereby technical assistance is provided to improve the economic, socio-political and legal framework necessary for the development of cooperatives and cooperative type organizations. Coopreform provides advisory and information services to institutions involved in the process of structural reform of cooperative movements and facilitates an exchange of experiences made in this field in different regions of the world.

**Agenda Item 17: Closing Session, with keynote address by  
Dr. Roberto Rodrigues, President ICA**

Dr. Roberto Rodrigues, President, ICA, said: “At the outset, may I express my deep apologies for my inability to participate in the Cooperative Forum and on the first day of the Regional Assembly due to prior commitments at the General Assembly of the United Nations and elsewhere. As my duties and responsibilities of ICA President and love for Asia and Asian Cooperative Movement compelled me, I am here to be with you, though for a very short period. At the last Regional Assembly we met under the gloom of the financial crisis, which was, shattering Asian economies and putting a big question mark on the suitability of free markets and globalized economy. But this Assembly meets in an environment of hopes and confidences. Asia has started booming again with fast recovery and growth. This has been due to the inherent strength and will of the Asian people whose motto of life is “Never say die even in the Worst situation.”

Recalling my comments at the last Regional Assembly in Korea that we know from the history that cooperatives had always developed and grown during difficult economic situations. Spectacular resilience shown by cooperatives during the financial crisis has proven once again this historical truth. Let us keep it up and

strengthen the cooperative resilience further so as to make cooperatives a bulwark against the future crisis. I take this opportunity to congratulate Asian cooperators and cooperatives for your achievements and resolve to withstand the difficult times.

But challenges are not over. In fact bigger challenges are ahead of us. The spillover impact of globalization that has resulted into increase of poverty, inequities, unemployment is likely to be further intensified with the entry of a number of countries into second stage of economic reforms. A recent study by ILO shows that although globalization has spurred economic growth, it has also brought social tensions and increased poverty. This poses a peculiar challenge before cooperatives, which are expected not only to respond to these problems but also to act as market stabilizing factor. This calls for deepening their concern for community as well as strengthening their competitiveness in the market place. I would, therefore, re-emphasize, as I said in Korea, that if cooperatives were to cope successfully with this situation it must orient their management practices, organizational structure and even behaviour, so as to be more sensitive to the emerging community and market needs. Inculcation of Value Based Professional Management into cooperatives is the need of the hour.

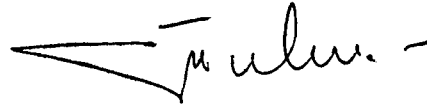
Viewed in this context, organization of Cooperative Forum with the theme "Cooperatives in 21<sup>st</sup> century: Are We Changing" in conjunction with Regional Assembly is very timely and appropriate. I am sure that the Forum would have identified innovative steps to give momentum to the change process in cooperative movement. I must congratulate Mr. Robby Tulus and his team for organizing the Coop Forum, especially to have H.E. Madam Megawati Soekarnoputri, Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia, to be the Keynote Speaker.

ICA, at global level too, has been making earnest efforts to project the role and potential of cooperatives in mitigating the negative impact of globalization particularly in the fields of employment promotion and social sector development. We have, therefore, deliberately chosen "Employment Promotion" as the theme of this year's 78<sup>th</sup> ICA International Cooperative Day and 6<sup>th</sup> UN International Day of Cooperatives, which fall on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2000. ICA Global in its message has called upon the world community to harness cooperative potential in the area of employment promotion. Statistics published by the UN show that livelihood of nearly half of world's population is made secure by the cooperatives. With nearly 800 million individual memberships, cooperatives generate 100 million jobs.

This potential of cooperatives can be further expanded, if the national governments and political leadership create enabling environment for cooperatives through a conducive policy and legislation framework. The Joint Declaration of 5<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Cooperative Ministers' Conference reflects this. What is now required is to give a concrete shape to these recommendations and visualizations. I am very much optimistic that Regional Assembly will formulate workable parameters and Action Plan to realize this. I wish you all success.

We must give meaning for our lives. So the meaning of life is learning – learning with love and justice to teach, to help people to build a better world... All of us have learnt a little more here today and by learning we are giving all together a meaning for lives. Learning here today we are all doing our best to better world because our children would be very grateful to us.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robby Tulus', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Robby Tulus**  
Secretary/Regional Director

New Delhi  
4 July, 2000

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## **Annexure - II**

**Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting  
Xiamen (China) : 16<sup>th</sup> January 2001**

The following members attended the Standing Committee (SC) Meeting which was held in Mandarin Hotel, Xiamen (China) on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2001.

**In attendance**

01. Mr. Mu Li, Vice President, ICA
02. Prof. Ungku A. Aziz, ANGKASA, Malaysia, Chairperson
03. Mr. Chung Dae Kun, NACF, Korea, Member
04. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, India, Member
05. Mr. Luis Carrillo, Member, NATCCO, Philippines, Member
06. Ms. Akiko Yamauchi, repr Ms. Hatsuko Omori, Vice Chairperson, Japan
07. Mr. Leow Peng Kui, repr Mr. Tan Kin Lian, Member, Singapore
08. Mr. P.A. Kiriwadeniya, SANASA, Sri Lanka, Member
09. Ms. Rahaiah Baheran, ICA Board Member, Malaysia, Observer
10. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, NACF Korea, Observer
11. Mr. Chikara Sato, JA-Zenchu, Japan, Observer
12. Mr. Rong Jun, ACFSMC, Interpreter
13. Mr. Robby Tulus, Regional Director, ICA ROAP. - Secretary
14. Mr. K. Sethumadhavan, Planning Officer, ICA ROAP – Record taking

**Apologies**

Dr. Yehudah Paz, Israel, Member

**Opening**

Mr. Mu Li said that "I am very delighted to be here to attend the Standing Committee Meeting. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> month of the new millennium of 21<sup>st</sup> century. The indication of having this meeting here in Xiamen means we have a very bright future for the cooperative development in Asia and the Pacific. I think our region should make further progress based on unity, consensus and coordination. I take this opportunity to convey our heartfelt thanks to Mr. Robby Tulus for making very good preparations for the meeting. Based on the agreement of the last Standing Committee Meeting in Singapore, I would like to request Professor Ungku A. Aziz to chair the meeting. I wish the meeting all the success".

Professor Ungku A. Aziz said that "I am very honored indeed in running this meeting as Chairperson. I welcome you all to the meeting and I hope we would be able to conduct the meeting efficiently and smoothly".

He further said that the Agenda has been sent to all of you on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2000 and if there were no suggestion, we would stick to this Agenda.

## **Agenda 1 : Report from the Regional Director**

The Regional Director, Mr. Robby Tulus, presented to the meeting the main activities carried out by ICA ROAP since last June through a power point presentation. A report on the activities of ROAP, which was presented to the ICA Board, was also circulated at the meeting.

Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan appreciated the activities undertaken by ROAP and said that he has been watching the activities of ROAP very closely for the last 20 years and the number of activities have definitely gone up. He also said that RD should spend at least 8 to 10 days in Delhi office in a month.

Professor Ungku A Aziz said that as Mr. Mu Li stated most of us are making use of improved technology and with the improved communication system the travel days of RD should be reduced.

Mr. Leow Peng Kui said that the ICA-ILO-ICFTU Regional Workshop on Employment Generation, Poverty Alleviation and Human Resource Development held in Manila in October 2000 also discussed about the possibility of revising the "ILO Recommendation No.127" and this should be discussed in the next Standing Committee Meeting.

## **Agenda Item 2 : Update on key results of ICA Board Meeting in Bratislava**

Ms. Rahaiah Baهران, ICA Board Member from Malaysia, informed the meeting about the key results of ICA Board Meeting held in Bratislava in October 2000. The main points she same are:

- Mr. Bruce Thordarson has been replaced by a new Director-General (Mr. Karl Fogelstom) from September 2000 and he made a presentation entitled "Walking the Talk" at the Board Meeting.
- ICA Women's Committee has changed its name as "Gender Equality Committee".
- ICA is sending to all MO:s their Gender Policy and requested the MO:s to respond positively.
- Some gender activities will be held in October 2001.
- Youth networking.
- ICA is at present discussing about Group 21 and the details are available with ICA Geneva.

It was decided that changing the name of the Committee should be left to the Regional Women's Committee. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan said that he is willing to host the Women's Committee Meeting in India, especially in Bangalore.

### Agenda Item 3 : Membership issues

RD said that the GEC (Education) Union of Cooperative Syndicates Limited, Myanmar, has been terminated by ICA because for non-payment of its subscription. On a query from a member, it was clarified that they have not paid any subscription to ICA after became the member. They did not even reply to our repeated reminders. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan said that if there is a specific request, we can recommend it to the ICA Board for leniency and RD is the right person to recommend the case.

Mr. Mu Li informed the meeting that the Taiwan Provincial Farmers' Association (TPFA) has again approached the ICA for Associated Membership. He gave the background of this organisation and wanted the Standing Committee to take a firm decision on TPFA.

Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan from India made the following points. (a) The Taiwan Provincial Farmers' Association (TPFA) is not a cooperative organisation; (b) TPFA is not a national level organisation; (c) TPFA is not a supportive organisation to cooperatives; and (d) There is no unanimity amongst ACFSMC.

Because of the above reasons, TPFA need not be considered for becoming an Associate Member of the ICA.

Mr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya from Sri Lanka agreed to the points made by Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, and wish to second the motion to decline TPFA's request to become a members of the ICA.

Mr. Luis Carrillo from the Philippines said that since TPFA is not a cooperative, we should reject their application.

Mr. Leow Peng Kui said that we should not entertain their membership application.

Ms. Akiko Yamauchi asked whether do we have the capacity to recommend to the Board. The Chairperson said that the ICA President has referred the matter to the Standing Committee for its comments. She said that she is not authorised to deal with this issue.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee from Korea said that since there was no formal application from TPFA, hence we could not take a letter to ICA President as an application. The ICA Board does not want to take a decision and they referred the matter to us. Mr. Chung said that we need more time for consultations because a consensus needs to be reached first among Chinese co-operatives before we can admit TPFA as a member. If the latter is reflected in our resolution, then there is no problem.

Based on these discussions the Standing Committee decided to reject the request submitted by the TPFA for ICA membership by consensus.

The following *RESOLUTION* on declining the request for ICA membership submitted by the TPFA of China was unanimously adopted.

**RESOLUTION**  
**ON DECLINING THE REQUEST FOR ICA MEMBERSHIP SUBMITTED BY**  
**THE TAIWAN PROVINCIAL FARMERS' ASSOCIATION OF CHINA**

***Preamble:***

On the request of Dr. Roberto Rodrigues, ICA President, during ICA Board Meeting held in Bratislava in the month of October 2000, and in observance of the ICA Rules, the Standing Committee of ICA for Asia and the Pacific in its meeting held in Xiamen on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2001, deliberated on the request for ICA membership submitted by the Taiwan Provincial Farmers' Association of China (hereinafter referred to as TPFA).

***NOTING:***

1. The fact finding trip made by the previous ICA ROAP Regional Director, the late Mr. G.K. Sharma, on which he presented a verbal report at the Board Meeting in Prague in 1994 and concluded that the TPFA is not a cooperative organization and, therefore, not eligible to become ICA membership;
2. That the conclusion reached by the late Mr. G.K. Sharma was concurred by the ICA Board;
3. That the All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives (hereinafter referred to as ACFSMC) currently represents cooperatives all over China at the ICA, and plays a very active and important role both in the ICA and the Cooperative Movement worldwide;
4. That from the point of view of the international community, Taiwan is an inalienable part of the territory of China;
5. That based on the ICA Rules, the request of TPFA to become a member of the ICA necessitates close consultation with existing member(s) in the same country, in this case ACFSMC, well in advance;

***OBSERVING:***

6. That no consideration be rendered on this issue until a harmonious consensus is reached among the Chinese Cooperative Movements;
7. That should TPFA be admitted into the ICA in any capacity, ICA will work against the satisfaction of its current member in China, and will always be subjected to the sensitive issue on Taiwan with all its ramifications, and which will badly affect the orderly functioning of the ICA and further damage its internal harmony and unity, or may even lead to serious results such as a split within the ICA organization.

***Be it resolved, therefore, that:***

The Standing Committee in its meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2001 in Xiamen, China, "**Declines the request submitted by the TPFA for ICA membership for now on account of the above mentioned considerations, and until harmony and consensus are reached within the Chinese Cooperative Movements**".



#### **Agenda Item 4 : Contact persons for Gender and Youth issues**

RD said that the ICA Regional Women's Committee at its second meeting in Singapore on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2000 emphasized the need to appoint a contact person in each of ICA member organization, and also to receive information on cooperative legislation in member countries that hinders the pursuit of gender equality. The Committee also agreed to work closely with AWCF to conduct a survey on the legal situation concerning women's participation. It was decided that ROAP should write to ICA MOs in the region to appoint a contact person. The survey on legal situation concerning women's participation should also be one of the topics of the Regional Committee.

#### **Agenda Item 5 : ICA ROAP planned activities for 2001**

RD informed the meeting about the planned activities for the year 2001. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan suggested that ROAP should hold the activities in 8-10 countries, instead of locating it in 3-4 countries.

Mr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya suggested that ROAP should write to all member organisations in Sri Lanka for nominating participants for the programmes being conducted by them. Merely marking a copy of the invitation is not sufficient.

Mr. Leow Peng Kui, in reference to the National Women's Forum in Vietnam, reiterated the principle and procedure that any invitation for participants and/or resource persons should be addressed to the National Cooperative Organisation and not to the individuals directly. The Chairperson concurred and requested that it be recorded and be followed.

#### **Agenda Item 6 : ICA ROAP Budget for the year 2001**

A copy of the ICA ROAP budget, presented at and approved by the ICA Board in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2001 was placed for discussion at the meeting.

RD suggested that the strong members (China, Japan, Korea, and Singapore) should support the Singapore Business Office. Last year ACSMC contributed US\$ 20,000 to SBO and hoped that they will contribute this year also. He also said that DG suggested that we should discuss it at the Standing Committee Meeting.

Ms. Akiko Yamauchi informed the meeting that the contribution from JCCU to ROAP would be reduced because of the depreciation of Japanese Yen. The JCCU's total contribution to ROAP for the year 2001 will be US\$ 102,600 only.

Prof. Aziz, followed by comments from Mr. Leow Peng Kui, suggested that we should change the program "ISO Training" to "Quality Management Training", because ISO is a very technical term for certification and does not .

Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan wanted to know how much the ICA Geneva is contributing to ROAP from the subscription. RD said that we are getting only US\$ 32,000 per year. But Mr. Vishwanathan informed the meeting that ICA Geneva had agreed to contribute 30 per cent of the membership subscription collected from the region to ROAP. The meeting suggested that we should make a Resolution to this effect.

Professor Ungku A. Aziz said that we should try to get more money from Geneva (30%) and if this money is not sufficient we are willing to contribute more.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that we should have a unified policy for contribution of additional funds to ROAP.

Mr. Mu Li said that I have been very well informed about the re-distribution of funds from ICA Geneva and have a good knowledge about it. According to my memory ICA should re-distribute 30% to ROAP and if we are not receiving it, we should re-negotiate with them.

It was decided that the Board Members from Asia should represent the views of the Standing Committee at the Board Meeting.

After a lengthy discussion the Standing Committed unanimously approved the following Resolution.

## RESOLUTION

The Standing Committee at its Meeting held in Xiamen on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2001:

1. REGRETS that since the establishment of the ICA ROAP Advisory Committee in Bangalore November 1994 and its subsequent meetings in Singapore (1995) and Kuala Lumpur (June 1996), the proposal to raise the percentage of membership subscription allocated to the Regional Office up to 30% in order to improve the activities in the Region, was discussed with the ICA President and the ICA Director General, and approved by the President, but unfortunately has not been seriously followed up on with the Board of Directors and hence not resolved in a satisfactory manner.
2. Unanimously resolves to RECOMMEND once again to the ICA President and Director General and also to the ICA Board, to consider at the earliest possible time the allocation of 30% of the subscription collected from the Asia Pacific Region to the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

This resolution is passed unanimously by the Standing Committee, composed of the following delegates:

01. *Royal Prof. Ungku A. Aziz, Chairperson, ANGKASA, Malaysia*
02. *Mr. Mu Li, ICA Vice President (Asia Pacific), ACFSMC, China*
03. *Mr. B.S. Vishawanathan, representing NCUI, India*
04. *Mr. Chung Dae Kun, representing NACF, Korea*
05. *Dr. Luis Carrillo, Representing NATCCO, Philippines*
06. *Mr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya, Representing SANASA, Sri Lanka*
07. *Mr. Leow Peng Kui, Representing Mr. Tan Kin Lian, SNCF, Singapore*
08. *Ms. Akiko Yamauchi, Representing Ms. Hatsuko Omori, JCCU, Japan*

**Agenda Item 7 : Update on Domus Trust**

The RD presented a brief update on the ICA Domus Trust to the meeting. He said "A meeting of the Domus Trust was held in Bratislava on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2000. The Meeting formally instituted the change of Trustees, namely, Mr. Mu Li succeeding Mr. Yang Deshou, in the capacity of ICA Vice President and Chairman of ICA in Asia and the Pacific; and Mr. Karl J Fogelstrom succeeding Mr. Bruce Thordarson in the capacity of ICA Director-General.

With the successful sale of the Bonow House, it was agreed that the proceeds from the sale should be invested and used in accordance with the plan generated from consultations with Ernst & Young Tax Consulting and Compliance Services. It was stressed that the advice of Ernst & Young TCCS should be the final deciding factor on this matter and that they should be the administrators of all investments. It was agreed that the bulk of the sale amount be invested in NABARD for tax exemption purposes.

The Regional Director-cum Executive Trustee - Mr. Robby Tulus is mandated to continue the search for suitable new premises in New Delhi, having the powers to conclude an acquisition in consultation with the ICA Secretariat and then report back to the full Board of Trustees.

The Trustees agreed to the principle that the Trust should reimburse the ICA, based on invoicing, for all services rendered and expenses incurred in relation to the sale of the Bonow House and the move to new premises. All such invoicing must be reviewed and cleared with Ernst & Young TCCS.

A work plan and budget is being worked out by the Trust, and these work plans and service agreements will be reviewed and cleared with Ernst & Young TCCS".

The members suggested that maximum possible amount should be invested for a longer period and only the interest should be used for activities. RD will present the report about the purchase of land to the Board Meeting in Rome.

## **Agenda Item 8 : Preparations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> FORUM and 5<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly in CEBU, Philippines**

RD said that Dr. Luis Carrillo, Chairman of NATCCO of the Philippines, has agreed to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum and 5<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly in Cebu City, Philippines in 2002. But there is an important activity (Ministers' Conference) in 2002. The members were of the opinion that it will not be feasible for the Secretariat to hold two important activities in 2002.

After discussions the meeting agreed to hold the 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum and 5<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly in Cebu in the 4<sup>th</sup> week of January 2003. The Regional Director was requested to firm up the dates in consultation with NATCCO.

## **Agenda Item 9 : Other business arising**

### **1.1. Rochdale Pioneer Award:**

The information was noted. It was decided that the Standing Committee members should encourage the member organisations to send suitable candidates (two persons – one man, one woman – every three years) for receiving the Rochdale

Pioneer Award directly to ICA Geneva. The deadline for nomination is 1<sup>st</sup> April 2001 and the 1<sup>st</sup> prize will be awarded on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the General Assembly in Seoul in October 2001.

### **1.2. *Candidature for the Global Legislative Committee of the ICA Board***

At the Board Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, it was announced that the Standing Committee during its meeting in Xiamen would nominate a member for the Global Legislative Committee. After a brief discussion, the meeting authorised Mr. Mu Li, ICA Vice President, to nominate a member for the Global Legislative Committee. He then nominated Ms. Rahaiah Baheran from Malaysia to the Global Legislative Committee.

### **1.3. *ICA Data Base and Statistics***

RD said that the ICA ROAP has been proactive in organizing Expert Workshops on the establishment of a Co-op Data Bank. However, when the questionnaire was sent to all ICA members in Asia and the Pacific, the latter have been rather slow in replying to the questionnaire. The statistical information of such Data Base was to be forwarded to ICA Geneva for updating the ICA global statistical information, but we were told that no response has been received from this region

It was felt that the Questionnaire sent by ROAP is very complicated and it requires more time for compilation. However, it was agreed that the Standing Committee members would take necessary action in this regard.

## **Agenda Item 10 : Date and place of next meeting**

The Standing Committee decided to hold its next meeting some time in late May or July. The possible venue could be Kuala Lumpur, Singapore or Bangalore. It was left to the Secretariat to decide about the dates and the venue for the next Standing Committee meeting.

### **Any Other Matter**

RD informed the meeting that the International body charged with managing the Internet announced on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2000, its selection of .coop as one of only seven new top-level domains (TLD) that will join .com and .org at the end of Internet addresses. This will give cooperatives instant recognition on the Internet and help consumers find the businesses they trust online.

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) approved .coop after a highly competitive application and review process. It found both overwhelming global support for .coop from all sectors of the economy and a clear, unmet need for a unique cooperative identity online.

The net TLD will be restricted for use by only bona fide cooperative businesses, which number more than 750,000 globally with 760 million members. Registration for the .coop domain will be available to cooperatives after mid-2001.

The RIO Cooperative Declaration was circulated at the meeting. RD said that the ICA President and the Board wants to re-promote cooperatives in the new millennium and they want as many signatures as possible as a recognition to cooperatives. Mr. Mats Ahnlund is coordinating this and he will send a letter to all ICA member organisations from Geneva.

Professor Ungku A. Aziz said that the Standing Committee Members should translate it into local languages so that everybody can understand it and try to get the maximum signatures. The meeting agreed to his suggestion.

**Virtual HRD** - A paper entitled "New Approaches to Management and Leadership Development in Cooperatives" was circulated at the meeting. The information was noted. Professor Ungku A Aziz said that we do not have to pay big money for this and we can do it ourselves. The HRD Committee and Delhi office can do it.

RD read out the e-mail he received from Dr. Yehudah Paz informing his inability to attend the Standing Committee Meeting. The members wished him a speedy recovery.

The Chairperson thanked the Secretariat and the host for the excellent arrangements made for the meeting.

Mr. Mu Li thanked Professor Ungku A Aziz, the Chairperson, for conducting the meeting very smoothly and well in advance. He looked forward to a closer collaboration among the Standing Committee Members.

## **Agenda Item 11 : Adjournment**

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

## **Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting Shanghai (China) : 31 August- 01 September 2001**

The following members attended the Standing Committee (SC) Meeting that was held at Jinjiang Hotel, Shanghai (China) on August 31 and September 01, 2001

### **In attendance**

01. Mr. Mu Li, Vice President, ICA
02. Royal Prof. Ungku A. Aziz, ANGKASA, Malaysia, Chairperson
03. Mr. Chung Dae Kun, member, Korea
04. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, member, India
05. Dr. Yehudah Paz, member, Israel
06. Mr. Tan Kin Lian, member, Singapore
07. Ms. Akiko Yamauchi, representing Ms. Ito, Vice Chairperson, Japan
08. Dr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya, member, Sri Lanka
09. Ms. Rahaiah Baheran, ICA Board Member, Malaysia, Observer
10. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, NACF Korea, Observer
11. Dr. S.S. Sisodia, observer
12. Mr. Karl Fogelstrom, Director general, ICA – Special Invitee
13. Mr. Robby Tulus, Regional Director, ICA ROAP- Secretary
14. Mr. Yu Ning, ACFSMC, Observer
15. Mr. Rong Jun, ACFSMC, Observer/Interpreter

### **Apologies**

Representative from NATCCO, Philippines

### **Agenda Item1: Opening**

The Chairperson called the meeting to order, and asked Mr. Mu Li to address the Meeting. Mr. Mu Li extended his warm welcome to all members and guests, and thanked all those who were able to make it to Shanghai. He stressed the importance of this meeting and believed that with the good chairmanship of Prof. Aziz we will be able to achieve all the results as expected.

Professor Ungku A. Aziz opened the meeting with a vote of thanks to the host, and proceeded by asking if the Meeting could approve the Agenda (*Agenda Item 2*) as circulated by ICA ROAP, and to confirm the Minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee in Xiamen (*Agenda Item 3*).

The Agenda was accepted, and Minutes confirmed without any question and revision.

He then asked the Regional Director to present his Progress Report.

## **Agenda Item 04: Report from the Regional Director**

The Regional Director (Robby Tulus), presented a series of slides entitled "Retrospect (1996-2001) and Prospects (2001 onwards) of ICA ROAP, assessing past results and future directions by way of a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis.

The progress report was favorably accepted by the meeting, and the meeting commented that it is well structured, coherent and comprehensive. The Chairperson said that the region is very large and we have successfully carried out programs which benefits are felt by members. He invited comments or questions, and said that it would be advisable to have copies made of these slides for the benefit of the Standing Committee members.

Comments on the SWOT analysis:

Mr. Tan Kin Lian concurred with the sub-regional approach in the management structure of ICA ROAP because it brings more focus, but that he will be more in favor of receiving concise report on activities that must be communicated more frequently through email. He commented that it is fine and well to have additional members of ICA recruited with the help of Board members and active members in this region, but that the additional subscriptions that go to Geneva be utilized for this region as well. He also commented on the government's bias towards SMEs, manifesting the government's perception that co-op are not effective instruments to help people. We must make this a key policy issue, and stressed the importance of advocacy.

Dr. Yehudah Paz stated that the impressive analytical report shown in these slides should not only be distributed among the Standing Committee members but also among the larger membership. He emphasized that economic cooperation should be enhanced to cover sectors like tourism, industrial co-ops etc.; ICA ROAP should build more new alliances in addition to the latest one made with ICFTU, and while we have a legislative committee in ICA global, the legislative program of ROAP must be continuously strengthened within the Asia context.

Mr. Kiriwandeniya suggested that it would be a good idea to review the impact of the Co-op Ministerial Conferences held so far. (RD commented that this is an ongoing exercise and will be done in the next one in Kathmandu as well).

HJH Rahaiah Baheran was happy to note that the Manual on Women in Leadership has now been validated, but stressed that the implementation of the manual must be actively promoted. She also mentioned that Gender issues must be an integral part of the discussions at the next Coop Ministers' Conference in Kathmandu.

The Chairperson commented that in the context of the work being done in Asia Pacific, he is not entirely in agreement with Mr. Tan that we should sub-regionalize our work. We should try to combine programming that sweeps across sub-regions from Israel/Iran to those in the Pacific, because co-op is an important instrument to build these links. Prof. Aziz further remarked that we also need to keep the grassroots alive, so large co-operative structures will not lose their contacts with and mandate from the ground level. There are many instances where white-colored professionals and leaders take advantage of the movement but are not supported from the ground up. As a result, they are dependent on government support and remain weak. Therefore, we must always think and bring programs one stage down from the "triangle". Many agricultural co-ops fail because of over-dependence on governments. Therefore, Agriculture Co-ops such as in Korea (NACF) and Japan (JA Zenchu) are now being emulated by ANGKASA in Malaysia because they have not lost their linkages with the grassroots. They knit together and bring all members together.

Mr. Karl Fogelstrom also commended the Progress Report and said that many elements are in full congruence with the ICA Agenda now being envisioned by the Secretariat in Geneva.

#### **Agenda Item 05: Election of ICA Board and President**

Mr. Mu Li introduced the Agenda item by giving an account on the Board Meeting in Rome (April) and in Geneva (June), wherein the Election Committee has confirmed two candidates for the post of ICA President, i.e. Dr. Paz (Israel) and Mr. Barberini (Italy). Dr. Paz has since withdrawn his candidacy, hence paving the way for Mr. Barberini to be the only candidate for election of the President. Mr. Mu Li admired the decision made by Dr. Paz since it will make the election very smooth. Mr. Mu Li said that Dr. Paz carries great wisdom and that on behalf of the ICA he wishes to give him the highest respect for his wise decision.

Since the deadline for nominations of the ICA Board was closed on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2001, Mr. Mu Li requested Mr. Karl Fogelstrom to describe the candidates for the ICA Board elections during the General Assembly in Seoul.

The Director General gave detailed information about the Board election, and indicated that all 4 Vice Presidents from all 4 regions remain the same and will not be subject for election this year. Hence there will be 15 seats to be contested for elections. At this point there are 22 nominations, including 4 women (2 from Europe, one from the Americas, and 1 from Asia Pacific). There are 6 nominations for the Audit Committee, of which 5 will be elected.

There are currently 7 candidates from the Asia Pacific region, in addition to the 5 from the countries currently represented. The current candidates are Dr. S.S. Sidodia from India, Dr. Yehudah Paz from Israel, Mr. M. Harada from Japan, Mr. Chung Dae Kun from Korea, and Ms. HJH Rahaiah Baheran from Malaysia. The two additional candidates are nominated by member-Co-operatives in Sri Lanka and Kuwait.



Mr. Karl Fogelstrom read out the names of all 22 candidates.

After some discussions, ***the Standing Committee resolved that we should recognize the consensus reached earlier by the Standing Committee in that only six candidates, namely from the above mentioned six countries will constitute the representation at the ICA Board, namely Dr. S.S. Sisodia, Dr. Yehudah Paz, Ms. HJH Rahaiah Baهران, Mr. Mu Li (Vice President), Mr. M Harada, and Mr. Chung Dae Kun. The consensus of the Standing Committee is to retain these five candidates (excluding the Vice President whose re-election will take place later) to be elected to the ICA Board from the five countries, namely India, Israel, Malaysia, Japan, and Korea, on account of their outstanding services in this region. ICA ROAP was further directed to circulate to all ICA members in Asia as well as other regions, this consensus.***

## **AGENDA ITEM 06: ICA PLAN AND BUDGET**

The Director General (Mr. Karl Fogelstrom), presented a series of slides on the new Vision and Agenda of the ICA, and he made references to the proximity of many elements of the ICA Agenda with those of ICA ROAP as presented earlier by Robby Tulus.

Mr. Fogelstrom then gave a detailed overview of the financial situation at the Secretariat in Geneva. He described how ICA is "Bleeding" financially these days, on account of the accumulated deficits of previous years (i.e. from the regions, including ROAP which accounts for SFR 115,000 in 1999 and SFR 144,000 in 2000), and for the compensation of personnel who left ICA in Geneva in the year 2000, amounting to SFR 1.1 Million, hence depleting the ICA reserves altogether.

He said this bleeding must be stopped. While the policy on regionalization in 1992 was a good thing, Mr. Fogelstrom said that the financial implication of a regionalized approach was not taken into account. As a result, we now have severe liquidity problems.

On the positive side, we have the dot.COOP as an innovative asset to bank on, and the important renewal of ILO Recommendation 127. On the latter, however, Mr. Fogelstrom felt that the contents seem to be too biased towards the social dimension and tend to favor workers only.

Dr. Yehudah Paz remarked that we must indeed stop the financial "bleeding". It is important to note, however, that the deficit at ICA ROAP was a planned one, and that the ICA Board was conscious about this deficit because the amount was to be replenished with the sale of the Bonow House. Unfortunately, the complications and delayed sale of the Bonow House has exacerbated the situation, and that therefore ICAROAP must be more effective in its financial management. But it must be noted that the deficit was not a result of mismanagement.

To get a clearer picture, Mr. Tan Kin Lian requested more details about the financial figures of the income from subscriptions, total expenses, revenue and development support, and how the deficit was derived. The Director General gave a detailed description of the finances.

Ms. Akiko said that the deficit at ICA poses many questions from all the ICA members in Japan. Members in Japan feel that their big subscription contribution has not resulted in good enough progress. ICA needs to explain to the members in Japan how this deficit issue will be resolved because otherwise they question the merits of being members of the ICA.

Mr. Fogelstrom said that we now have a liquidity crunch in Geneva. In ICA ROAP, fortunately, there are revenues gained from the proceeds of DOMUS Trust investments. The DOMUS Trust Board in Rome has resolved to use the proceeds of US \$ 120,000.00 for the operations of ICA ROAP (not for the Singapore office). This amount must now be used for the operations and programs of ICA ROAP and that measures must be taken to make this fund available as soon as possible. Mr. Vishwanathan agreed and said that we need to seek legal advice from Ernst and Young to make this happen.

(Lunch Break)

Upon resuming the meeting after lunch, Prof. Aziz as Chairperson and Dr. Yehudah Paz reached an agreement to propose a solution to stop the financial "Bleeding" of ICA. The idea came from Prof. Ungku Aziz.

The proposal is to resolve the issue between ICA members in Asia Pacific and the Secretariat in Geneva. Each party will give something and gets something.

***In the first place, ICA members in Asia and the Pacific will put enough resources to help "bail out" the deficit at the Secretariat in Geneva as a ONE TIME CONTRIBUTION.***

***In return, a percentage of the total subscription from Asia Pacific should be returned to the region (ROAP) on an annual basis, decided by a fixed formula.***

The above proposal means that members in Asia Pacific will give a blood transfusion to the bleeding vessels in Geneva, and once the bleeding stops we can constitute a formula of redistribution of subscription funds to allow the Secretariat and the Regional Offices to function well without future deficits.

Dr. Paz re-emphasized the fact that we must define two numerical figures:

First: To establish what range is feasible and possible for the "blood transfusion" process;

Second: To define an equitable redistribution of subscription fund in terms of percentage.

This proposal represents a major contribution from the Asia region to the global scene, and it must therefore be seen as Asia taking the lead in helping to solve the financial crisis of the ICA.

Mr. Tan indicated that since the total subscription is SFR 2.2. Million, and the deficit SFR 1.1 Million, the contribution all ICA members have to make is between one half to one year of subscription. In the Asia Pacific region it will be around 20% to 30% of that total.

Mr. Fogelstrom explained about the distribution of subscription money to the regions. SFR 610,000 in total goes back to the region, of which Asia receives SFR 55,000,- Americas SFR 55,000, Europe SFR 310,000, and Africa (2 offices) SFR 190,000.-. The distribution takes into account the spirit of solidarity to support the Africa region, whereas Europe receives the most with 30% of its paid subscription (Asia Pacific will receive SFR 176,000.- if the 30% formula is used).

Hence fixed figures and the time frames must be developed.

Mr. Vishwanathan is of the opinion that pruning the expenses is a more logical way out because if we use the above proposal we may be "bailing out" the mistakes made by other regions and hence difficult to convince our co-operative members to contribute. Ms. Akiko echoed the point raised by Mr. Vishwanathan and said that members in Japan has paid its full dues and would thus be hard to convince to contribute more.

Prof. Aziz pointed out that we must be transparent even to our members to show what actually happens so nothing is hidden underneath the carpet. The question is: are we ready to reform or will continue the bleeding like it is now?

Mr. Mu Li indicated that the financial crisis is a serious one, and he is doubtful that all members, especially the large ones, are willing to contribute the amount even if it is a one time payment. For those paying the minimum subscription it is okay, but the large ones may object. Hence the Standing Committee should adopt a pledge for members to pay a sum to stop the crisis, without having to compel them.

After further discussions, the following will be the recommendation of the Standing Committee:

- 1) To solve the deficit problem of ICA by way of a "one off contribution";
- 2) ROAP should define a formula whereby the proportion of subscription paid by members in Asia Pacific be returned to the region for its operations;
- 3) The time frame has to be determined.

These two problems are linked and must therefore be solved together and not separately.

## AGENDA ITEM 07: ICAROAP Singapore Business Office

Mr. Tan Kin Lian read out Annexure-V "Paper on the ICA ROAP Singapore Business Office (SBO)", and underlined the two options proposed by SNCF:

1. To downsize the current office space from 1,900 Sq feet to 900.
2. To locate the ICA ROAP Business Office at the SNCF premises, and support intended for the infrastructure can be channeled to other significant ICA ROAP projects, which will be considered on a planned program basis.

The Regional Director gave further explanations to the revised budget and the reasons for the deficit, and stresses that a long-term view is important if one need to obtain a feasible return on investment.

Mr. Vishwanathan said that what we need to know first of all is whether the SBO has been beneficial to members. We need to conduct an evaluation in order to know the real situation.

Mr. Tan Kin Lian described the advantages of the SBO from a cost-efficient point of view, but he agrees with Mr. Vishwanathan that an objective evaluation be conducted, and which results and recommendations should be honored.

***Ms Akiko made a motion that ICA ROAP should move to the SNCF premises as soon as possible to cut on costs. This was unanimously approved by the Meeting.***

The meeting decided to form a team of three to undertake the evaluation of the SBO. After some discussions, it was agreed that the Team be composed of Dr. Yehudah Paz as Chairperson, Mr. Vishwanathan (NCUI), and Ms. Akiko Yamauchi (JCCU).

***The meeting also places on record its deep appreciation to Mr. Tan Kin Lian and SNCF for their invaluable contribution to making it possible for the ICA ROAP Singapore Office to be opened, and to operate as actively as it does now.***

The results of the evaluation and new budget will be presented at the Standing Committee meeting in Seoul in time for the Board to approve it.

The Chair suggested that since we need more time to discuss Agenda Item 08, this Agenda be deferred to the next day on September 01.

## AGENDA ITEM 09: OTHER BUSINESS MATTER ARISING

The agenda item on "Succession Planning" to appoint the successor of the ICA Regional Director for Asia Pacific, Mr. Robby Tulus, was discussed. The Chairperson asked Mr. Fogelstrom to explain his views on the matter.

Mr. Fogelstrom said that he has always worked on the principle of reaching the broadest possible consensus, hence he is listening carefully to what the members in Asia Pacific has to say at this Standing Committee meeting. He said he pursued the process in the most transparent way possible.

He further pointed out that after signing the letter to Robby Tulus, in response to his request to take up an earlier retirement as from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2001, he called on one incumbent he knows well and who is prepared to take up the position as Regional Director. However, after the nomination of Mr. Shil Kwan Lee from NACF, and having received letter of support from 7 countries, he has told the incumbent that the situation has now changed. The incumbent understood it very well. Based on this, it is now clear that the person best supported by the region, and also known very well to the Director General, can take over as Regional Director. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee is therefore the most appropriate person to take this position as Regional Director, and in the meantime Mr. Fogelstrom has appointed Mr. B.D. Sharma to take the role as Acting Regional Director until such time that Mr. Lee is ready to commence his position.

***Mr. Mu Li and the Chairperson, on behalf of the Standing Committee, wishes to place on record the deep appreciation to Mr. Karl Fogelstrom for having made the process as smooth as possible, inasmuch as this consensus was a result of his thorough endeavor and good work, and will also mark a good beginning for future co-operation between ROAP and the Secretariat, and further development of the ICA.***

The Chairperson further indicated that Robby Tulus is a hard act to follow – to use a Hollywood jargon – and believes that Mr. Lee is just the one to be able to succeed him.

***We must therefore record the contribution of NACF to nominate Mr. Shil Kwan Lee as the successor of Mr. Robby Tulus, but more so to appreciate highly the contribution of Mr. Robby Tulus who has made such tremendous contribution to this region.***

Mr. Vishwanathan wishes to add that his services be continued as a Senior advisor/consultant to help ICA ROAP with the organization of the Ministers' Conference in Kathmandu. Dr. Paz said that we need to have his services beyond that and that some arrangements need to be made to that effect.

Mr. Fogelstrom added that Robby Tulus' association with the ICA is essential from his point of view and he has appreciated the work of Robby Tulus and expressed it in both verbal manner as well as in writing. He mentioned that the official thanks and recognition to Robby Tulus will be done in Seoul.

***Mr. Robby Tulus also asked to place on record his deep appreciation to the Standing Committee, Asia Board members, ICA members, the Director General and all ICA Staff, for the great cooperation rendered to make the job so rewarding and meaningful, and for the kind sentiments raised by the Standing Committee in this Meeting in Shanghai.***

The Regional Director proceeded by explaining about the proposal of a Consortium in Asia to become a founding member of DOT.COOP; Due to time constraint the Chair asked that this be discussed the following day.

### **AGENDA ITEM 09 (continued)**

The Meeting resumed on September 01, with a power-point presentation by the Regional Director of the KRA and envisioned OUPUTS/INPUTS for 2002. The Revenues and Expenses Projection for 2001/2002 (Annexure III) was used as reference.

#### **Comments from the Meeting:**

Dr. Paz suggested that there should be more programs of ICA ROAP using facilities owned by members in this region. This is echoed by Mr. Vishwanathan, stressing that the VAMNICOM in Pune could be a good place for various programs conducted by ICA ROAP. He also indicated that members should deal with and through ICA ROAP rather than individual countries when it comes to inter-country programs.

Mr. Tan indicated that SNCF has also been sanctioned some funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to conduct training for co-op leaders from the ASEAN countries. He mentioned that ICA ROAP should also do the coordination of this training program, in collaboration with SNCF.

He also indicated that research papers on various global issues that are relevant to co-operative development be used in global and regional workshops for CEO and coop leaders.

Mr. Kiriwandeniya said that long term subsidized credit is available for funding to various countries in Asia and that ICA ROAP could help and take the leadership to coordinate this program.

Prof. Aziz stated that the Independent State of East Timor needs support and that ICA ROAP should seek the cooperation of its members in Australia and perhaps in Portugal, especially in the field of education and training.

Ms. Akiko raised the point in the budget for 2002, and wishes to know how the figures were derived in the projected budget amounts for 2002. The Regional Director explained about the project proposals already prepared for CCA and CICOPA, but that the one for JCCU is yet to be developed. As well, the planning will only be conducted in November with the involvement of the new Regional Director. Ms. Akiko felt that it will be too late, and that ICA ROAP needs to present the project well in advance, because JCCU planning cycle is happening around the same time and that she is afraid the figures will come in too late. The Regional Director thanked Ms Akiko for her information and will work out the budget with the ICA Secretariat well in time before the Board Meeting in Seoul.

Dr. Paz stated the need for us to also seek more membership from Australia, and new members from New Zealand.

Both Mr. Shil Kwan Lee and Mr. Karl Fogelstrom gave an update on the preparations as well as content of the General Assembly in Seoul for information only.

The Regional Director asked the Chair as to how the discussions on DOT.COOP could be advanced at this stage, and the Chair, with the consent of the Meeting, has asked the Secretariat in Geneva to give follow up on the matter of the Founding Member from Asia.

The Chairperson asked Mr. Mu Li to deliver his closing remarks, and Mr. Mu Li believed that it has been a very smooth-going and successful meeting. He appreciated the good results of the meeting through the hard work of all of us in this room under the good chairmanship of Prof. Aziz.

*Mr. Fogelstrom wishes to put on record his deep appreciation to the Standing Committee for having invited him to Shanghai, and for the very fruitful discussions in this 'working' Meeting. There are many things to be learned and he appreciated the substantive discussions, which led to the good results.*

Ms Akiko wishes to inform the meeting that the National Federation of University Co-operative Association has applied for membership at the ICA so Japan will soon be represented by one additional member at the ICA. This was much appreciated by the meeting.

#### **Agenda Item 11: DATE & VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was decided that the date and venue of the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee will be on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2001 in Seoul at 17:00 hours. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee will inform the exact venue of the meeting to all Committee members. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

**Robby Tulus**  
Regional Director, ICA

**Royal Prof. Ungku Aziz**  
Chairperson, Standing Committee

## **Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting SEOUL (KOREA) : 11<sup>th</sup> October 2001**

The following members attended the Standing Committee (SC) Meeting that was held at the COEX Room 314 AB, Seoul (Korea) on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2001:

01. Mr. Mu Li, Vice President, ICA
02. Royal Prof. Ungku A. Aziz, ANGKASA, Malaysia, Chairperson
03. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, representing Mr. Chung Dae Kun, member, Korea
04. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, member, India
05. Dr. Yehudah Paz, member, Israel
06. Mr. Leow Peng Kui, Representing Mr. Tan Kin Lian, member, Singapore
07. Ms. Junko Ito, Vice Chairperson, Japan
08. Dr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya, member, Sri Lanka
09. Ms. Rahaiah Baهران, ICA Board Member, Malaysia, Observer
10. Mr. Karl Fogelstrom, Director General, ICA – Special Invitee
11. Mr. Robby Tulus, Regional Director (outgoing), ICA ROAP- Secretary
12. Mr. B.D. Sharma, Regional Director (acting), ICA ROAP
13. Mr. Yu Ning, ACFSMC, Observer
14. Ms. Akiko Yamauchi, Observer
15. Mr. Rong Jun, ACFSMC, Observer/Interpreter

### **Apologies**

Representative from NATCCO, Philippines.

### **Agenda Item 1: Review and adoption of Minutes of the Shanghai Meeting**

The Chairperson, Prof Aziz, opened the meeting and welcomed all members and invitees. He asked the Meeting to review the Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting held in Shanghai, including the addendum proposed by Messrs. B.S. Vishwanathan and Tan Kin Lian respectively. There being no further comments, the Minutes as well as the said Addendum was approved and adopted (see Appendix 1). The Chairperson asked the Regional Director (outgoing) to report on the follow-up actions taken since the Shanghai Meeting. Mr. Tulus explained that the circular letter to all ICA members, signed by the Chairperson of the Standing Committee, regarding "the consensus of the five candidates from Asia for election to the ICA Board" was duly sent and circulated to all members of the ICA. The preparations and implementation of the Evaluation of the ICA Singapore Business Office was also carried out according to plan.



## Agenda Item 2: Report by the Evaluation Committee

The Report of the Evaluation Committee on the Singapore Business Office of ICA ROAP was distributed and read out by the Chairperson, Dr. Yehudah Paz. Dr. Paz expressed his profound thanks to the Evaluation Committee members, the SNCF leadership and staff, the Government of Singapore, and to the Regional Director (outgoing) for their excellent collaboration throughout the evaluation process.

Subject to the above comments, the Meeting reviewed the Report (see Appendix 2) in detail, and appreciated the hard and efficient work done by the Committee. It is a well constructed report and could be accepted in principle. However, the following comments, additions, and amendments were also noted and adopted:

### **Page 3, Item 2:**

Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan proposed the change to read as follows:

*"Noting that little or no formal procedure was followed prior to setting up the Singapore Business Office, the Committee proposes that in the future ICA offices, **including future offices in Asia**, be set up only after full discussion, **including confirmed financial commitment within a defined time frame**, and approval by the appropriate regional governing body in conjunction with the Director General and staff, and only after presentation to the ICA Board".*

The point is taken that the opening of a new office must be discussed based on *felt and real NEEDS* of members.

### **Page 3, Sub-item 3.2:**

Mr. B.D. Sharma, noting the written views of JCCU, commented that the JCCU sponsorship and decision to locate its coordinator in Singapore must not be construed as a step to establish a parallel administrative structure in the region. It is a matter of principle that no parallel administrative structure should be set in place and dictated upon by any funding agency. The Regional Director has the final and overall responsibility to determine staffing and the place where staff is to be stationed.

Mr. Leow Peng Kui commented that the coordination of ICA offices, in case there is more than one in the region, must be done and guided by the Regional Director. However, efficiency must be taken into account both in the program and financial aspects. He agrees that the Regional Director is the source of decision-making.

Mr. Sharma indicated that the trade initiative, which led to the need of having a business office, was already felt and expressed many years back since the time of (the late) Mr. G.K. Sharma. Hence we need to take a functional approach to the Singapore Business Office, not a structural one.

Under **Sub-item 3.3**, Prof Aziz said that the ASEAN Co-operative Organization (ACO) could be revived under the auspices of the SBO. This is just for consideration by the Committee, because we must first see if such revival is at all feasible.

On **Item 4** (page 4), particularly **Sub-item 4.1**, Mr. Vishwanathan proposed that the Committee submit a request to NTUC Income, through the kind offices of Mr. Tan Kin Lian, to waive further payment and penalty when vacating the current office premises on the fourth floor of the SLF Building. It was further suggested that NTUC Income should also absorb the current office furniture at a reasonable price. Mr. Leow Peng Kui described the standard penalty clause, the three months notice, and the responsibility of tenant for the demolition of partitions. Mr. Vishwanathan also asked to SNCF to support the above proposal.

The Standing Committee wishes to place on record its profound gratitude to Messrs. Leow Peng Kui and Tan Kin Lian for their great support and contribution in making it possible for the move to proceed smoothly.

On **Sub-item 4.3/4.4**, Mr. Leow Peng Kui said that the contribution of Singapore \$ 60,000.00 will be continued till May 31, 2002, and since the original purpose of the contribution was to pay rent of the SBO, there will be some savings accrued from the move to SNCF offices. Dr. Paz indicated that ICA needs to pay for the transition costs, and we need to discuss this with the SNCF as a consequence of the decision made by the Standing Committee, and reflected in the formal agreement as stipulated in item **Sub-item 4.4**.

During the deliberation on the **Staff Structure**, Prof Aziz suggested that the Regional Director should designate one person to head the Singapore Business Office. Acknowledgement should be given to the fact that the HRD Committee secretariat is run from the SBO despite its non-business function. He stressed the point that we must follow the function and not the person. There should not be a watertight compartmentalization because it is a practical appointment, and such appointment (if related to the HRD function) must not be construed as a fixed position.

The Chair proceeded with the Budget discussions. The Standing Committee agreed that the Chairperson should consult with the All China Federation for Supply and Marketing Co-operatives and circulate to members the decision made by ACFSMC regarding their contribution of \$ 10,000. On **Sub-Item 5.c**, the Committee concluded that while the purpose of the Business Office is to generate income through its activities, it is crucial that no deficit should be incurred through its business activities.

On **Item 6**, the Standing Committee agreed that the SBO be reviewed once every two years, but that in the interim the Standing Committee and the Secretariat will guide the Regional Director in conducting those activities that will prevent any future deficit to occur.

Before proceeding with the next Agenda Item, the Standing Committee wishes to place on record their deepest appreciation for the effective work performed by all three members of the Committee, and to the Regional Director (outgoing) for his excellent facilitation.

### **Agenda Item 3: Update on ICA Board Elections**

There being no changes in the program of the General Assembly with regard to the Statutory Business and the Board elections, the Chair and members felt no further need to discuss this Agenda.

### **Agenda Item 4: Other Business Arising**

The Chairperson, Prof. Aziz, brought up the issue of the ICA deficit, and reiterated the agreement reached in Shanghai to add 50% subscription of our members in Asia to cover the loss of reserves of the ICA, and that henceforth 30% of subscription will be returned to the region once the reserves are replenished. He then questioned each and every member of the Standing Committee for their recommitment to this resolve, and all members agreed.

The ICA Director General proceeded with a summary account of the important decisions made by the Finance Committee held in Geneva in September 2001, and explained that a resolution to increase subscription by members will be tabled at the General Assembly. He stressed that the Board is reaching a point of definition for proposing this Resolution for ICA to reestablish its reserve fund, and to receive good returns in the future. The Standing Committee agrees that the future redistribution of funds to the region must include the Asian Standing Committee in the discussions.

### **Agenda Item 5: Adjournment**

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

**ADDENDUM**

Please refer to the draft minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting in Shanghai, of August 31<sup>st</sup> and September 01, 2001.

The following are proposed additions/amendments:

**A. Proposed by Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan**

" 1. According to my observation, it was decided that Mr. B.D. Sharma will continue for a further period of one year to support the new Regional Director and also to have Indian Cooperative Movement satisfied. After his retirement his replacement would also be from India.

2. The fulfillment of terms and conditions, as decided in the Standing Committee Meeting, for the purchase of ICA Domus Trust Building".

**B. Proposed by Mr. Tan Kin Lian**

The following point in the Draft Agenda:

**"Akiko made a motion that *ICA ROAP should move to the SNCF premises as soon as possible to cut on costs. This was unanimously approved by the Meeting*",**

to be amended as follows:

**" ICA ROAP should move to SNCF Premises, or to such other place, in order to cut on costs. The final decision, however, should take into account the recommendation by the Evaluation Committee after it has completed its exercise in early October 2001"**

**REPORT OF THE EVALUATION COMMITTEE  
ON THE  
SINGAPORE BUSINESS OFFICE OF ICA ROAP**

**A. INTRODUCTION**

The Standing Committee of the Asia Pacific region meeting in Shanghai, China in August 31 to September 1, 2001 discussed the present situation and future prospects of the Singapore Business Office (SBO) at length. Because of the importance of the issue for the future activity of the region it was decided to set up a committee charged with further investigating the issue and formalizing recommendations for the standing committee's consideration. The committee, consisting of Dr Y Paz (Chairman), Mr B.S. Vishwanathan and Ms Akiko Yamauchi met in Singapore on October 8 - 10, 2001. During the course of its stay in Singapore it met with:

Mr Tan Kin Lian - Chairman, SNCF

Mr Leow Peng Kui - Chief Executive, SNCF

and other staff members

Mrs Yu-Foo Yee Shoon, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Community Development and Sports and Deputy Chairperson SNCF Board of Trustees.

The committee wishes to record its deep gratitude to Mr Robby Tulus, outgoing Regional Director of ICA ROAP, whose collaboration and work in preparation of the meeting and throughout its sessions were the basis and foundation of its work.

It also wishes to thank SNCF, its Chairman and its Chief Executive for their support and warm hospitality.

## **B. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **1. Position and function of the Singapore Business Office:**

The Evaluation Committee notes the broad program of activities of the Singapore Business Office since its establishment on 10 July 1999, but recognizes that only part of its potential was realized. Therefore, the Committee decided to recommend to the Standing Committee to:

- (a) maintain and continue the operations of the Singapore Business Office; (b) define the central/core function of the Singapore Business Office to be primarily to undertake business and trade activities, within the below mentioned budget parameters and to also further the other objectives set out in the Memorandum of Understanding signed on 5 July 1999. \*)

*\*) The objectives contained in the Memorandum of Understanding may be found in Appendix I.*

## **2. Procedure for setting up Future Offices:**

Noting that little or no formal procedure was followed prior to setting up the Singapore Business Office, the Committee proposes that in the future ICA offices be set up only after full discussion and approval by the appropriate regional governing body in conjunction with the Director General and staff, and only after presentation to the ICA Board.

## **3. Functions of the Singapore Business Office (SBO)**

- 3.1. To coordinate and promote co-operative economic activities, including cross sectoral and interlocking mechanisms for co-operative businesses and other trade related activities;
- 3.2. To serve as the base for the direction and implementation of activities financed and initiated by JCCU, specifically in the field of consumers co-operative development, gender, youth, etc., which activities will be coordinated by the staff person nominated and sponsored by JCCU and stationed in Singapore;  
*\*) It is proposed that a staff member recruited and sponsored by NCUI will support activities relating to gender and youth at the Delhi office. The JCCU coordinator based in Singapore will monitor this work.*
- 3.3. To develop and promote co-operative activities related to the sub-region of South East Asia.

*\*) The other sub-regions (South, West, and Central; East Asia and the Pacific) are presently coordinated through the Regional Office in New Delhi under the general direction and coordination of the Regional Director.*

- 3.4. Regional activities other than those mentioned above will continue to be directed and coordinated through the regional office in New Delhi. Regional Specialized Committees will continue to be coordinated through the Regional Office in New Delhi unless otherwise requested by their respective chairpersons.

#### **4. STRUCTURE of the Singapore Business Office (SBO):**

##### **Physical Structure:**

- 4.1. By October 31, the present Singapore Business Office will be closed. (There will be no penalty for the early closure of the SBO as the owners – NTUC Income – has waived further payment and the penalty clause contained in the Tenancy Agreement)
- 4.2. On November 01, 2001, the SBO will re-open in its new location – within the premises of SNCF and utilizing an office space with 4 workstations in the SNCF office. *(If circumstances require, these dates may be moved to November 14 for closure, and November 15, 2001, for re-opening.)*



- 4.3. SNCF has generously agreed to provide support services to the SBO, including the use of equipment, access to meeting room, limited storage space, etc.
- 4.4. A formal agreement with SNCF will be formulated and signed by the above mentioned dates in item 4.2.

## **Staff Structure**

4.5. The Regional Director, based in New Delhi, will also be in charge of the SBO, spending time in Singapore as required;

4.6. Staff members of the SBO will consist of:

**a. Mr. Juku Ozawa** -- Director, Special Projects (JCCU Coordinator)

*\*) Mr. Ozawa will complete his term in March 2002, and his replacement will take up his responsibilities by April 01, 2002.*

**b. Mr. Romy Villamin** – Director, South East Asia

**c. Administrative Assistant** – It is proposed to fix this position on a half-time basis.

*\*) JCCU covers all salary payments etc. to its Coordinator.*

*\*) The salary of Mr. Romy Villamin is paid partially by JCCU, and partially by his outside employment as a consultant, and in small measure by the ICA. It may also include cost recoveries from projects.*

*\*) The salary of the Administrative Assistant is paid by the SBO.*

## 5. BUDGET (for the year beginning on 1 November 2001)

<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>	US \$
Rent	5,600.00
Admin Assistant	11,500.00
Apartment Subsidy*)	5,200.00
Other operating expenses, Including contingencies	3,500.00
	-----
	<b>25,800.00</b>
 <b>REVENUE</b>	
SNCF	16,700.00
ACFSMC **)	10,000.00
JCCU	2,000.00
	-----
	<b>28,700.00</b>

\*) Paid to Mr. Romy Villamin as his housing allowance

\*\*\*) Based on preliminary discussions, to be finalized.

### Notes to budget:

The above budget indicates the following:

- SBO can operate in its new premises without a deficit;
- No funding is required from Geneva or from the Regional Office or from the Domus Trust Fund;
- Project activities of the SBO must be financed outside of this budget.

## 5. REVIEW

The work of the SBO should be reviewed and discussed periodically. The Committee suggests that this be done at least once every two years so that an up-to-date report can be submitted to the Standing Committee and to the Regional Assembly.

### C. CLOSING STATEMENT

THE COMMITTEE RECORDS ITS PROFOUND GRATITUDE TO SNCF FOR ITS MAJOR AND CONTINUING SUPPORT TO THE SBO, AND TO JCCU FOR THE SCOPE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF ITS CONTRIBUTION TO PROJECT ACTIVITIES IN THIS REGION, AS WELL AS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SINGAPORE AND ESPECIALLY TO THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SPORTS WHICH HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR INTEREST IN SUPPORTING JOINT PROJECT ACTIVITIES OF ROAP & SNCF AT THE SBO, AND HOPES FOR THE REALIZATION OF THIS POTENTIAL.

**Respectfully submitted:**

**Dr. Yehudah Paz**  
Chairperson

**B.S. Vishwanathan**  
Member

**Akiko Yamauchi**  
Member

*RT/10/10/2001*

## **Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting** **Kathmandu (Nepal): 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2002**

The following members attended the Standing Committee (SC) Meeting that was held at the Board Room of Soaltee Crowne Plaza Hotel, Kathmandu on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2002 from 16:00 to 19:00 hours:

01. Mr. Mu Li, Vice President, ICA - Chairperson
02. Mr. Ivano Barberini, President, ICA - Special Invitee
03. Dr. Yehudah Paz, member, Israel
04. Dr. S.S. Sisodia, member, India
05. Dr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya, member, Sri Lanka
06. Mr. Leow Peng Kui, Representing Mr. Tan Kin Lian, Singapore
07. Ms. Akiko Yamauchi, Representing Ms. Junko Ito, Japan
08. Mr. Guillermo P. Cua, Representing Mr. Antonio C. Aranas, Philippines
09. Mr. Jong-Chan Lee, Representing Mr. Chung Dae-Kun, Korea
10. Mr. Jan-Eirik Imbsen, Development Director, ICA Geneva.
11. Mr. Yu Ning, ACFSMC, Observer
12. Mr. Zhang Wangshu, ACFSMC, Observer
13. Mr. Wen Chunhui, ACFSMC, Interpreter
14. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA ROAP - Secretary
15. Mr. B.D. Sharma, Director (SOWECA), ICA ROAP
16. Mr. Romulo M. Villamin, ICA ROAP SBO.
17. Mr. Juku Ozawa, ICA ROAP SBO.
18. Mr. Jiro Ito, ICA ROAP SBO.
19. Mr. K. Sethu Maddhavan, ICA ROAP. - (Recording)

### **Agenda Item 01: Opening Remarks**

The Chairperson, Mr. Mu Li, opened the meeting and welcomed all members and invitees. Mr. Mu Li said "I am very delighted to have all of you together here before the Ministers' Conference. This Ministers' Conference is very important and we have lot of support from the Nepal Cooperative Movement and Government and the ROAP. At this Standing Committee meeting we will discuss some important points in our region. Through the discussion we can get a consensus. I am also delighted to have the ICA President to attend our meeting". He further recalled that a meeting of ICA President and Vice Presidents held in China last March discussed a lot of things there.

After his welcome remarks, Mr. Mu Li invited Mr. Ivano Barberini to give his remarks.

Mr. Ivano Barberini, ICA President, made a brief account of the work done by the ICA Global Task Force. He said there were 8 candidates for the DG's post and a Consultant Company controlled by cooperatives had been hired to scrutinise/examine their suitability and put before next board meeting. Most probably the next Board Meeting will decide about the parameters for selection

of new DG. He further emphasised that in the emerging context of 21<sup>st</sup> century, we have to think to restructure ICA at global and regional level to be responsive to new realities. Other priorities would be increasing the membership and evolving need based activity portfolio of ICA. Therefore, a long-term view needs to be taken after careful and objective evaluation of happenings in the world and their impact on cooperatives.

#### **Agenda Item 02: Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Mu Li asked the members whether they had any comments on the Agenda. The Agenda was unanimously approved.

#### **Agenda Item 03: Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the minutes were sent to the members on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2002 and no comments had been received. The minutes were confirmed unanimously.

#### **Agenda Item 04: Activities Carried out by ICA ROAP in 2001**

#### **Agenda Item 05: ICA ROAP Work Plan and Budget for 2002**

#### **Agenda Item 06: ICA ROAP Singapore Office Budget for 2002**

Above three Agenda Items were taken up together with the permission of the Chair. Mr. Lee made a power point presentation on these items. Mr. Lee said that there was no deficit in 2001 in ROAP. However, there would be a deficit of US\$ 46,050 in the SBO which was planned.

Dr. S.S. Sisodia suggested that in order to enable members to formulate their studied comments full information should be supplied to them in advance. Mr. Lee agreed to the suggestion. Mr. Mu Li also appreciated the suggestion and advised the Regional Director to send full information to members in advance.

On a query from Dr. Paz, Mr. Jan-Eirik Imbsen clarified that the revenue and expenses constitutes the core of the office. Therefore, there was a need to have income to meet the core activities. The projects, supported by the development partners, should not only support activity/programme cost, but also share administrative cost for core staff. The new format of reporting would reflect on the accounting system also.

Dr. Paz said that budget should reflect clearly development (programme) budget and administrative budget.

It was mentioned that the revenue of ICA Domus Trust had increased. On a query from Mr. Kiriwandeniya, Mr. B.D. Sharma said that the expenditure incurred out of Domus Trust funds is made on the basis of objects defined in

the Trust Feed. Besides, the Auditors are also consulted. It was further mentioned that Trust funds could not be spent at discretion.

On financial support from Domus Trust for ICA ROAP programme and activities, Dr. S.S. Sisodia suggested that specific proposals should be first brought to Standing Committee. Request to Trust for such purposes could be made only after the Standing Committee's approval has been accorded.

Dr. S.S. Sisodia also said that various issues and information regarding the programme planning should be placed before the Standing Committee to elicit its guide points and comments. Mr. Lee said that normally there were two Standing Committee meetings in a year and all information could be placed at these meetings.

Mr. Jan-Eirik Imbsen clarified that most of the development programmes of ICA ROAP are members and development partners driven rather than demand-driven. They are formulated at the planning meeting, keeping in view the opinions of members expressed at different fora and development partners. Normally the Standing Committee endorses the programme.

Dr. Paz said that the input of the Standing Committee should come both at the planning stage and also at implementation. He opined that programme should be demand-driven. He also said that in the next Standing Committee there should be a half-day discussion about the programmes for 2003.

Mr. Kiriwandeniya said that poverty alleviation, peace and good governance are the three important items for inclusion in the work plan for 2003.

Mr. Jan-Eirik Imbsen said that there should be impact assessment and the new reporting system would give you more information. He also said that generally twice in a year Geneva staff goes to regional offices - one for planning and another for review.

Mr. B.D. Sharma said that the ROAP had formulated Key Result Areas for 2000-2004 which were approved by the Regional Assembly. The work plan was prepared based on these Key Result Areas and the ICA global priorities.

Mr. Ivano Barberini said that in the next board meeting they are going to suggest that a research on what happened in last 10 years and what happens in next 10 years be undertaken.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that there would be a surplus of US\$ 24,500 in the ROAP budget for 2002 subject to availability of consultancy assignments or equivalent amount. If it does not materialise, there will be no surplus. Dr. Paz asked whether the surplus will go to ICA or ROAP.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee also said that there might be no deficit in Singapore Business Office in 2002. The members suggested that there should be more coop trade promotion activities in the SBO.

### **Agenda Item 07: Progress on Purchase of Office Building**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed that so far the progress was very poor. In the previous meeting SC was informed about the purchase of a building in Defence Colony. We checked about the legality of that building. The owner of the building had not cleared it. An informal market study shows that property prices were showing declining trend. With the same level of budget, a good house could be purchased. So new and better options were being identified. These options may include re-negotiations with the owner of Defence Colony building and simultaneously to identify other buildings. The issue would be placed before ICA Domus Trust meeting day after tomorrow to take a final decision in the matter.

### **Agenda Item 08: Preparations for 6<sup>th</sup> Cooperative Ministers' Conference**

Mr. B.D. Sharma explained about the preparations for the 6<sup>th</sup> Cooperative Ministers' Conference to be held in Kathmandu from 3<sup>rd</sup> April. The theme of the Conference was "Establishing Relevant Policies and Legislation for Cooperatives in the New Millennium". So far participation from 18 countries was confirmed. There may be 11 ministers in total. Total number of delegates may be 200. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Critical Study was conducted by two consultants in eight countries. The Study would be the basis for deliberations. Mr. Mu Li said that the arrangements for the Conference were very good.

### **Agenda Item 09: Preparations for ICA Regional Assembly in Cebu**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the next Regional Assembly will be held in Cebu (Philippines) in January 2003. The schedule of the meetings are given below:

- |                      |      |  |
|----------------------|------|--|
| 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan | :    | Arrival of participants  |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan | :    | Women's Forum/ Specialised Committee Meetings/<br>Research Conference. |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan | FN : | Registration   |
|                      | AN : | Joint inauguration of Regional Assembly and Forum.                     |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan | :    | Coop Forum   |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan | :    | Regional Assembly Meeting  |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan | :    | Field visits   |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan | :    | Departure of participants  |

The members wanted more time to decide on the theme for the Regional Assembly. Dr. Paz suggested that 1<sup>st</sup> day should be devoted to "**what happened in the last 10 years**" and the 2<sup>nd</sup> day should be devoted to "**what is going to happen in the next 10 years in Asia-Pacific Region**". Ms. Akiko said that she agreed with Dr. Paz's suggestion.

It was decided that the Chairman in consultation with the Regional Director would finalise the theme of the Regional Assembly.

Mr. Ivano Barberini said that ICA Board would be suggested to have a small group of 4-5 persons to implement the decision on proposed research study of trend analysis in last 10 years and future perspectives for next 10 years. Two academicians – one from Canada and one from Asia - to be part of ICA Global Group to be constituted by ICA.

### **Agenda Item 10: ICA Membership from Asia-Pacific Region**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the present membership of ICA ROAP consisted of 52 organisations in 22 countries. The following two organisations were terminated in 2001 – (a) The Malaysian Cooperative Insurance Society (MCIS); and (b) The Sind Government Employees Coop Housing Society, Pakistan. The National Federation of University Cooperative Association (NAFUCA) of Japan was admitted in 2001. New applications for membership had been received from the Cooperative Union of the Philippines and Al-Butain Agricultural Coop Association, Saudi Arabia.

### **Agenda Item 11: Other Business Matters Arising**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting about the following staff changes:

- The NCUI has seconded one staff member (Ms. Savitri Singh) to work at ICA ROAP from 11<sup>th</sup> April onwards to look after the gender activities.
- Mr. Juku Ozawa will be returning to JCCU by the end of April 2002 after working with SBO for three years.
- Mr. Jiro Ito has joined the SBO from March 2002 onwards.

### **Agenda Item 12: Date of Place of Next Meeting**

It was decided that the date and place of next meeting be decided by the Chairman in consultation with the Regional Director.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair at 19:00 hours.



## **Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting** **Hong Kong : 15<sup>th</sup> October 2002**

The following members attended the Standing Committee (SC) Meeting that was held at the Hong Kong Gold Coast Hotel, Hong Kong on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2002 from 10:00 to 17:00 hours:

- |     |   |   |                  |
|-----|---|---|------------------|
| 01. | Mr. Mu Li, Vice President, ICA                                    | - | Chairperson      |
| 02. | Ms. Junko Itoh, member, Japan.                                    | - | Vice Chairperson |
| 03. | Mr. Chung Dae-Kun, member, Rep. of Korea                          |   |                  |
| 04. | Dr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya, member, Sri Lanka                         |   |                  |
| 05. | Mr. Guillermo P. Cua, Representing Mr. Manuel Alonzo, Philippines |   |                  |
| 06. | Ms. Rahaiah Baهران, ICA Board Member, Malaysia                    |   |                  |
| 07. | Ms. Akiko Yamauchi, JCCU, Observer                                |   |                  |
| 08. | Mr. Jong-Chan Lee, NACF, Observer                                 |   |                  |
| 09. | Mr. Chang-Sik Park, NACF, Observer                                |   |                  |
| 10. | Mr. Kun-Won Lyu, NACF, Observer                                   |   |                  |
| 11. | Mr. Yu Ning, ACFSMC, Observer                                     | - |                  |
| 12. | Mr. Meng Zhou, ACFSMC, Observer                                   |   |                  |
| 13. | Mr. Wen Chun Hui, ACFSMC, Interpreter                             |   |                  |
| 14. | Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA ROAP                    | - | Secretary        |
| 15. | Mr. K. Sethu Maddhavan, ICA ROAP.                                 | - | (Recording)      |

### **Agenda Item 01: Opening Remarks**

The Chairperson, Mr. Mu Li, opened the meeting and welcomed all members and invitees. Mr. Mu Li said "I am very delighted to have all of you together here at Hong Kong. Ms. Rahaiah Baهران and myself attended the ICA Board Meeting recently held in Lisbon and ICA Board will pay more attention to the views of the Standing Committee and the Regional Assembly. We will discuss some important issues in our region and the preparations of the next Regional Assembly meeting and other events to be held in Cebu in February 2003".

### **Agenda Item 02: Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Mu Li asked the members whether they had any comments on the Agenda. The Agenda was unanimously approved.

### **Agenda Item 03: Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the minutes were sent to the members and no comments had been received. The minutes were confirmed unanimously.

#### **Agenda Item 04: Activities Carried Out/ Planned by ICA ROAP in 2002**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee made a power point presentation on the activities carried out from January to September and the activities planned for October to December 2002. He said that we have tried to spread out the activities in most of the countries served by ROAP.

Mr. Kiriwandeniya said that insurance sector and banking sector should be included in the next year's work plan. Mr. Lee said that ROAP would try to collaborate with ICMIF. Mr. Lee also said that ROAP would pay more attention to trade. For this purpose two studies will be conducted this year. Korea will conduct one study for Japan, China and Korea and the other by Iran for India, Kuwait, Iran, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Mr. Mu Li said that ROAP has done a good job in 2002 under the leadership of Mr. Shil Kwan Lee. He further said that the seminars and training courses conducted by ROAP are very useful for the development of cooperatives in the region. He expected more involvement of member organisations for this purpose.

#### **Agenda Item 05: Financial Report for 2002**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the financial report for 2002. He informed the meeting that there would be no deficit at ROAP and SBO for the year 2002.

Mr. Mu Li said that according to the Finance Committee report the financial situation of the ICA is not very good because of historic reasons. ICA has taken some measures by increasing the subscription and paying the subscription in advance. One of the reasons for the deficit is exchange loss when the members pay their subscription in CHF. The Task Force will continue to pay more attention to the financial situation of ICA. At the end of December a Financial Committee meeting will be held. At this meeting the Finance Committee will come up with a clear picture of the ICA's financial position. After the Finance Committee meeting, there will be a partial Board Meeting in January. The decision made at this Meeting will be proposed to the next ICA Board Meeting to be held in Shanghai.

Ms. Rahaiah Baهران said that if there is any exchange loss, it should be settled every year. She also said that the contributions from MOs in kind have not been included in the Financial Report.

Mr. Cua said that if we want a strong ICA we should have a strong Regional Office and good networking.

Mr. Lee said that there was no deficit in 2001 in ROAP. However, there was a deficit of US\$ 46,050 in the SBO which was planned.

## **Agenda Item 06: ICA ROAP Work Plan and Budget for 2003**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the ICA ROAP Work Plan (in sector-wise) and Budget for 2003.

Ms. Rahaiah Baهران said that the Executive Committee meeting of the ICA Global Gender Equality Committee was going to hold its meeting in Cebu on 18<sup>th</sup> February. She also said that ROAP should officially write to ANGKASA for hosting the Youth Seminar in Malaysia in 2003.

Mr. Yu Ning informed the meeting that ACFSMC in collaboration with ROAP would hold an international trade fair and exhibition in Beijing in October 2003 for three days. About 1,000 participants from 25 countries (including the participants from 31 Provinces in China) are expected to attend. Many cooperative experts will be invited to this trade fair and exhibition. In China there are 54,000 enterprises and they would be able to provide the products needed by our cooperatives.

Mr. Kiriwandeniya said that no activity on micro credit has been included in the Work Plan. Mr. Lee informed the meeting that our activities are mainly donor-based. However, we will try to include micro finance and poverty alleviation. Mr. Cua suggested that information technology is very important and some activities may be included in the next year's Work Plan – may be joint venture.

Mr. Mu Li said that we should try to give more attention to Central Asian countries. So far we have not paid much attention to them.

Some members said that the indirect contributions received from MOs have not been included in the Budget. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that he would report the indirect contributions received from MOs to the next Regional Assembly in Cebu.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee also said that there would be no deficit in ROAP and Singapore Business Office in 2003.

## **Agenda Item 07: Progress on Purchase of Office Building**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that ICA Domus Trust has acquired a new building in the heart of New Delhi near Diplomatic Enclave at 9 Aradhana Enclave, Sector 13, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066. The material used for construction of the building was of very high quality with all modern fittings and lift. The building has been constructed on a plot area of 370 square yards and the built up area is 11,000 square feet consisting of basement, ground, first, second and third floors. For two years we were in a rented building. The short-term deposit of Rupees 50 million has been used for purchase of this building. The Sale-Deed has been registered on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2002 and we have taken possession of the building. From November 2002 we will start functioning from the new building. The ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) will now be located in this building.

## **Agenda Item 08: Preparations for ICA Regional Assembly/Coop Forum**

Mr. G. Cua made a presentation on the Cebu events. He wanted to know the number of participants and the programme of the Forum for making necessary preparations. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee agreed to send these to him as soon as possible. A schedule of events to be held in Cebu was also circulated. The following changes were suggested:

- The Standing Committee Meeting will now be held from 17:00 to 19:00 hours on 18<sup>th</sup> February.
- The Executive Committee meeting of the ICA Global Gender Equality Committee will be held on 19<sup>th</sup> February from 09:30 to 12:30 hours.

## **Agenda Item 09: ICA Membership from Asia-Pacific Region**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the present membership of ICA ROAP consisted of 52 organisations in 22 countries. The following organisations have been terminated in 2002 due to non-payment of subscriptions:

- The Fiji Cooperative Union, Fiji.
- The Indonesian Workers' Cooperative Alliance, Indonesia.
- The Coop Blue Square Consumer Coop of Israel, Israel.
- Union of Agricultural Products Coop Societies of Kuwait, Kuwait.
- The Malaysian Coop Insurance Society, Malaysia.
- Mongolian Association of Private Herders' Cooperatives, Mongolia.

The Cooperative Union of the Philippines (CUP) has decided to rejoin the ICA and made some partial payments.

### ***Associate Membership of Cooperative College of Malaysia***

Mr. Mu Li informed the meeting that the membership issue of the Cooperative College of Malaysia was going on for quite some time now. In the last ICA Board Meeting held in Lisbon, this matter came up for discussion again. The ICA Board then referred the membership issue of the Cooperative College of Malaysia to ICA ROAP Standing Committee for its decision. The Standing Committee discussed the matter thoroughly and it was decided that ROAP should write to ANGKASA for their opinion.

Since it has been the general practice that we ask our existing members in the countries to seek their views on the application of a new member, RD was requested to write to ANGKASA as soon as possible so that we can inform ICA Geneva accordingly.

### **Agenda Item 10: Review of Cooperative Movements in the Region**

The following members made brief presentation about their cooperative movements:

- Ms. Akiko Yamauchi, Japan
- Ms. Rahaiah Baهران, Malaysia
- Dr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya, Sri Lanka
- Mr. Chung Dae-Kun, Rep. of Korea
- Mr. Guillermo P. Cua, Philippines
- Mr. Mu Li, China

### **Agenda Item 11: Other Business Matters Arising**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that according to the Rules, the Standing Committee has to be reconstituted every two years. According to the practice, the Standing Committee presents a list to the Regional Assembly. At the Regional Assembly meeting held in Singapore in 2000, the Standing Committee was reconstituted.

The meeting decided that ROAP should give this information to all member organisations. The dead line could be end of **January 2003**. The Standing Committee will short-list the members at its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> and present the final list to the Regional Assembly on 21<sup>st</sup> February.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee also informed the meeting about the following staff changes:

- Mr. Romulo M. Villamin, Director (SEA) has completed his assignment with the ICA ROAP on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2002.
- Mr. B.D. Sharma, Director (SOWECA) has retired from ROAP on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2002. Effective 1<sup>st</sup> July he has been appointed as Senior Consultant in ICA Domus Trust.
- The present staff strength of ICA ROAP is eight (8) including deputation from NCUI, NACF and JCCU.

### **Agenda Item 12: Date of Place of Next Meeting**

It was decided that the next meeting of the Standing Committee would be held in Cebu on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2003 from 17:00 to 19:00 hours.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair at 17:00 hours.

**ICA ROAP WORK PLAN FOR 2003**

<b>S.#</b>	<b>Name of the Activity</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Venue</b>
	<b><i>Seminars/Workshops/Conferences/Studies</i></b>		
01	2 <sup>nd</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum.	19-20 Feb.	Cebu
02	5 <sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly Meeting.	21 <sup>st</sup> Feb.	Cebu
03	Development Partners Forum.	22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb.	Cebu
04	RCBA Seminar on Finance & Banking.	23-24 Feb.	Cebu
05	Women's Forum	18 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Cebu
06	3 <sup>rd</sup> Regional Workshop on Management of Consumer Coops.	July	Singapore
07	Regional Youth Seminar.	August	Malaysia
08	Trainers Training of Women Leaders	February	India
09	HRD Seminar on Financial Coops	May	Sri Lanka
10	Sub-regional workshop on Strengthening Agri. Coops for South-Asia sub-region.	March	Sri Lanka
11	Sub-regional workshop on Strengthening Agri. Coops for ASEAN sub-region.	April	Indonesia
12	National workshops on Agricultural Coop Development.	May	India, Nepal, Bangladesh.
13	National workshops on Agricultural Coop Development.	June	Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam.
14	3 <sup>rd</sup> Critical Study on Coop Policy and Legislation.		
15	Regional Consultation on Coop Legislation and Policy.	October	Kuwait
16	Fact finding mission to investigate the existing situation of coops sector in Afghanistan.	March	Afghanistan
17	International Forum on Rebuilding of Coops in Afghanistan.	May	Iran
18	International Trade Fair and Forum.	October	China
19	Trade Union/Coop Top Leaders Conference.	September	Singapore

<b>S.#</b>	<b>Name of the Activity</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Venue</b>
	<b><i>Specialised Committees' Activities</i></b>		
20	2 <sup>nd</sup> Asian Cooperative Research Conference.	18-19 Feb.	Cebu
21	Women's Committee Meeting	18 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Cebu
22	Consumer Committee Meeting.	18 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Cebu
23	Agricultural Committee Meeting.	18 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Cebu
24	Meeting of RCBA.	18 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Cebu
25	HRD Committee Meeting.	19 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Cebu
26	9 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of ICA Consumer Sub-committee on University/College Coops.	August	Kuala Lumpur
27	APHCO Board Meeting and General Assembly.		
28	Standing Committee Meetings.	Feb/Sept.	Cebu/KL

<b>S.#</b>	<b>Name of the Activity</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Venue</b>
	<b><i>Training Courses</i></b>		
29	1 <sup>st</sup> part of the Training Course on Management of Agricultural Coops.	14 <sup>th</sup> January to 8 <sup>th</sup> March.	India and Thailand.
30	2 <sup>nd</sup> part of the Training Course on Management of Agricultural Coops.	9 <sup>th</sup> March to 19 <sup>th</sup> April.	Japan
31	3 <sup>rd</sup> ICA-Japan Training Course for Women Leaders.	Sep-October	Thailand and Japan/
32	Training Course for Board Members of Consumer Coops.	June	Japan
33	Training Program for managers of consumer coops.	September	Miyagi, Japan
34	Training Program for managers of consumer coops.	October	Tokyo
35	ISO Training.	May	Singapore

# ICA REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

## Revenues and Expenses Projection for 2003

Description	Amount US Dollars
<b>Revenues:</b>	
Contribution from Member Organisations	0.00
Support from Head Office	50,155.00
Over head covered by programs	92,792.00
Contribution from NACF (Korea)	30,000.00
Registration Fees (RA/Coop Forum)	20,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>192,947.00</b>
<b>Expenses not covered by programs:</b>	
Office expenses (including audit fees)	19,655.00
Administrative payroll	125,000.00
Communications	6,000.00
Travel expenses not covered by programs.	30,000.00
Project Development	10,000.00
Contingency	2,292.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>192,947.00</b>
<b>SURPLUS</b>	<b>0.00</b>

<b>Budget of programs to be negotiated-2003</b>	
ILO Geneva	100,000.00
DID, Canada	12,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>112,000.00</b>

<b>Negotiated (2003)</b>	
MAFF, Government of Japan	549,325.00
Japanese Consumers Coop Union (JCCU)/NFUCA (8,000)	99,200.00
Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, Govt. of Kuwait	136,400.00
Ministry of Cooperatives, Government of Iran.	30,712.00
AGRITERRA, Netherlands	83,600.00
Developpement International Disjardins, Canada	6,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>905,237.00</b>



## SINGAPORE OFFICE BUDGET FOR 2003

Description	Amount US Dollars
<b><u>INCOME:</u></b>	
SNCF, Singapore	16,700.00
ACFSMC, China	10,000.00
JCCU, Japan	2,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28,700.00</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES:</u></b>	
Office Rent	7,000.00
Office Expenses	6,000.00
Communications	3,500.00
International Coop Trade Fair and Forum	3,500.00
Travel Expenses not covered by programs	7,000.00
Contingency	1,700.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28,700.00</b>
<b>SURPLUS</b>	<b>-</b>

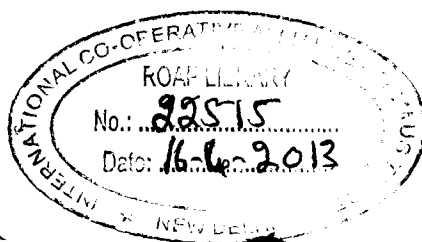
1 US\$ = S\$ 1.80

11th December 2002

# Sixth Meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia & the Pacific

Chiang Mai (Thailand): December 3, 2004

## AGENDA NOTES



**International Co-operative Alliance - Asia and Pacific**

9, Aradhana Enclave, R.K. Puram, Sector-13,  
New Delhi -110 066. India.

## **AGENDA NOTES**

### **AGENDA ITEM 01: OFFICIAL OPENING**

Following joint opening ceremony of 3<sup>rd</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum and Regional Assembly on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of ICA Regional Assembly will be officially opened on 3<sup>rd</sup> December by Mr. Ivano Barberini, President of ICA. Mr. Mu Li, President of ICA Asia and Pacific and Chairman of ICA Regional Assembly will chair.

### **AGENDA ITEM 02: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Delegates would be requested to accord formal approval of Agenda.

### **AGENDA ITEM 03: CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD IN CEBU ON 21<sup>ST</sup> FEB. 2003**

Minutes as enclosed at Annexure-1 were circulated to all the delegates and member organizations. No suggestions/observations/amendments have been received. Minutes may be approved.

### **AGENDA ITEM 04: PERUSAL OF MINUTES OF ICA AP STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS SINCE LAST REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

Since last Regional Assembly, three meetings of the Standing Committee were held. Confirmed minutes of the two meetings are enclosed at Annexure-2. Necessary follow-up action on these minutes has already been completed. Hon'ble delegates of the Regional Assembly may kindly peruse.

### **AGENDA ITEM 05: PROGRESS REPORT FROM REGIONAL DIRECTOR, ICA AP**

Progress Report will be presented before the Regional Assembly by the Regional Director, ICA Asia and Pacific.

### **AGENDA ITEM 06: APPROVAL OF WORK PROGRAM/BUDGET OF ICA-AP FOR 2005**

The Work Program/Budget for 2005 as approved by the Standing Committee is enclosed at Annexure-3. Regional Assembly may kindly approve.

**AGENDA ITEM 07:           MULTI-ANNUAL BUDGET OF ICA ASIA AND  
PACIFIC FOR 2005-2007**

The multi-annual budget of ICA Asia and Pacific for 2005-2007 is enclosed at Annexure-4. Regional Assembly may kindly approve.

**AGENDA ITEM 08:           APPROVAL OF PRIORITIES OF ICA ASIA AND  
PACIFIC FOR 2005-2008**

The Priorities of ICA Asia and Pacific for 2005-2008 as approved by the Standing Committee are enclosed at Annexure-5. Regional Assembly may kindly approve.

**AGENDA ITEM 09:           APPROVAL OF NEW RULES OF ICA AP**

The new Rules of ICA Asia and Pacific as approved by the Standing Committee are enclosed at Annexure-6. Regional Assembly may kindly approve.

**AGENDA ITEM 10:          REPORTS FROM ICA-AP SPECIALISED  
COMMITTEES**

Chairpersons of the following Specialised Committees will present their report at the time of Regional Assembly:

- (a) Women's Committee
- (b) Consumer Committee
- (c) Agricultural Committee
- (d) Regional Cooperative Banking Association
- (e) HRD Committee
- (f) Report on Youth Activities

**AGENDA ITEM 11:          REPORT OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> COOPERATIVE MINISTERS'  
CONFERENCE HELD IN NEW DELHI FROM 2<sup>ND</sup> TO  
5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2004**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Cooperative Ministers' Conference was convened by ICA-AP in New Delhi (India) from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> February 2004. The Conference was hosted by the Government of India and the Cooperative Movement of India. It was inaugurated by the Deputy Prime Minister of India. A total of 172 delegates including 11 cooperative ministers, government officials, cooperative leaders and chief executives of 19 countries of Asia-Pacific region and nine international organizations participated at the Conference. The theme of the Conference was "Enabling Supportive Cooperative Legislation and Policy for Sustainable Growth of Cooperatives".

The Conference, in line with its past tradition adopted a Joint Declaration known as "New Delhi Declaration". The Declaration was signed by ministers and other representatives on behalf of their respective governments and cooperative movements.

The Conclusions and Recommendations of the Conference have been circulated to the governments and member organizations of ICA in Asia-Pacific region for taking appropriate action to implement the Recommendations.

**AGENDA ITEM 12:           REPORT AND NEW ISSUES ARISING FROM 3<sup>RD</sup>  
ICA REGIONAL COOPERATIVE FORUM**

Delegates are aware that 3<sup>rd</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum hosted by the Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT) has been planned on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> December. All the member organizations have been informed. We expect nearly 200 participants in this Cooperative Forum, besides local participants.

The theme of the Forum is "RE-ENGINEERING COOPERATIVES IN THE GLOBALISED ECONOMY" and Sub-themes are the following:

- (a) Cooperative Values vis-à-vis Competition;
- (b) Fair Globalization through Cooperatives;
- (c) Restructuring Cooperatives;
- (d) Governance of Cooperatives;
- (e) Sectoral Concerns; and
- (f) Social Cohesion through Cooperatives.

Detailed report and issues arising from the Forum will be placed before the Regional Assembly on 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

**AGENDA ITEM 13:           REPORT OF 4<sup>TH</sup> REGIONAL WOMEN'S FORUM**

The report will be placed before the Regional Assembly by the Chairperson of the Women's Forum.

**AGENDA ITEM 14:           REPORT OF 3<sup>RD</sup> ASIAN COOPERATIVE  
RESEARCH CONFERENCE**

The report will be placed before the Regional Assembly by the Chairperson of the ICA Research Conference.

**AGENDA ITEM 15:           CONSIDERATION OF VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT  
MEETING.**

The next meeting may be convened in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2006. The Standing Committee may be authorized to fix up the date.

As regards venue, delegates/prospective host member organizations may give their proposal at the time of the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 16:           CLOSING SESSION**

**ANNEXURE - 1**

**MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE ICA REGIONAL  
ASSEMBLY FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC  
Cebu (Philippines) : 21<sup>st</sup> February 2003**

**AGENDA ITEM 01 : OFFICIAL OPENING**

The formal joint opening ceremony of 2<sup>nd</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum and 5<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly was held at Waterfront Hotel, Cebu (Philippines) on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2003. His Excellency Teofisto T. Guingona Jr., Vice President of the Philippines, delivered the key-note address. Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo also sent a message which was read by Hon'ble Secretary Efren Moncupa, Chairperson of the Cooperative Development Authority. Mr. Mu Li, ICA Vice President and Mr. Ivano Barberini, ICA President delivered the opening remarks during the ceremony. Mr. Manuel P. Alonzo, Chairperson of NATTCO welcomed the delegates.

After conclusion of ICA Regional Cooperative Forum, the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific was held at Waterfront Hotel, Cebu (Philippines) on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2003. 160 participants from China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam and ACCU attended the meeting. In addition, special invitees from Brunei, Canada, Germany, AARDO, CICOPA, ILO and ICA also attended the meeting. The list of participants of the meeting is annexed (Annex-1).

Mr. Mu Li, Vice President of ICA and Chairman of ICA Regional Assembly opened the meeting and welcomed all members and invitees. Mr. Mu Li said "I am very happy that most of the member organizations' representatives could come to Cebu to attend the meeting. He said that this was the 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Assembly meeting in the new millennium to deliberate on important issues and make decisions on role of ICA in Asia-Pacific in strengthening cooperatives to face emerging challenges. He requested Mr. Ivano Barberini, President of ICA, to officially inaugurate this meeting".

Mr. Ivano Barberini said "I would like to congratulate the organizers for the excellent arrangements made for the Cooperative Forum and the Regional Assembly. We have had some excellent initiatives in these days, with very good speakers who have come up with analysis and results and useful and stimulating ideas. This has been seen in the presence and attention given by participants and the work carried out by each of them. For me, this is also a sign of the dynamism of cooperators in the Asia-Pacific region, a wide and important area of the world, destined to leave a deep imprint on the history of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and to overcome the challenges inherent in globalization. Challenges will involve social, economic, political and cultural aspects".

Commenting on the theme of the Regional Cooperative Forum, the ICA President remarked "Looking at the next 10 years does not mean trying to see the future in a crystal ball. We live in uncertain times of rapid changes and, in many cases, they are uncontrollable. It would be very risky to decide on choices based on long-term forecasts of the future. The future, it has been said, is not predictable, it happens. I think this is the right approach. This is the meaning of the research and discussions that have arisen from this theme. Building the future is a much more difficult task than trying to forecast it. It requires a combination of know-how, intelligence and passion, social visibility and the best economic performances".

Mr. Ian Macdonald Director General of ICA also addressed the opening ceremony. He said "The Regional Assembly is the higher democratic forum of ROAP, and as it only meets once

every two years, it is an eagerly awaited event. The fact that it exists at all is testament to the hard work of its Board and staff, but also to the vision of those who regionalized the ICA some 10 years ago. This was not some expedient whim, but an exercise in member participation and democracy – a fundamental principle of the Cooperative Movement. The ICA was immediately transported from being a somewhat distant global organization in Europe to cooperators in the four main continents of the world”.

He further said “Ten years on I think most would agree it has been a success. I would prove that by pointing to the number of request for even greater devolution – always a good sign. We are not of course complacent and improvements can always be made, but I think, however, that what is needed is a closer examination of our values and how we implement them”.

At this point Mr. Mu Li invited Mr. Manuel P. Alonzo, Chairperson of NATCCO and Member of the Standing Committee to chair the rest of the Session.

Mr. Alonzo thanked the members for electing him as Chair to conduct the rest of the meeting.

### **AGENDA ITEM 02: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Chair asked the members whether they had any comments on the Agenda. The Agenda, which was circulated at the meeting, was unanimously approved.

### **AGENDA ITEM 03 : CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD IN SINGAPORE ON 29<sup>TH</sup>-30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2000.**

The minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Regional Assembly held in Singapore on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2000 were circulated to all the delegates and member organizations. No suggestions/observations/amendments had been received. The Meeting unanimously confirmed the minutes without any corrections.

### **AGENDA ITEM 04 : PERUSAL OF MINUTES OF ICA ROAP STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS SINCE LAST REGIONAL ASSEMBLY.**

Since last Regional Assembly, five meetings of the Standing Committee were held. Confirmed minutes of these meetings were circulated at the meeting. Necessary follow-up action on these minutes had already been completed. The delegates of the Regional Assembly endorsed the minutes of the Standing Committee.

### **AGENDA ITEM 05 : ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF ICA ROAP STANDING COMMITTEE.**

According to ICA Regional Assembly Rules (Article 3 (g), ICA Regional Assembly shall elect maximum of eight members in addition to Chairperson and two Vice Chairpersons. Since Chairperson of ICA Regional Assembly is Vice President of ICA from Asia-Pacific region, the



5<sup>th</sup> meeting of ICA Regional Assembly would elect two Vice Chairpersons and eight members of Standing Committee.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the SC at its recent meeting had agreed to propose the names of the following 11 persons for approval by the Regional Assembly:

- |                           |         |             |   |                  |
|---------------------------|---------|-------------|---|------------------|
| • Mr. Mu Li               | ACFSMC  | China       | - | Chairperson      |
| • Ms. Junko Ito           | JCCU    | Japan       | - | Vice Chairperson |
| • Prof Ungku A. Aziz      | ANGKASA | Malaysia    | - | Vice Chairperson |
| • Dr. Yehudah Paz         | CUCS    | Israel      | - | Member           |
| • Mr. Chung Dae-Kun       | NACF    | Korea       | - | Member           |
| • Dr. S.S. Sisodia        | NCUI    | India       | - | Member           |
| • Mr. Seah Kian Peng      | SNCF    | Singapore   | - | Member           |
| • Mr. Manuel P. Alonzo    | NATCCO  | Philippines | - | Member           |
| • Mr. D.P. Baskota        | NCFN    | Nepal       | - | Member           |
| • Mr. Sutrisno Iwantono   | DEKOPIN | Indonesia   | - | Member           |
| • Mr. Lionel Samarasinghe | NCC     | Sri Lanka   | - | Member           |

Mr. K.K. Ravindran from India raised the issue whether the Regional Assembly could elect members who were not present in the meeting.

Ms. Rahaiah Baهران from Malaysia said that nominations from Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Israel had been received. Malaysia had nominated Royal Professor Ungku A. Aziz to the Standing Committee and got the endorsement from other member organizations in Malaysia. The ICA ROAP Rules are silent about election of members who were not present in the meeting.

Mr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya from Sri Lanka explained the unavoidable situation that rendered Mr. Lionel Samarasinghe unable to be present in the meeting.

Mr. Leow Peng Kui from Singapore said that the important issue was not the absence of member, but submission of proper nomination to ICA ROAP.

The Regional Assembly approved the above names as proposed by the Standing Committee.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 06 :            *PROGRESS REPORT FROM REGIONAL DIRECTOR, ICA ROAP.***

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee made a power point presentation on the important activities carried out by ICA ROAP after the last Regional Assembly meeting in Singapore. He said that we have tried to spread out the activities in most of the countries served by ROAP. He presented the financial report for 2002 and informed the meeting that there was a surplus of US\$ 31,816 in ROAP and US\$ 2,070 at Singapore Business Office.

Some members wanted to know the criteria for selecting the activities for reporting, as they had organized a number of activities in collaboration with ICA ROAP in their countries. However, these were not mentioned in the report. It would be appropriate to include all activities carried out by ICA ROAP in the report.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that his report covered only very important activities. But all activities undertaken by ICA ROAP find mention in the Annual Report of ICA ROAP.

**AGENDA ITEM 07 : APPROVAL OF WORK PROGRAM/BUDGET OF ICA ROAP FOR 2003.**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the ICA ROAP Work Plan and Budget for 2003 which was earlier approved by the Standing Committee. He said that there would be a surplus of US\$ 28,212 at ROAP in 2003.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee thanked the development partners and member organizations for their financial support.

Mr. B. Subrahmanyam from India emphasized the need for as much as comprehensive consultations with the cooperative leaders in the mainstream to obtain their views on the issues for which ICA ROAP had initiated critical studies from time to time. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that this would be kept in view while undertaking the 3<sup>rd</sup> Critical Study on Cooperative Legislation and Policy.

Mr. Bhagwati Prasad from India wanted to know the rationale of keeping the Singapore Business Office. Mr. Leow Peng Kui from Singapore informed the meeting that this matter was reviewed by the Task Force appointed by the Standing Committee in 2000. The findings and budget for Singapore Business Office was also approved. He also said that ICA must look forward due to diversity of our region.

**AGENDA ITEM 08 : REPORTS FROM ICA ROAP SPECIALISED COMMITTEES.**

**Women's Committee:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the ICA Regional Women's Committee was held at Waterfront Hotel in Cebu on 18<sup>th</sup> February. Ms. Rahaiah Baheran, Chairperson of the Committee, chaired the meeting. The meeting had almost full attendance. Twelve members along with two Vice Chairpersons of the Committee attended the meeting. Election of the office bearers of the Committee was held. The members unanimously re-elected Ms. Rahaiah Baheran as Chairperson of the Committee. Ms. Premashanti Sooriyarachchi of NCC, Sri Lanka and Ms. Junko Ito of JCCU, Japan were re-elected as Vice-Chairpersons for the next term of the Committee.

Ms. Savitri Singh, Secretary of the Committee presented a report of the activities. Important issues such as low membership of the Committee, establishment of national women's fora in member countries, financial position of the Committee, trainers' training programs for leadership development of women were discussed at length. The meeting called upon the members to make efforts to increase the membership of the Committee and collaborate with the member organizations for organizing national women's fora and women leadership development programs.

**Consumer Committee:** The 36<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation was held at Waterfront Hotel in Cebu on 18<sup>th</sup> February. 22 delegates from Japan, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam participated at the meeting. Mr. T. Fujioka, Chairperson of the Committee, welcomed the participants and thanked the host NATCCO for providing valuable support to organize this meeting. He also

thanked Mr. Edgar Comeros, CEO of VICTO for agreeing to present a special report on cooperatives in the Philippines and arranging a study visit for the participants. Mr. Fujioka informed the meeting that Asian economy had been developing steadily. Hence consumer buying power would also increase and competition with private market will intensify. He invited the participants to discuss in more details as to how to cope with the competitive situation. Mr. Dudz Samson, Co-CEO of NATCCO Network – Visayas (VICTO) presented the report on consumer coops in the Philippines. The Union of Consumer Coop Societies, Kuwait, was accepted as a member of the Consumer Committee.

**Agricultural Committee:** The 35<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ICA Committee on Agriculture was held at Waterfront Hotel in Cebu on 18<sup>th</sup> February. 11 members from India, Indonesia, Korea, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand attended the meeting. Dr. Sutrisno Iwantono, Vice President of DEKOPIN was elected as Chairperson, while Mr. Wirat Iam-Ua-Yut, Chairman of CLT was elected as Vice Chairperson of the Committee. Both the elections were unanimous. Dr. Chan Ho Choi, Agricultural Advisor at ICA Geneva presented a paper on the *“Impact of WTO Negotiations on Agricultural Cooperatives”*. The meeting felt that there was a need for a comprehensive farmers’ education programme to sensitise them about the implications of the WTO negotiations and requested agricultural coops and their federations to chalk out suitable strategy in this regard.

Mr. B.D. Sharma, Secretary of the Committee, presented a report on the critical studies on agricultural coops conducted in Bangladesh, India, Laos, Nepal, Thailand and Vietnam, as an AGRITERRA funded project. The Committee appreciated AGRITERRA for their support. The meeting authorized the Chairperson to decide on the venue and date of the next meeting.

**Regional Cooperative Banking Association:** The 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the RCBA was held at Waterfront Hotel in Cebu on 18<sup>th</sup> February. 16 delegates from India, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Singapore and Thailand participated at the meeting. In the absence of Mr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya, Chairperson, the meeting was chaired by Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, former Chairperson of RCBA.

The meeting was inaugurated by the President of ICBA. In his opening speech, he emphasized the importance of Coop Financial System for dynamic growth of cooperative economy. He said that the following important issues will decide the future growth of coop banks in the world, including Asia: (a) what kind of values coop banking system should adopt; (b) how the coops respond to needs of modern society; (c) prevalence of poverty despite globalization; (d) how do the coops market themselves; (e) banking laws; and (f) quality of product. It was decided that RCBA and ICBA should collaborate to conduct joint activities in Asia-Pacific region.

**HRD Committee:** The 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ICA Committee on HRD was held at Waterfront Hotel in Cebu on 19<sup>th</sup> February. 22 members from six countries, namely, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and ACCU attended the meeting. The meeting unanimously elected Mr. Leow Peng Kui, Chief Executive of SNCF as Chairperson and Mr. Bhagwati Prasad, CEO of NCUI as Vice Chairperson. The meeting recorded its thanks and sincere appreciation for the significant contributions made by Royal Professor Ungku A. Aziz and Dr. Yehudah Paz to the Committee. Brief country reports on HRD activities were presented by members from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. Mr. Jan-Eirik Imbsen, Development Director of ICA Geneva made a presentation on the *“Global Virtual Coop Learning Centre”*. Mr. Ranjith Hettiarachchi, General Manager of ACCU made a presentation on *“Action Research on Institutional Development”*. The meeting appreciated the support and hospitality provided by NATCCO.

**AGENDA ITEM 09 :       REPORT OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> COOPERATIVE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE HELD IN NEPAL FROM 3<sup>RD</sup> TO 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2002.**

Mr. B.D. Sharma presented a report on the 6<sup>th</sup> Ministers' conference. The 6<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Cooperative Ministers' Conference was convened by ICA ROAP in Kathmandu (Nepal) from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> April 2002. The Conference was hosted by His Majesty's Government and Cooperative Movement of Nepal. It was attended by cooperative ministers, government officials, cooperative leaders and chief executives of 17 countries of Asia-Pacific region and eight international organizations. The theme of the Conference was "Establishing relevant Legislation and Policy for Cooperatives in the new Millennium".

The Conference, in line with past tradition, adopted a Joint Declaration known as "Kathmandu Declaration". The Declaration calls upon the governments to formulate and implement public policy and other sectoral policies that support development of member-based cooperatives. The Conclusions and Recommendations of the Conference have been circulated to the governments and member organizations of ICA in Asia-Pacific region for taking appropriate action to implement the Recommendations.

**AGENDA ITEM 10 :       REPORT AND NEW ISSUES ARISING FROM 2<sup>ND</sup> ICA REGIONAL COOPERATIVE FORUM.**

The ICA ROAP successfully conducted the 2<sup>nd</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum in collaboration with NATCCO at Waterfront Hotel on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February 2003. More than 650 delegates (including 350 Filipinos) from Brunei, Canada, China, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam and five international organizations (ACCU, AARDO, CICOPA, ILO and ICA) attended the Forum.

The formal joint opening ceremony of 2<sup>nd</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum and 5<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly was held at Waterfront Hotel, Cebu (Philippines) on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2003. His Excellency Teofisto T. Guingona Jr., Vice President of the Philippines, delivered the key-note address. Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo sent a message which was read by Hon'ble Secretary Efren Moncupa, Chairperson of the Cooperative Development Authority. Mr. Mu Li, ICA Vice President and Mr. Ivano Barberini, ICA President delivered the opening remarks during the ceremony. Mr. Manuel P. Alonzo, Chairperson of NATTCO welcomed the delegates.

The theme of the Forum was "COOPERATIVES: PAST 10 YEARS AND 10 YEARS AHEAD" with the following four sub-themes:

- (a) Asian Values as Reinforcing Element to Strengthen Cooperative Values;
- (b) Cooperatives in Asia-Pacific – An Introspective View;
- (c) Globalisation – Its Impact on Cooperatives in Asia-Pacific; and
- (d) Facing the Future.

Mr. Hans H. Muenkner from Germany made a summary of the presentations at the 2<sup>nd</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum on 20<sup>th</sup> February.

## **AGENDA ITEM 11 : REPORT OF 3<sup>RD</sup> REGIONAL WOMEN'S FORUM.**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> ICA Regional Women's Forum was held at Waterfront Hotel in Cebu on 18<sup>th</sup> February wherein 85 delegates participated. The objectives of the Forum were to determine whether Asian values enhance the participation of women in cooperatives; and to identify mechanisms to overcome factors that limit women's participation in cooperatives. Ms. Rahaiah Baهران, Chairperson of the ICA Regional Women's Committee extended a warm welcome to the Chief Guest, Mr. Ivano Barberini, ICA President; speakers; participants and observers and gave the opening remarks.

In his inaugural address Mr. Ivano Barberini, President of ICA observed that the role of women in cooperatives continued to be limited specially at managerial and leadership levels. He emphasized the need for a women-friendly legal system, particularly in the context of the impact of globalization on women, and concluded that coops offer an important opportunity to confirm the rights and needs of women more than any other types of enterprise.

Hon'ble Corazon Juliano Soliman, Secretary, Department of Social Development, Philippines, delivered the key-note speech. Ms. Remmy Rikken, Operations Director of CAPWIP presented a well researched paper on the theme. Ms. Rameshwary Ramachandra of DEW Credit Coops in Singapore made a presentation based on her experience in an UP Project in North Korea. Participants from India, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, Japan and Thailand also presented country papers. Group discussions were held for the participants to provide an opportunity to interact with each other, on a sub-theme chosen, "*Asian values as facilitator or obstacle for women's participation in coops*".

**Call for action:** Based on the findings of the presentations and discussions at the Forum, the Forum called on men and women cooperators and cooperative organizations in Asia and the Pacific at all levels for the following action:

*"Develop and design more programs towards leadership development and empowerment of women in cooperatives, like daycare for children and elderly, reproductive health and medical services, business information and know-how for women entrepreneurs, and education for member on leadership, gender concerns in coops, etc".*

At the concluding session, Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, ICA Regional Director, emphasized ICA's commitment for the cause of women.

## **AGENDA ITEM 12 : REPORT OF 2<sup>ND</sup> ASIAN COOPERATIVE RESEARCH CONFERENCE.**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Asian Cooperative Research Conference was held at Waterfront Hotel in Cebu on 18-19 February. Almost 80 researchers and coop leaders from Brunei, Canada, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, AARDO, ACCU and the ILO participated at the deliberations.

Mr. Akira Kurimoto, Chairman of the Global Research Committee presided over, while Mr. M.V. Madane, Chair of the Asia-Pacific Research Group coordinated the Conference. Mr. Iain Macdonald, ICA Director General presented a paper and Mr. Ivano Barberini, ICA President also participated.

The main theme of the Conference was current problem vexing the cooperatives the world over, viz. Globalisation of the economy and how cooperatives could cope with the situation

to the satisfaction of stakeholders. Another equally important theme of the Conference was Gender Integration. Many speakers, especially from Malaysia, presented very elaborate papers on gender integration in coops.

This Asia-Pacific Research Group hoped to organize the 3<sup>rd</sup> Research Conference during the next Regional Assembly in Thailand.

**AGENDA ITEM 13 : PRESENTATION OF NEW ILO RECOMMENDATION ON COOPERATIVES (ILO RECOMMENDATION NO. 193).**

Mr. Huseyin Polat, Program Coordinator, INDISCO, Senior Cooperative Development Specialist of ILO Geneva made a presentation of new ILO Recommendation on Cooperatives (ILO Recommendation # 193). The Regional Assembly expressed its appreciation of ILO and ICA collaboration in bringing out ILO Recommendation # 193 on Promotion of Cooperatives. The Regional Assembly hoped that the Recommendation, which includes ICA Cooperative Identity Statement, would provide very useful guidelines for cooperative development in the new millennium.

**AGENDA ITEM 14 : CONSIDERATION OF VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

The Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT) offered to host the 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly and related meetings in Thailand by end of 2004 or early 2005. The date and venue would be decided in consultation with the secretariat. The meeting unanimously accepted the invitation and thanked CLT for their kind offer.

**AGENDA ITEM 15 : OTHER MATTERS**

A resolution on IDACA was presented at the meeting which was earlier approved by the Standing Committee. The Regional Assembly unanimously approved the following Resolution:

We, the participants of the 5<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly, are aware that the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA) has been playing an important role in the sphere of human resource development for agricultural cooperatives in Asia-Pacific region with a significant support of Japanese Government (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries-MAFF). In this context, the ICA ROAP has been jointly implementing a project on Agricultural Cooperative Management Training for the last 17 years and a Rural Women Leaders Training Course for the last 12 years. We are happy to note that IDACA has completed its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its dedicated services to agricultural cooperatives. On this occasion, the following Resolution is placed for adoption by the Regional Assembly:

**Recognising** the significant role of IDACA in the field of human resource development for agricultural cooperatives by training 4,500 managerial personnel and cooperative leaders for the last 4 decades with the substantial financial support of Japanese Government and JA-ZENCHU (Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives) of Japan;

**Appreciating** a very long collaboration between ICA ROAP and IDACA to catalyse the process of human resource development in agricultural cooperatives of Asia-Pacific region;

**Further appreciating** the large financial support of Japanese Government to enable IDACA and ICA ROAP to undertake the management training for agricultural cooperatives and rural women leaders training course to strengthen agricultural cooperatives to enhance farmers income, women empowerment, standard of living of people and poverty alleviation in the spirit of self-help and mutual help;

The Regional Assembly earnestly calls upon the Japanese Government to continue its support to IDACA and ICA ROAP to enable them jointly moving forward effectively to build up strong agricultural cooperatives of Asia-Pacific region.”

Mr. B. Subrahmanyam from India raised a question at the meeting. He said his organization had been remitting funds to attend ICA GA and RA. Every eligible member has a right to attend the meetings without any fee. So ICA should not charge any registration fee for attending GA and RA meetings. He also said that this was a serious issue and should be considered favourably.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said at the moment we follow ICA rules.

Mr. Iain Macdonald said that ICA is an enormous organization with huge expenses. The host also takes care of considerable expenses. It is not only for the RA but for all the events conducted in Cebu. We fully understand the question, but it is a case of costs and expenses.

Mr. Subrahmanyam replied that ICA was looking at the financial angle only. To strengthen ICA funds other avenues should be explored.

Mr. K.K. Ravindran from India suggested that the dates of meeting of Specialized Committees and related events should be so synchronized that there is no time gap between the two. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed that in future while preparing the schedule of various events ICA ROAP would ensure their synchronization.

The Chairperson thanked the members for coming and attending the meeting. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

**SHIL KWAN LEE**  
Regional Director

**5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly**Cebu : 21<sup>st</sup> February 2003**List of Participants**

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- 75 **Mr. Zulkarnain Bin Noordin**  
Vice Chairman  
Penang Government Servant Coop Society  
No.25, Lebuah Bishop  
Penang-10200, Malaysia.
- 76 **Mr. Hassan Bin Mohd. Zain**  
Secretary, Penang Government Servant Coop Society  
No.25, Lebuah Bishop  
Penang-10200, Malaysia.
- 77 **Mr. Abu Bin Othman**  
Committee Member, Penang Govt. Servant Coop Society  
No.25, Lebuah Bishop  
Penang-10200, Malaysia.
- 78 **Mr. Azmi Bin Md. Taib**  
Treasurer, Penang Government Servant Coop Society  
No.25, Lebuah Bishop  
Penang-10200, Malaysia.
- 79 **Mr. Mohd. Amin Ghazali**  
Chairman, Koperasi Mgu Sdn Bhd  
Aras 3, Wisma Mgu, Jalan Pintu Pong  
Kota Bharu, Kelantan, Malaysia.
- 80 **Encik Mohd Nordin Bin Abd. Hamid**  
Chairman, Koperasi Pos Nasional Berhad  
Wisma Koponas, 70-74 Jalan Tun Sambanthan  
Kuala Lumpur-50470, Malaysia.
- 81 **Tuan Haji Haron Bin Kayat**  
Vice Chairman, Koperasi Pos Nasional Berhad  
Wisma Koponas, 70-74 Jalan Tun Sambanthan  
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- 82     **Tuan Haji Razali Bin Mohd Daud**  
Director, Koperasi Pos Nasional Berhad  
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- 83     **Encik Abdul Rahman Bin Md. Zain**  
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- 84     **Encik Tahir @ Shariff Bin Ibrahim**  
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- 85     **Encik Mokhtar Bin Abdullah**  
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- 86     **Ms Rokiah Bte. Abd. Manan**  
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- 87     **Mr. Sabardin Bin Ahmad**  
Koperasi Unikeb Berhad, Wisma Unikeb  
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- 88     **Dr. Mohd. Jamil Bin Maah**  
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- 90     **Mr. Saroni Judi**  
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- 92 **Ms. Raja Maimon Bt. Raja Yusof**  
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- 93 **Ms. Indar Kaur**  
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- 94 **Mr. Deepak Prakash Baskota**  
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- 96 **Mr. Guillermo P. Cua**  
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- 97 **Mr. Seah Kian Peng**  
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- 99 **Mr. Leow Peng Kui**  
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- 100 **Mr. Lee Lup Poon**  
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- 101 **Ms. Lim Wah Cheng Karen**  
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- 102 **Mr. G. Anthony Samy**  
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- 103 **Mr. Adam Bin Masbah**  
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- 104 **Ms. Lee Bee Lan**  
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- 105 **Mr. C.A. Balan Nair**  
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- 106 **Ms. Chew Won Eng**  
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- 107 **Mr. Michael Ang Swee Teck**  
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- 108 **Mr. Chua Huck Leng**  
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- 109 **Mr. S. Ganendra**  
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- 110 **Mr. Victor Pang Koon Seah**  
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- 111 **Mr. Tan Ting Meng**  
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- 112 **Mr. Chan Wah Lum**  
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- 113 **Mr. Sim Hor Peng**  
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- 114 **Mr. Lee Van Chong**  
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- 115 **Mr. Arunasalam Balakrishnan**  
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- 116 **Mr. Elengoven s/o Ramasamy**  
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- 117 **Mr. Panirselveam s/o Athmanban**  
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- 118 **Mr. Abdullah bin Saleh Said bin Talib**  
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- 119 **Ms. Tan Siew Kiow**  
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- 120 **Mr. Abdullah bin Aman**  
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- 121 **Mr. Kuppusamy Vengadasalam Gopal**  
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- 122 **Mr. Wong Khye Cheong**  
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- 129 **Ms. Clara Lee Lye Imm**  
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- 130 **Mr. Lionel Samarasinghe**  
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- 131 **Mr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya**  
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- 132 **Mr. J.P. Hettiarachchi**  
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- 133 **Mr. GLDT Nanayakkara**  
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- 134 **Mr. D.S.K. Pathirana**  
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- 135 **Mr. Priyanath W. Peiris**  
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- 136 **Udaya Ranjith Seneviratne**  
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- THAILAND
- 137 **Mr. Sa-Ngiam Kaeolangka**  
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- 138 **Mr. Phanuwat Wanraway**  
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- 139 **Dr. Nguyen Ty**  
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- 140 **Mrs. Tran Thu Hang**  
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- 146 **Ms. Teresita de Leon**  
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- AARDO 147 **Mr. Mehmoodul Haq**  
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- CICOPA 148 **Mr. Ruben Villa Benayas**  
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- 149 **Mr. Ivano Barberini**  
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- 150 **Mr. Iain Macdonald**  
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- 151 **Mr. Jan-Eirik Imbsen**  
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- ICA ROAP
- 152 **Mr. Shil Kwan Lee**  
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- 153 **Mr. B.D. Sharma**  
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- 154 **Mr. Jiro Ito**  
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- 155 **Mr. Sung-Chul Kim**  
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- 156 **Ms. Savitri Singh**  
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- 157 **Mr. K. Sethu Madhavan**  
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- 158 **Mr. K. Kukreja**  
Finance Officer, ICA ROAP  
9, Aradhana Enclave (Ring Road)  
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- 159 **Mr. P. Nair**  
Communication Officer, ICA ROAP  
9, Aradhana Enclave (Ring Road)  
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- 160 **Mr. A.K. Taneja**  
Program Officer, ICA ROAP  
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R.K. Puram, Sector-13  
New Delhi-110066, India.

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14<sup>th</sup> July 2003

**ANNEXURE - 2**



## **Minutes of the ICA ROAP Standing Committee Meeting** **New Delhi (India): 5<sup>th</sup> February 2004**

The following members attended the ICA ROAP Standing Committee (SC) Meeting that was held at the Ashoka Hotel in New Delhi (India) on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2004 from 10:00 to 13:15 hours:

### **In attendance**

- |     |   |   |                 |
|-----|---|---|-----------------|
| 01. | Dr. Yehudah Paz, Israel   |   |                 |
| 02. | Dr. S.S. Sisodia, member, India   |   |                 |
| 03. | Mr. D.P. Baskota, Nepal   |   |                 |
| 04. | Mr. Lionel Samarasinghe, Sri Lanka  |   |                 |
| 05. | Mr. Zhang Wangshu, representing Mr. Mu Li, Chairperson, China               |   |                 |
| 06. | Mr. Leow Peng Kui, representing Mr. Seah Kian Peng, member, Singapore       |   |                 |
| 07. | Mr. Lyu Keun-Won, representing Mr. Chung Dae-Kun, member, Korea             |   |                 |
| 08. | Dr. Mohd. Ali Baharum, representing Royal Prof. Ungku A. Aziz, VC, Malaysia |   |                 |
| 09. | Ms. Akiko Yamauchi, representing Ms. Junko Ito, VC, Japan.                  |   |                 |
| 10. | Ms. Rahaiah Baheran, ICA Board Member, Malaysia                             |   |                 |
| 11. | Mr. Nasir Khan Yahaya, ANGKASA, Observer                                    |   |                 |
| 12. | Mr. Iain Macdonald, Director General, ICA                                   | - | Special Invitee |
| 13. | Mr. Jan-Eirik Imbsen, Development Director, ICA                             | - | Special Invitee |
| 14. | Mr. Guy Malacrida, Finance Director, ICA                                    | - | Special Invitee |
| 15. | Mr. Jiro Ito, Director (Special Programs), SBO                              | - | Observer        |
| 16. | Mr. Sung-Chul Kim, Advisor (Agri-Programs), SBO                             | - | Observer        |
| 17. | Mr. B.D. Sharma, Senior Consultant, ICA DT                                  | - | Observer        |
| 18. | Ms. Savitri Singh, Gender Advisor, ICA ROAP                                 | - | Observer        |
| 19. | Mr. P. Nair, Communication Officer, ICA ROAP                                | - | Observer        |
| 20. | Mr. K. Kukreja, Finance Officer, ICA ROAP                                   | - | Observer        |
| 21. | Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA ROAP                              | - | Secretary       |
| 22. | Mr. K. Sethu Maddhavan, Planning Officer, ICA ROAP-                         |   | (Recording)     |

### **Apologies**

01. Mr. Sutrisno Iwantono, Indonesia.

### **Agenda Item 01: Opening Remarks**

In the absence of the Chairperson, Mr. Mu Li, and Vice Chairpersons, Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA ROAP, requested Dr. Yehudah Paz from Israel to chair the meeting. Dr. Yehudah Paz opened the meeting and welcomed all members and invitees.

### **Agenda Item 02: Approval of the Agenda**

Dr. Yehudah Paz asked the members whether they had any comments on the Agenda. The Agenda was unanimously approved.

### **Agenda Item 03: Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the minutes were sent to the members and no comments had been received. Dr. Mohd. Ali Baharum informed the meeting that in the minutes the name of the Committee had been mentioned as "ICA Regional Standing Committee" and in the Agenda it had been mentioned as "ICA Standing Committee". Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that the correct name is "ICA ROAP Standing Committee". The Chairman said that the correct name should be mentioned everywhere. With this change, the minutes were confirmed unanimously.

### **Agenda Item 04: ICA ROAP Activity Report for 2003**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the activities carried out by ICA ROAP during the period 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2003.

Dr. Sisodia wanted to know whether we are satisfied with the number of participants in the activities. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the number was alright, but we should try to improve the quality of the participants. He further said that in some cases, the same persons attend many meetings and the participation of Executives in the meetings was very low.

Dr. Yehudah Paz said that ROAP had done a good job in 2003 under the leadership of Mr. Shil Kwan Lee. He further said that the seminars and training courses conducted by ROAP were very useful for the development of cooperatives in the region. He expected more involvement of member organizations for this purpose in the future.

### **Agenda Item 05: ICA ROAP Financial Report for 2003**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the financial report for 2003. He informed the meeting that there is a surplus of US\$ **94,614** at New Delhi Office and US\$ **14,640** at Singapore Business Office.

Some members wanted to know what ROAP was going to do with the surplus. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that during the last 5 years there is an accumulated deficit at ROAP and the surplus would go to ICA HO account.

Mr. Iain Macdonald informed the meeting that any surplus will go to the current reserve and the ICA Board had already agreed to this system.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that there was only two staff members working at Singapore Business Office and they were on deputation from JCCU and NACF. Dr. Yehudah Paz thanked JCCU, NACF and NCUI for secondment of their staff to work with the ICA ROAP.

Ms. Rahaiah Baheran wanted to know the basis of re-distribution of ICA subscription. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that last year we got 21% of the subscription collected from our region and this year we would get 23%.

Some members said that MO's indirect support (in kind) was not included in the financial report. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that MO:s spend lot of money when we organized any activity in their country. However, it was not easy to calculate the MO's indirect support.

## **Agenda Item 06: ICA ROAP Work Plan for 2004**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the ICA ROAP Work Plan for the year 2004. He said that we are trying to spread out the activities in most of the countries served by ROAP.

Mr. B.D. Sharma said that the activities mentioned in the work plan are based on the Key Result Areas which was approved by the Standing Committee earlier. Whenever a project was materialized, it was brought to the attention of the Standing Committee.

Some members suggested that ROAP should undertake more trade-related activities. Mr. Lee informed the meeting that trade promotion was very important and we held a trade seminar in Bangkok last year. This year there would be a Trade Forum and Exhibition in Beijing. Further, in the ROAP's website there would be a separate section for coop trade with commodity information. We would also collect more information on coop trade and put it in the website.

## **Agenda Item 07: ICA ROAP Budget for 2004**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the ICA ROAP budget for 2004 and said that there would be a surplus of US\$ 11,000.

Mr. Guy Malacrida said that each Region should increase their membership subscription by 5% in 2004 and 60% of the increased subscription was returned to the respective regions.

Mr. Iain Macdonald said "increasing the subscription by 5% is not an easy task. Only 25% of the members pay their subscription according to ICA Rules. This applies to all regions. I suggest that members should pay their subscription according to ICA Rules. So we need your support to increase the subscription by 5%".

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that we are trying to expand our membership. He also requested the Standing Committee members to pay more attention to increase the membership.

## **Agenda Item 08: New Rules of ICA in Asia-Pacific**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that as desired by the Standing Committee at its last meeting in Norway, the secretariat had prepared the new draft Rules of ICA in Asia-Pacific and sent to the members in advance through e-mail. The meeting discussed the new Rules by Article by Article and suggested some changes. The revised Rules are attached, as per the suggestions made by the members.

Mr. Lee said that the members could still send their suggestions/comments to the secretariat regarding the new Rules till November 2004. The final draft of the new Rules will be submitted to the next Standing Committee meeting for its approval.

## **Agenda Item 09: ICA ROAP Priorities for 2005-2009**

The Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the Regional Assembly had approved the existing ICA ROAP Priorities for 2000-2004; and priorities for 2005-2009 need to be decided before the end of the current year. He then presented the ICA ROAP Priorities for 2005-2009.

Ms. Rahaiah Baheran said that the recommendations of the 7<sup>th</sup> Ministers' Conference should be kept in mind while preparing the Priorities for 2005-2009.

Ms. Akiko Yamauchi suggested that on page 4 Priority # (f) should read as "Gender Mainstreaming and Involvement of Youth".

Mr. Leow Peng Kui suggested that on page 4 Priority # © should read as "Strengthening of Cooperative Directors Management Capabilities".

The meeting authorized Mr. Shil Kwan Lee to make necessary changes in the Priorities for 2005-2009 and submit it to the next Standing Committee meeting for its approval.

### **Agenda Item 10: Preparations for next Regional Assembly**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that based on the preliminary discussions he had with Mr. Wit Praturuckchai, Executive Director of Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT) regarding the next Regional Assembly/Coop Forum and other related events to be held in Thailand, the tentative schedule of the meetings may be as follows:

- 6<sup>th</sup> December : Arrival of participants
- 7<sup>th</sup> December : Specialized Committee meetings/Women's Forum/ Research Conference.
- 8<sup>th</sup> December : Joint Opening Ceremony & Cooperative Forum
- 9<sup>th</sup> December : Cooperative Forum
- 10<sup>th</sup> December: Regional Assembly
- 11<sup>th</sup> December: Field trip
- 12<sup>th</sup> December: Departure of participants

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee further mentioned that the Secretariat had identified the following two themes for the Cooperative Forum:

1. *Building Cooperative Competitiveness in a Globalised Economy.*
2. *Achieving Millennium Development Goals through Cooperatives.*

After discussions, Dr. Yehudah Paz suggested that the main theme could be "Cooperatives Facing Globalization" and the sub-theme could be "Increasing Cooperative Competitiveness" and Achieving Millennium Development Goals".

The meeting authorized Mr. Shil Kwan Lee to finalize the theme of the Cooperative Forum and later on inform the members accordingly.

In view of the ICA Board Meeting to be held in Kenya from 10<sup>th</sup> December and the ICA Regional Assembly for African region from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> December, it may be ensured that there is no overlapping of dates of ICA ROAP Regional Assembly and the events in Africa. Therefore, the meeting authorized Mr. Shil Kwan Lee to contact the concerned people and decide the dates accordingly.

Mr. Lee informed the meeting that the CLT would prefer to have the venue of the events in Bangkok. The meeting agreed to it.

## **Agenda Item 11: ICA Membership from Asia-Pacific Region**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the present membership of ICA ROAP consisted of 54 organizations in 24 countries. The membership of the following organisations had been terminated in 2003 due to non-payment of subscriptions:

- The National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India.
- The Union of Consumer Societies, Turkmenistan.

The following organizations had been admitted to ICA membership in 2003:

- The Coop Jerusalem of Israel.
- National Coop Housing Foundation for Asia and the Pacific based in Malaysia.
- Cooperative College of Malaysia.
- National Institute of Cooperative Development, Sri Lanka.

Ms. Rahaiah Baheran informed the meeting that the National Cooperative Housing Foundation for Asia and the Pacific was not registered in Malaysia.

The meeting suggested that Brunei should be approached for membership of ICA again.

## **Agenda Item 09: Other Business Matters Arising**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that there was a proposal for establishing a separate Youth Committee. Some members suggested that the age of the youth should be defined clearly and the campus youth should also be involved.

Ms. Rahaiah Baheran said that need for constituting a Special Committee for YOUTH may be examined in the context of availability of resources.

Ms. Akiko Yamauchi said that there was already some networking of the youth in the Asian region.

The meeting requested Mr. Shil Kwan Lee to look into the above suggestions and submit a proposal to the next Standing Committee meeting in Bangkok.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the present staff strength of ICA ROAP was nine (9) including three deputations from NCUI (India), NACF (Korea), and JCCU (Japan).

The meeting also expressed its appreciation to the Regional Director and his able staff.

Mr. Sisodia thanked Dr. Yehudah Paz for conducting the meeting so successfully and answering all questions.

## **Agenda Item 10: Date of Place of Next Meeting**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the ROAP Work Plan/Budget for 2005 has to be sent to ICA Geneva in September after Standing Committee's. Therefore, we could have a separate SC meeting in September or get the approval of the SC members through e-mail.

After discussion the meeting authorized Mr. Lee to send the documents to the SC members through e-mail.

It was decided that the next meeting of the Standing Committee would be held in Bangkok (Thailand) in December 2004 in conjunction with the Regional Assembly/Cooperative Forum. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair at 13:15 hours.

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25<sup>th</sup> March 2004

**Minutes of the meeting of the ICA Regional Standing Committee**  
**05 September 2003 at Oslo, Norway**

**Present**

1.	Mr. Mu Li	Chairperson	China	
2.	Ms. Junko Ito	Vice Chairperson		Japan
3.	Ms. Akiko Yamauchi	JCCU		Japan
4.	Mr. Song Jin-Hwan	NACF		Korea
6.	Mr. Lionel Samarasinghe	Member		Sri Lanka
7.	Ms. Rahiah Baharen	ICA Board Member		Malaysia
8.	Hj. Mohd. Ali Baharum	ANGKASA		Malaysia
9.	Dr. S.S.Sisodia	Member		India
10.	Dr. Yehudah Paz	Member		Israel
11.	Mr. D.P. Baskota	Member		Nepal
12.	Mr. Guillermo P. Cua	NATCCO		Philippines
13.	Mr. Seah Kian Peng	Member		Singapore
14.	Mr. Leow Peng Kui	SNCF		Singapore
15.	Mr. Iain Macdonald	DG, ICA		Geneva
16.	Mr. Ivano Barberini	President, ICA		Geneva
17.	Mr. Jan-Eirik Imbsen	Director, Development (ICA)		Geneva
18.	Mr. Guy Malacrida	Director, Finance (ICA)		Geneva
19.	Mr. Shil Kwan Lee	Regional Director, ICA ROAP,		India
20.	Mr. B.D. Sharma	Senior Consultant, ICA DT,		India
21.	Mr. P. Nair	ICA ROAP		<b><u>Reporting</u></b>

Mr. Mu Li welcomed the members and congratulated every one for a successful General Assembly.

The Agenda of the Standing Committee meeting was approved by a voice vote.

**Confirmation of the minutes of the Last Meeting:**

Since no amendments or modifications were suggested by any member, the minutes of the last meeting was confirmed unanimously.

**Amendment to Rules of the Standing Committee**

Dr. Sisodia suggested that the rules of the Standing Committee need to be changed in view of the amendments to the ICA Rules. All other members agreed that there should be amendments to the Standing Committee rules in view of the changes in the Rules of the ICA. The Regional Director was requested to review the rules and submit the modified proposal for the Standing Committee at the next meeting.

Mr. Mu Li requested the Regional Director to review the Rules of the Standing Committee in consultation with the members of the Standing Committee so that the regional rules comply with the global rules and that it is conducive to co-operative development in the Region. It was also proposed that the proposal for amendment will be reported by the Regional Director at the next meeting of the Standing Committee.

#### Report of the Regional Director on activities for 2003

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, presented the report on the activities for the year and also the future activities for the year 2003. Dr. Sisodia mentioned that he was happy with the performance of the Regional office and wished that further detailed figures for the budget, for the current and the coming year should be provided.

Dr. Yehudah Paz congratulated the Regional Office for the large number of activities and especially on the members' financial support for the Regional activities. He needed a break down on the budget for the Singapore office.

Mr. Mu Li congratulated the RD on the large number of activities undertaken by the Regional Office and specially on the financial support received from the member organizations.

#### ILO Programme on Poverty alleviation

Mr. Mu Li suggested that the ICA ROAP should take up the ILO programme on poverty alleviation seriously as the project could be very big. He thanked the Regional Director and members who contributed to the ROAP's development programme and suggested that the ROAP should widen the scope of members' involvement in activities. He requested the members to give more attention to the activities of the Regional Office.

#### Critical Study on Co-operative Legislation

Ms. Rahaiyah Baharen said that Malaysia is keen to collaborate with the Regional Office on the 3<sup>rd</sup> critical study on co-operative legislation and wanted the Regional Office to collaborate with the ICA Ho on ILO Recommendation No.193. She also explained about the Regional Women-Co-operative Leaders' Training Programme.

#### Planned Activities for 2004

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the planned activities of the ROAP for the year 2004. Mr. Lee also mentioned that he will report further detailed plan and budget by e-mail to Standing Committee members, when it is ready.



## New Members

Mr. Ivano Barberini, the ICA President, said that all co-operative organizations can and should become members of the ICA. Mr. Mu Li added that we should attract more members. He further said that in many cases, the current members of the ICA ROAP are weak and affiliated members of the apex organizations are some times stronger. He said that ROAP should facilitate the affiliated members of apexes to become ICA members and that the apexes should support the application of the affiliated members. The ROAP should strive to recruit more members but the ICA should consult the apexes and the Standing Committee. Mr. Lee requested the Standing Committee members to support the Regional Office in new member recruitment in different countries.

Dr. Sisodia mentioned that he is trying his best to get the National Co-operative Dairy Federation back into the ICA fold.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Ministers' Conference and its theme

Mr. B.D. Sharma explained the preparations for the Ministers' Conference. Dr. Sisodia suggested that for a successful Co-operative Ministers' Conference, very active collaboration among the ICA ROAP, the NCUI and the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, may have to be ensured. He assured all support of NCUI in this regard. He also suggested that the ROAP should contact MOs from all countries on this.

Mr. B.D. Sharma explained the arrangements for the Ministers' Conference and requested guidance from the Standing Committee on the theme of the Conference. Dr. Yehudah Paz suggested that Recommendation No.193 of ILO should be translated into Co-operative Law and should be discussed as the theme after properly wording it. Dr.Sisodia supported the suggestion of Dr. Paz. Mr. B.D. Sharma further explained the situation and said that at the Government Level, ILO 193 fall within the purview of the Ministry of Labour, which is the nodal agency for ILO to deal with. Co-operative Ministers may have some reservations in deliberating on the ILO 193. He suggested that since ILO 193 is fully in line with the ICA's perception on co-operative legislation and policy in the region, it may be taken as an important background paper for deliberation and the theme may be worded in such a way as will embrace the contents of ILO 193 and also visualization of ICA. Dr. Paz agreed to the suggestion.

Mr. Seah Kian Peng from Singapore supported the idea of 193 for the theme of the Ministers' Conference. Mr. Leow Peng Kui mentioned that the ICA ROAP had already conducted 2 workshops on Recommendation 193 and suggested the wording could be "Incorporating Recommendation 193 into Legal Framework and Policies for Co-operative Law".

Dr.Sisodia accepted this and needed some background of the Ministers' Conferences. Mr. B.D. Sharma explained the background of all Ministers' Conferences and said that in the

past the theme were to do with 'Co-operative Laws'. Dr. Sisodia also felt that some other ministries may not be interested with 193. Mr. Gill Cua, Philippines, agreed to the suggestion. Dr. Sisodia mentioned that the wording of the theme should be carefully worked out.

However, it was finally agreed that the theme should be properly re-worded to include 193, so that proper legislation could be made in member countries.

#### Visa Problems for Israeli's to Kuwait

Dr. Paz put forward the problem of the Regional Consultation in Kuwait, where he said that the Israelis may not be able to get visas. He says this was not acceptable and enquired what action the ICA would take on it.

Mr. Barberini agreed that it is a problem of ICA and suggested that a letter be sent to Kuwaiti government signed by himself and Mr. Mu Li. May be a copy could be marked to the UN.

Dr. Sisodia enquired from B.D. Sharma as to what was the response of the Kuwaiti side when he first discussed the matter. Mr. Sharma explained that the problem was not with the Co-operative movement but this was a political and diplomatic issue and the Government of Kuwait, as a policy, cannot issue visas to Israelis. The same situation arose in Iran, when we had last meeting there. The Kuwaiti delegates at the General Assembly expressed their inability to influence the issue of visa.

Mr. Mu Li mentioned that he already had a discussion with the Kuwaiti delegation in Oslo. He said that the Kuwaiti movement and government have made elaborate efforts for the Regional Consultation. He agreed that the situation where delegates from any country cannot participate in an ICA event is not correct. His view was that any ICA MO should agree to participation by all members, since we are co-operatives, there should not be any violation of co-operative fraternity. The present problem is by the government of Kuwait and not the co-operative movement. We should make all out efforts to allow Israeli delegates to participate. He agreed and welcomed the suggestion of Mr. Barberini to send a letter to Kuwait. However, he does not agree to send any letter of copy to the UN, since this is not a UN issue. He also suggested that the President and Director General of ICA should make it clear to all member organizations in future to allow all MOs to participate in all activities in any country.

Mr. Mu Li further mentioned that when the Ministers' Conference was held in China, they were able to persuade the government to allow ICA member from a country which had no diplomatic relations with China. He felt that the problem with the Kuwaiti authorities could be sorted out.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee mentioned that it was with great difficulty that the ROAP managed to bring middle east countries to ICA activities and hence we should not spoil the relations with the member organizations in the middle east.

Dr. Paz thanked the ICA President and the Chairperson/Members of the Standing Committee about the efforts promised by them on his 'exclusion'. He further said that the ICA should refuse to hold any activity in any such country. He said that he was instrumental in setting up the Cairo office of the ICA and welcomed the expansion of ICA activities to the Middle East. The ICA should follow the example of China and Malaysia. He requested that the promised letter to Kuwait be issued immediately by the President and Mr. Mu Li and the response intimated to him.

Mr. Mu Li hoped that all members agree to the discussions and a letter signed by him and Mr. Barberini will be written soon. We should take care in the future to avoid such problems.

Dr. Sisodia enquired what would be the next course of action, if Kuwait refuses to issue visas for the Israelis. Mr. Mu Li felt that things may work out after writing the letter. Mr. Barberini mentioned that he could refuse to go to Kuwait if needed.

The Regional Director requested the Committee to instruct the ROAP as to what we should do. Should we stop activities with Middle East countries, if this issue is not solved?

Mr. Baskota of Nepal mentioned that we should think positively and he felt things will work out in Kuwait. Mr. Mu Li agreed with all members of the Standing Committee and felt that we should wait for a response from the Kuwait movement.

#### Venue and dates for the next meeting

Dr. Sisodia offered to host the Standing Committee meeting in February 2004 in New Delhi.

The Director General thanked all members and mentioned that he is visiting China in April and possibly Delhi office too.

Mr. Mu Li thanked every one present and closed the meeting.

**ANNEXURE - 3**

## ICA - ASIA AND PACIFIC WORK PLAN FOR 2005

S.#	Activity Details	Time Frame	Venue
1	1st Part of the 19th ICA-Japan Training Course on Strengthening Management of Agricultural Coops including Study Visits to Agricultural Coops in Indonesia.	16th January to 12th March	India/Indonesia
2	2nd Part of the 19th ICA-Japan Training Course on Strengthening Management of Agricultural Coops.	13th March to 23rd April	Japan
3	5th ICA-Japan Training Course for Strengthening Women's Agricultural Coops in Rural Areas and Improvement of Farm Management & Rural Life.	August/Sept.	Malaysia/Japan
4	Training Course for Board Members of Consumer Cooperatives.	14-22 May	Japan
5	Regional Workshop for Senior Managers of Consumer Cooperatives.	July	Singapore
6	Three Training Programs for Managers of Consumer Coops (Miyagi/Tokyo/Kanagawa).	Sep/Oct/Nov.	Japan
7	Two Exposure/Networking Program for Women Cooperative Leaders.	Sept/October	India/Korea
8	Joint Program of ICA Regional Women's Committee and APHCO on Prevention of HIV/AIDS	May	Thailand
9	Trainers' Training Program for Women Leadership Development.	May	Sri Lanka
10	Asia-Pacific Health Cooperative Organization (APHCO) Board/General Meeting and Seminar.	25-27 February	Nepal
11	Critical Study on Consumer Cooperatives and National Workshop in Thailand.	October/ November	Thailand
12	Replication of success story of "SAIGON COOP" to selected regions of Vietnam.	Jan-December	Vietnam
13	Publish quarterly ASPACON and ICA-AP Annual Report.	Jan-December	ICA-AP

S.#	Activity Details	Time Frame	Venue
14	Promotion and Development of Consumer Cooperatives in the Philippines.	Jan-December	Philippines
15	Study Tour to Agricultural Cooperatives in the Republic of Korea.	September	Korea
16	ICA-ACCU Workshop on Micro Finance.	November	India
17	Project on Organization of Informal Workers in Cooperatives.	Jan-December	Nepal
18	Cooperative Policy and Legislation Dialogue between Governments and Cooperatives.	September	Malaysia
19	Conference on Role of Cooperatives in Poverty Alleviation.	June	Vietnam
20	<b>ICA-AGRITERRA Project on Promoting and Strengthening Agricultural Coops:</b>	January-July	Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam.
	<i>a) National workshops on sensitization of policy makers, senior officials, rural leaders, farmers organization.</i>		
	<i>b) Training programs for formulation and implementation of area-specific and coop specific business development plan.</i>		
	<i>c) National workshops on capacity building of members, board members, managers and employees of cooperatives.</i>		
	<i>d) Review and formulation of appropriate policy and cooperative legal framework.</i>		
21	<b>Committee Meetings:</b>		
	<i>Meetings of ICA Regional Committees on Agriculture, Consumer, HRD, Women, RCBA.</i>	Jan-December	

**ICA ASIA AND PACIFIC  
BUDGET FOR 2005**

	<b>Amount Swiss Francs</b>
<b>INCOME:</b>	
Re-distribution of Membership Subscription	145,130
Administrative Contribution	118,440
Contribution from MO (NACF & ACFSMC)	50,400
Meeting Revenue	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>313,970</b>
<b>EXPENSES not covered by programs:</b>	
Personnel Expenses	195,300
Travel Expenses not covered by Programs	37,800
General Office Expenses (including Audit Fee)	30,870
Communication	17,640
Meeting Expenses	12,600
Contingency (Other Expenses)	6,300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>300,510</b>
<b>SURPLUS</b>	<b>13,460</b>
<b>Negotiated (2005)</b>	
MAFF, Government of Japan	710,338
JCCU, Japan	119,700
AGRITERRA, Netherlands	252,700
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,082,738</b>

**SINGAPORE OFFICE BUDGET FOR 2005**

<b>INCOME:</b>	
SNCF, Singapore	22,050
JCCU, Japan	2,520
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24,570</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
Travel Expenses	4,788
Rent and General Office Expenses	15,120
Communication	4,662
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24,570</b>

**ANNEXURE - 4**



## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE ASIA AND PACIFIC (ICA-AP)

<b>MULTI-ANNUAL BUDGET - ICA AP</b> <i>(All Amounts are in Swiss Francs)</i>	<b>THREE-YEARS BUDGET</b>		
	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>INCOME:</b>			
Re-distribution of Membership Subscription	145,130	145,580	145,430
Administrative Contribution	118,440	118,440	126,000
Contribution from MO {NACF & ACFSMC}	50,400	50,400	50,400
Meeting Revenue	-	50,400	-
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>313,970</b>	<b>364,820</b>	<b>321,830</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>			
Personnel Expenses	195,300	201,600	207,900
Travel Expenses not covered by programs	37,800	37,800	37,800
General Office Expenses (incl. Audit Fee)	30,870	32,760	34,020
Communication	17,640	18,270	18,900
Meeting Expenses	12,600	25,200	12,600
Contingency (Other Expenses)	6,300	6,300	6,300
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>300,510</b>	<b>321,930</b>	<b>317,520</b>
<b>SURPLUS</b>	<b>13,460</b>	<b>42,890</b>	<b>4,310</b>

## SINGAPORE BUSINESS OFFICE

<b>INCOME:</b>			
SNCF, Singapore	22,050	22,050	22,050
JCCU, Japan	2,520	2,520	2,520
			<b>24,570</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>			
Travel Expenses	4,788	4,788	4,788
Rent and General Office Expenses	15,120	15,120	15,120
Communication	4,662	4,662	4,662
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>24,570</b>	<b>24,570</b>	<b>24,570</b>

**ANNEXURE - 5**

# **PRIORITIES OF ICA-ASIA AND PACIFIC**

2005 - 2008

## ***Preamble***

01. Previous Strategic Plan of ICA- Asia and Pacific based on ICA Organizational Review held in Singapore in 1999 was formulated in 2000 for a period of five years (2000-2004) that will be concluded in December 2004. During this five year-period, a lot of new trends have taken place in socio-economic complexion of various countries. The Strategic Plan identified the following Key Result Areas (KRAs) as the basis of Work Plan of ICA-AP:

- a. *Cooperative Identity and Image;*
- b. *Policy Development and Legislation;*
- c. *Leadership and (value-based) Professional Management;*
- d. *International Cooperative Trade Network (ICTN);*
- e. *Gender Mainstreaming;*
- f. *Information, Communication and Technology; and*
- g. *Specialization and Integration (sectoral development).*

02. These Key Result Areas were based on the trends that occurred in Asia-Pacific region. Important of these trends was Asian financial crisis that brought forth the resilience of cooperatives to survive the negative impact of globalization and growing realization on the part of both the governments as well as movements to closely coordinate with each other to create enabling environment for cooperatives to grow in a competitive environment. A number of governments in the region initiated cooperative legislation and policy reforms.

03. While the postulates based on which previous Strategic Plan was prepared, by and large, still hold good, there may be need for redrawing them in view of other changes that are taking place and/or likely to take place in coming years.

## ***Activities Undertaken***

04. Based on the above referred Key Result Areas, postulates visualized therein, ICA-AP undertook a number of activities, important of which are as follows:

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum;
- b. Workshops on ILO Recommendation 193 on Promotion of Cooperatives;
- c. Workshop on Employment Generation, Poverty Alleviation and HRD: Perspectives of Cooperative and Trade Union Movements;
- d. Regional Workshop on Role of Cooperatives in Poverty Alleviation with reference to PRSPs.

- e. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia-Pacific Cooperative Research Conference;
- f. Validation and Cooperative Trainers' Workshops on Value-Based Professional Management;
- g. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Critical Studies on Cooperative Legislation and Policy Reforms;
- h. 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Regional Consultation of Permanent Secretaries in-charge-of Cooperatives in the governments and Chief Executive Officers of National Cooperative Organizations in Asia-Pacific; and
- i. 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Cooperative Ministers' Conference.
- j. Sectoral Cooperative Development Activities:

Agricultural Cooperatives

- 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Training Courses on "Strengthening Management of Agricultural Cooperatives";
- Project on Strengthening Agricultural Cooperatives; and
- 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Training Courses on Strengthening of Rural Women Leaders in Agricultural Coops.

Financial Cooperatives

- Seminar on Surveillance System for Cooperative Credit and Banking Institutions;
- Regular meetings of Regional Cooperative Banking Association (RCBA).

Consumer Cooperatives

- Training Programs for Senior Managers of Consumer Cooperatives;
- Four Regional Workshops on Management of Consumer Coops;
- Regular meetings of ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation.

k. Development of International Cooperative Trade Network:

- Organization of seminars; and
- Organization of Trade Forum and Exhibition.

l. Gender Mainstreaming:

- Meetings of Regional Women's Committee;
- Regional Women Fora; and
- Trainers' Training Program for Women Leadership Development.

m. Youth Development:

- Regular meetings of University Students Committee; and
- Regional Seminar on Youth and Cooperatives.

n. Social Sector:

- Regular meetings-cum-seminar on Asia-Pacific Health Coop Organization (APHCO).

### ***Trends in Asia-Pacific***

05. Asia has recovered from the crisis and is back on the growth path. Most of the countries of the region are showing signs of good growth with China and India as the fastest growing economies of the region. However, intensive competition unleashed by globalization continues to affect private, public, and cooperative sector in respect of their structure, business and management practices. The WTO negotiations are likely to subject agriculture to acute competition and thereby adversely affect family farmers and small farmers and their cooperative institutions. Many fear that with increasing emphasis on commercialization of agriculture, problem of food security looms large in a number of countries in Asia-Pacific region.

06. Poverty is endemic in developing countries and newly liberated countries which are abound by the poor. Asia does possess more than two-third of the world's poor. Poverty alleviation, therefore, is a priority issue with the concerned governments.

07. Poverty is the result of unemployment. Informal sector continues to be largest provider of employment. However, informal sector workers suffer with lack of appropriate institutional set up that could organize them. Cooperatives are thought to be viable option in this regard. Further displacement of workers due to downsizing and closure of companies further add to the problems.

08. Although Information Technology (IT) is spreading very fast, many of the countries in the region are yet to harness its full potential. Further benefits of IT are yet to percolate to grass-root level and governance systems.

09. The cooperative sector of Asia-Pacific is also trying to adapt with the changes that are taking place at macro level. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Critical Study on Cooperative Legislation and Policy Reforms reveals that although there has been increasing realization on the part of movements and the governments to initiate reform process – some countries have modified their laws and policies – its pace continues to be slow. In most of the countries, particularly developing ones, economic reforms continue to lag behind the on-going economic reforms in national economy. The study, therefore, emphasizes that the process of change in cooperatives ought to be dynamic. Another important trend identified by the Study is that cooperatives supported by the Government with equity and subsidy have miserably failed when support is withdrawn.

10. Important areas of concern for cooperatives noticed by the Study Team during the course of field studies are:

- *Lack of effective mechanism for policy implementation;*
- *Absence of professionalisation of management;*
- *Absence of manpower planning and development strategies;*
- *Absence of business planning;*
- *Absence of integrated working and networking among cooperatives;*
- *Problem of recapitalization and dealing with non-performing assets;*
- *Problem of revitalization of sick cooperatives;*
- *Slow pace of institutional restructuring; and*
- *Slow progress in technology application and upgradation.*

11. A significant development, which will have positive impact on cooperative development, has been facilitated by the ILO Recommendation 193 of 2002 on Promotion of Cooperatives. The Recommendation not only endorses the definition, values and principles of cooperation as mentioned in ICA Cooperative Identity Statement, it also provides practical guide points regarding role of state, policy and legislation reform process and management practices for cooperatives in the changing contexts.

At multilateral level while ILO continues to play very important role in promoting cooperatives, other multilateral agencies particularly World Bank and Asian Development Bank do not seem to be much enthusiastic to facilitate development of cooperatives. Similarly with budgetary cuts in FAO, agricultural cooperatives appear to have vanished from their agenda. The situation seems somewhat paradoxical, while multilateral agencies and the governments implement their developmental programs through civil society organizations; in case of cooperatives they appear to have forgotten NGO character of cooperatives.

#### ***Priorities of ICA ROAP: 2005-2008***

13. Noting the speed of changes that are taking place around us and limitation of ICA-AP in terms of financial resources and manpower, it would be appropriate to define priorities based on which a well focused and achievable work program could be undertaken during 2005-2008. In this context, however, it sounds propose to take note of important happenings that are likely to impact positively the growth and development of cooperatives in coming years.

14. In view of the above, it is proposed to draw out the following priorities for ICA-AP that will form the basis of its Work Plan during 2005-2008:

- a. Propagation of Cooperative Values and Principles***
- b. Cooperative Legislation and Policy Reforms***
- c. Strengthening of Cooperative Management Capabilities***
- d. Active Participation in Poverty Alleviation***
- e. Promotion of International Cooperative Trade***
- f. Gender Mainstreaming and Involvement of Youth***
- g. Improvement of Information and Technology in Cooperatives.***

ANNEXURE - 6

## **RULES OF ICA-ASIA AND PACIFIC**

*(Based on the Rules approved by ICA General Assembly on 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2003)*

### **Article 1: Mission Statement**

The International Cooperative Alliance - Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP) shall strive to promote and strengthen the Cooperative Movement in the region.

### **Article 2: Objects**

The International Cooperative Alliance in Asia-Pacific, in compliance with Article 2 of the ICA Rules, shall have the following objects:

1. To promote the Cooperative Movement in Asia-Pacific region;
2. To promote and protect Cooperative Values and Principles;
3. To facilitate the development of economic and other mutually beneficial relations between its member organisations;
4. To promote sustainable human development and to further the economic and social progress of people, thereby contributing to peace and security in Asia-Pacific region; and
5. To promote equality between men and women in all decision-making and activities within the Cooperative Movement.

ICA-Asia and Pacific shall not affiliate itself to any political or religious organisation and shall maintain independence in all its activities.

### **Article 3: Regional Assembly**

1. Under Article 16 of the ICA Rules, there shall be a Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific region, consisting of representatives appointed by the ICA member organisations in the region.
2. The Regional Assembly shall, as a rule, take place every second year, alternating with ICA General Assembly, if not decided otherwise by it.
3. The total number of voting representatives from any country shall not exceed the maximum number of member organisations from any country in the region.
4. Member organisations in the region shall be entitled to additional votes based on multiple of ICA Geneva membership subscription or as otherwise approved by the Regional Assembly.




5. Member organisations from the region shall have the right to send non-voting Observers to the Regional Assembly upon payment of registration fee.
6. Non-members of ICA such as international organizations, parastatal organizations and other institutions concerned with the promotion of cooperatives can be invited to the Regional Assembly as Observers upon payment of registration fee.
7. The functions of the Regional Assembly shall be:
  - a. Draw up their own business procedures and representation rules, subject to approval by the ICA General Assembly;
  - b. Establish the priorities for the ICA-AP work programme in the region;
  - c. Implement the decisions of the ICA General Assembly in the region;
  - d. Submit reports, proposals, and resolutions for the consideration of the General Assembly;
  - e. Elect a person as President of the region who shall also serve as global **ICA Vice-President**, subject to ratification by the General Assembly. The President of the region shall, as a rule, be the **Chairperson** of the **Regional Assembly** and the **Standing Committee**. The person to be eligible for election as President of the region must have served on one or more ICA governing bodies for at least two years;
  - f. Elect two Vice Presidents, one of whom shall preferably be a woman. The two Vice Presidents shall be the Vice Chairpersons of the Regional Assembly and the Standing Committee;
  - g. Elect a maximum of eight Members to the Standing Committee, in addition to President and two Vice Presidents, from among the candidates proposed by member organisations in the Region;
  - h. The term of office of President, Vice Presidents and Members of the Standing Committee shall be **FOUR** years. In case any elected person ceases to represent or is withdrawn by his/her sponsoring member organization, the sponsoring organization shall be entitled to co-opt a new member until the next Regional Assembly; and
  - i. Establish Regional Specialized Committees and Thematic Committees and approve their Constitutions.



1. Under Article 20 of the ICA Rules, there shall be a Standing Committee (Regional Elected Body) consisting of a President, two Vice Presidents and eight Members elected by the Regional Assembly. No more than one person from one member country can be elected to the Standing Committee.

2. The Asia-Pacific members of the ICA Board, who are not members of the Standing Committee, shall have the right to attend and speak at meetings of the Standing Committee.
3. No person shall be entitled to serve on the Standing Committee whose organisation has ceased affiliation with the ICA.
4. A quorum of the Standing Committee shall be constituted when more than half of its members are present. Acceptance of a resolution shall be on a simple majority of all Committee members present and voting. Each member of the Committee is entitled to one vote.
5. The Regional Director of ICA-AP shall be the Secretary of the Standing Committee.
6. The functions of the Standing Committee shall be:
  - a. To work within the policy guidelines and decisions laid down by the Regional Assembly;
  - b. To manage the affairs of ICA at regional level between the meetings of the Regional Assembly;
  - c. To prepare the Agenda and organise the meeting of the Regional Assembly;
  - d. To reinforce member organisations' active participation in ICA activities in the region;
  - e. To promote sustainable cooperative development in the region;
  - f. To strengthen and expand Sectoral Organizations and Thematic Committees in the region and ensure their cooperation with their global equivalent;
  - g. To enhance the image of ICA and the Cooperative Movement in the region;
  - h. To provide recommendations on membership applications from its region to the ICA Board; and
  - i. To ensure regional finance and budgeting is strictly monitored and within the general guidelines of ICA;
  - j. To approve and monitor the annual budget and work plan prepared by the Regional Director before submitting to the Director-General and ICA Board for final approval.

- 
1. The Regional Assembly shall be convened by the Standing Committee. The ordinary Regional Assembly takes place every second year, alternating with the ICA General Assembly. The time and venue of the next Regional Assembly shall normally be decided by the previous Regional Assembly or by the decision of the Standing Committee.

2. If necessary, the Standing Committee may convene a special Regional Assembly either on its own decision or at the request of at least **one-third** of the ICA member organisations in the Region.
3. The Standing Committee meeting shall be convened by the President of the region at least once in a year.
4. The Regional Director shall be responsible for preparation and circulation of meeting documentation, and for practical arrangements of the Regional Assembly/Standing Committee.
5. The official language of the Regional Assembly/Standing Committee shall be English. Delegates using other than English shall arrange their own interpreters.

### **Article 6 Finance**

1. The delegates or their sponsoring organisations shall be responsible for covering the expenses of their participation at the Regional Assembly/Standing Committee.
2. Participation in the Regional Assembly and other related meetings will be subject to payment of Registration Fee as prescribed by the Standing Committee.
3. In line with ICA tradition, Regional Assembly shall be hosted by the member organisations in the region who may take care of logistic and other related costs as mutually agreed upon.
4. The budget and financial resources for implementing the work plan of ICA-Asia and Pacific shall be derived from the following sources:
  - a. Re-distribution of membership subscription to the region;
  - b. Funds provided through agreements with development agencies including governmental organisations;
  - c. Special contributions; and
  - d. Income from other sources as agreed by the Regional Assembly on the recommendation of the Standing Committee.

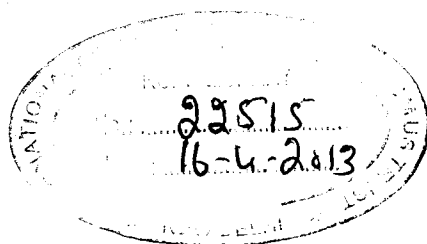
### **Article 7**

1. These Rules and any subsequent amendments shall be subject to the approval of the Regional Assembly.
2. For all other matters, which are not covered by these Rules, ICA Rules (September 2003) shall apply.

# 7th Meeting of ICA Regional Assembly for Asia-Pacific

Colombo (Sri Lanka): August 18, 2006

## AGENDA NOTES



**International Co-operative Alliance - Asia and Pacific**  
9, Aradhana Enclave, R.K. Puram, Sector-13,  
New Delhi -110 066. India.

**7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF ICA REGIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR ASIA AND PACIFIC**  
**Galadari Hotel, Colombo: 18<sup>th</sup> August 2006**  
*{09:00 ~ 16:00 hours}*

**AGENDA NOTES**

**AGENDA ITEM 01:            OPENING REMARKS**

Following joint opening ceremony of 4<sup>th</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum and Regional Assembly on 16<sup>th</sup> August, 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of ICA Regional Assembly will be officially opened on 18<sup>th</sup> August by Mr. Ivano Barberini, President of ICA. Mr. Mu Li, President of ICA-Asia and Pacific and Chairman of ICA Regional Assembly will chair.

**AGENDA ITEM 02:            RATIFICATION OF MR. LI CHUNSHENG'S NAME  
AS PRESIDENT OF ICA – ASIA AND PACIFIC**

Mr. Mu Li informed the SC members at its meeting held in Wuxi on 16<sup>th</sup> May that he has retired from ACFSMC. Therefore, he would like to recommend that **Mr. Li Chunsheng** be his successor for the remaining period of his term as President of ICA – Asia and Pacific. Mr. Li Chunsheng has served the ACFSMC in various capacities. He has been the Vice President of ACFSMC since 2000 and carries a wealth of experience in international affairs. He will no doubt stand up to the expectations of the ICA leadership and members in this region. Mr. Mu Li requested the SC members to take a decision in this regard.

At the SC meeting held in Wuxi Dr. S.S. Sisodia proposed the name of Mr. Li Chunsheng as President of ICA – Asia and Pacific, while all the members present at the meeting seconded his name. The Regional Assembly may kindly ratify his name as proposed by the Standing Committee.

**AGENDA ITEM 03:            APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Delegates would be requested to accord formal approval of Agenda.

**AGENDA ITEM 04:            CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup>  
MEETING HELD IN CHIANG MAI ON 3<sup>RD</sup> DEC.**

The Minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting held in Chiang Mai (Thailand) on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2004, as enclosed at Annexure-1 were circulated to all the

delegates and member organizations. No suggestions/observations/amendments have been received. Minutes may be confirmed.

**AGENDA ITEM 05: PERUSAL OF MINUTES OF ICA AP STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS SINCE LAST REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

Since the last Regional Assembly, five meetings of the Standing Committee were held. Confirmed minutes of the four meetings are enclosed at Annexure-2. Necessary follow-up action on these minutes has already been completed. Hon'ble delegates of the Regional Assembly may kindly peruse.

**AGENDA ITEM 06: REPORT FROM REGIONAL DIRECTOR, ICA-AP**

A Progress Report will be presented before the Regional Assembly by the Regional Director, ICA - Asia and Pacific.

**AGENDA ITEM 07: POST TSUNAMI RECONSTRUCTION AND EMPOWERMENT PROJECTS IN INDIA, INDONESIA AND SRI LANKA**

A progress report will be presented before the Regional Assembly on Post Tsunami Reconstruction and Empowerment Projects in India, Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

**AGENDA ITEM 08: PRESENTATION ON GLOBAL HRD NETWORKING**

The Global HRD Network promoted and developed by NCUI/VMNICM in collaboration with ICA HRD Committee was launched on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2006 at British Columbia Institute of Cooperative Studies, Victoria (Canada). Mr. Bhagwati Prasad, Chief Executive of National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) will make a presentation on **Global HRD Networking** at the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 09: DISCUSSION ON REGIONALISATION ISSUES**

The necessary papers will be circulated at the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 10: APPROVAL OF CONSTITUTION OF THE ICA COMMITTEE ON YOUTH COOPERATION FOR ASIA AND PACIFIC**

The Constitution of the ICA Committee on Youth Cooperation for Asia and Pacific, as approved by the Standing Committee at its meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May in Wuxi, is enclosed at Annexure-3. Regional Assembly may kindly approve the Constitution.

**AGENDA ITEM 11: REPORTS FROM ICA-AP SPECIALISED COMMITTEES**

Chairpersons of the following Specialised Committees will present their report at the time of Regional Assembly:

- (a) Women's Committee
- (b) Consumer Committee
- (c) Agricultural Committee
- (d) Regional Cooperative Banking Association
- (e) HRD Committee
- (f) Youth Committee

**AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF 4<sup>TH</sup> ASIAN COOPERATIVE RESEARCH CONFERENCE**

The report will be placed before the Regional Assembly by the Chairperson of the ICA Research Conference.

**AGENDA ITEM 13: REPORT OF 4<sup>TH</sup> ICA REGIONAL COOP FORUM**

Delegates are aware that 4<sup>th</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum hosted by the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka has been planned on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> August in Colombo. All the member organizations have been informed. We expect nearly 200 participants in this Cooperative Forum, besides local participants.

The theme of the Forum is "CAPACITY BUILDING: THE PRIORITY FOR COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISES" and Sub-themes are the following:

- (a) Cooperative Values and Good Governance;
- (b) The Cooperative Way of Management; and
- (c) Strengthening HRD and Networking.

A report on the Forum will be placed before the Regional Assembly on 18<sup>th</sup> August.

**AGENDA ITEM 14:           REPORTS ON PREPARATION OF FORTHCOMING  
IMPORTANT ICA EVENTS**

Reports will be presented at the meeting on the following important ICA activities:

- International Cooperative Trade Fair, Tehran (Iran), 24<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> October 2006.
- 8<sup>th</sup> Ministers' Conference on Cooperative Policy and Legislation, Malaysia, 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> March 2007.
- ICA General Assembly, Raffles City Convention Centre, Singapore, 13-19 October 2007

**AGENDA ITEM 15:           OTHER BUSINESS MATTERS ARISING**

**AGENDA ITEM 16:           CONSIDERATION OF VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT  
MEETING.**

The next meeting may be convened in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2008. The Standing Committee may be authorized to fix up the date.

As regards venue, delegates/prospective host member organizations may give their proposal at the time of the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 17:           CLOSING SESSION**

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25<sup>th</sup> July 2006



ANNEXURE - 1

**MINUTES OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE ICA REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
***Chiang Mai (Thailand): 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2004***

**AGENDA ITEM 01: OFFICIAL OPENING**

The formal joint opening ceremony of 3<sup>rd</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum and 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly was held at Lotus PSK Hotel, Chiang Mai (Thailand) on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2004. The meeting was hosted by the Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT). His Excellency Chaturon Chaisang, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand, delivered the key-note address. Mr. Ivano Barberini, ICA President; Mr. Mu Li, President, ICA – Asia and Pacific; and Mr. Wirat lam-Ua-Yuth, Chairman of CLT delivered the opening remarks during the ceremony. Mr. Suwat Tantipat, Governor of Chiang Mai, welcomed the delegates. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA – Asia and Pacific proposed a vote of thanks. More than 900 persons attended the joint opening ceremony. The theme of the Forum was **“Re-Engineering Cooperatives in the Globalised Economy”**.

After conclusion of ICA Regional Cooperative Forum, the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific was held at Lotus PSK Hotel, Chiang Mai (Thailand) on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2004. 158 participants from China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam and ACCU attended the meeting. In addition, special invitees from Bhutan, Canada, Spain, ICMIF and ICA also attended the meeting. The list of participants of the meeting is attached (Annexure-1).

Mr. Mu Li, President, ICA – Asia and Pacific and Chairman of ICA Regional Assembly opened the meeting and welcomed all members and invitees. Mr. Mu Li said “I am very happy that most of the member organizations’ representatives could come to Chiang Mai to attend the meeting. This meeting assumes an added significance as it would deliberate on important issues for building consensus among cooperators of Asia regarding common action to face challenges of globalization”. After his brief remarks, he requested Mr. Ivano Barberini, President of ICA, to formally inaugurate the meeting.

Mr. Ivano Barberini said “I would like to congratulate the organizers for the excellent arrangements made for the Cooperative Forum and the Regional Assembly. We have had some excellent initiatives in these days, with very good speakers who have come up with analysis and results coupled with useful and stimulating ideas. All regions are confronting with one common issue, i.e. globalization. However, it is important to analyse the implications of globalization in the local context. In view of this, knowledge needs to be transformed into action at local, regional and global level so as to generate a process of developmental re-enforcement. Having due regard for regional diversities, the common issue before all of us is how to fight poverty. Africa is facing graver situation. We should show our cooperative solidarity to help the poor region in their endeavour to remove poverty. Next week we will have a Board Meeting in Nairobi to express our solidarity with Africa. The main theme will be global campaign against poverty in synergy with UN organizations to enhance visibility of cooperatives in socio-economic development of the poor”. Wishing a happy New Year to all participants, the President inaugurated the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 02: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Chair asked the members whether they had any comments on the Agenda. The Agenda, which was circulated at the meeting, was unanimously approved.

At this point Mr. Mu Li requested Dr. Yehudah Paz, Chairman of International Relations, Central Union of Cooperative Societies, Israel and Member of the ICA Board and Standing Committee to chair the rest of the Session.

Dr. Yehudah Paz thanked the members for electing him as Chair to conduct the rest of the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 03: CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD IN CEBU ON 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2003**

The minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Regional Assembly held in Cebu (Philippines) on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2003 were circulated to all the delegates and member organizations. No suggestions/observations/amendments had been received. The Meeting unanimously confirmed the minutes with the following correction:

The designation of Dr. Mohd. Ali Bin Hj Baharum should be Deputy President of ANGKASA instead of Vice President.

**AGENDA ITEM 04: PERUSAL OF MINUTES OF ICA-AP STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS SINCE LAST REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

Since last Regional Assembly, three meetings of the Standing Committee were held. Confirmed minutes of these meetings were circulated at the meeting. Necessary follow-up action on these minutes had already been completed. The delegates of the Regional Assembly endorsed the minutes of the Standing Committee.

**AGENDA ITEM 05: PROGRESS REPORT FROM REGIONAL DIRECTOR, ICA-AP**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee made a power point presentation on the important activities carried out by ICA-AP after the last Regional Assembly meeting in Cebu. He said that we have tried to spread out the activities in most of the countries served by ICA-AP. He presented the financial projection for 2004 and informed the meeting that there would be a surplus of CHF 21,975 in ICA-AP and CHF 3,178 at Singapore Business Office.

Some members suggested that reports of this nature should be sent in advance for a meaningful meeting. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that in future he would send his report in advance to the member organizations.

The members thanked Mr. Shil Kwan Lee for the extensive and exhaustive reports. The report on Activities and the Financial Report as presented by Mr. Shil Kwan Lee were approved by the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 06: APPROVAL OF WORK PROGRAM/BUDGET OF ICA-AP FOR 2005**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the ICA-AP Work Plan and Budget for 2005 which was earlier approved by the Standing Committee. He said that there would be a surplus of CHF 13,480 at ICA-AP in 2005.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee thanked the development partners and member organizations for their financial support.

Mr. B. Subrahmanyam from India informed the meeting that RCBA has decided to hold a Conference on "Role of Cooperatives in Poverty Alleviation and Employment Generation" in 2005 and wanted ICA-AP to collaborate with it. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that it was a good idea and he would hold discussions with the concerned persons and the dates and venue mentioned in the work Plan are only tentative.

Regarding Youth Seminar follow-up, Mr. Lee informed the meeting that they decided to set up a Youth Committee and it was under discussion stage.

Regarding rehabilitation of cooperatives in Afghanistan, Mr. Lee said that some preliminary action has been taken. He said that ICA-AP invited a delegation including the Hon'ble Deputy Minister of Agriculture in Afghanistan for the Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi in February and held discussions with them. But unfortunately, there was no response from them after that.

Mr. Leow Peng Kui from Singapore said that at least one HRD activity may be included in the 2005 Work Plan.

The Work Plan/Budget for 2005 was approved by the meeting.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 07: AMULTI-ANNUAL BUDGET OF ICA - ASIA AND PACIFIC FOR 2005-2007**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the Multi-Annual Budget of ICA-AP for 2005-2007. He said that ICA collected approximately CHF 600,000 from our region every year and we got back only CHF 145,000 (23%). 77% was kept with the head office. Hence re-distribution of membership subscription has been kept at the same level for all the three years.

Madam Rahaiah Baheran said that the Women's Committee has decided to collect information on the situation of women in the region in collaboration with UNIFEM. She also said that ICA Domus Trust has agreed to release some funds for this activity in 2005.

Mr. Subrahmanyam from India congratulated the ICA-AP for the Multi-Annual Budget with a sense of appreciation.

The Multi-Annual Budget for 2005-2007 as presented by Mr. Shil Kwan Lee was approved by the meeting.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 08: APPROVAL OF PRIORITIES OF ICA-AP FOR 2005-08**

The Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the Regional Assembly had approved the existing ICA-AP Priorities for 2000-2004; and priorities for 2005-2008 need to be decided before the end of the current year. He then presented the ICA-AP Priorities for 2005-2008 which was approved by the Standing Committee on 30<sup>th</sup> November:

- a. Propagation of Cooperative Values and Principles*
- b. Cooperative Legislation and Policy Reforms*
- c. Strengthening of Cooperative Governance and Management Capabilities*

- d. *Active Participation in Poverty Alleviation*
- e. *Promotion of International Cooperative Trade*
- f. *Gender Mainstreaming and Involvement of Youth*
- g. *Improvement of Education, Information and Technology in Cooperatives.*

The Priorities of ICA-AP for 2005-2008 as presented by Mr. Shil Kwan Lee were approved by the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 09: APPROVAL OF NEW RULES OF ICA – ASIA AND PACIFIC**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the New Rules of ICA – Asia and Pacific based on the Rules approved by ICA General Assembly on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2003. He said that the Standing Committee meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2004 at Chiang Mai proposed the following changes:

**Article-1: Mission Statement** should read as: *The International Cooperative Alliance Regional Office for Asia and Pacific (known as International Cooperative Alliance – Asia and Pacific) shall strive to promote and strengthen the Cooperative Movement in the region.*

**Article-3 (page-2) Para-5** should read as: *Member organizations from the region shall have the right to send non-voting Observers from their own organizations to the Regional Assembly upon payment of registration fee.*

**Para-6** should read as: *Non-members of ICA such as international organizations, parastatal organizations and other institutions concerned with the promotion of cooperatives can be invited to the RA as Observers upon payment of registration fee unless the existing members from the same country oppose.*

**Article-3 (page-2) Para-h** should read as: *The term of office of President, Vice Presidents and Members of the Standing Committee shall be FOUR years. In case any elected person ceases to represent or is withdrawn by his/her sponsoring member organization, the sponsoring organization may nominate a replacement and the decision on the replacement rests with the Standing Committee.*

**Article-4 (page-3) Para-4** should read as: *A quorum of the Standing Committee shall be constituted when more than half of its members are present. Acceptance of a resolution shall be on a two-third majority of all Committee members present and voting. Each member of the Committee is entitled to one vote.*

With the above changes, the new rules of ICA – Asia and Pacific were unanimously approved by the Regional Assembly. A copy of the Rules is attached.

**AGENDA ITEM 10 : CONSIDERATION OF TERM OF SC MEMBERS AND RECOMMENDATION OF A NAME TO ICA GA TO BE THE VICE PRESIDENT OF ICA**

The Chairman (Dr. Yehudah Paz) informed the meeting that the term of present ICA President – Asia and Pacific (Mr. Mu Li) would be over in 2005. Since there would be no RA in 2005 we have to approve the name at this meeting. He further said that the Standing Committee meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2004 in Chiang Mai has decided to re-nominate Mr. Mu Li for another term with the approval of the RA.

Mr. Mu Li's name was unanimously approved by the RA to be the President of ICA – Asia and Pacific and also the Chairperson of the RA.

Mr. Mu Li thanked the members for the faith reposed in him and said that he would continue to serve the region very effectively. He further said that our region was one of the most dynamic and cohesive Movement in the global ICA.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that according to the existing ICA Regional Assembly Rules, the term of office of Standing Committee is from Regional Assembly to Regional Assembly. In view of this, the term of present Standing Committee expires on the date of coming 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of Regional Assembly on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2004. However, based on the Rules approved by ICA General Assembly held in Oslo on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2003, new Rules have been formulated. According to new Rules the term of office of Standing Committee is **4 years** so as to bring it at par with the term of Board Members of ICA global. The present Standing Committee was elected by the Regional Assembly in Cebu in February 2003.

He also said that the Standing Committee at its meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November in Chiang Mai had unanimously decided to recommend to the Regional Assembly to extend the term of current members for a further period of 4 years.

Mr. Subrahmanyam from India said that the members of the SC were elected in Cebu for two years only. Subsequently the rule has been changed for four years. Therefore, legally their term cannot be extended. But they can be re-elected by the RA.

After discussions, the RA unanimously re-elected the following members to the SC for another four years.

• Mr. Mu Li	ACFSMC	China	-	Chairperson
• Ms. Junko Ito	JCCU	Japan	-	Vice Chairperson
• Prof. Ungku A. Aziz	ANGKASA	Malaysia	-	Vice Chairperson
• Dr. Yehudah Paz	CUCS	Israel	-	Member
• Mr. Chung Dae-Kun	NACF	Korea	-	Member
• Dr. S.S. Sisodia	NCUI	India	-	Member
• Mr. Seah Kian Peng	SNCF	Singapore	-	Member
• Ms. Evelyn B. Bautista	NATCCO	Philippines	-	Member
• Mr. D.P. Baskota	NCFN	Nepal	-	Member
• Mr. Sumarna Abdurahman	DEKOPIN	Indonesia	-	Member
• Mr. Bandupala Ranawaka	NCC	Sri Lanka	-	Member

## **AGENDA ITEM 11:                   REPORTS FROM ICA-AP SPECIALISED   COMMITTEES**

**Women's Committee:** The ICA Regional Women's Committee was constituted in 1998 and the meeting of the Committee is being held regularly in conjunction with the Regional Women's Forum. The Committee has got 17 members from 13 countries. The 4<sup>th</sup> meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> November in Chiang Mai. Eight members from six countries attended the meeting. Ms. Rahaiah Baهران (Malaysia) and Ms. Junko Ito (Japan) were re-elected unanimously for the next term. However, Ms. Goh Ming Huey (Singapore) was elected as Vice Chairperson in place of Ms. Preema Shanti Sooriarachchi.

The Committee reviewed the progress of the gender integration and women's development programs and felt the need of evaluation of the achievements since its inception. The members presented country reports and informed the Committee about the gender integration and women empowerment programs of their cooperatives. The committee also discussed and finalized the work plan for 2005.

**Consumer Committee:** The 38<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation was held at Chiang Mai on 30<sup>th</sup> November. 28 participants from eight countries – India, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam attended the meeting. Mr. T. Fujioka, Chairperson of the Committee, welcomed the participants and thanked the host CLT for providing valuable support to organize this meeting.

In addition to routine Agenda, two special reports were presented at the meeting - (a) Current Issues and Challenges of Consumer Cooperative Movement of Thailand, and (b) Re-engineering Plan of the Consumer Cooperatives in Thailand. Reports of critical studies conducted by ICA – AP with financial support from JCCU were also presented by two Consultants from India and the Philippines. It was followed by the presentation of an Action Plan to strengthen consumer cooperatives in Asia. The critical studies and action plans were earlier deliberated at national workshops organized in four countries.

Mr. T. Fujioka, Executive Director, JCCU, was unanimously re-elected as Chairperson of the Committee. Mr. Poh Leong Sim from Singapore and Professor Ali Hassan from Malaysia were elected as Vice Chairpersons of the Committee.

**Consumer Sub-committee on University/College Coops:** The 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ICA Consumer Sub-committee on University/College Cooperatives was held at Chiang Mai on 29<sup>th</sup> November. 28 participants from Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, India, Philippines, Vietnam and Thailand attended the meeting. The meeting elected Mr. Manabu Tanaka from Japan as Chairperson, while Professor Mohd. Ali Hassan from Malaysia was re-elected as Vice Chairperson.

There was also a workshop of the leaders of university/campus cooperatives in the afternoon of 29<sup>th</sup> November which reflected on the outcome of the Regional Youth Seminar in Malaysia, the setting up of a Regional Youth Committee, organizing a Pro-term Youth Committee and holding its meetings. It was expected that the Regional Youth Committee will be formalized during 2006 Regional Assembly.

**Regional Cooperative Banking Association:** The 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the RCBA was held at Chiang Mai on 30<sup>th</sup> November. 14 participants from India, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand, Canada and ACCU attended the meeting. In the absence of Mr. P.A. Kiriwadeniya, Chairperson, the meeting was chaired by Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, founder Chairperson of RCBA.

In addition to routine Agenda, a proposal to organize a regional seminar on "Role of cooperative Banking Sector in Poverty Alleviation and Employment Generation" was discussed. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan from India was unanimously elected as Chairperson of RCBA for the next term. It was decided not to fill-up the post of Vice Chairperson for the time being. Members appreciated the services rendered by the outgoing Chairperson, Mr. P.A. Kiriwadeniya to strengthen the cooperative banking and credit sector in Asia.

**HRD Committee:** The 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ICA Committee on Human Resource Development (HRD) was held in Chiang Mai on 30<sup>th</sup> November. 18 members from seven countries, namely, India, Indonesia, Israel, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and one international organization - ACCU - attended the meeting. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Leow Peng Kui, Chairman of the Committee. He welcomed the presence of the members and thanked them for their presentations at the meeting. The following three presentations were made at the meeting:

1. Presentation on "Corporate Social Responsibility – Its Significance and Impact on Cooperatives" by Mr. Leow Peng Kui, Chief Executive of SNCF.
2. Presentation on "Global/Asian Coop – HRD Networking Center at VMNICM, Pune (India)" by Mr. Bhagwati Prasad, Chief Executive of NCUI. This project is in collaboration with Global ICA HRD Committee and funded by NCUI.
3. Presentation on "Global Cooperative Learning Center" by Dr. Yehudah Paz, Chairman, International Relations, CUCS, Israel. This project is in partnership with British Columbia Institute of Cooperative Studies and ILO Coop Branch.

Country Reports on HRD activities were presented by members from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The meeting decided that in future country reports should be replaced with "Presentation of Initiatives on HRD".

The meeting unanimously re-elected Mr. Leow Peng Kui from Singapore and Mr. Bhagwati Prasad from India as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson respectively for another term. Mr. Leow Peng Kui and Mr. Bhagwati Prasad thanked the members for reposing their faith on them.

Three seminars on HRD Best Practices were held in Malaysia, India and Sri Lanka in 2002-03. The meeting decided to continue the seminars on HRD Best Practices in the coming years. The meeting also decided to recommend to ICA-AP that at least one HRD activity should be held every year. Some members indicated their willingness to host such programs. The Committee also noted the need for increased cooperation amongst HRD institutions in the region and the acceptance of training standards across national boundaries.

**AGENDA ITEM 12:                    *REPORT OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> COOPERATIVE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE HELD IN NEW DELHI FROM 2<sup>ND</sup> TO 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2004***

Mr. B.D. Sharma presented a report on the 7<sup>th</sup> Ministers' conference. The 7<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Cooperative Ministers' Conference was convened by ICA-AP in New Delhi (India) from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> February 2004. The Conference was hosted by the Government of India and the Cooperative Movement of India. It was inaugurated by the Deputy Prime Minister of India. A total of 172 delegates including 11 cooperative ministers, government officials, cooperative leaders and chief executives of 19 countries of Asia-Pacific region and nine international organizations participated at the Conference. The theme of the Conference was "Enabling Supportive Cooperative Legislation and Policy for Sustainable Growth of Cooperatives".

The Conference, in line with its past tradition adopted a Joint Declaration known as "**New Delhi Declaration**". The Declaration was signed by ministers and other representatives on behalf of their respective governments and cooperative movements.



The Conclusions and Recommendations of the Conference have been circulated to the governments and member organizations of ICA in Asia-Pacific region for taking appropriate action to implement the Recommendations.

**AGENDA ITEM 13:           REPORT AND NEW ISSUES ARISING FROM 3<sup>RD</sup>  
ICA REGIONAL COOPERATIVE FORUM**

The ICA - AP successfully conducted the 3<sup>rd</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum in collaboration with the Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT) at Lotus PSK Hotel, Chiang Mai (Thailand) on 1-2 December 2004. More than 250 delegates from Australia, Bhutan, Canada, Cambodia, China, Finland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Kingdom and Vietnam attended the Forum.

The theme of the Forum was "RE-ENGINEERING COOPERATIVES IN THE GLOBALISED ECONOMY" with the following six sub-themes:

- Cooperative Values vis-à-vis Competition;
- Fair Globalisation through Cooperatives;
- Restructuring Cooperatives;
- Governance of Cooperatives;
- Sectoral Concerns; and
- Social Cohesion through Cooperatives.

Dr. Iain MacPherson, Director, British Columbia Institute of Cooperative Studies at the University of Victoria, Canada summarised the Forum proceedings along with Dr. Robby Tulus, former ICA Regional Director.

**AGENDA ITEM 14:           REPORT OF 4<sup>TH</sup> REGIONAL WOMEN'S FORUM**

The ICA – AP has been organizing Regional Women's Fora since 1998 in collaboration with ICA Regional Women's Committee. The three earlier fora – the first in Seoul, the 2<sup>nd</sup> in Singapore, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> in Cebu – were great successes. The 4<sup>th</sup> ICA Regional Women's Forum was held at Chiang Mai on 30<sup>th</sup> November with the participation of 80 men and women from nine countries – India, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Japan, Thailand, Philippines, Singapore and Switzerland. The theme of the Forum was "Women in Re-engineering of Cooperatives in the Globalised Economy".

Mr. Ivano Barberini, President of ICA, addressed the Forum as Chief Guest. In reference to preparing women to face the challenges of globalization, he said that we should acknowledge the "power of intelligence" as fundamental resources and the need to manage the diversity through appropriate policies, strategies and behaviour. There were active discussions on the ways and means of empowering women and also for larger participation in decision-making positions in cooperatives. The key-note speech was delivered by Ms. Lucita Lazo, Regional Coordinator of UNIFEM. Ms. Rahaiah Baheran, Chairperson of the ICA Regional Women's Committee chaired the Forum. It was decided to hold the next Forum in Colombo in conjunction with the Regional Assembly during 2006.

**AGENDA ITEM 15:           REPORT OF 3<sup>RD</sup> ASIAN COOPERATIVE RESEARCH  
CONFERENCE**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Asian Cooperative Research Conference was held at Chiang Mai on 30<sup>th</sup> November. It was attended by 81 researchers and experts working in academic institutions and field related cooperatives in the region. The Conference was inaugurated by Mr. Ivano Barberini, ICA President, who stressed on the need for values, culture and professionalism to sustain cooperative growth in a competitive word economy. 21 papers were presented on the three themes kept for discussion at the Conference – (a) Widening the areas and scope of cooperative action; (b) Cooperative governance and globalization; and (c) Role and dynamics of women's cooperatives. Out of 21 papers, 10 were presented by awardees of the fellowship given by the Consumer Cooperative Research Institute of Japan. The emphasis during the current Conference was on empirical research to identify problems and development indicators. This emphasis was aptly justified by several presentations. It was possible to put the cooperatives on the path of progress, if need-oriented policies are formulated after identifying the disadvantages. Researchers engaged in on-going research as well as those who did case studies on the basis of conference themes demonstrated the effectiveness of research to identify critical areas and to facilitate action-oriented development programs. It was decided that the next Conference would be held in Colombo in conjunction with the Regional Assembly during 2006.

**AGENDA ITEM 16:           CONSIDERATION OF VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT  
MEETING**

Mr. Shin Kwan Lee informed the meeting that Sri Lanka would be celebrating 100 years of establishment of the Cooperative Movement in 2006. Hence, they wanted to host the next Regional Assembly and Cooperative Forum in Sri Lanka in 2006. The meeting accepted the offer of National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka and decided to host the next Regional Assembly and Coop Forum in Sri Lanka in 2006. The date and venue would be decided in consultation with the secretariat. The Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) would be hosting the Regional Assembly and the Coop Forum in 2008. The meeting thanked both Sri Lanka and Vietnam for agreeing to host ICA events in 2006 and 2008 respectively.

**AGENDA ITEM 17:           CLOSING SESSION**

Dr. Yehudah Paz said that this RA meeting was both important and interesting because there was deep important reaffirmation of cooperative lessons, values and their translation into successful business enterprises.

The meeting thanked the Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT) for making excellent arrangements for the meeting in Chiang Mai.

The meeting proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Shil Kwan Lee and his able staff for carrying out the ICA-AP's work with success. The meeting also thanked Mr. Ivano Barberini, ICA President and Ms. Maria-Elena Chavez, Deputy Director General for coming and spending their valuable time with us.

The Chairperson thanked the members for coming and attending the meeting. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

**SHIL KWAN LEE**  
Regional Director

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1	Mr. Kunzang Norbu	Cooperative Advisor, SNV Bhutan, Thimphu.
<b>BHUTAN</b>		
2	Dr. Ian MacPherson	Director, British Columbia Institute for Cooperative Studies, University of Victoria.
3	Dr. Robby Tulus	#1102-1480 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1G 5H2.
<b>CANADA</b>		
4	Mr. Mu Li	President, Board of Supervisors, All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Coops, Beijing.
5	Mr. Rong Jun	Director, International Cooperation Department, ACFSMC, Beijing.
6	Ms. Tian Lihua	Program Officer, International Cooperation Department, ACFSMC, Beijing.
<b>CHINA</b>		
<b>INDIA</b>		
7	Dr. S.S. Sisodia	President, National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), New Delhi.
8	Mr. Bhagwati Prasad	Chief Executive, National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), New Delhi.
9	Mr. S.K. Jakher	Chairman, Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), New Delhi.
10	Mr. K. Srinivasa Gowda	Director, Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), New Delhi.
11	Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan	Director, Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), New Delhi.
12	Mr. Ajit Kumar Singh	Director, Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), New Delhi.
13	Mr. Sheesh Pal Singh	Director, Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), New Delhi.
14	Mr. Mostafa Sardar	Director, Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), New Delhi.
15	Mr. Pramod Kumar Singh	Director, Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), New Delhi.
16	Mr. Raj Kumar Tripathi	Director, Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), New Delhi.
17	Mr. V.H. Radadiya	Director, Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), New Delhi.
18	Dr. G.N. Saxena	Sr. General Manager (CS & AM), Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO), New Delhi.
19	Mr. A.K. Bhatnagar	Manager (Administration), Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), New Delhi.
20	Mr. S.N. Kathuria	Manager (Board), Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), New Delhi.

21	Mr. Y.S.P. Thorat	Managing Director, National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), Mumbai.
22	Mr. M.V. Madane	Chairman, Indian Society for Studies in Cooperation, Pune.
23	Ms. Veena Nabar	Director, National Cooperative Consumers' Federation Limited, New Delhi.
24	Mr. Ramesh Chandra Ramhut	Director, National Cooperative Consumers' Federation Limited, New Delhi.
25	Mr. B. Subrahmanyam	Managing Director, National Federation of State Coop Banks (NAFSCOB), Mumbai.
26	Mr. K.N. Rajanna	President, Karnataka State Cooperative Apex Bank Limited, Bangalore.
27	Dr. Bijender Singh	President, Delhi State Cooperative Bank Limited, New Delhi.
28	Mr. Alok Ranjan	Managing Director, National Agricultural Coop Marketing Federation of India Ltd., New Delhi.
29	Mr. R.S. Joon	Director, National Agricultural Coop Marketing Federation of India Limited, New Delhi.
30	Mr. K. Sivadasan Nair	Chairman, National Coop Agriculture and Rural Development Bank's Federation Ltd., Mumbai.
31	Mr. K.K. Ravindran	Managing Director, National Coop Agriculture and Rural Development Bank's Federation, Mumbai.
32	Mr. Chandra Pal Singh	Chairman, Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO), New Delhi.
33	Mr. Vaghjibhai R. Patel	Director, Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO), New Delhi.
34	Mr. Harraj Singh Sidhu	Director, Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO), New Delhi.
35	Mr. S.S. Jamgod	Director, Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO), New Delhi.
36	Mr. S.C. Kukreja	CM (Board), Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO), New Delhi.
37	Ms. Sushila Kaul	Research Professor, Pusa Institute of Agricultural Research, New Delhi.
38	Mr. Sumarna F. Abdurrahman	Chairman for Foreign Affairs, Dewan Koperasi Indonesia (DEKOPIN), Jakarta.
39	Ms. Nani Zakaria	Dewan Koperasi Indonesia (DEKOPIN), Jakarta.
40	Mr. Mohd Karim B. Firouzabadi	Managing Director, Central Union of Rural Agricultural Coops of Iran (CURACI), Tehran.
41	Mr. Mohd Reza Geramipour	Dy. Managing Director, Central Union of Rural Agricultural Coops of Iran (CURACI), Tehran.
42	Mr. Gholam Reza Amiridavandi	Member of Board of Director, Central Organization for Rural Cooperatives of Iran (CORC), Tehran.
43	Mr. Micha Brenner	Chairman, Central Union of Cooperative Societies (CUCS), Tel Aviv.
44	Dr. Yehudah Paz	Chairman of International Relations, Central Union of Cooperative Societies (CUCS), Tel Aviv.

JAPAN	45	Mr. Toshifumi Yamashita	Vice President, Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union (JCCU), Tokyo.	
	46	Mr. Takeyoshi Fujioka	Executive Director, Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union (JCCU), Tokyo.	
	47	Ms. Akiko Yamauchi	Manager of International Department, Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union (JCCU), Tokyo.	
	48	Mr. Kazunari Suzuki	Staff of International Department, Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union (JCCU), Tokyo.	
	49	Mr. Yoshimitsu Nakamura	Staff of International Department, Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union (JCCU), Tokyo.	
	50	Mr. Tsubasa Nakamura	Staff, Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union (JCCU), Tokyo.	
	51	Mr. Toshifumi Kuriki	Manager of Int'l Relations, National Federation of University Coop Associations (NFUCA), Tokyo.	
	52	Mr. Toru Nakaji	Staff, International Relations, National Federation of University Coop Associations, Tokyo.	
	53	Mr. Chikara Sato	Chief, International Affairs of General Affairs Section, JA-ZENCHU, Tokyo.	
	54	Ms. Ayako Nakata	Staff, International Affairs of General Affairs Section, JA-ZENCHU, Tokyo.	
	55	Mr. Shigeri Fukamachi	Managing Director, Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia, Tokyo.	
	56	Mr. Yukio Abe	Manager (Training Department), IDACA, Tokyo.	
	57	Mr. Kunio Umemoto	Managing Director, ZENROSAL, Tokyo.	
	58	Mr. Satoshi Takano	Assistant Manager, Management Planning Department, ZENROSAL, Tokyo.	
	59	Mr. Yasushi Yamasato	Manager of International Affairs Division, ZENKYOREN, Tokyo.	
	60	Mr. Shigetaka Watanabe	Assistant Manager of International Affairs Division, ZENKYOREN, Tokyo.	
	61	Mr. Masazumi Kanno	President, Japan Workers' Cooperative Union, Tokyo.	
	62	Mr. Ryosuke Kawai	Researcher, Japan Workers' Cooperative Union, Tokyo.	
	63	Mr. Isao Fujiwara	Joint General Manager, The Norinchukin Bank, Tokyo.	
	64	Mr. Masaki Sato	General Manager, National Federation of Fisheries Coop Association (ZENGYOREN), Tokyo.	
	KOREA	65	Mr. Sang-Jin Na	General Manager, National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF), Seoul.
		66	Mr. Kwan-Hee Lee	Manager, National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF), Seoul.
		67	Mr. Yong-Sang Yoo	Chairman and President, Korean Federation of Community Credit Coops (KFCCC), Seoul.
		68	Mr. Kang Jeong Seob	Vice President, Korean Federation of Community Credit Coops (KFCCC), Seoul.
		69	Mr. Do Jong Lee	Vice President, Korean Federation of Community Credit Coops (KFCCC), Seoul.
	70	Mr. Kevin V. Han	International National Credit Union Federation of Korea (INACUF-K)	

72	Ms. Rahaiah Baهران	Deputy President, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
73	Prof Hj Mohd. Ali Hasan	Vice President, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
74	Mr. Aliasak Hj Ambia	Vice President, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
75	Mr. Boniface Anak Edwin Maung	Acting Vice President, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
76	Mr. Bahar Siran	Board Member, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
77	Mr. Munir Badrul Jamil	Board Member, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
78	Mr. Zulkifli Yusoff	Board Member, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
79	Mr. Hasan Hj Omar	Board Member, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
80	Mr. Mat Husin Yunus	Board Member, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
81	Mr. Mohd Salleh Lela	Board Member, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
82	Mr. Abdul Aziz Hj Abdullah	Board Member, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
83	Mr. Radzi Jaafar	Board Member, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
84	Mr. Mutadho Bahri	Board Member, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
85	Mr. Mohd Jais Hassan	Board Member, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
86	Mr. Ismail Nordin	Board Member, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
87	Ms. Sharine Khoo	Int'l Relations Officer, National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia (ANGKASA), Petaling Jaya.
88	Mr. Basharuddin Bin Saidin	Unit Principal (Coops), Ministry of Entrepreneur and Cooperative Development, Putrajaya.
89	Mr. Mohd Yusof bin Khalid	Assistant Secretary (Coop), Ministry of Entrepreneur and Cooperative Development, Putrajaya.
90	Mr. Idris bin Ismail	Deputy Director, Cooperative College of Malaysia, Petaling Jaya, Selangor.
91	Ms. Raja Maimon bt Raja Yusof	Lecturer, Cooperative College of Malaysia, Petaling Jaya, Selangor.
92	Ms. Jamilah bt Din	Lecturer, Cooperative College of Malaysia, Petaling Jaya, Selangor.
93	Ms. Nurizah bt Noordin	Lecturer, Cooperative College of Malaysia, Petaling Jaya, Selangor.
94	Dr. Mohd Sahar Yahya	Board Member, University of Malaya Cooperative Bookshop Limited, Kuala Lumpur.
95	Dr. Mohd. Zambri Zainuddin	Hon. Secretary, University of Malaya Cooperative Bookshop Limited, Kuala Lumpur.
96	Dr. Mohd. Jamil Maah	Treasurer, University of Malaya Cooperative Bookshop Limited, Kuala Lumpur.
97	Mr. Zahari bin Abdul Aziz	Director, Department of Cooperative Development, Kuala Lumpur.
98	Mr. Abas bin Abu Bakar	Assistant Director, Department of Cooperative Development, Kuala Lumpur.
99	Ms. Northayati bt Ahmad Zainuri	Assistant Director, Department of Cooperative Development, Kuala Lumpur.

100	Mr. M. Nasir Ramli	Chairman, Koperasi New Straits Times Press (M) Berhad, Kuala Lumpur.
101	Mr. Salehudin Shah Shabudin	Assistant Secretary, Koperasi New Straits Times Press (M) Berhad, Kuala Lumpur.
102	Mr. Abdul Rashid b Awang	Board of Director, Konsortium Koperasi Terengganu Berhad, Terengganu.
103	Mr. Roslan bin Awang	Board of Director, Konsortium Koperasi Terengganu Berhad, Terengganu.
104	Mr. Mohd b. Abdul Rahman	Deputy Director, Cooperative Consultant Council of Terengganu State.
105	Mr. Sheikh Harun Sheikh Ismail	Board of Director, Cooperative Consultant Council of Terengganu State.
106	Mr. Alias bin Yahya	Board of Director, Cooperative Consultant Council of Terengganu State.
107	Mr. Wan Mat Amin b Wan Duad	Board of Director, Cooperative Consultant Council of Terengganu State.
108	Datuk B. Sahadevan	Chief Executive, National Land Finance Cooperative Society Limited, Kuala Lumpur.
109	Dato C. Krishnan	Director, National Land Finance Cooperative Society Limited, Kuala Lumpur.
110	Mr. T. Balakrishnan	Director, National Land Finance Cooperative Society Limited, Kuala Lumpur.
111	Mr. Kili Rathnaraj	General Manager, National Land Finance Cooperative Society Limited, Kuala Lumpur.
112	Mr. Kamal Nasir B. Mohd Yusoff	Board of Director, Koperasi Kakitangan Petronas Berhad, Kuala Lumpur.
113	Mr. Zaidan bin Abd. Hadi	Board of Director, Koperasi Kakitangan Petronas Berhad, Kuala Lumpur.
114	Mr. Ramli bin Mohamed	Board of Director, Koperasi Kakitangan Petronas Berhad, Kuala Lumpur.
115	Mr. Zamri bin Ismail	Board of Director, Koperasi Kakitangan Petronas Berhad, Kuala Lumpur.
116	Mr. Ahmad Tajudin H. Suhaili	Chairman, Koperasi Koperkasa Berhad, Kuching, Sarawak.
117	Mr. Mohamad Hatta Bujang	Vice Chairman, Koperasi Koperkasa Berhad, Kuching, Sarawak.
118	Mr. Alif Bacha Madarshah	Secretary, Koperasi Koperkasa Berhad, Kuching, Sarawak.
119	Mr. Sumber bin Hj. Dollah	General Manager, Koperasi Koperkasa Berhad, Kuching, Sarawak.
120	Mr. Mohd Ariff bin Araff	Director/Treasurer, Koperasi Perdanajaya Malaysia Berhad, Selangor Darul Ehsan.
121	Mr. D.P. Baskota	Executive Chairman, National Cooperative Federation of Nepal Limited, Kathmandu.
122	Ms. Evelyn B. Bautista	Chairperson, National Confederation of Cooperatives Inc. (NATCCO), Quezon City.
123	Mr. Leo G. Parma	Founder and Chief Executive Officer, ASIAPRO Cooperative, Pasig City.
<b>NEPAL</b>		
<b>PHILIPPINES</b>		

<b>SINGAPORE</b>	124	Mr. Seah Kian Peng	Chairman, Singapore National Cooperative Federation Limited (SNCF), Singapore.
	125	Mr. Chan Tee Seng	2nd Deputy Chairman, Singapore National Cooperative Federation Limited (SNCF), Singapore.
	126	Ms. Goh Ming Huay	Exco Member, Singapore National Cooperative Federation Limited (SNCF), Singapore.
	127	Mr. Zulkifli Mohammad	Exco Member, Singapore National Cooperative Federation Limited (SNCF), Singapore.
	128	Mr. Leow Peng Kui	Chief Executive, Singapore National Cooperative Federation Limited (SNCF), Singapore.
	129	Mr. Quah Siew Ming	Senior Manager, Singapore National Cooperative Federation Limited (SNCF), Singapore.
	130	Mr. Jasni Bin Jamil	Manager, Singapore National Cooperative Federation Limited (SNCF), Singapore.
	131	Mr. Tan Chuan Juan	Director, AUPE Cooperative Society Limited, Singapore.
	132	Mr. Lee Siew Chuan	Director, AUPE Cooperative Society Limited, Singapore.
	133	Ms. Seah Geok Lian	Manager, AUPE Cooperative Society Limited, Singapore.
	134	Mr. Teo Say Hong	Business Development Manager, Surbana, Singapore.
<b>SPAIN</b>	135	Mr. Ruben Villa Benayas	President, Union de Cooperativas Madrilenas Trabajo Asociado, Madrid.
<b>SRI LANKA</b>	136	Mr. Bandupala Ranawaka	President, National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka (NCC), Colombo.
	137	Mr. Udaya R. Seneviratne	Director General, National Institute of Cooperative Development, Polgolla.
	138	Mr. D.S.K. Pathirana	General Manager, Sri Lanka Consumer Cooperative Societies Federation Limited, Colombo.
<b>THAILAND</b>	139	Mr. Wit Praturuckchai	Executive Director, Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT), Bangkok.
<b>VIETNAM</b>	140	Mr. Nguyen Xuan Hien	Vice President, Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA), Hanoi.
	141	Mr. Vu Van Dzung	Director, International Relations Department, Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA), Hanoi.
	142	Ms. Tran Thu Hang	Expert of International Relations Department, Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA), Hanoi.
<b>ACCU</b>	143	Dr. Augustine K. Lim	President, Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions (ACCU), Bangkok.
	144	Mr. Ranjith Hettiarachchi	Chief Executive Officer, Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions (ACCU), Bangkok.
<b>ICMIF</b>	145	Ms. Faye Lageu	Vice President, Intelligence Unit, ICMIF; Manchester.
	146	Mr. Kazuo Shioiri	Vice President, ICMIF, Altrincham, Manchester.



ICA	147	Mr. Ivano Barberini	President, International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), Geneva.
	148	Ms. Maria Elena Chavez Hertig	Deputy Director General, International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), Geneva.
ICA-AP	149	Mr. Shil Kwan Lee	Regional Director, ICA - Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP), New Delhi.
	150	Mr. Rajiv Mehta	Director, ICA - Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP), New Delhi.
	151	Mr. B.D. Sharma	Consultant, ICA Domus Trust, New Delhi.
	152	Mr. K. Sethu Madhavan	Planning Officer, ICA - Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP), New Delhi.
	153	Mr. K. Kukreja	Finance Officer, ICA - Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP), New Delhi.
	154	Mr. P. Nair	Communication Officer, ICA - Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP), New Delhi.
	155	Mr. A.K. Taneja	Program Officer, ICA - Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP), New Delhi.
	156	Ms. Savitri Singh	Gender Advisor, ICA - Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP), New Delhi.
ICA-SBO	157	Mr. Jiro Ito	Director (Special Programs), ICA-AP Business Office, Singapore.
	158	Mr. Sung-Chul Kim	Advisor (Agricultural Programs), ICA-AP Business Office, Singapore.

**ANNEXURE - 2**

## Minutes of the ICA-AP Standing Committee Meeting New Lanark, Scotland, UK: 19<sup>th</sup> May 2005

The following members attended the ICA AP Standing Committee (SC) Meeting that was held at Corra Linn Room, New Lanark Mill Hotel, New Lanark, Scotland, UK from 14:00 to 17:30 hours on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2005:

01. Mr Ivano Barberini, President ICA
02. Mr Mu Li, Vice President, ICA
03. Dr Yehudah Paz, Israel
04. Mr D.P. Baskota, Nepal
05. Mr Seah Kian Peng, Singapore
06. Mr Zulkifli Mohammed, Singapore (Observer)
07. Mr Si-Hyung Jo, Korea
08. Mr Chikara Sato, Japan
09. Ms Rahaiah Baheran, Malaysia
10. Mr B. Ranawaka, Sri Lanka
11. Ms Junko Ito, Japan
12. Ms Akiko Yamauchi, Japan (Observer)
13. Dr S.S. Sisodia, India
14. Mr Jan-Eirik Imbsen, Director, ICA Geneva
15. Mr Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA AP
16. Mr Rajiv I.D.Mehta, Director, ICA AP.

### **Agenda 1: Opening Remarks**

The meeting started with the welcome remarks by Mr Mu Li. He accorded a warm welcome to all the members of the SC and extended special welcome to ICA President, Mr Barbereni. He gave special thanks to the members who had specially flown in to Scotland for the SC meeting and hailed the presence of all the members that marked great solidarity among the ICA-AP members.

Mr Barberini, ICA President thanked Mr Mu Li for his warm welcome and expressed his happiness over the importance of such forums that provide better understanding of the regional situations which otherwise is difficult to visualize from Geneva.

### **Agenda 2: Approval of the Agenda**

Mr Mu Li asked the members if they had any comments on the proposed agenda for the meeting. The members unanimously approved the agenda for the meeting.

### **Agenda 3: Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting**

The Standing Committee approved the minutes of last ICA-AP SC meeting with corrections at the Agenda 8. The word "oldest" at the first line of para 3 of Agenda 8 was rewritten as "**most experienced & senior most**".

## **Agenda 4: ICA-AP Financial Report for 2004**

Mr Lee, Regional Director, presented financial report for the year 2004, ICA-AP. Mr Mu Li termed it a qualitative presentation and Mr Yehuda Paz sought more information on the capacity of ICA Domus Trust to develop projects and the staffing at Singapore Office of the ICA. Mr Lee gave the details of staff at New Delhi and Singapore and also explained the Domus Trust capacity and staffing pattern.

Mr Sisodia, President of NCUI expressed his happiness over the results of ICA-AP and reposed his confidence in the dynamic leadership of Mr Mu Li.

Ms Baheran mentioned about the need of acknowledging NCUI for deputing their staff to ICA as a mark of solidarity.

Mr Yehudah Paz advised ICA-AP to build regional reserves.

Mr Lee appreciated the suggestion and explained that the surpluses of each year had been used to reduce the deficits ICA had. He mentioned that the deficit of ICA has been reduced to 130,000 Swiss Franks from 600,000 Swiss Franks when he took over in 2002.

Mr Barberini said that the issue of surpluses and deficits would be discussed in the context of regionalization. He said that the deficit of ICA - Asia and Pacific is much smaller as compared to ICA Americas where it is touching 660,000 Swiss Franks.

The Standing Committee finally approved the financial report

## **Agenda 05: ICA-AP Work Plan and Budget for 2005**

Mr Shil Kwan Lee informed the SC that the Regional Assembly had approved the ICA-AP Work Plan and the budget for the year 2005.

Following important activities were covered by Mr Lee in his presentation:

1. 19<sup>th</sup> ICA – Japan Regional Training Course on Strengthening Management of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia was just concluded. Pursuant to the request of Japanese Government, ICA had prepared a special report on the impact of past such 18 training programs conducted since 1986. The Government of Japan has already approved the program upto 20<sup>th</sup> training course. There would be some changes in the approach and main objectives of the project after 20<sup>th</sup> program. The response of the Japanese Government was awaited and the program would be approved for another phase of 5 years.
2. APCHO recently concluded its 5<sup>th</sup> AGM and Seminar at Tellicherry in Kerala, India from 30<sup>th</sup> April to 1<sup>st</sup> May 2005.
3. Training program for the Board Members of the Consumer Coops held in Japan from 14<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2005.
4. Protem ICA Youth Committee would organize its meeting in Singapore in July 2005 to discuss constitution of the Committee and make necessary preparations for the presentation before the Regional Assembly in 2006.

5. 5<sup>th</sup> Regional Workshop on HIV/AIDS would be held at Bangkok on 1-2 July 2005.
6. HRD workshop would be held in Singapore on 24-25 October 2005.
7. Training of Trainers for women cooperatives would be held in Sri Lanka from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> August 2005.
8. 5<sup>th</sup> ICA Japan Rural Women Leaders Training Course would be held in Malaysia/Japan from 25<sup>th</sup> August to 29<sup>th</sup> September 2005. Preparations would be done in early June in Malaysia.
9. National Workshop on Promotion and Development of Consumer Coops would be held in Philippines in September 2005.
10. Three training programs for the Managers of Consumers Coops would be held in November 2005 at Miyagi, Tokyo and Kanagawa in Japan.
11. Study Tour to Agricultural Coops in Korea and the Exposure & Networking Program for Women, Korea would be organized in September 2005.
12. Critical study on Consumer Coops in Thailand would be conducted in November – December 2005 because the consumer movement is very weak in Thailand.
13. In the wake of 2005 being the UN International Year of Micro Credit, the ICA would organize a workshop on Micro Finance in collaboration with ACCU, Government of India and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in Goa, India.
14. Cooperative Policy and Legislation Dialogue would be held in Malaysia in second half of November 2005. It would be an important gathering of cooperative leaders, practitioners and bureaucrats dealing with the cooperative policies of the governments. Formerly it was called Regional Consultation but now it would be called as legislation dialogue. Invitations would be extended to all government officers in-charge of the cooperative matters and important cooperative leaders of national stature in the Region. The dialogue would deliberate on the constraints encountered in the smooth adoption of the declaration made by 7<sup>th</sup> Cooperative Ministers Conference and would set the agenda for the next Cooperative Ministers' Conference.
15. 39<sup>th</sup> ICA Consumer Committee Meeting and 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Consumer (Sub-Committee on University / College Coops would be held in Tokyo from 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> November 2005.
16. Conference on Role of Cooperatives in Poverty Alleviation would be held in Vietnam in December 2005.
17. ASPACON bulletins would continue to publish every quarter.
18. Collection of sex-disaggregated data in cooperatives would be collected between July and December 2005. Consultations to this effect had already begun with an India based consultant. Questionnaire would be sent to all the member organizations of ICA-AP and the findings would be discussed at the next Women's Forum meeting next year.

19. Informal workers in woodcarving and carpet sector would be organized in to cooperatives through a pilot initiative of ICA with NCF, Nepal. The identification of the project team was done and implementation would begin in early June. The delay had been on account of disturbed conditions in Nepal.
20. 1<sup>st</sup> phase of AGRITERA supported project in Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam would come to an end in July 2005. Discussions were under full swing for the second phase of the project. Pilot cooperatives were identified in Cambodia and Vietnam. A workshop on cooperatives would be held in Laos in early June where the cooperative action was weak and slow.

Following remarks were made on the presentation:

Mr Sisodia, NCUI President, expressed his happiness over the presentation and information obtained about the ICA programs in the region.

Ms Junko Ito and Ms Akiko Yamauchi emphasized on the utility of ICA-Japan training program and advised Standing Committee to endorse their unequivocal opinion on the usefulness and utility of the program for the regional agriculture cooperative development. They also opined that non-official members of the Apex Cooperative Organizations might be consulted before finalizing the names of the participants for ICA-Japan Training Programs.

Ms Baهران advised that the training programs for trainers should be conducted in local language. She appreciated NACF Korea for having organized exposure programs in the region.

Mr Lee reminded all the members to expedite submission of the sex-disaggregated data and anticipated good response from all the member countries.

Dr Yehudah Paz expressed his happiness over the progress under phase 2 of the ICA - Japan Training program and appreciated the role of the organizers and donors.

He advised next Standing Committee meeting in conjunction with the Coop – Government Dialogue in Malaysia in November 2005 and also desired to have a good HRD Program in the region in 2005. He referred to institutions like JCCU & NCUI who could source great academicians, practitioners in cooperatives for the HRD seminar.

Referring to Nepal informal workers' project Dr Yehudah Paz suggested replication of the project interventions using ILO source of funding for the countries like Philippines and India. He also referred to a similar successful experience of ILO in Africa.

Finally, he admired the cohesive character of the region and advised one ICA event in West Asia to indicate that whole of Asia is one.

Mr Imbsen informed the members/participants about Syndicoop ILO meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2005 and assured the members about his broaching the ILO supported activity in the Asia Pacific region. He emphasized the potential of ICA as coordinator & representative of cooperatives in leveraging external support in tremendously important cooperative development activities.

Mr Imbsen further mentioned about the ICA workshop on poverty alleviation to be held in Vietnam and termed it as part of ICA global campaign on PRSP. About the ICA Asia Pacific HRD Committee agenda, he opined NCUI to take it up with their cooperative learning centre.

Mr Seah Kian Peng from Singapore advised ICA-AP to exert more in western Asian region to kick-start membership drive of ICA. He was of opinion that an important event in western region would motivate the potential members to get into ICA mainstream. He also sought an early decision on theme of Govt – Coop Dialogue Workshop to be held in Malaysia in November 2005.

Mr Mu Li informed the house about National Cooperative Development Corporation, India joining as new Associate Member of ICA. The total number of ICA AP members stood at 54 (4 being associate members) from 21 countries.

Dr Yehudah Paz and Ms Baheran brought a special vote of thanks to all the member Organizations of ICA AP specially JCCU, NACF and NCUI for having deputed their staff to ICA AP for important activities. Ms Baheran was particularly thankful to NCUI for the gender adviser in ICA AP.

Summing up the agenda, Mr Mu Li said that professional attitude towards cooperative development policy; personnel policy & training would ensure cooperative viability in this fierce competitive market. He laid strong importance on the Government-Cooperative Dialogue as a precursor to favorable cooperative development policy. He also endorsed the idea of holding more events in western Asian region and advised the Regional Director to invite participants from Western Asian Region in all important events & activities of the Regional Office. He thanked all the member organizations of the ICA AP who contributed in co-sharing the costs of ICA AP activities.

### **Agenda 06: Report on ICA Domus Trust**

Mr Mu Li at the very outset briefed the members about ICA Domus Trust and clarified that the agenda on ICA Domus Trust was included at the request of the ICA AP member organizations.

Mr Lee made an explicit presentation on the work plan of the ICA Domus Trust from 1st April 2005 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006 and status of funds with the Trust. Following additional clarifications were made by Mr Lee:

1. ICA Domus Trust was registered in 1989 as non-profitable charitable trust under Indian Trust Act.
2. Liquid cash was invested in Reserve Bank of India Bonds.
3. The fixed assets (land, building, equipments & furniture) of ICA Domus Trust were valued around 1.2 million USD.

Mr Sisodia was particularly happy with the presentation since he was quite anxious about the wealth of the Trust.

Mr Mu Li assured the house about regular update on the affairs of the Trust.

### **Agenda 07: Report of EU Project in Gujarat**

Mr Lee introduced Mr Rajiv Mehta, Director, ICA AP to the house and asked him to make a presentation on the EU supported Post Earthquake Reconstruction Project of ICA

Domus Trust for the Earthquake Affected Handicraft Artisans in Kutch, Gujarat, India. Mr Mehta made a detailed presentation and highlighted following aspects:

1. EU committed 1.19 million euros for a period expiring March 2006.
2. EU contribution approved subject to co-financing of 0.35 million euros by Council of Handicrafts Development Corporations, India in addition to 1.19 m € of EU.
3. 1.07 million euros received by ICA Domus Trust from EU and contribution of COHANDS also made available.
4. Major interventions were on product development, skill up-gradation, up-gradation of tools and appliances, community mobilization, market development and formation of primary cooperatives of artisans.
5. Project catered to needs of 7000 artisans in 64 villages in Kutch district in Gujarat.
6. More than 125 women thrift & credit SHGs and 60 artisans' SHGs were formed under the project. The cumulative thrift had crossed 600,000 rupees (more than 14,000 USD).
7. Self sustainability of the interventions was assured with the formation of primary cooperatives and ensuring stakes of the master craft artisans, designers, market providers and leaders of SHGs.

Mr Sisodia had preferred first the formation of cooperatives in the project. Mr Mehta explained the background of distrust of the artisans in cooperative mode in the pre-earthquake times due to failure of cooperatives in catering to business needs of the artisans. The cooperatives earlier had failed to guide artisans on the market trends hence had gone defunct and the project interventions were accordingly focused and prioritized to regain confidence of targeted vulnerable community in the cooperatives through self help.

Mr Barberini said about the complexities involved in EU funding and advised ICA Domus Trust to structure future development cooperation with EU on the basis of EU's priorities and understanding. He expressed his happiness on the project activities and advised dissemination of the knowledge and sharing of experiences with other regions of ICA.

Mr Mu Li advised ICA AP to introduce cooperative ideas through the case study of this project for the countries where cooperatives are yet to grow like Laos & Cambodia. He affirmed the role of cooperatives in social lives. He congratulated ICA Domus Trust for an impressive work through the project.

## **Agenda 08: Special Report of Tsunami in Asia**

Mr Lee presented the report on damage caused by tsunami giant waves in the region and its impact & effect on cooperatives. He presented detailed information on the losses to cooperatives in India, Indonesia and Sri Lanka. He also gave a brief account of the financial assistance received & committed by ICA member cooperatives.

Mr Mu Li termed it as a very good and clear report on the tsunami and affirmed that the ICA Board members had attached an equal importance to reconstruction of tsunami-affected cooperatives. He said that the responsibility of ICA AP was far greater than other regions since the disaster had occurred in the region.



Mr Yehudah Paz said that the interest of the donors and volunteers is quite high for the relief phase but the reconstruction phase is much slower and lesser important which is a sad situation but we have to accept it and do something about it.

He said that a person was deputed by Israeli cooperative movement to assess the damage in Sri Lanka and basic framework was being designed to canalize the assistance. The support would of course route through the ICA.

Mr Barberini congratulated Mr Lee for such an impressive report and expressed global solidarity for the cause.

Mr Ranawaka thanked SCC, IFFCO, NACF, JCCU, APCHO and ICA for the generous support and assured submission of report on the fund utilization.

Mr Mu Li stressed the need of efficient utilization of funds and submission of proper projects matching to the priorities of the affected communities. He preferred routing of all the grants and assistance through ICA AP.

Mr Seah Kian Peng from Singapore said that the DEKOPIN was asked to submit emergency relief and reconstruction project to Singapore Red Cross but there was no response.

## **Agenda 09: Review of ICA Membership Subscription Formula**

Mr Lee presented a simpler and feasible formula for the ICA membership subscription.

Dr Yehudah Paz termed it an interesting exercise and serious enough to be taken home to pause and ponder over it. He advised members to go out of box and instead of repairing old formula preferred to replace old with new formula.

Mr Baskota termed it better than present system.

Ms Baهران expressed the need of simple, affordable and growing formula that could help ICA expand its membership base. She cautioned ICA to carefully adopt new formula since it wouldn't be possible to change it every now and then.

Mr Barberini said "every complex problem has complex answer" and he expressed his concerns on the definition of a business and non-business coop.

Mr Seah Kian Peng expressed his concerns on the 5% increase in fee and found it to be on higher side in the context of inflation growth.

Mr Mu Li finally advised as under:

- We needed a new formula.
- Formula would be of practical utility with simpler parameters to define and identify the coops in different categories.
- Formula would be acceptable to most of members.
- Formula would attract new members.

The members sought time to deliberate on the suggested formula and advised RD to incorporate it as agenda in the next meeting.

## **Agenda 10: Discussion on Next Election in Colombia**

Mr Mu Li said that there were 6 seats in the Board from our region and before 13<sup>th</sup> June the nominations were to be filed. He advised all the members to exhibit solidarity since there are chances of losing 1 or 2 seats in Colombia if the Asian participation is weak.

Mr Lee assured members that he would obtain list of the candidates from Geneva after 13<sup>th</sup> June and report to Mr Mu Li. Then he would circulate it to all the members of SC for their comments. Mr Mu Li agreed that he would send five lists of candidates from our region to all ICA members to solicit their support.

Dr Yehudah Paz insisted on need of at least one woman from every region to the Board of ICA and in the event we miss a woman in the Board then we should co-opt minimum one woman from every region.

## **Agenda 11: Other Business matters Arising**

No special business was transacted in the meeting under this Agenda.

## **Agenda 12: Date and Place of Next Meeting**

It was decided to hold next meeting of the Standing Committee in Colombia before the ICA General Assembly.

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22<sup>nd</sup> July 2005

## Minutes of the ICA AP Standing Committee Cartagena (Colombia): 21<sup>st</sup> September 2005

The meeting of ICA AP Standing Committee was held in Hilton Hotel, Cartagena on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2005 at 118.0000 hrs. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Mu Li, ICA Vice President and Chairman Standing Committee. The following members and observers and ICA Officers were present:

1. Mr. Mu Li, China
2. Dr. Yehudah Paz, Israel
3. Mr. Bhagwati Prasad (on behalf of Dr.S.S.Sisodia) India
4. Mr. B. Ranawaka, Sri Lanka
5. Ms. Akiko Yamauchi, Japan (on behalf of Ms Junko Ito)
6. Ms. Rahaiah Baهران, Malaysia (observer)
7. Dr. Moh. Ali Baharum, Malaysia (on behalf of Dr. Ungku Aziz)
8. Mr. Seah Kian Peng, Singapore
9. Mr. Zulkifli Mohammed, Singapore (observer)
10. Mr. Teo Say Hong, Singapore (observer)
11. Mr. Li Chiran Sheng, China (observer)
12. Mr. K. Tsukada, Japan (observer)
13. Mr. Lyu Keun Won, Korea (on behalf of President, NACF)
14. Mr. Leo Peng Kui, Singapore (observer)
15. Mr. Gil Cua, Philippines.
16. Mr. Jan Eirik, Imbsen, Director, ICA, Geneva
17. Mr. B.D.Sharma, Senior Consultant, ICA Domus Trust  
(on behalf of Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director ICA AP)
18. Mr. Tsubasa Nakamura, SBO, ICA AP
19. Mr. Ivanao Barberni, President of ICA (joined the meeting at its concluding stage due to his pre occupations.

### **Agenda Item No. 1 : Opening Remarks**

Mr. Mu Li, ICA Vice President and Chairman of the ICA AP Standing Committee extended a very warm welcome to all the members and highlighted the importance of meeting to review the progress of the work plan of ICA AP during the current year and to formulate guide points for next years work plan and budget. Mr Mu Li informed that Dr. S.S. Sisodia one of the members of standing committee also fell ill during his travel to Cartagena at New York. We wish him speedy recovery. On his behalf Mr. Bhagwati Prasad Chief Executive, NCUI is participating in the meeting. Mr. Mu Li also informed the meeting about the sudden illness of Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director rendering him unable to attend the meeting and therefore, Mr. B.D.Sharma Senior Consultant had been deputed by him to represent Regional Director in this meeting. Mr. Mu Li wished Mr. Lee a very speedy recovery. All the members shared the feelings of Mr. Mu Li and wished Dr. Sisodia and Mr. Lee a very speedy recovery.

Mr. B.D.Sharma informed the Standing Committee that Mr. Lee was progressing very well and he would be in perfect health in a week's time.

**Agenda Item No. 2 : Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Mu Li invited views and comments of members on the Agenda. Members unanimously approved the agenda.

**Agenda Item No.3 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the SC held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2005 in Scotland**

The minutes were confirmed by Standing Committee.

**Agenda Item No.4 : Activities carried out/planned in 2005**

Mr. B.D.Sharma presented the activities of ICA AP in 2005. He observed that all the activities have been carried out according to Work Plan approved by Standing Committee and Regional Assembly. Since the last meeting of Standing Committee held in Scotland on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2005 following activities have been carried out:

1. *Preparatory steps to organize 20<sup>th</sup> ICA Japan Regional Course for strengthening Management of Agricultural Cooperatives were invited. Nominations have been invited from targeted countries approved by Japan. Pre course contacts and interviews with nominated participants were being planned to assess their suitability and brief them about outputs of the course.*
2. *Youth Committee Meeting was held in July 2005 and deliberated on the constitution of Youth Committee for Asia and the Pacific.*
3. *5<sup>th</sup> Regional Workshop on HIV/AIDS held in Bangkok in July 2005.*
4. *Training of Trainers for Women Cooperatives held in August 2005*
5. *5<sup>th</sup> ICA Japan Rural Women Leaders Training Course held in Malaysia/Japan from 25<sup>th</sup> August-29<sup>th</sup> September 2005*
6. *National Workshop on promotion and Development of Consumer Cooperatives held in Philippines in September 2005*
7. *Study tour to Agricultural Cooperatives exposure and networking for women cooperators organized in September 2005.*
8. *2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of AGRITERRA project on strengthening agricultural coops in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam commenced in July 2005.*

**Activities Planned till December 2005**

9. *Critical Study of Consumer Cooperatives of Thailand followed by National Workshop in October 2005.*
10. *Cooperatives Policy and Legislation Dialogue in November 2005.*

11. *Regional Workshop on Cooperatives and Micro Finance in October, 2005 in collaboration with ACCU and NABARD of India.*
12. *Three training programs for managers of consumer coops at Miyagi, Tokyo and Kanagawa Consumer Coops in Japan in November 2005*
13. *HRD Workshop in Singapore in October 2005.*
14. *39<sup>th</sup> ICA AP Consumer Committee Meeting and 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Consumer Sub Committee in Tokyo in November, 2005.*
15. *Conference on role of cooperatives and poverty alleviation in December, 2005*
16. *Collection of sex disaggregated data in cooperatives in progress to be completed by December, 2005*
17. *Pilot initiative of ICA-NCF Nepal to organize informal workers in wood carving and carpet weaving in progress.*
18. *Publication on recent trends in cooperatives legislation in India to completed by October, 2005*
19. *Continuance of Publication of ASPACON*

While appreciating the progress in completion of ICA AP Work Plan for the current year 2005, members offered following remarks:

Ms. Rahaiah Baهران observed that in order to make participation in cooperative policy and legislation broad based and inclusive, cooperative movement in each country of the region should be requested to nominate two representatives.

Mr. B.D.Sharma mentioned that this Dialogue is improvised version of Regional Consultation, which was held preceding to cooperative ministerial conferences. The participants of the Regional Consultation were permanent secretaries in charge of cooperatives in governments and chief executives of national cooperative organizations.

Dr. Yehduah Paz emphasized the importance of participation of cooperative leaders in such fora, since its main theme would be "cooperative policy and legislation". He suggested that ICA AP may discuss with ANGKASA to make participation more broad based.

Ms. Akiko Yamauchi appreciated the step for constitution a Protem Youth Committee for Asia Pacific. She expressed her happiness on the Role of Protem Youth Committee in preparing the Draft Constitution of Youth Committee and suggested that youth representative Mr. Teo Say Hong may be allowed to make a presentation on behalf of Protem Youth Committee to this standing Committee. Thereafter Chairman invited Mr. Teo Say Hong to make a presentation.

Mr. Teo say Hong mentioned that Protem Youth Committee had already finalized Draft Constitution of Asia pacific Youth Committee for consideration and approval. It was encouraging to note that a youth representative had been elected to ICA Board by ICA Youth Committee at Global Level. In line with the decision of Protem Youth

Committee, Mr. Toe say Hong presented following proposal for consideration of Standing Committee:

- (i) *In line with ICA Global Board, ICA AP Standing Committee should also have one youth Representative to be nominated by Youth Committee.*
- (ii) *A fund to support youth involvement in cooperatives and youth committee for undertaking various activities may be created at the level of ICA AP which should examine ways and means and modalities for creation of such fund.*

Mr. B.D.Sharma remarked that since present budgetary structure of ICA AP did not allow creation of funds, means and sources for mobilizing this fund might have to be clearly identified.

Mr. Seah Kian Peng remarked that Standing Committee should support the proposal of youth committee for cooption one youth representative in the membership of Standing Committee.

Dr. Yehudah Paz agreed to the proposal of co-opting one youth on standing committee. However he suggested that one member of standing committee may also attend meetings of the Youth Committee. Mr. Gil Cua supported the view of Dr. Paz.

Ms Rahaiah Baheran observed that while creation of Fund for youth activities was important, its feasibility particularly in regard to resources to be tapped needs to be carefully examined. We may have to impress upon our member organizations to contribute to this fund.

Mr. Jan Erik Imbsen suggested for tapping up sources from Youth Employment Network of ILO and for establishing collaboration with International Youth Organizations.

Mr. Bhagwati Prasad observed that objectives of the Youth Committee should be specific about motivation of youth to join coops.

Summarizing the discussions, Mr. Mu Li identified following action points:

- a. *Write to national cooperative organizations to set up youth network and nominate youth to ICA Regional Assembly and ICA General Assembly.*
- b. *Circulate the Draft constitution of Youth Committee to member organizations for their comments.*
- c. *Since Standing Committee is created by Regional Assembly, the decision regarding Cooption of Youth representative to the standing committee is beyond its jurisdiction.*
- d. *ICA AP may consider activity based support keeping in view budgetary resources to provide funding support to youth committee.*

## **Agenda Item No 5 : Financial Report for 2005**

Financial Report was presented by Mr. B.D.Sharma. Standing Committee noted the same.

## **Agenda Item No. 6 : Discussions on ICA AP Work Plan and Budget for 2006**

As asked by the Chair, Mr. B.D.Sharma presented this agenda item. He mentioned that the issue has been placed before the standing Committee to elicit the views of its honorable members, particularly on work plan. Based on these views Work Plan for 2006 will be formulated. The Budget will be formulated on the basis of multi annual budget submitted to ICA Global.

The members made the following remarks:

Mr. Rahaiah Baهران suggested for inclusion of collection of sex disaggregated data and follow – up action thereon in the Work Plan. Mr Seah Kian Peng said that the work plan should be based on needs of the cooperative movement of the region. It may particularly focus on cooperative legislation, coops and poverty alleviation, involvement of women and youth in coops, HRD, outline of Program of Regional Assembly.

Concluding the discussions on work plan, Mr. Mu Li mentioned following action points:

- (a) *Standing Committee Members may send their suggestions within one month.*
- (b) *ICA AP office should consult the member organizations in the region.*
- (c) *Work plan should include activities relating to Middle East, West and Central Asia.*

## **Agenda Item No 7 : Tsunami Update**

As asked by Chairman, Mr. B.D. Sharma presented update about the following project interventions initiated by ICA AP with the support of ICA member organizations:

### **I ICA-NCUI Project on Post Tsunami Reconstruction of Cooperative Infra Structure in India:**

Funding Agency	:	Cooperatives U.K
Amount	:	153224 USD
Local Pattern	:	National Cooperative Union of India
Target Group	:	(a) severely affected cooperatives in Cuddalore District of Tamil Nadu (b) 2000 members in 14 villages affiliated to a Tribal Cooperative
Objective	:	To offset the impact of disaster with faster restoration of normalcy in cooperative businesses of reconstruction of office buildings and revival of cooperative action

## **II ICA NISPED Israel Project on Capacity Building of Cooperatives in Sri Lanka (Project Document has been prepared the project will be operational soon)**

Target Group : NCC, SANASA & COPFED

Local Partner : National Institute of Cooperative Development of Sri Lanka

In addition to the above LEGA COOP has also initiated a project in Ampara and Kalutara regions of Sri Lanka. Local partners of LEGACOOP are two Italian NGOs through National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka

Dr. Yehudah Paz mentioned that first phase Israel funding would be for Southern Province of Sri Lanka. In next phase funding will be provided to northeastern.

Mr. Ranawaka, Chairman National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka appreciated ICA and donors to support Tsunami victim cooperatives.

Mr. Mu Li, while appreciating cooperatives U.K. and NISPED, Israel called for further support by ICA member organizations to Tsunami affected coops.

### **Agenda Item No. 8 : Discussion on Next Election in Colombia**

Mr. Mu Li informed that there are 6 candidates from Asia. If Standing Committee agrees we may send a note to ICA members to elect at least 5 members from Asia in view of size and cooperative membership. If any one of is not elected he may be included in Standing Committee.

On Mr. Mu Li's suggestion Ms. Akiko remarked that since Standing Committee is constituted by Regional Assembly, therefore above suggestion may not be appropriate.

It was also brought to notice of Standing Committee that names of 6 candidates had already been sent from ICA AP office to ICA member organizations. In view of this, Standing Committee declined to send a note to ICA Members to elect at least 5 candidates from Asia Pacific Region.

Mr. Mu Li while concluding the discussions observed that concerned candidates should concentrate on votes to maximize the possibilities of election of all candidates from Asia.

### **Agenda Item No 9 : Other Business Matters Arising**

No other business matters arising out of the meeting was raised except one observation by Mr. Ranawaka of Sri Lanka. He requested that people from ICA fraternity visiting Sri Lanka should communicate with National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, the apex of Sri Lankan Cooperative Movement. This would help in effective facilitation of their visit and enable them to have correct and updated information about Sri Lanka Cooperative Affairs.



**Agenda Item No. 10 : Date and Place of Next Meeting**

Mr. Mu Li observed that in the next ICA Board Meeting important issues e.g. regionalisation of structure, Governance, membership, European Resolution will be deliberated. Standing Committee has to take a view on these matters to be placed before ICA Board. In view of this he suggested that next meeting of standing committee may be convened in conjunction with ICA Board Meeting Scheduled to be held in Geneva in December, 2005 to discuss these issues. The meeting may also discuss the program of next Regional Assembly scheduled to meet in Sri Lanka in 2006.

Mr. Mu Li also asked Mr. Ranawaka whether he would be in a position to finalize the dates and other details before next meeting of Standing Committee. Mr. Ranawaka mentioned that Regional Assembly may be held in August 2006 and he would be in a position to finalize dates and other details.

Standing Committee decided to hold its next meeting in Geneva in December in conjunction with ICA Board Meeting. Regional Director was asked to take appropriate action in the matter.

## Minutes of the ICA-AP Standing Committee Meeting Geneva (Switzerland): 5<sup>th</sup> December 2005

The meeting of ICA-AP Standing Committee was held in Ramada Park Hotel, Geneva on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2005 from 14:00 to 19:00 hours. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Mu Li, ICA Vice President and Chairman of Standing Committee. The following members and observers and ICA Officers were present:

20. Mr. Mu Li, China
21. Ms. Rahaiah Baهران, Malaysia (on behalf of Royal Prof. Ungku A. Aziz)
22. Mr. Won-Sik Noh, Korea (on behalf of Mr. Chung-Dae Kun)
23. Ms. Junko Itoh, Japan
24. Mr. Seah Kian Peng, Singapore
25. Dr. Yehudah Paz, Israel
26. Mr. Bandupala Ranawaka, Sri Lanka
27. Mr. Jiro Ito, Japan (observer)
28. Ms. Akiko Yamauchi, Japan (observer)
29. Mr. Chikara Sato, Japan (observer)
30. Mr. H.M.S. Dias, Sri Lanka (observer)
31. Mr. Sunil Silva, Sri Lanka (observer)
32. Mr. Rong Jun, China (interpreter)
33. Mr. Jan-Eirik Imbsen, ICA, Geneva
34. Mr. Jin-Kook Kim, ICA, Geneva
35. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, ICA-AP, New Delhi.

### **Agenda Item No. 1 : Opening Remarks**

Mr. Mu Li, ICA Vice President and Chairman of the ICA-AP Standing Committee extended a very warm welcome to all members attending this meeting. He said that this meeting as well as Governance Group meeting and Special Workshop are very important for future development of ICA.

### **Agenda Item No. 2 : Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Mu Li invited views and comments of the members on the Agenda. Members unanimously approved the Agenda.

### **Agenda Item No.3 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting held in Cartagena on 21<sup>st</sup> Sept**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the minutes of the SC meeting held in Cartagena on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2005 were sent to the members. Since no comments have been received, the minutes were confirmed by the Standing Committee.

## **Agenda Item No.4 : Activities Carried Out in 2005 and Financial Report for 2005**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director presented the activities carried out by ICA-AP in 2005. The Chairman thanked Mr. Shil Kwan Lee for conducting a variety of activities in the year and mentioned that after the Standing Committee meeting in Cartagena in last September; ICA-AP carried out many activities and thanked the member organizations which hosted ICA activities.

Dr. Yehudah Paz appreciated the positive result of the activities and financial report for 2005 and said that all programs carried out by ICA-AP were excellent and thanked the President of ICA-AP and the Regional Director for the positive result. He requested the Regional Director to report on the progress of future ICA-Japan Training Courses which were under discussion with the Government of Japan in the next meeting.

Ms. Rahaiah Baهران expressed appreciation to ICA Domus Trust for its support to activities of Women's Committee. She thanked NACF, Korea for the support on Exposure Program of Women Leaders in Korea last October. She reported on the progress of data collection on sex dis-aggregated data of cooperatives. She wished participation of many delegates in the Women's Conference to be held in the Philippines in next May. She also mentioned that Royal Professor Unku A. Aziz wrote a letter to Mr. Mu Li regarding the recent Cooperative and Government Dialogue Meeting on Cooperative Legislation and Policy held in Kuala Lumpur, which was very successful. He extended his full support for hosting the next Cooperative Ministers' Conference in Malaysia in 2007, which was already indicated by the Minister in his inaugural address at the Dialogue Meeting. She requested for positive consideration of Standing Committee members.

All members agreed with the outstanding performance and positive financial result of ICA-AP in 2005 and accepted the report.

## **Agenda Item No 5 : ICA-AP Work Plan and Budget for 2006**

As requested by the Chair, Mr. Lee presented the ICA-AP Work Plan and Budget for 2006 and mentioned that the work plan was drafted on the basis of suggestions received from member organizations.

Dr. Yehudah Paz emphasized the importance of HRD seminar and recommended to have the seminar during next Regional Assembly Meeting in Sri Lanka.

Mr. Jiro Ito expressed that JCCU would not be able to host the On-the Job Training for Managers of Consumer Cooperatives in Japan.

Mr. Ranawaka wanted some of the activities included in the fields of insurance, housing, fishery and education. The Regional Director mentioned that global sectoral organizations such as AOA, ICFO often provide opportunities of seminars and workshops in this region.

Ms. Rahaiah Baهران stressed the importance of training opportunities for CEOs. Mr. Lee explained that ICA Head Office is now preparing data of 300 outstanding cooperatives and expect to organize a CEO Forum during General Assembly Meeting in 2007.

Mr. Seah Kian Peng asked the question that if we do not get income from the Registration Fee of Regional Assembly, do we expect deficit in 2006. Mr. Lee replied that the only way is to reduce the expenses to avoid the deficit.

Mr. Jan-Eirik Imbsen said that ILO is now considering having the Cyndi-coop Project either in India or Bangladesh. He further said that there will be possibility to invite cooperatives in Yemen as a new ICA member because the World Bank may work with ICA for the development of agricultural cooperatives in Yemen in the near future.

Dr. Yehudah Paz expressed the hope to have new members in Australia and New Zealand. He said that we should try to have new members also in West Asia, Central Asia and the Pacific region.

Dr. Paz mentioned that operation of Singapore Business Office was important and requested to include an Agenda at next Standing Committee Meeting to review the role of the Office and how to strengthen the Office.

The Chair asked other opinions and members approved the Work Plan and Budget for 2006.

## **Agenda Item No. 6 : Discussion on ICA's Governance Working Group Report and Regionalization Issues**

Dr. Yehudah Paz remarked with the suggestion made by Regional Director. It was very interesting. He agreed partly but not fully. He mentioned that the basic nature of the ICA would be discussed tomorrow at the Consultative Meeting, where we Asia and Pacific should also raise our own voice. He further mentioned that regionalization is important, but global solidarity is also equally important.

Ms. Akiko Yamauchi remarked that Mr. Lee' suggestion was too specific. Mr. Seah Kian Peng emphasized the importance of the governance report and said we need more time to discuss these issues in the next meeting.

Mr. Mu Li concluded that solidarity of whole ICA is important and the region is a part of global ICA and weakening of global ICA may result in weakening the regional part of ICA. He agreed that we should have more time to discuss these issues in the next meeting.

Mr. Mu Li also mentioned that dropping our members like India and Russia from our Board is regrettable and said we need to improve our election system.

## **Agenda Item No 7 : Membership Subscription Formula**

Members discussed the proposed formula and concluded that we may propose the suggested factors such as business, non-business cooperative, developed, developing and least developed countries when we discuss to change the subscription formula at global board meeting, and agreed to have more time on this agenda at our next meeting.

Mr. Mu Li summarized that we all agree with the formula which is very simple and easy to calculate.

**Agenda Item No. 8 : Association of Youth Representative with Standing Committee**

Members discussed the procedures on how to invite youth representative to the Standing Committee meeting. It was agreed to include a youth representative in the Committee as regular member pending approval by the Regional Assembly. It may take some time to change the rule. Therefore, the meeting agreed to invite the youth representative to the next Standing Committee meeting as observer and next Regional Assembly may review it.

**Agenda Item No 9 : Tsunami Update and Involvement of Coops in Disaster Management in Asia-Pacific Region**

The Regional Director explained recent development of projects in Tsunami affected areas.

Dr. Paz said that Israel mobilized 295,000 US dollars which would be supported for training of cooperators and micro-financing in Sri Lanka. He said that the ICA has agreed to put matching fund to this Project. He further said that the Project would be implemented through ICA-AP.

Mr. Jan-Eirik Imbsen said that Cooperative-UK has decided to finance 12 fishery cooperatives in Banda-Acheh.

Mr. Ranawaka expressed his appreciation for the assistance of Tsunami affected cooperatives in Sri Lanka.

Mr. Mu Li remarked that these support for Tsunami affected cooperatives by ICA member organizations was a good model of "**Cooperation Among Cooperatives**". He wished members to support the rehabilitation of earthquake affected cooperatives in Pakistan as well.

**Agenda Item No. 10 : Arrangements and Dates of Next Regional Assembly Meeting**

The meeting decided to prepone the events in Sri Lanka by one week - **14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August 2006**. Dr. Paz proposed to change the date of youth seminar to 15<sup>th</sup> of August to reduce the financial burden of young participants by shortening their stay for the meetings.

Mr. Ranawaka said that the member organizations in Sri Lanka will see that the events to be held in Sri Lanka from 14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August would be a grand success.

## **Agenda Item No. 11 : Other Business Matters Arising**

No other business matters arising out of the meeting was raised under this Agenda.

## **Agenda Item No. 12 : Date and Place of Next Meeting**

Mr. Mu Li remarked that we had last three Standing Committee meetings outside our region. This might have caused inconvenience to members who are not global ICA board members. He, therefore, proposed that the next meeting of the SC may be held in Guilin, China. The host organization (ACFSMC) would bear local costs such as board and lodging and local transport for the participants including youth representative. The meeting agreed to Mr. Mu Li's suggestion.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair at 19:00 hours.

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30<sup>th</sup> December 2005

## Minutes of the ICA-AP Standing Committee Meeting Wuxi (China): 16<sup>th</sup> May 2006

The meeting of ICA-AP Standing Committee was held in Taihu Hotel, Wuxi on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2006 from 09:30 to 17:00 hours. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Mu Li, ICA Vice President and Chairman of Standing Committee. The following members, observers and ICA Officers were present:

36. Mr. Mu Li, ACFSMC, China - Chairperson
37. Ms. Junko Itoh, JCCU, Japan - Vice Chairperson
38. Dr. S.S. Sisodia, NCUI, India - Member
39. Mr. Mohd. Ali Baharum, ANGKASA, Malaysia - on behalf of Prof. Ungku Aziz
40. Mr. Guillermo P. Cua, NATCCO, Philippines - Member
41. Mr. Seah Kian Peng, SNCF, Singapore - Member
42. Mr. Bandupala Ranawaka, NCC, Sri Lanka - Member
43. Mr. Teo Say Hong, SNCF, Singapore - Youth Representative
44. Ms. Rahaiah Baهران, ANGKASA, Malaysia - Observer
45. Mr. Jiro Ito, JCCU, Japan - Interpreter
46. Mr. Virendra S. Sisodia, India - Observer
47. Mr. Zulkifli Mohammed, SNCF, Singapore - Observer
48. Mr. Li Chunsheng, ACFSMC, China - Observer
49. Mr. Rong Jun, ACFSMC, China - Observer
50. Ms. Tian Lihua, ACFSMC, China - Interpreter
51. Mr. Lu Peng, ACFSMC, China - Interpreter
52. Mr. Iain Macdonald, Director General, ICA, Geneva
53. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA-AP, New Delhi.
54. Mr. K. Sethu Madhavan, ICA-AP, New Delhi - Recording

### **Agenda Item No. 1 : Opening Remarks**

Mr. Mu Li, ICA Vice President and Chairman of the ICA-AP Standing Committee thanked the members for accepting the invitation and coming to attend the SC meeting in Wuxi. He said that originally the meeting was scheduled to be held in Guilin which was famous for scenic beauty. However, it was shifted to Wuxi due to the pressure of the Wuxi Government. The members, will however, be taken to Guilin.

He informed the meeting that the members from Indonesia, Israel, Korea and Nepal have regretted their inability to attend the meeting. Mr. Seah Kian Peng who has become Member of Parliament of the Government of Singapore was congratulated by the SC. He also thanked Mr. Iain Macdonald, Director General of ICA, for his presence.

### **Agenda Item No. 2 : Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Mu Li invited views and comments of the members on the Agenda. The Agenda was unanimously approved.

**Agenda Item No.3 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting held in Geneva on 5<sup>th</sup> Dec '05**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the minutes of the SC meeting held in Geneva on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2005 were circulated among the members. Mr. Jiro Ito suggested that on page 2, under Agenda 5, para 3 the word "Managers" should be substituted by "Board Members". With this minor correction, the minutes were confirmed.

**Agenda Item No.4 : RD's Report (ICA-AP Financial Report for 2005 & Work Plan/Budget for 2006)**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, presented the ICA-AP Financial Report for 2005. The meeting noted that there was a surplus of CHF 8,391 in Delhi Office and CHF 11,039 in Singapore Business Office for the year 2005 respectively.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee then presented the activities of the ICA-AP carried out up to March 2006 and the Activities Planned from April to December. He informed the meeting that the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan, has agreed to extend the Agricultural Management Training Course and the Rural Women Leaders Training Course for another five years with slight modifications in contents and titles.

Ms. Rahaiah Baهران informed that the Cooperative College of Malaysia will be conducting a month long training course in which two participants from Afghanistan could also be invited with full scholarship. She also congratulated the Regional Director for taking initiative to organize a coop trade exhibition in Iran in October.

Ms. Rahaiah Baهران expressed appreciation to ICA Domus Trust for its support to activities of Women's Committee. She reported the progress with regard to data collection on sex dis-aggregated data of cooperatives. She hoped participation of as many delegates as possible in the Women's Conference to be held in the Philippines in November.

Dr. S.S. Sisodia thanked the Regional Director and his staff for conducting so many important activities in 2005. He also assured the Regional Director of NCUI's readiness to conduct any activities anywhere in India in 2006.

Mr. Ali Baharum wanted to know the steps ICA is taking to increase the membership. Mr. Iain Macdonald said that membership in the ICA is increasing slowly and this is an issue which affects the whole of ICA. There is no country in the world where there is no cooperative. Many issues are involved in accepting new members. However, we are satisfied with the present increase in membership. Asia-Pacific region is doing better. He also informed that the last ICA Board meeting has agreed to hold a strategic planning meeting in Stockholm on 4-5 September 2006 which would also discuss membership issue.

Mr. Mu Li welcomed the new members from Australia and New Zealand. He further said that if any Standing Committee Member has got information about potential members, it should be brought to the notice of ICA-AP.



All the members expressed their happiness with regard to the outstanding performance and positive financial results of ICA-AP in 2005 and unanimously accepted the report.

## **Agenda Item No. 5 : Discussion on Regionalization Issues**

Mr. Iain Macdonald informed the meeting that the ICA Board had set up a Regional Working Group (RWG) to discuss and submit a report on the regionalization issues. The Working Group had met several times and exchanged a number of papers on the agreed main subjects – legal, roles, membership and finance issues. The RWG last met on 20<sup>th</sup> April reviewed all the documents and considered recommendations to be placed before the Board. At the last Board Meeting held in Washington in May the RWG submitted its report. The ICA Board has now endorsed the report which will not become a rule until the next General Assembly to be held in Singapore in 2007. The main recommendations of the RWG were as follows:

**Legal:** (a) at this stage only in Europe should there be a change in legal status; (b) emphasis is made on the global authority that is ICA but that each region could have its own specific identity within this authority; and (c) a review of the ICA Rules and Standing Orders will be necessary to consider decisions taken at Regional Assemblies and to ensure there is one overall global legal framework into which all regions should fit.

**Roles:** (a) a very disciplined approach to be taken to prepare a successful strategic meeting in Stockholm, on 4-7 September 2006, which would also include sectoral organisations; (b) that head office, regional offices and sectoral organisations should be asked to prioritise their existing roles and functions for input to Stockholm; (c) to accept the agreed basis for roles and functions; and (d) to emphasise the role of the sectors in this exercise and to avoid competition and duplication.

**Membership:** (a) that there be two types of ICA members, full and associate, with regional and sectoral members being part of associate. Only those not eligible for full membership could normally be considered for associate; and (b) further consideration should be given to *National Cooperative Movement* and *Sector/Type* subscription formula options and reported back to the board.

**Finance:** (a) to operate a four-year multi annual planning process, with a strategic budgetary review every two years. Annual budgets would continue to operate within that process; (b) to continue with a revised solidarity system; and (c) to collect global subscriptions centrally by head office and in close association with regions and possibly sectors.

Mr. Iain Macdonald assured that the “Statutes” for transforming Coop Europe into ICA’s European Region will be ready by the end of July so that it could be discussed in the forthcoming Regional Assemblies.

Dr. S.S. Sisodia said that this subject is very delicate and that it should be handled properly. It would be appropriate if the present level of working of the ICA is maintained.

Mr. Iain Macdonald said that Coop Europe wanted to have a separate legal entity in order to get financial support from European Union. Unless it is registered there, it will not be possible to get any financial support. Coop Europe wants to remain within ICA global and it will have two logos (Coop Europe and ICA). He also said that ICA-AP does not require any change and it is going from strength to strength. However, this was not the case with Africa.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that legal entity is not a big issue for ICA-AP. Within the current existing structure, ICA-AP is very autonomous and ICA Geneva does not interfere in this region.

Mr. Mu Li concluded that solidarity of whole ICA is important and the region is a part of global ICA. Weakening of global ICA may result in weakening the regional part of the ICA. We think that the AP members should actively participate in the regionalization issues. He hoped DG will take into account the whole issues that are being discussed today.

Mr. Mu Li also said that regionalization issue should be based on: (a) final benefit to the ICA; (b) regions could get more autonomy so that they can better promote the cooperative movement; and (c) it does not harm the ICA. Therefore, we all should support this process. The regionalization issue will be closely followed and reported it to the next regional assembly in Sri Lanka.

### **Agenda Item No. 6 : Membership Subscription Formula**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the present subscription formula is very complicated and difficult to follow. Therefore, many organizations are paying the minimum subscription. One of the recommendations of the Regionalization Working Group (RWG), which was also approved by the ICA Board in Washington, was to refine the two models of subscription – one based on the collection of dues at the national level (National Cooperative Movement Model) and the other based on flat-fee approach based on sector/type of organization (Sector/Type).

Mr. Iain Macdonald informed the meeting that 70 per cent of the members do not follow the present subscription formula and the National Cooperative Movement Model is currently following by the Japanese Cooperative Movement. He also said that this is a scenario only and lot of work has to be done.

The members from India, Philippines, Japan and Singapore agreed to the National Cooperative Movement Model.

Mr. Mu Li said that we have got two scenarios now at our disposal. It is necessary to continue the discussions on the Models and I do not think it is time to finalize the proposal. As decided at the last meeting, the formula should be very simple and easy to calculate.

### **Agenda Item No. 7 : Operation of Singapore Business Office**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented a brief report on Singapore Business Office. He said that even though the office started working in July 1999, the SBO has not done any work to promote coop trade. He suggested that either Malaysia or Singapore could explore the possibility of seconding one officer to work at the SBO. Mr. Seah Kian Peng said that SNCF would seriously consider the proposal. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that he would hold discussions with SNCF in this regard.

Mr. Mu Li said that the original intention of opening SBO was to promote business between the cooperative movements in the region. In addition to activities carried out by ICA-AP, the most important thing is that we should get started some business. The SBO is really important for us.

**Agenda Item No. 8 : Review of Constitution of ICA  
Committee on Youth Cooperation for  
Asia-Pacific**

Mr. Teo Say Hong first thanked the members for inviting a youth representative to the SC meeting. He appealed to the SC members to send at least one youth to the next Youth Conference to be held in Colombo on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2006. He then presented the draft Constitution of ICA Committee on Youth Cooperation for Asia-Pacific. A few minor corrections were suggested by the members. With these minor corrections, the SC approved the draft Constitution and decided to submit it to the Regional Assembly for its approval.

**Agenda Item No 9 : Post Tsunami Interventions by ICA-AP  
in India, Sri Lanka and Indonesia**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented a report on the post tsunami interventions in India, Sri Lanka and Indonesia. The highlights of the report are given below:

**Post Tsunami Reconstruction of Cooperatives in India:** ICA-AP and NCUI with financial assistant of Coop UK are jointly implementing coop reconstruction project in tsunami hit areas in Tamil Nadu and Anadaman Nicobar states of India. The project period is for 12 months from August 2005 to July 2006 for a financial outlay of US\$ 153,224 by Coop UK and US\$ 15,292 by NCUI.

**Sri Lanka Post Tsunami Coop Empowerment Project:** Post tsunami cooperative empowerment project for the cooperatives in Southern Province in Sri Lanka is a combined initiative of ICA, NISPED, B'nai Brit World Centre and the American Jewish Committee. The project involves an extensive capacity building program designed to strengthen managerial and leadership capability among all the affected cooperatives in Southern Sri Lanka. The program will cover 1,550 senior managers and members of the board of directors of identified coops. The total budget of NISPED is US\$ 300,000 and ICA contribution is US\$ 100,000.

**Coop Reconstructions in Indonesia:** LSP21 and Dekopinwil Aceh are the lead agencies in Indonesia, coordinating and implementing coop rehabilitation activities in tsunami affected areas in Aceh. ICA has extended financial support to LSP21 in the form of bridge fund of CHF 45,000 to coops in Aceh. Besides, ICA has committed US\$ 93,000 to fund education and training programs as indicated in the Integrated Coop Rehabilitation Project prepared by Mr. Robby Tulus, special ICA Envoy in Indonesia. Further, Coop UK has agreed to fund US\$ 140,800 (US\$ 46,000 transferred) for reconstruction of coops in Aceh.

Mr. Mu Li congratulated the Regional Director and his staff for getting financial support for the tsunami affected projects in India, Sri Lanka and Indonesia.

A 10 minutes video film on Post Earth Quake Rehabilitation Project in Gujarat (India) was shown to the SC members. This project was completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006. The approval of the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase is expected by end of December.

**Agenda Item No.10 : Issue of ICA Vice President from Asia-Pacific Region**

Mr. Mu Li said that he had sent a letter on 27<sup>th</sup> March on this subject to all SC members and ICA President/Director General. There is some change in his present position in China. He is no longer serving as a leader of ACFSMC. He has already begun his new career in Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). In order for ACFSMC to continue to play an active role in the ICA, as well as to make further contributions, he earnestly recommended that **Mr. Li Chunsheng** be his successor for the remaining period of his term as ICA Vice President. Mr. Li Chunsheng has served the ACFSMC in various capacities. He has been the Vice President of ACFSMC since 2000 and carries a wealth of experiences in international affairs. He will no doubt stand up to the expectations of the ICA leadership and members in this region. He requested the SC members to take a final decision in this regard.

Dr. S.S. Sisodia proposed the name of Mr. Li Chunsheng as Vice President of ICA and all members present seconded his name.

All the SC members praised the good work done by Mr. Mu Li. Mementos were presented to Mr. Mu Li by the SC members and also by ICA-AP.

Mr. Mu Li thanked all members of the SC for their kind support, which he enjoyed very much throughout his work with the ICA. He further said he would be missing everybody since he will not be able to continue his work with the ICA. However, he said that he is very much interested to keep in touch with each member.

Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked all members of the SC for recommending his name to be the new Vice President of ICA. He also thanked Mr. Mu Li for recommending his name as his successor. With your support, he hoped he will be able to stand up to your expectations.

**Agenda Item No. 11 : Arrangements and Dates of Events to be held in Sri Lanka from 14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August 2006**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented a list of events to be held in Colombo (Sri Lanka) from 14<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> August 2006. He said all the preparations are going on smoothly. A "Pamphlet" with all the details of the Coop Forum/Regional Assembly was also circulated at the meeting.

Mr. Ranawaka said that the member organizations in Sri Lanka will see that the events to be held in Sri Lanka from 14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August would be a grand success.

**Agenda Item No. 12 : Other Business Matters Arising**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the Government of Malaysia and ANGKASA have kindly agreed to host the next Cooperative Ministers' Conference in Malaysia in 2007. The meeting authorized the Regional Director to finalize the dates of the Conference in consultation with the Government of Malaysia and ANGKASA.

**Agenda Item No. 13 : Date and Place of Next Meeting**

The meeting unanimously agreed to hold the next meeting of the Standing Committee in Colombo (Sri Lanka) in the forenoon of 16<sup>th</sup> August 2006 in conjunction with the Cooperative Forum and Regional Assembly.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair at 17:00 hours.

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20<sup>th</sup> June 2006

ANNEXURE - 3

# **CONSTITUTION OF THE ICA COMMITTEE ON YOUTH COOPERATION FOR ASIA AND PACIFIC**

## **PREAMBLE**

This Committee is being formed to take initiatives in the development of cooperatives among youth population in the Asia and Pacific Region. It shall be a Committee of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia-Pacific.

## **Article 1: Name**

- 1.1 The name of the Committee shall be **"ICA Committee on Youth Cooperation for Asia and Pacific"** (Hereinafter it will be referred to as the "Committee" and for all transactions shortly referred to as **ICA Regional Youth Committee**).

## **Article 2: Area of Operation**

- 2.1 The area of operations of the Committee will be Asia and Pacific Region i.e. area covered by the ICA Regional Office for Asia and Pacific.

## **Article 3: Objectives**

- 3.1 The objectives of the Committee shall be to promote the networking of youth in cooperatives and to encourage the youth activities through pursuing the following issues under the coordination of ICA-AP;
  - 3.1.1 Strengthen and encourage better cooperation through exchange of visit, knowledge and know-how and activities among youth in cooperatives;
  - 3.1.2 Encourage youth to become active members, employees and leaders of Cooperatives and to help them learn participatory democracy;
  - 3.1.3 Strengthen business activities of Cooperatives by youth through member education/promotion, member participation, joint business activities, etc.;
  - 3.1.4 Help promote and develop cooperative movement, community and environment;
  - 3.1.5 Provide linkages and networking with cooperatives at all levels (i.e. local, national, regional and global); and
  - 3.1.6 Promote the inclusion of youth into the mainstream of the cooperative organization via youth representation in the local, national, regional and global level.

## **Article 4: Activities**

- 4.1 The activities of the Committee shall be as follows:
  - 4.1.1 The Committee shall have its meeting at least once a year and shall issue a Newsletter either electronically or in the printed form;
  - 4.1.2 The Committee may arrange activities or programs for promoting and developing youth cooperatives within the Development Projects and other institutions;
  - 4.1.3 The Committee shall liaise with regional or global organizations in pursuance of its objectives; and
  - 4.1.4 The activities of the Committee shall be reported to meeting of the ICA Asia-Pacific Standing Committee and the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and Pacific.

## **Article 5: Membership**

- 5.1 The members of the Committee shall consist of youth representatives who are cooperative members and/or employees nominated by ICA member organizations in the region;
- 5.2 One representative shall be nominated from one organization - country in the Committee; and
- 5.3 The admission or resignation of the members of the Committee shall be discussed and approved in the meeting of the Committee, and shall be reported to the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and Pacific.

## **Article 6: Office**

- 6.1 The Office of the Committee shall be at the ICA Regional Office for Asia and Pacific.

## **Article 7: Meetings**

- 7.1 Meeting of the Committee shall be held at least once every year preferably in conjunction with the Regional Assembly. The meetings shall be convened by the Secretary who shall also furnish to the Committee a report on the activities.
- 7.2 The proceedings of the meetings of the Committee shall be conducted in English. Participants requiring interpretation in any other language may be accompanied by personal interpreters at their own cost.
- 7.3 Each country delegation attending the meeting shall have one vote.
- 7.4 Members who have not paid their annual membership subscription dues towards the Committee shall not be entitled to vote.
- 7.5 Eminent academicians of the University/College/Youth cooperatives and others may be invited to the meetings of the Committee as observers or speakers. The observers shall not have any voting rights.



## **Article 8: Officers**

- 8.1 The Committee shall elect a Chairperson and two Vice Chairpersons, with due consideration to gender parity. The term of office shall be from the ICA Regional Assembly to the next. Retiring office bearers shall be eligible for re-election.
- 8.2 The Project Director/Officer of the ICA Youth Project Asia and Pacific shall function as the Secretary of the Committee.
- 8.3 The Committee shall have Co-Secretaries to assist the work of the Secretary, as necessary.
- 8.4 In the absence of the Chairperson at the meeting, the Committee shall elect a Chair from among the members present for conducting the proceedings of the meeting.

## **Article 9: Finances**

- 9.1 The resources of funds to meet the expenditure on the meetings and activities of the Committee shall be derived from:
  - a) The annual membership fee of US\$ 100 at the minimum by each member organization;
  - b) The annual project fund of the ICA Youth Development Project for Asia and Pacific; and
  - c) Other contributions.
- 9.2 The financial year of the Committee shall be one calendar year.

## **Article 10: Amendment**

- 10.1 Any amendment to the Constitution of the Committee has to be tabled, discussed and be endorsed by the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and Pacific.
- 10.2 The amendment will only take effect upon approval by the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and Pacific.

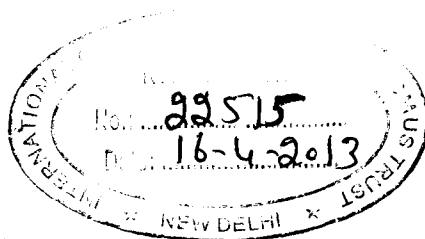
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24<sup>th</sup> July 2006

# 8th Meeting of ICA-AP Regional Assembly

Melia Hotel, Hanoi (Vietnam) : December 5, 2008

## AGENDA NOTES



**International Co-operative Alliance - Asia and Pacific**  
9, Aradhana Enclave, R.K. Puram, Sector-13,  
New Delhi -110 066. India.

**AGENDA NOTES**

**5<sup>th</sup> December 2008 {09:00~16:00 hours}**

**Agenda Item 01 : Opening Remarks**

Following the joint opening ceremony of Cooperative Forum and Regional Assembly on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of ICA Regional Assembly will be officially opened on 5<sup>th</sup> December by Mr. Ivano Barberini, President of ICA. Mr. Li Chunsheng, President of ICA-Asia and Pacific and also the Chairman of ICA Regional Assembly will chair.

**Agenda Item 02 : Approval of Agenda**

Delegates would be requested to formally approve the Agenda.

**Agenda Item 03 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting held in Colombo on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2006**

The Minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of ICA Regional Assembly held in Colombo (Sri Lanka) on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2006, as enclosed at Annexure-1 were circulated to all the delegates and member organizations. No suggestions/observations/amendments have been received. Minutes may be confirmed.

**Agenda Item 04 : Perusal of Minutes of ICA-AP Standing Committee Meetings since last Regional Assembly**

Since the last Regional Assembly, five meetings of the Regional Board (Standing Committee) were held. Confirmed minutes of the four meetings are enclosed at Annexure-2. Necessary follow-up action on these minutes has already been completed. Hon'ble delegates of the Regional Assembly may kindly peruse.

**Agenda Item 05 : Approval of new Rules of ICA-AP**

Pursuant to the new Rules of ICA approved by the Special General Assembly at Rome (Italy) on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2007, the ICA-AP has revised its Rules. The new Rules of ICA-AP, as approved by the Regional Board, are enclosed at Annexure-3. Regional Assembly may kindly approve the Rules.

**Agenda Item 06 : Progress Report from Regional Director, ICA-AP**

The Progress Report of ICA-AP for the year 2008 will be presented before the Regional Assembly by the Regional Director, ICA-AP.

**Agenda Item 07 : Approval of ICA-AP Strategic Plan and Multi-Annual Budget for 2009-2012**

The current Strategy and Priorities of ICA-AP would be over by the end of 2008. The ICA-AP Strategic Plan for 2009-2012 is enclosed at Annexure-4. The multi-annual budget will be distributed at the meeting. The Regional Assembly may kindly approve the Strategic Plan and Multi-Annual Budget.

**Agenda Item 08 : Approval of Work Plan of ICA-AP for 2009**

The ICA-AP Work Plan for 2009 will be distributed at the meeting. The Regional Assembly may kindly approve it.

**Agenda Item 09 : Approval of Constitution of the ICA-AP Committee on Cooperative Research**

The Constitution of the ICA-AP Committee on Cooperative Research, as approved by the Regional Board at its meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December in Hanoi, is enclosed at Annexure-5. Regional Assembly may kindly approve the Constitution.

**Agenda Item 10 : Approval of Constitution of the ICA-AP Committee on University/Campus Cooperatives**

The Constitution of the ICA-AP Committee on University/Campus Cooperatives, as approved by the Regional Board at its meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December in Hanoi, is enclosed at Annexure-6. Regional Assembly may kindly approve the Constitution.

**Agenda Item 11 : Re-constitution of ICA-AP Regional Board**

The term of office of the current regional board members will be over by December 2008. According to new Rules of ICA-AP, the Regional Assembly shall elect a maximum of eleven members to the Regional Board for the next four years.

The ICA-AP secretariat has already written to member organizations to propose their nominee for election as member to the Regional Board. Detail of the nominations received will be placed before the Regional Assembly for re-constitution of the Regional Board.

**Agenda Item 12 : Report on 5<sup>th</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum**

Delegates are aware that 5<sup>th</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum hosted by the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) has been planned on 4<sup>th</sup> December in Hanoi. All the member organizations have been informed. We expect nearly 200 international participants in this Cooperative Forum, besides a large number of local participants.

The theme of the Forum is "COOPERATIVE ADVANTAGE IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS" and Sub-themes are the following: (a) *Coop Advantages in Ensuring Inclusive Growth of Economy*; (b) *Enhancing Management Capacity in Cooperatives*; and (c) *Business Networking to position Coops as a Preferred Brand*.

A brief report and issues arising out of the Forum will be placed before the Regional Assembly on 5<sup>th</sup> December.

**Agenda Item 13 : Report of 5<sup>th</sup> Cooperative Research Conference**

A brief report will be placed before the Regional Assembly by the Chairperson of the ICA Research Conference.

**Agenda Item 14 : Report of 5<sup>th</sup> Regional Women's Forum**

A brief report will be placed before the Regional Assembly by the Chairperson of the ICA Women's Forum.

**Agenda Item 15 : Reports from ICA-AP Specialized Committees**

Chairpersons of the following Specialised Committees will present their report at the time of Regional Assembly:

- (a) Agricultural Committee
- (b) Consumer Committee
- (c) HRD Committee
- (d) Regional Cooperative Banking Association
- (e) Women's Committee
- (f) Youth Committee
- (g) University/Campus Committee
- (h) Research Committee

**Agenda Item 16 : Report of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ministers' Conference held in Malaysia from 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> March 2007**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Ministers' Conference on Cooperative Policy and Legislation was held in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) from 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> March in collaboration with the Ministry of Entrepreneur and Cooperative Development (MECD) and

ANGKASA. The opening ceremony of the Conference was held in the afternoon of 12<sup>th</sup> March at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Center (KLCC). Around 900 people attended the inauguration. The Conference was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Malaysia. The inaugural session was also addressed by the Hon'ble Minister of the MECD and the ICA President.

The theme of the Conference was "Fair Globalisation through Cooperatives". Around 316 participants and observers, including 10 ministers, from 21 countries and four international organizations attended the Conference.

The Conference was quite successful in terms of achieving its core objective of sensitizing the Governments to the need of realizing full potential of cooperatives in building national economy, especially in the context of globalization, demanding the legislative cum policy support for the cooperatives to play an important role in equitable distribution of the benefits accruing from the liberalized global economy.

The Conclusions and Recommendations of the Conference have been circulated to the governments and member organizations of ICA in Asia-Pacific region for taking appropriate action on the Recommendations. The Kuala Lumpur Declaration adopted by the Conference is attached at Annexure-7.

**Agenda Item 17 : Any Other Business**

**Agenda Item 18 : Consideration of Venue and Date of next Meeting**

The next meeting may be convened in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2010. The Regional Board may be authorized to fix up the date.

As regards venue, delegates/prospective host member organizations may give their proposal at the time of the meeting.

**Agenda Item 19 : Closing Session**

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*Tea break* : 10:30~11:00  
*Lunch break* : 12:30~14:00

# ANNEXURE - 1

**MINUTES OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE ICA REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**Colombo (Sri Lanka):18<sup>th</sup> August 2006**

**AGENDA ITEM 01:            OPENING REMARKS**

A formal joint opening ceremony of the 4<sup>th</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum and 7<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly was held at Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH) Colombo (Sri Lanka) in the evening of 16<sup>th</sup> August 2006. The event was hosted by the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka. It was inaugurated by His Excellency Ratnasiri Wickramanayake, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, on behalf of H.E. Mahinda Rajapaksa, President of Sri Lanka, who could not come due to some urgent engagements. His Excellency Najeeb Abdul Majeed, Minister for Cooperatives and Cooperative Development, Sri Lanka, welcomed the participants. Mr. Ivano Barberini, ICA President; Mr. Mu Li, President, ICA – Asia and Pacific; and Mr. Bandupala Ranawaka, President of National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka delivered opening remarks at the ceremony. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA – Asia and Pacific and Mr. M.G. Sunil Silva, General Secretary/General Manager of NCC, proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of ICA and the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka respectively. More than 800 persons attended the joint opening ceremony.

The theme of the Forum was **"Capacity Building: The Priority for Cooperative Enterprises"**.

After conclusion of the ICA Regional Cooperative Forum, the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific was held at Hotel Galadari, Colombo (Sri Lanka) on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2006. 158 participants from Canada, China, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Palestine, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Kingdom and Vietnam attended the meeting. In addition, special invitees from ACCU, AWCF and ICA also attended the meeting.

Mr. **Mu Li**, President, ICA – Asia and Pacific and Chairman of ICA Regional Assembly opened the meeting and welcomed all the members and invitees present. He said "I am very happy that most of the member organizations' representatives could come to Colombo to attend the meeting. Since the last RA the Cooperative Movements in various countries of the region have been growing and made commendable achievements. At the same time, we are well aware of the economic globalization of the world economy including the cooperative sector. It is in this regard, I believe, that this RA will contribute to cooperative restructuring and development in the Asia-Pacific region which requires lot of consensus and hard working". After his brief remarks, he requested Mr. Ivano Barberini, President of ICA, to formally inaugurate the meeting.



Mr. **Ivano Barberini** said "I am pleased to attend this Regional Assembly. This RA culminates week-long events. I would like to thank you all for your participation in various meetings. I believe that this is an important meeting. I want to thank the Government of Sri Lanka, particularly the Minister for Cooperatives and Cooperative Development, and the host organizations for the excellent arrangements made for the Cooperative Forum and the Regional Assembly. I welcome you all to the meeting and hope you would have important discussions including discussions on regionalization issue".

**AGENDA ITEM 02:                    RATIFICATION OF MR. LI CHUNSHENG'S NAME  
AS PRESIDENT OF ICA – ASIA AND PACIFIC**

Mr. Mu Li said that he had already informed at the SC meeting held in Wuxi on 16<sup>th</sup> May about his retirement from the ACFSMC. He would, therefore, like to recommend that **Mr. Li Chunsheng** be his successor for the remaining period of his term as President of ICA – Asia and Pacific. Mr. Li Chunsheng has served the ACFSMC in various capacities. He has been the Vice President of ACFSMC since 2000 and carries a wealth of experience in international affairs. He would, no doubt, stand up to the expectations of the ICA leadership and members in this region. Mr. Mu Li requested the RA to take a decision in this regard.

Dr. S.S. Sisodia said that at the SC meeting held in Wuxi he had proposed the name of Mr. Li Chunsheng as President of ICA – Asia and Pacific, while all the members present at the meeting had seconded his name.

The Regional Assembly ratified Mr. Li Chunsheng's name, as proposed by the Standing Committee, to be the President of ICA – Asia and Pacific for the remaining period.

Mr. Mu Li thanked all the members of the RA for their kind support, which he enjoyed very much throughout his work with the ICA. He further said that he would be missing everybody since he would not be able to continue his work with the ICA. However, he said that he would very much like to keep in touch with each other.

Mr. Li Chunsheng said "I would like to thank the RA for ratifying my name as President of ICA-AP. I want to congratulate Mr. Mu Li for his marvelous leadership and Mr. Shil Kwan Lee and his team for their outstanding contribution. I think without their efforts the cooperative movements cannot be so successful. I know that it is not easy for me to follow Mr. Mu Li. There are many challenges we are facing. I think different cooperative leaders should chair the RA sessions. Therefore, I propose Mr. Seah Kian Peng from Singapore to chair Agenda Item 7 to 10 and Mr. Adi Sasono from Indonesia to chair Agenda Item 11 to 14. Agenda Item 15 and 16 will be chaired by me".

**AGENDA ITEM 03 :                    APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Chair asked the members whether they had any comments on the Agenda. The Agenda, which was circulated at the meeting, was unanimously approved.

**AGENDA ITEM 04: CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD IN CHIANG MAI ON 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Regional Assembly held in Chiang Mai (Thailand) on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2004 were circulated to all the delegates and member organizations and no comments/suggestions/observations/amendments were received. The minutes were confirmed.

**AGENDA ITEM 05: PERUSAL OF MINUTES OF ICA-AP SC MEETING SINCE LAST REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

Since last Regional Assembly, five meetings of the Standing Committee were held. Confirmed minutes of these meetings were circulated at the meeting. Necessary follow-up action on these minutes had already been completed. The delegates of the Regional Assembly endorsed the minutes of the Standing Committee.

**AGENDA ITEM 06: PROGRESS REPORT FROM REGIONAL DIRECTOR, ICA-AP**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the financial report for 2005 and informed the house that there was a surplus of CHF 8,391 in Delhi Office and CHF 11,039 in Singapore Business Office. He further said that there would be a small surplus in 2006 also.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee also presented the activities of the ICA-AP carried out up to July and planned from August to December 2006. He informed the meeting that the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan, had agreed to extend the Agricultural Management Training Course and the Rural Women Leaders Training Course for a further period of five years with slight modifications in contents and titles.

The members thanked Mr. Shil Kwan Lee and his staff for conducting so many important activities. All the members expressed their happiness with regard to the outstanding performance and positive financial results of ICA-AP and unanimously accepted the report.

At this point, Mr. Seah Kian Peng, Chairman of Singapore National Cooperative Federation (SNCF) and Member of the ICA Board and Standing Committee took over as chair of the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 07: POST TSUNAMI RECONSTRUCTION AND EMPOWERMENT PROJECTS IN INDIA, INDONESIA AND SRI LANKA**

Mr. Rajiv Mehta presented a report on the post tsunami reconstruction and empowerment projects in India, Sri Lanka and Indonesia. The highlights of the report are given below:

**India:** Phase-1 from August 2005 to July 2006 aimed at physical reconstruction of cooperative infrastructure of seven tsunami affected cooperatives in Tamil Nadu and Nicobar with financial support from Coop UK US\$ 153,224 and NCUI US\$ 15,292 was completed in record time. Coop UK also sanctioned Phase-2 in Nicobar for reconstruction of seven warehouses and seven consumer shops with a commitment of US\$ 101,830.

**Sri Lanka:** NISPED and ICA jointly agreed to support 18 months long US\$ 400,000 Coop Empowerment Program in Southern Province in Sri Lanka to help 126 tsunami hit cooperatives. The project had taken off in June 2006 after prolonged discussions with 4 project partners in Sri Lanka. Physical reconstruction was in full swing in identified 10 coops and the capacity building training programs had also started in NICD. More than 150 board members of affected coops were benefited by the training program.

**Indonesia:** ICA extended bridge fund of CHF 45,000 to LSP2I and DEKOPINWIL NAD to help affected coops kick start their lives. Later UK Coop extended financial support of US\$ 140,000 to two fisheries coops for reconstruction of boats and purchase of equipments. ICA had committed itself for another sum of US\$ 50,000 to support project management unit and educate members and leaders of affected coops on livelihood recovery and management.

Dr. Sisodia thanked the ICA-AP and other development partners for the timely financial support for the tsunami affected projects in India, Sri Lanka and Indonesia. He also expressed his hearty thanks to the President of ICA.

Mr. Jan-Eirik Imbsen said that the Cooperative Movements all over the world came to the rescue of the affected countries and contributed financially and that re-construction work was more important than rescue operation. He further added that there was a proposal that the ICA establishes a Cooperative Global Reconstruction Protocol to which cooperative agencies, international organizations and member organizations around the world commit themselves to work together.

Mr. Seah Kian Peng said that it was very important to learn the lessons from the disaster occurred to ensure better disaster preparedness.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 08: PRESENTATION ON GLOBAL HRD NETWORKING**

The Global HRD Network promoted and developed by NCUI/VMNICM in collaboration with ICA HRD Committee was launched on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2006 at British Columbia Institute of Cooperative Studies, Victoria (Canada). Mr. Bhagwati Prasad, Chief Executive of National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) made a presentation on **Global HRD Networking** at the meeting.

ICA Global HRD Committee took initiative to create a workable mechanism to enable HRD institutions and practitioners in cooperatives to establish a live network among themselves for sharing their experiences, knowledge and allied cooperative-centric information in the field of HRD. As a first step, a Cooperative Learning Center (CLC) at global level was set up. As a sequel to it,

ICA HRD Committee conceived a project to set up Global HRD Network (GHRD) to address information requirements of HRD institutions around the globe in the field of cooperatives.

GHRD Network for Cooperatives is promoted, developed and maintained by the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) and the Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management, Pune (India) in collaboration with ICA HRD Committee.

Cooperative HRD institutions all over the globe can become members of the Global HRD Network. The details of each registered organization, such as, name, contact details, head of the organization, training programs offered, infrastructure available, faculty, etc. can be accessed through this portal. The portal intends to provide access to: (a) details of member institutions; (b) training programs; (c) training materials; (d) faculty resources; (e) global news and events in the field of cooperatives; and (f) a discussion forum. Organizations can register themselves by visiting <http://www.hrd.coop>.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 09:                   DISCUSSION ON REGIONALISATION ISSUES**

Initiating the discussion on Regionalization, Mr. Ivano Barberini said that it is a long and complicated issue. The issue started in 1992 in Tokyo and the General Assembly in Seoul. During 2000-2003 the ICA Board approved a proposal to set up a Special Task Force. It was emphasized by the Task Force that we need a global organization. Now there is new face which was promoted by the European Cooperative Movement - Enlargement of the European Union. They promoted this platform 3-4 years ago and the ICA Board approved it.

He said that Coop Europe wanted to have a separate legal entity in order to get financial support from European Union. Unless it is registered there, it will not be possible to get any financial support. Coop Europe wants to remain within the ICA global.

He informed the meeting that the ICA Board had set up a Regional Working Group (RWG) to discuss and submit a report on the regionalization issues. The Working Group had met several times and exchanged a number of papers on the agreed main subjects – legal, roles, membership and finance issues. The RWG last met on 20<sup>th</sup> April reviewed all the documents and considered recommendations to be placed before the Board. At the last Board Meeting held in Washington in May 2005, the RWG submitted its report. The ICA Board has now endorsed this report.

He said that the Coop Europe has now prepared a Statute. This Statute could not be discussed at Washington in May and the discussion was postponed to Stockholm meeting in September. He also said that ICA-AP does not require any change and it is going from strength to strength.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the Regionalization Working Group Report approved by the ICA Board and requested the RA to endorse the Report.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee also said that legal entity is not a big issue for ICA-AP. Within the current existing structure, ICA-AP is very autonomous and ICA Geneva does not interfere in this region.

Dr. S.S. Sisodia said that this is a very delicate subject and that it should be handled cautiously. He strongly pleaded that the present level of working of the ICA should be maintained.

Mr. T. Yamashita said "I would like to endorse the report of the ICA Board. My understanding is that the European community is highly organized, political and economic community. If we could set up a regional entity, we could get more financial support from the EU. It is not only a cooperative issue, but also a political issue. Many discussions were held with the cooperators from Europe".

Mr. Seah Kian Peng said that this is not a new issue. It has been discussed at the ICA Board and the SC many a times. The main need is to understand the situation of European region to tap funding from EU. The intention is not to see ICA breaking up. This has been conveyed to ICA Board and ICA.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that global ICA solidarity is more important and with this condition we should endorse the report. The subscription formula is more important and it will definitely affect our members. Those members who are not eligible for full membership can become associate members. This is a good idea.

Mr. Ivano Barberini said that this should not be considered as a regional problem, but a common problem. Hence it is important to endorse the report of Regional Working Group.

Mr. Li Chunsheng said regionalization is very important for us. This is not a new issue and it has been discussed many a times. This was also discussed at the last SC meeting in Wuxi. Regionalization should be for unity and integrity and should not be for weakening. He concluded that solidarity of the whole ICA is important and the region is a part of the global ICA. Weakening of global ICA may result in weakening the regional part of the ICA.

After discussions, the Regional Assembly unanimously endorsed the Regionalisation Working Group report. Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked the RA for endorsing the RWG report.

**AGENDA ITEM 10:                    APPROVAL OF CONSTITUTION OF THE ICA  
   COMMITTEE ON YOUTH COOPERATION FOR  
   ASIA AND PACIFIC**

Mr. Teo Say Hong, Chairman, ICA-AP Youth Committee, presented the Constitution of the **ICA Committee on Youth Cooperation for Asia and Pacific**. The Regional Assembly unanimously approved the Constitution which was earlier approved by the Standing Committee at its meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May in Wuxi.

At this point, Mr. Adi Sasono, President of Dewan Koperasi Indonesia (DEKOPIN) and Member of the Standing Committee took over as chair of the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 11:           REPORTS FROM ICA-AP SPECIALISED  
                                  COMMITTEES**

**Women's Committee:** The 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of ICA Regional Women's Committee was held on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2006 at Hotel Galadari, Colombo. More than 30 persons attended the meeting besides committee members. The committee discussed the activities, performance and future plans and also amended its Constitution to extend the term of the committee and terms of members and office bearers from two to four years. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Go Ming Hua, Vice Chairperson, in the absence of Madam Rahaiah Baهران, Chairperson of the Committee.

**Consumer Committee:** The 40<sup>th</sup> meeting of ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation was held at Galadari Hotel, Colombo, on 16<sup>th</sup> August. 40 participants (members and observers) from India, Japan, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam attended the meeting. In addition to routine agenda, a special report on "The Centurial Plan - Opening New Super Markets" was presented by Mr. DSK Pathirana, General Manager of COOPFED. The meeting discussed and adopted the work plan for 2007.

Mr. Jiro Ito, Manager, International Department of JCCU was unanimously elected as Chairperson of the Committee. Mr. Poh Leong Sim from Singapore and Mr. DSK Pathirana from Sri Lanka were elected as Vice Chairpersons of the Committee. It was also agreed that the term of new office bearers will be for four years from the date of election. It was also decided that the next meeting of the Committee will be held in Singapore in conjunction with ICA General Assembly.

**Consumer Sub-committee on University/College Coops:** The 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ICA Consumer Sub-committee on University/College Coops was held at Hotel Hilton, Colombo on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2006. 29 participants from 7 countries and observers attended the meeting. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Manabu Tanaka, Chairperson of the NFUCA. The meeting felt that the Newsletter should have the write-ups by the students to add value. They also felt that the Newsletter need not be always quarterly.

**Agriculture Committee:** The 37<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ICA Committee on Agriculture was held at Galadari Hotel, Colombo, on 16<sup>th</sup> August. 21 participants from India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Korea, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Vietnam attended the meeting. The Chair, Mr. Lyu Keun-Won opened the meeting emphasizing the importance of Asiatic variety and stressed that in the context of growing globalization it is very essential for us to exchange the information and experiences to better understand the regional and local matters concerning the challenges before us.

The members from the participating countries made brief presentations about the agricultural scenario in their countries. Dr. Jin Kook Kim, Agriculture Advisor, ICA Geneva, made an impressive presentation on the Impact of WTO

Negotiations on Cooperatives and explained in details the pros and cons of the negotiations. He suggested convening another event exclusively on the WTO regime after December 2006. It was decided to hold the next meeting in 2007 at the time of special workshop on WTO regime.

**Regional Cooperative Banking Association (RCBA):** The 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of RCBA was held on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2006 at Hotel Hilton, Colombo. Nearly 60 participants (members and observers) from India, Iran, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Netherlands attended the meeting. The theme of the meeting was "Strategies of Cooperative Banks to Sustain in Competitive Economy" on which specific inter-active discussion was organized, preceding the formal meeting of RCBA.

Mr. Ajith Niwad Cabral, Hon'ble Governor of Central Bank of Ceylon, inaugurated the meeting and delivered a key note address on the theme of the meeting. The business session commenced with a special presentation by Dr. Sarath Delphachitra, International Cooperative Expert of Asian Development Bank. Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan from India and Dr. Sawath Saengbangpla from Thailand were unanimously elected as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the RCBA respectively for the next term.

**HRD Committee:** The 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ICA Committee on Human Resource Development (HRD) was held in the afternoon of 15<sup>th</sup> August at Galadari Hotel, Colombo. 15 participants from five countries, namely, India, Indonesia, Singapore, Sri Lanka and United Kingdom attended the meeting. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Bhagwati Prasad, Vice Chairman of the Committee in the absence of the Chairman. He welcomed the presence of the members and thanked them for coming to the meeting.

In the absence of Dr. Yehudah Paz, who could not make it to Colombo, Mr. Bhagwati Prasad made a brief presentation on "Global Cooperative Learning Center". This project is being developed by Colombia Institute of Cooperative Studies and ILO Coop Branch. Presentation of country reports on initiatives on HRD was made by members from Indonesia, Singapore and Sri Lanka. Mr. Mervyn Wilson, Principal, The Cooperative College of U.K made a presentation on the Cooperative College of UK. The meeting was also informed about the details of Global HRD Networking ([www.hrd.coop](http://www.hrd.coop)) developed and maintained by NCUI and VAMNICOM in collaboration with ICA Global HRD Committee.

The meeting unanimously elected Mr. Bhagwati Prasad from India and Mr. Zulkifli Mohammed from Singapore as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson respectively. Mr. Bhagwati Prasad and Mr. Zulkifli Mohammed thanked the members for reposing their faith in them.

The meeting decided to continue the seminars on HRD Best Practices in the coming years. Mr. Yuzri Suhud, Director of LAPENKOP (Cooperative Education and Training Development Institution) offered to host the next HRD seminar and meeting in Indonesia sometime in July 2007. The meeting unanimously accepted the proposal and authorized the ICA-AP to decide about the theme and dates of the seminar in consultation with LAPENKOP. The HRD Committee

unanimously decided to extend the term of office of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to four years, as per the new rules of ICA.

Prior to the meeting, a seminar on **New Trends in Cooperative Leadership Development** was held at Galadari Hotel in the forenoon of 15<sup>th</sup> August. The opening session was attended by Mr. Sunil Silva, General Secretary/General Manager of NCC; Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director of ICA-AP; and Mr. Bhagwati Prasad, Chief Executive of NCUI. About 50 participants attended the seminar.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Conference:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> ICA Regional Youth Conference was held at Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall, Colombo, on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2006. 116 participants from ten countries (Colombia, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Norway, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand) attended the Conference.

Mr. Palitha Rohana, President of COOPFED welcomed all the participants to the Conference. Mr. Ivano Barberini, ICA President, delivered introductory remarks and mentioned that Asia-Pacific region play a leading role in youth cooperative activities by the process of establishing the Youth Committee. H.E. Najeed Abdul Majeed, Minister of Cooperatives and Cooperative Development of Sri Lanka inaugurated the conference and mentioned that Sri Lanka was privileged to have the memorable conference to coincide with the centenary celebrations of Sri Lankan Cooperative Movement. Mr. J.M. Gunadasa, Professor of National Institute of Cooperative Development delivered the key note address and he underlined that cooperative movement is one of the useful instruments which help the youth to find solutions to their problems/challenges.

Mr. Teo Say Hong, Youth Representative of ICA-AP, presented a background report of the youth in Asia-Pacific region. He explained that ICA-AP has a decade history since regional/youth coop seminar was held in 1996. He also explained that last year the Youth Pro-Tem Committee drew up the draft Constitution of the Youth Committee.

He also informed the meeting that the Regional Assembly has now approved the Constitution of the ICA-AP Youth Committee.

**Tourism International Cooperative Association (TICA):** At the initiative of TICA Coordinator, a special meeting of the ICA-AP member organizations was convened at Hotel Hilton, Colombo, on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2006. 15 organizations from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Vietnam participated at the meeting. The following was the purpose of the meeting: (a) Role of TICA global in mobilization tourism agenda through cooperatives; (b) Sensitize the Asia-Pacific coop organizations on the scope of tourism cooperatives in the region; (c) Brainstorming on the modalities to convene committee on tourism in Asia-Pacific region; and (d) Identification of stakeholders in promoting the agenda of tourism through coop global network. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Rajiv Mehta and presided over by Mr. H.L. Tissera, Commissioner of Cooperative Development, Government of Sri Lanka. The next meeting is proposed to be held in Colombo during 2007.



**AGENDA ITEM 12:           REPORT OF 4<sup>TH</sup> ASIAN COOPERATIVE RESEARCH CONFERENCE**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Asian Cooperative Research Conference was held at Hotel Galadari, Colombo, on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> August 2006. More than 25 researchers from 10 countries and a number of observers participated at the Conference. The themes of the Conference were: (a) Role of Cooperative Leadership in Preservation of Cooperative Identity; and (b) Natural Disaster Preparedness and Rehabilitation Initiatives through Cooperatives.

Majority of the presenters were academicians with considerable research experience to their credit. Their papers reflected in-depth analysis of researched data and case studies. They brought out very important findings and revealed facts and figures for future planning.

This time also the Consumer Cooperative Institute of Japan (CCIJ) extended scholarships to encourage the participation of youth/female researchers. It is proposed to hold the next Conference in Hanoi (Vietnam) during 2008 in conjunction with the next ICA Regional Assembly. There is also a proposal to set up an ICA Research Committee for Asia and Pacific and efforts to this end is being made.

**AGENDA ITEM 13:           REPORT OF 4<sup>TH</sup> ICA REGIONAL COOP FORUM**

The 4<sup>th</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum was held at Hotel Galadari, Colombo (Sri Lanka) on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2006, preceded by a joint inauguration of the Forum and the 7<sup>th</sup> ICA Regional Assembly in the evening of 16<sup>th</sup> August at Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall by His Excellency Ratnasiri Wickramanayake, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka. The Forum was hosted by the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka. The Forum was marked by an overwhelming participation of more than 158 delegates and observers from Canada, China, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Palestine, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Kingdom and Vietnam. In addition, special invitees from ACCU, AWCF and ICA also attended the Forum.

The theme of the Forum was "CAPACITY BUILDING: THE PRIORITY FOR COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISES" with the following three sub-themes: (a) Cooperative Values and Good Governance; (b) The Cooperative Way of Management; and (c) Strengthening HRD and Networking.

Eminent cooperative researchers and practitioners constituted the Forum. The key note speech at the Forum was delivered by Mr. Lalith Weeratunga, Secretary to the President of Sri Lanka.

The Forum proceedings and presentations were summarized by Dr. Robby Tulus, former ICA Regional Director, who presented a report on the Forum to the Regional Assembly.

**AGENDA ITEM 14:           REPORTS ON PREPARATION OF FORTHCOMING  
IMPORTANT ICA EVENTS**

Mr. Rajiv Mehta made a brief presentation on the **International Cooperative Trade Fair** and the **Symposium on Trade Networking among Cooperatives** to be held in Iran from 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> October 2006 in collaboration with the Iran Chamber of Cooperatives. The objective of the Trade Fair would be to facilitate the match-making of buyers and sellers to trade cooperatively produced products from Iran in the global market, especially in the Asia-Pacific region and establish institutional alliance through the network of ICA. The Trade Fair would also feature a Symposium on the ways and means for effective trade networking among cooperatives so as to understand the importance and reckoning scope of cooperatives in the global trade.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that a **Regional Conference on Gender Integration in Cooperatives** would be held in Tagaytay City (Philippines) from 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> November 2006 in collaboration with Asian Women in Cooperative Development (AWCF) and the National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO). The theme of the Conference would be **Empowerment and Development of Women in Cooperatives** with sub-themes on "Poverty Alleviation through Women's Participation in Coops", "Women's Participation at all levels in Coops" and "Practical Action Plan to increase the participation of Women in Coops". He requested the members to send maximum number of participants to this Conference.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the next ICA-AP **Ministers' Conference on Cooperative Policy and Legislation** would be held in Malaysia from **12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> March** 2007 in collaboration with ANGKASA and the Government of Malaysia. The draft Agenda points for the Ministers' Conference would be: (a) Cooperative Policy and Legislation; (b) Effective Participatory Governance; (c) Institutional Capacity Building; (d) Protection to Vulnerable Sections of the Society; and (e) Resource Mobilization. He requested the members to reserve these dates and initiate necessary consultations to ensure effective participation for meaningful outcome and greater success of the Conference.

Mr. Zulkifli Mohammad, Chief Executive Officer of Singapore National Cooperative Federation (SNCF) informed the Regional Assembly that the next **ICA General Assembly** will be held at Raffles City Convention Centre, Singapore, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> October 2007. A video-film about the ICA General Assembly was also shown at the meeting for the benefit of members. The ICA and SNCF signed a Memorandum of Understanding during the Regional Assembly.

**AGENDA ITEM 15:           OTHER BUSINESS MATTERS ARISING**

No other business matters arising out of the meeting was raised under this Agenda.

**AGENDA ITEM 16:            CONSIDERATION OF VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that, as decided at the last RA meeting in Chiang Mai, the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) wanted to host the next Regional Assembly and Coop Forum in Vietnam during 2008. The meeting accepted the offer of VCA and decided to host the next meeting in Vietnam in 2008. The date and venue would be decided in consultation with the secretariat. In this regard a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed by the ICA-AP and VCA in Colombo on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2006. The meeting thanked the VCA for agreeing to host the ICA events in 2008 in Vietnam.

The Central Organization for Rural Cooperatives of Iran (CORC) expressed its willingness to host the Regional Assembly and the Coop Forum in 2010 in Iran.

**AGENDA ITEM 17:            CLOSING SESSION**

Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked the members for coming and attending the meeting. He appreciated the excellent arrangements made by the host organizations in Sri Lanka for the meetings in Colombo.

Mr. Ivano Barberini thanked the ICA-AP region and the Regional Office for undertaking good initiatives and said that it was mutually a good experience.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that a total of 12 different meetings were held in Colombo from 14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August and he thanked the Cooperative Movement of Sri Lanka for making excellent arrangements and the kind hospitality.

The meeting proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Shil Kwan Lee and his able staff for carrying out the ICA-AP's work with success. The meeting also thanked Mr. Ivano Barberini, ICA President for coming and spending his valuable time.

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

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28<sup>th</sup> November 2006

# Minutes of the ICA-AP Standing Committee Meeting

Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia): 11<sup>th</sup> March 2007

The meeting of ICA-AP Standing Committee was held at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC) on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2007 from 14:00 to 17:30 hours. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Li Chunsheng, ICA Vice President and Chairman of Standing Committee. The following members, observers and ICA Officers were present:

1. Mr. Li Chunsheng, ACFSMC, China - Chairperson
2. Mr. Adi Sasono, DEKOPIN, Indonesia - Member
3. Ms. Junko Ito, JCCU, Japan - Vice Chairperson
4. Dr. Ali Baharum, ANGKASA, Malaysia - on behalf of Prof. Ungku Aziz
5. Mr. D.P. Baskota, NCF, Nepal - Member
6. Mr. Guillermo P Cua, NATCCO, Philippines - Member
7. Mr. Seah Kian Peng, SNCF, Singapore - Member
8. Mr. Bandupala Ranawaka, NCC, Sri Lanka - Member
9. Mr. Teo Say Hong, SNCF, Singapore - Youth Representative
10. Ms. Tian Lihua, ACFSMC, China - Interpreter
11. Mr. Li Shun, ACFSMC, China - Interpreter
12. Mr. Yuzri Suhud, DEKOPIN, Indonesia - Observer
13. Mr. Jiro Ito, JCCU, Japan - Observer
14. Mr. Isaac Yaw Asiedu, JCCU, Japan - Observer
15. Ms. Sharine Khoo, ANGKASA, Malaysia - Observer
16. Mr. M.G. Sunil Silva, NCC, Sri Lanka - Observer
17. Mr. Ivano Barberini, President, ICA, Geneva - Special Invitee
18. Mr. Jan-Eirik Imbsen, Development Director, ICA, Geneva
19. Mr. Garry Cronan, Director of Communications, ICA Geneva
20. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, ICA-AP, New Delhi - Secretary
21. Mr. Rajiv Mehta, ICA-AP, New Delhi - Observer
22. Mr. B.D. Sharma, ICA-DT, New Delhi - Observer
23. Mr. A.K. Taneja, ICA-AP, New Delhi - Observer
24. Ms. Savitri Singh, ICA-AP, New Delhi - Observer
25. Mr. K. Sethu Madhavan, ICA-AP, New Delhi - Recording
26. Mr. Tsubasa Nakamura, ICA-AP SBO, Singapore - Observer

## **Agenda Item No. 1 : Opening Remarks**

Mr. Li Chunsheng, ICA Vice President and Chairman of the ICA-AP Standing Committee thanked the members for accepting the invitation and coming to attend the SC meeting in Kuala Lumpur. He specially thanked Mr. Ivano Barberini, President of ICA, for his presence.

He informed the meeting that members from India, Israel and Korea have regretted their inability to attend the meeting.

**Agenda Item No. 2 : Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Li Chunsheng invited views and comments of the members on the Agenda. The Agenda was unanimously approved.

**Agenda Item No. 3 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting held in Colombo on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2006**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the minutes of the SC meeting held in Colombo (Sri Lanka) on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2006 were circulated among the members and no comments/suggestions have been received. The minutes were confirmed.

**Agenda Item No. 4 : Regional Director's Report**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the activities of the ICA-AP carried out in 2006. He especially informed the meeting that the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan, has agreed to extend the Agricultural Management Training Course and the Rural Women Leaders Training Course for another five years with slight modifications in contents and titles. He also informed the meeting that the MAFF has agreed to finance two training courses on "Capacity Building for Marketing" from this year onwards for a period of five years.

The members thanked the Regional Director and his staff for conducting a variety of important activities in 2006. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee thanked the SC members and the member organizations for their kind support.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee also presented the financial report of ICA-AP for the year 2006. The members noted that there was a surplus of CHF 9,964 in Delhi office for the year 2006.

The ICA-AP Work Plan and Budget for the year 2007 was presented by Mr. Shil Kwan Lee. He informed the house that ICA-AP was expecting a surplus of CHF 14,322 for 2007 also.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee mentioned that the total membership of ICA-AP as on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006 was 57 organisations from 22 countries. He further said that if any Standing Committee Member had got information about potential members, it should be brought to the notice of ICA-AP.

Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked the Regional Director and his staff for conducting so many important activities. All the members expressed their happiness with regard to the outstanding performance and positive financial results of ICA-AP and unanimously accepted the report.

**Agenda Item No. 5 : Post Tsunami Interventions by ICA-AP in India, Indonesia and Sri Lanka**

Mr. Rajiv Mehta presented a report on the post tsunami interventions by ICA-AP in India, Sri Lanka and Indonesia. The highlights of the report are given below:

**India:** Phase-1 from August 2005 to July 2006 aimed at physical reconstruction of cooperative infrastructure of seven tsunami affected cooperatives in Tamil Nadu and Nicobar with financial support from Coop UK US\$ 153,224 and NCUI US\$ 15,292 was completed in record time. Coop UK has sanctioned Phase-2 in Nicobar for reconstruction of seven warehouses and seven consumer shops with a commitment of US\$ 101,830.

**Sri Lanka:** NISPED and ICA jointly agreed to support 18 months long US\$ 400,000 Coop Empowerment Program in Southern Province in Sri Lanka to help 126 tsunami hit cooperatives. The project had taken off in June 2006 after prolonged discussions with 4 project partners in Sri Lanka. Physical reconstruction was in full swing in identified 10 coops and the capacity building training programs had also gained. More than 150 board members of affected coops were already benefited by the training program.

**Indonesia:** ICA extended bridge fund of CHF 45,000 to LSP21 and DEKOPINWIL NAD to help affected coops kick start their lives. Later UK Coop extended financial support of US\$ 140,000 to two fisheries coops for reconstruction of boats and purchase of equipments. ICA later committed itself for another sum of US\$ 50,000 to support project management unit and educate affected coops on livelihood recovery and management and US\$ 93,000 to upscale required interventions.

Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked the ICA-AP and other development partners for the timely financial support for the tsunami affected projects in India, Sri Lanka and Indonesia. He also expressed his hearty thanks to the President of ICA. He further said that it was very important to learn the lessons from the disaster occurred to ensure better disaster preparedness.

**Agenda Item No. 6 : Discussion on ICA Global Strategy Document**

Mr. Ivano Barberini said that ICA is reviewing its strategy. The strategy was discussed in Stockholm in September and Trento in last December by the ICA Board. In coming May ICA will have another meeting in Mexico to discuss and finalise the ICA Global Strategy Document. This is a framework for vision, mission and strategy which will be followed by all regions. It is important that all regions could have a common framework. This is the intention of this Global Strategy Document.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that we had a series of meetings on this subject. One week back we had a telephonic discussion. He requested the members to give their comments/suggestions on the strategy document. He said that this ICA Global Strategy Document will be approved by the ICA General Assembly in Singapore in October 2007. He further said that we still have to work out the membership structure and subscription formula.

Mr. Seah Kian Peng said that we should not talk too much about the Action Plan since it is a broad guideline only. We are now talking about the Vision, Mission, Strategic Objectives and Key Result Areas. After the Strategic Plan is approved by the General Assembly in Singapore, all regions would be requested to prepare their Action Plan.

Mr. Jan Eirik Imbsen said that Vision and Mission are suggested by the ICA Board. He said that the meeting should now discuss only about Strategic Objectives and Key Result Areas.

After the above explanations, the latest ICA Global Strategy Document received from ICA Geneva was discussed at the SC meeting. The members made the following observations:

- **Mission:**  
The value-based economic business model is not sufficiently reflected in the objectives.
- **Strategic Objectives:**  
Only one objective refers to external factors while the remaining four refer to internal factors.
- **Strategic Objective-2.0:**  
It should also influence governments.
- **Strategic Objective-3.0:**  
Delete “.. and fund the implementation of ICA strategy”. It is not necessary. Proposed new wording – **Build strong financial capacity of ICA**. Comment: The ICA should mobilize members to sustain the ICA.
- **Strategic Objective-4.0:**  
Comment: Put governance at the forefront.  
Add another KRA (4.4) about good governance (or expand 4.1 to include it).
- **Change KRA-5.4 to:**  
Develop ICA as the employer of choice.  
Add a new KRA about women and youth.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee requested the SC members to send their written comments, if any, to ICA-AP as soon as possible so that they could be sent to ICA Geneva for its consideration.

**Agenda Item No. 7 : Preparations for 8<sup>th</sup> Ministers' Conference on Cooperative Legislation and Policy**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that all arrangements with regard to 8<sup>th</sup> Ministers' Conference on Cooperative Legislation and Policy were made in collaboration with the Ministry of Entrepreneur and Cooperative Development (MECD) and ANGKASA. The opening ceremony of the Conference would be held in the afternoon of 12<sup>th</sup> March at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Center (KLCC) Around 900 people were expected to attend the inauguration. The Conference would be inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Malaysia.

The theme of the Conference was "**Fair Globalisation through Cooperatives**". Around 375 participants including 10 ministers from 22 countries would be attending the Conference.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting about the decision of the Government of Malaysia not to approve the application of the members of the Israeli delegation to come to Malaysia to take part in the Conference. We had in fact left no stone unturned in ensuring the participation of all relevant cooperative figures, from Israel, in this important Conference. Indeed, we were assured by the dealing officers of the Ministries involved in the preparations for the Conference that Israeli delegation would be able to participate in the Conference on the same basis as all other delegations.

In this regard Mr. Ivano Barberini said "I am really sorry that our Israeli friends are unable to attend the Conference. It is true that the situation in the Middle East area is going through a difficult phase. However, especially for this reason, Israeli and Palestinian cooperators are committed now, more than ever, to building the peace process through "person to person" relations and through development projects in Palestine, cooperating with each other with the support of EU and cooperative organizations from other countries. The ICA is the largest NGO in the world and represents cooperatives from every culture and creed throughout the world since 1895. We are committed to peace and social justice and through our values and principles our membership is open to all. Our Israeli Movement is well known for its support for the peace process and the two-state solution with Israeli and Palestine living by side in peace. ICA will continue to request that all ICA members could have access to countries where we organize our Conferences. It is basic requirement of our movement".

At the conclusion, all the members agreed that ICA should try their best to solve such a political situation through meaningful dialogue and continued efforts since our capacity was limited to host such extremely important events on stand alone basis.

**Agenda Item No. 8 : Other Business Matters Arising**

No other business matters arising out of the meeting was raised under this Agenda.



**Agenda Item No. 9 : Date and Place of Next Meeting**

The meeting unanimously agreed to hold the next SC meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2007 in Singapore in conjunction with the ICA General Assembly.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee thanked ANGKASA for making excellent arrangements for the meeting and the kind hospitality.

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

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12<sup>th</sup> April 2007

ANNEXURE - 2

# Minutes of the ICA-AP Standing Committee Meeting

Singapore: 16<sup>th</sup> October 2007

The meeting of ICA-AP Standing Committee was held at Raffles City Convention Centre (RCCC) on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2007 from 14:00 to 17:30 hours. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Li Chunsheng, ICA Vice President and Chairman of Standing Committee. The following members, observers and ICA Officers were present:

1. Mr. Li Chunsheng, ACFSMC, China – Chairperson
2. Mr. G.H. Amin, NCUI, India - Member
3. Mr. Adi Sasono, DEKOPIN, Indonesia – Member
4. Dr. Yehudah Paz, NISPED, Israel - Member
5. Ms. Hitomi Tanaka, JCCU, Japan – Vice Chairperson
6. Mr. Hi-Hyung Jo, NACF, Korea - Alternate Member
7. Dr. Ali Baharum, ANGKASA, Malaysia - Alternate Member
8. Mr. D.P. Baskota, NCF, Nepal – Member
9. Mr. Guillermo P Cua, NATCCO, Philippines - Member
10. Mr. Seah Kian Peng, SNCF, Singapore - Member
11. Mr. Bandupala Ranawaka, NCC, Sri Lanka - Member
12. Mr. Teo Say Hong, SNCF, Singapore – Youth Representative
13. Mr. Li Shun, ACFSMC, China – Interpreter
14. Mr. Benny A. Kusbini, DEKOPIN, Indonesia – Observer
15. Mr. Aip Syarifuddin, DEKOPIN, Indonesia- Observer
16. Mr. Yuzri Suhud, DEKOPIN, Indonesia – Observer
17. Ms. Irbar Masri, DEKOPIN, Indonesia - Observer
18. Mr. Jiro Ito, JCCU, Japan – Observer
19. Mr. M.G. Sunil Silva, NCC, Sri Lanka – Observer
20. Mr. Ivano Barberini, President, ICA Geneva – Special Invitee
21. Mr. Iain Macdonald, Director General, ICA Geneva – Special Invitee
22. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, ICA-AP, New Delhi - Secretary
23. Mr. Rajiv Mehta, ICA-AP, New Delhi - Observer
24. Mr. K. Sethu Madhavan, ICA-AP, New Delhi - Recording

## **Agenda Item No. 1 : Opening Remarks**

Mr. Li Chunsheng, ICA Vice President and Chairman of the ICA-AP Standing Committee thanked the members for accepting the invitation and coming to attend the SC meeting in Singapore. He specially thanked Mr. Ivano Barberini and Mr. Iain Macdonald, President and Director General of ICA respectively, for their presence.

He extended a warm welcome to Ms. Hitomi Tanaka from JCCU, Japan (replacement of Ms. Junko Ito) and Mr. G.H. Amin, President of NCUI, India (replacement of Dr. S.S. Sisodia).

He informed the meeting about the sad demise of Mr. M.V. **Madane** and Dr. S.S. **Sisodia** after the last SC meeting in Malaysia and condoled their passing away. While Mr. Madane had long served ICA-AP and was closely associated with the ICA-AP, Dr. Sisodia was a member of ICA Board and Standing Committee for many years. A two minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect to them.

**Agenda Item No. 2 : Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Li Chunsheng invited views and comments of the members on the Agenda. The Agenda was unanimously approved.

**Agenda Item No. 3 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting held in Kuala Lumpur on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2007**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the minutes of the SC meeting held in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2007 were circulated among the members and no comments/suggestions have been received. The minutes were confirmed.

**Agenda Item No. 4 : Regional Director's Report**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the activities of the ICA-AP carried out during January to September 2007 and planned activities for the period October to December 2007. He also presented the financial report of ICA-AP for the period January to June 2007. The members noted that there was a surplus of CHF 22,811 in Delhi office for the period January-June 2007.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee mentioned that the total membership of ICA-AP as of today was 58 organizations from 22 countries. Recently the Karachi Cooperative Housing Societies Union of Pakistan has become the member of the ICA.

The members thanked the Regional Director and his staff for conducting so many important activities. All the members expressed their happiness with regard to the outstanding performance and positive financial results of ICA-AP. The report was accepted unanimously.

**Agenda Item No. 5 : Discussion on ICA-AP Work Plan and Budget for 2008**

The draft ICA-AP Work Plan and Budget for the year 2008 was presented by Mr. Shil Kwan Lee. He informed the house that the membership

redistribution formula would be finalized by the ICA Board only in December and accordingly there would be some slight changes in the Budget.

Mr. Seah suggested that ICA-AP should send the documents in advance so that the members could get more time to go through the documents that in turn would help in having more effective discussions.

Mr. Adi Sasono and Dr. Paz welcomed the idea of expansion of activities in new countries. Dr. Paz said that earlier Fiji was a member of ICA, but their financial position was very tight. He also said that some activities might also be held in Central Asia.

Dr. Paz said that no regional activity should be held in any country where all members are not welcome. There was a problem some time back and this should be kept in mind in future.

Mr. Teo said that expansion was good, but it should not upset the current members. There should be cross-regional interaction rather than sub-regional interaction.

Mr. Jo said that it was good that ICA would be preparing a profile of member organizations. He said that some research activities should also be included in the work plan.

Mr. Li Chunsheng said that membership situation and financial situation of ICA was getting better and better. He thanked Mr. Shil Kwan Lee and his staff for this. He suggested that ICA-AP should revise the Work Plan based on the suggestions made by the members.

## **Agenda Item No. 6 : Progress on Restructuring Working Group Report**

Mr. Ivano Barberini informed the meeting that the ICA Board had set up a Restructuring Working Group (RWG) to discuss and submit a report on the regionalization issues. The RWG had met several times and exchanged a number of papers on the agreed main subjects – legal, roles, membership and finance issues. The ICA Board has now endorsed the report. He said that this ICA Global Strategy Document would be approved by the ICA General Assembly in Singapore in October 2007. He further said that we ought to work out the membership structure and subscription formula.

Mr. Iain Macdonald presented the important points of the RWG report at the meeting. He said that after the GA, there would be consultations with the members at regional level and at the special General Assembly in June next year to finalise the membership subscription formula. The new ICA subscription formula would be applicable from January 2009 onwards. The year 2008 would be a transition period.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that the main concern of our region was the subscription formula which was at present based on business turnover and

the proposal of the RWG was based on total membership. So the subscription formula ought to be worked out very carefully.

After the above explanations, the latest ICA Global Strategy Document received from ICA Geneva was discussed at the SC meeting. The members made the following observations:

There was a common concern among the members about the method to calculate membership subscription. The members felt that the basis of individual membership to calculate the membership subscription was not suitable in the Asian context owing to high population in most of the countries.

Further the cross membership/duplication of individual members among various member organizations of ICA from one country pose a serious problem in working out a clear subscription amount and hence likely to create confusions and frustrations among ICA member organizations. In most of the Asian countries the problem of working out a clear subscription amount would be rather impossible due to lack of authentic data on the membership affiliated to a particular sector/organization.

Therefore, the members agreed to urge upon the ICA Board to make the subscription formula linked with the economic development stage of the primary affiliates of the ICA member organization.

Mr. Li Chunsheng suggested that the views expressed by the members should be carefully considered by the ICA.

### **Agenda Item No. 7 : Preparations for 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ICA Regional Assembly and Coop Forum**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that pursuant to the last RA, the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ICA Regional Assembly and Cooperative Forum would be held in Hanoi (Vietnam) from **1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> December 2008**. All the events in Hanoi would be organized by the ICA-AP in collaboration with the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA). The theme of the Cooperative Forum would be **"The Coop Advantage in the Economy of Asia and Pacific"**. He requested the members to keep these dates in mind while preparing their travel schedule.

A brochure on Vietnam was distributed at the meeting by the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) and they requested the members to attend all the events in Hanoi.

The meeting thanked the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) for agreeing to organize the 8<sup>th</sup> ICA Regional Assembly and other events in Hanoi from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> December 2008.

**Agenda Item No. 8 : Other Business Matters Arising**

Mr. Rajiv Mehta presented the **KL Declaration** of 8<sup>th</sup> Ministers Conference on Cooperative Legislation and Policy held in Malaysia in March 2007. He further said that the report of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ministers Conference would be ready soon.

**Agenda Item No. 9 : Date and Place of Next Meeting**

The meeting unanimously agreed to hold the next SC meeting in June 2008 in Rome (Italy) in conjunction with the ICA Special General Assembly, unless there was no specific need. However, consultations with members will be done through e-mail.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee thanked the Singapore National Cooperative Federation (SNCF) for making excellent arrangements for the meeting and the kind hospitality.

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

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7<sup>th</sup> January 2008

# Minutes of the ICA-AP Standing Committee Meeting

## Manila (Philippines): 27<sup>th</sup> March 2008

The meeting of ICA-AP Standing Committee (Regional Board) was held at Manila Hotel on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2008 from 09:30 to 17:00 hours. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Li Chunsheng, ICA Vice President and Chairman of Standing Committee. The following members, observers and ICA Officers were present:

1. Mr. Li Chunsheng, ACFSMC, China – Chairperson
2. Mr. G.H. Amin, NCUI, India - Member
3. Mr. Adi Sasono, DEKOPIN, Indonesia – Member
4. Ms. Hitomi Tanaka, JCCU, Japan – Vice Chairperson
5. Mr. Chan Ho Choi, NACF, Korea - Alternate Member
6. Dr. Wan Ali Tuanku Madhi, ANGKASA, Malaysia - Alternate Member
7. Mr. Guillermo P Cua, NATCCO, Philippines - Member
8. Mr. Bandupala Ranawaka, NCC, Sri Lanka - Member
9. Mr. Teo Say Hong, SNCF, Singapore – Youth Representative
10. Mr. S.K. Jakhar, IFFCO, India – ICA Board Member
11. Dr. Gopal N. Saxena, IFFCO, India - Observer
12. Mr. Zhang Wangshu, ACFSMC, China – Observer
13. Mr. Rong Chengfa, ACFSMC, China – Observer
14. Mr. Yuzri Suhud, DEKOPIN, Indonesia – Observer
15. Mr. Irsyad Muchtar, DEKOPIN, Indonesia – Observer
16. Mr. Insanial Burhamzah, DEKOPIN, Indonesia – Observer
17. Mr. Jiro Ito, JCCU, Japan – Observer
18. Mr. Wilfredo A. Dimamay, NATCCO, Philippines - Observer
19. Mr. Tan Kin Lian, Singapore – Resource Person
20. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, ICA-AP, New Delhi - Secretary
21. Mr. Rajiv Mehta, ICA-AP, New Delhi – Observer
22. Mr. Yoshi Nakamura, ICA-SBO, Singapore - Observer
23. Mr. K. Sethu Madhavan, ICA-AP, New Delhi - Recording

### **Agenda Item No. 1 : Opening Remarks**

Mr. Li Chunsheng, ICA Vice President and Chairman of the ICA-AP Standing Committee thanked the members for accepting the invitation and coming to attend the SC meeting in Manila. He said that this meeting was very important since it would be discussing the new Subscription Formula. He informed the meeting that members from Israel, Nepal and Singapore have regretted their inability to attend the meeting.

Mr. Guillermo P. Cua welcomed all the Standing Committee members on behalf of NATCCO and the Cooperative Movement of the Philippines. He specially thanked Mr. Li Chunsheng and Mr. Shil Kwan Lee for holding the Standing Committee meeting in Manila. He wished the participants a very comfortable and enjoyable stay in the Philippines.



**Agenda Item No. 2 : Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Li Chunsheng invited views and comments of the members on the Agenda. The Agenda was unanimously approved.

**Agenda Item No. 3 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting held in Singapore on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the minutes of the SC meeting held in Singapore on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2007 were circulated among the members and no comments/suggestions have been received. The minutes were confirmed.

**Agenda Item No. 4 : Introduction of “Cooperative Movement of the Philippines”**

Ms. Lecira V. Juarez, Chairperson of Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) made a powerpoint presentation on “Cooperative Movement of the Philippines”. The Standing Committee thanked her for making the excellent presentation.

**Agenda Item No. 5 : Regional Director’s Report**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the financial report of ICA-AP for the period January to December 2007. The members noted that there was a surplus of CHF 1,771 in Delhi office for the year 2007.

He presented the activities of the ICA-AP carried out during October to March 2008 and planned activities for the period April to December 2008. He also presented the budget of ICA-AP for the year 2008. He informed the house that ICA-AP was expecting a surplus of CHF 5,416 for 2008 also.

Ms. Hitomi Tanaka said that in the Work Plan 3 training programs for managers of consumer cooperatives to be held in Japan (Miyagi/Kobe/Japan) were to be included.

Mr. Adi Sasono said that on 12<sup>th</sup> July the cooperative day celebration would be held in Jakarta and some program could be held in Indonesia in conjunction with cooperative day celebration.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee mentioned that the total membership of ICA-AP as of today was 57 organizations from 21 countries. Recently the Dubai Building Cooperative Society-UAE, Sharjah Cooperative Society-UAE, and Fiji Cooperative Union Limited-Fiji have applied for membership of the ICA.

The members thanked the Regional Director and his staff for conducting so many important activities. All the members expressed their happiness with regard to the outstanding performance and positive financial results of ICA-AP. The report was accepted unanimously.

**Agenda Item No. 6 : Discussion on new ICA Membership Subscription Formula**

A letter received from ICA President addressed to Mr. Li Chunsheng and the documents prepared by the ICA-AP regarding the membership subscription were circulated at the meeting. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee explained to the meeting in detail the proposed subscription formula and the amount each organization has to be paid. He said that the main concern of our region was the subscription formula which was at present based on business turnover and the proposal of the Restructuring Working Group (RWG) was based on total membership. So the subscription formula ought to be worked out very carefully. He further said that the new ICA Subscription Formula would be applicable from January 2009 onwards. The year 2008 would be a transition period.

There was a common concern among the members about the method to calculate membership subscription. The members felt that the basis of individual membership to calculate the membership subscription was not suitable in the Asian context owing to high population in most of the countries.

Further the cross membership/duplication of individual members among various member organizations of ICA from one country pose a serious problem in working out a clear subscription amount and hence likely to create confusions and frustrations among ICA member organizations. In most of the Asian countries the problem of working out a clear subscription amount would be rather impossible due to lack of authentic data on the membership affiliated to a particular sector/organization.

The Standing Committee discussed various aspects of the new Membership Subscription Formula and in view of an affordable solution, unequivocally agreed to the following suggestions:

1. Financial capacity of cooperatives ought to be the determinant factor to calculate the subscription amount. Hence, the following indicators could be applied on working out the new subscription formula:
  - a. *per capita income of the country (not WBCII);*
  - b. *turn over of the cooperative; and*
  - c. *staff strength of the cooperative.*
2. The transition period to embrace new pattern should be minimum five years.

3. The membership number in a cooperative is a relative indicator, since many of the cooperatives do not have the exact number of the active user members because there are pressing political and communal reasons to continue with inactive members. Moreover, high number of members in a cooperative may not necessarily reflect financial health of a cooperative. Hence, the membership based criterion could be arguable in terms of its authenticity and not desirable in working out the membership subscription.
4. In the context of above, the proposed criteria of deciding membership subscription is not acceptable to many of the members of ICA in the Asia-Pacific region and there is a serious threat to ICA membership structure if corrective measures are not taken on time.

The Standing Committee unanimously decided to send the attached **Recommendation** to ICA Board for its serious consideration.

Mr. Li Chunsheng said that the views expressed by the members would be conveyed to the ICA Board Members.

**Agenda Item No. 7 : Presentation on “Developing Neighbourhood Coops to Serve Members”**

Mr. Tan Kin Lian, Former Chief Executive of NTUC Income, Singapore, made a special presentation on “Developing Neighbourhood Cooperatives to Serve Members” at the meeting. The Standing Committee thanked him for making the excellent presentation which was very useful and informative.

**Agenda Item No. 8 : Discussion on “Strategy and Priorities of ICA-AP”**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the current Strategy and Priorities of ICA-AP” would be over by end of 2008 and we have to prepare our new Strategy and Priorities for the year 2009-2012.

Mr. Rajiv Mehta, Development Director of ICA-AP, presented the Strategic Plan of ICA Geneva for the year 2009-2012 which is as follows:

**Strategic Objectives** are defined by the Board who also determines the global budget for its achievement.

**Key Result Areas** are those actions that will lead to the achievement of strategic objective.

Each KRA will have an **outcome** which is what KRAs should produce (effect).

Each outcome will have one of more **indicators** to measure if the KRA has been achieved.

Outcomes and indicators from various ICA components will be compiled and summarized by DG for presentation to ICA global board to report on progress in achieving the strategic objectives of the organization as a whole.

**Strategic Initiatives** are determined by each part of the ICA but must be linked to the common ICA KRAs.

**Activities** are undertaken within a strategic initiative. These are essentially the list of activities currently found in the work plan which are determined by each part of the ICA.

## **Strategic Objectives**

1. Consolidate and increase membership
2. As a knowledge-based organization, increase global influence in promoting the growth of cooperative enterprise as a preferred value-based business model.
3. Build Financing Sustainability
4. Improve efficiency, effectiveness and "good governance" of ICA
5. Build a competent and committed people base

## **Key Result Areas**

- 1.1 *Retain existing members*
- 1.2 *Add new members*
- 1.3 *Support the creation and consolidation of new national cooperative organizations in countries where they do not exist and when there is a demand.*
- 1.4 *Improve compliance of Cooperative Identify Statement among members.*
- 1.5 *Increase member participation*
- 1.6 *Improve the value of services to members.*
  
- 2.1 *Target the most relevant strategic issues for cooperatives.*
- 2.2 *Consolidate and build strategic alliances/networks.*
- 2.3 *Build recognition of the value-based cooperative economic business model with the Cooperative Identify Statement as reference.*
- 2.4 *Build the credibility of the ICA as the centre of excellence for knowledge, expertise and coordinated action about cooperatives.*
- 2.5 *To maintain and further develop effective communications systems.*
  
- 3.1 *Increase income from membership fees by increasing membership.*
- 3.2 *Seek significant funding from alternative sources.*

*alliances with educational institutions and members for in kind services.*

- 4.1 Maximize effectiveness and good governance of new structure.*
- 4.2 Improve productivity*
- 4.3 Improve knowledge management within ICA*
- 4.4 Develop and maintain a relevant and cost effective member service delivery.*
  
- 5.1 Build skills appropriate to roles and responsibilities*
- 5.2 Create a positive culture and team spirit*
- 5.3 Develop high quality leadership throughout the ICA*
- 5.4 Develop ICA as an employer of choice*
- 5.5 Develop succession planning*
- 5.6 Promote motivation of staff.*

Mr. Adi Sasono suggested that Business Networking could be one of the Key Result Areas.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that it was only the initial stage of the preparation and the improved draft would be presented at the next Standing Committee meeting. He requested the members to send their suggestions to ICA-AP as soon as possible.

**Agenda Item No. 9 : Discussion on setting up of new Committees**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that last year the Youth Committee was set up. We have now received the two proposals for setting up separate Committees for (a) Cooperative Research and (b) University/Campus Cooperatives. He further said that ICA-AP do not provide any financial assistance to the Committees.

Mr. Jiro Ito, Chairman of Consumer Committee, said that last year the Consumer Committee had approved the proposal of setting up of a separate committee for the University/Campus Cooperatives.

Mr. Teo Tsay Hong, Chairman of Youth Committee, said that personally University/Campus Committee was important to him and it helped a lot in setting up the Youth Committee.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that we should encourage if they want to set up separate committees.

After discussions, the SC in principle agreed for the setting up of separate committees for Cooperative Research and University/Campus Cooperatives.

However, due to time constraints their Constitutions could not be discussed and that would be approved at the next Standing Committee meeting.

**Agenda Item No. 10 : Preparations for 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ICA Regional Assembly and Coop Forum**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that pursuant to the last RA, the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ICA Regional Assembly and Cooperative Forum would be held in Hanoi (Vietnam) from **1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> December 2008**. All the events in Hanoi would be organized by the ICA-AP in collaboration with the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA). The theme of the Cooperative Forum would be **"The Coop Advantage in the Economy of Asia and Pacific"**. He requested the members to keep these dates in mind while preparing their travel schedule.

He further said that majority of the meetings would be held in Melia Hotel and the President of Vietnam was expected to inaugurate the joint opening of 8<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly and the Cooperative Forum on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Further progress would be reported at the next Standing Committee Meeting.

**Agenda Item No. 8 : Other Business Matters Arising**

The meeting was informed that at present we have five members to the ICA Board from China, India, Japan, Korea and Singapore. Recently the Chairman of National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) has been changed and the present incumbent was Mr. Won-Byung Choi and he was interested to be a member of the ICA Board. NACF has already written to ICA Geneva on this subject and solicited the support of the Standing Committee.

Dr. Gopal N. Saxena said that all the delegates from Asia-Pacific region should support the candidature of Mr. Won-Byung Choi.

**Agenda Item No. 9 : Date and Place of Next Meeting**

The meeting unanimously agreed to hold the next SC meeting in June 2008 in Rome (Italy) in conjunction with the ICA Special General Assembly, if necessary. However, consultations with members would be done through e-mail.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee thanked Mr. Guillermo P. Cua and the National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO) for making excellent arrangements for the meeting and the kind hospitality.

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

## **Informal Meeting of the ICA AP Standing Committee in Rome on 4 June 2008**

A special informal meeting of the members of ICA Standing Committee was held in Rome on 4 June 2008 a day before the ICA Special General Assembly in Rome. All the members except from Nepal and Philippines attended the meeting.

Mr Li Chungsheng, President, ICA Asia Pacific in his opening remarks appreciated the role of Mr Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director ICA AP for pushing the agenda of Revised ICA Subscription Formula in the larger interest of the ICA Asia Pacific members. He also praised the leadership of Mr Surinder Kumar Jakhar, Chairman, IFFCO at the ICA Board meeting in Washington in convincing ICA President about the concerns expressed by the members of ICA Asia Pacific Standing Committee meeting held in Manila.

Mr Lee presented the salient features of improved subscription formula and also explained the positive aspects of the formula. Referring to the number of primary members as the basis of new subscription formula, he elucidated the criteria and accordingly answered questions from India, Sri Lanka and Korea. Responding to 300% increase in the subscription amount of DEKOPIN, Indonesia, Mr Lee advised the President of DEKOPIN Mr Adi Sasono to motivate sector specific national federations in Indonesia to apply for the membership of ICA to make a trade-off.

Mr Iain Macdonald, Director General of ICA also attended the meeting and addressed the members of the ICA Asia Pacific Standing Committee. He said that the new system might take 2 to 3 years to be properly understood but in long run would definitely increase the membership base of ICA and eventually makes cooperatives appreciate about the merits of active user members in the development of cooperatives.

Mr Lee informed the members about the change in nomenclature of Standing Committee to Regional Board. The proposal would be placed before Regional Assembly in Vietnam and thereafter the ICA Asia Pacific Standing Committee would be known as ICA Asia Pacific Regional Board.

Before concluding the meeting, Mr Li Chungsheng informed the house about earthquake in eastern part of China that left 69,000 dead, 18,000 missing and more than 400,000 injured. The loss to the cooperatives in China was more than 300 m USD. As per the available information, there were 37 employees who died and more than 400 members who got injured due to earthquake. The exact number would only be known later as many areas had become inaccessible after the earthquake. He asked Mr Lee to inform about the loss of human capital and natural resources in Myanmar due to cyclonic winds. Mr Lee circulated the copies of the appeal issued by ICA to help the victims of natural disasters in China and Myanmar.

The members observed a silence of two minutes to mourn the death of cooperative fraternity in China and Myanmar.

Finally, Mr Lee proposed Hanoi as the next venue for the ICA Standing Committee that got approved by Mr Jakhar.

The meeting concluded with appreciation for the host and thanks to the Chair.

Prepared by: Rajiv I.D. Mehta.

# RULES OF ICA-ASIA AND PACIFIC

*(Based on the Rules approved by ICA General Assembly in Rome on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2008)*

<b>Existing Rules</b>	<b>Proposed Rules</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article 1: Mission Statement</b></p> <p>The International Cooperative Alliance Regional Office for Asia and Pacific (also known as <i>International Cooperative Alliance - Asia and Pacific</i>) shall strive to promote and strengthen the Cooperative Movement in the region.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article 2: Objects</b></p> <p>The International Cooperative Alliance in Asia-Pacific, in compliance with Article 2 of the ICA Rules, shall have the following objects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To promote the Cooperative Movement in Asia-Pacific region;</li> <li>2. To promote and protect Cooperative Values and Principles;</li> <li>3. To facilitate the development of economic and other mutually beneficial relations between its member organisations;</li> <li>4. To promote sustainable human development and to further the economic and social progress of people, thereby contributing to peace and security in Asia-Pacific region; and</li> <li>5. To promote equality between men and women in all decision-making and activities within the Cooperative Movement.</li> </ol> <p>ICA-Asia and Pacific shall not affiliate itself to any political or religious organisation and shall maintain independence in all its activities.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article-1: Mission Statement</b></p> <p>The International Cooperative Alliance - Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP) shall strive to promote and <i>strengthen the Cooperative Movement in the Asia-Pacific region</i> in the spirit of ICA Cooperative Identity Statement (ICIS).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article 2: Objects</b></p> <p>ICA-AP is a regional representative of cooperative organizations of all kinds that has the following objects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To promote the cooperative movement in Asia-Pacific region and facilitate its global integration;</li> <li>2. To promote and protect cooperative values and principles;</li> <li>3. To facilitate the development of economic and other mutually beneficial relations among its member organizations; and</li> <li>4. To promote sustainable human development and gender equity to further the economic and social progress of people, thereby contributing to peace and security in the region.</li> </ol> <p>The ICA-AP shall not affiliate itself to any political or religious organization and shall maintain independence in all its activities.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article 3: Structure</b></p> <p>The ICA-AP is organized at the regional, sectoral and thematic levels and comprises the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a central office in New Delhi, India</li> <li>• a sub-office in Singapore</li> </ul>



**ANNEXURE - 3**

The ICA-AP is open to all cooperative organizations in Asia-Pacific region.

Regional Assembly is the supreme body of ICA-AP and all the decisions are monitored and supervised by the elected Regional Board.

The Regional Director through a team of technical staff implements the plans and actions approved by the Regional Assembly.

#### **Article 4: Membership**

The decision to admit to membership of the ICA lies with the ICA Global Board. Organizations are eligible for two types of membership: (a) Members (full members with voting rights); and (b) Associate Members (without voting rights). Members of ICA from Asia-Pacific region automatically become members of ICA-AP.

#### **Article 5: Rights of Member Organizations**

Subject to fulfillment of financial obligations to ICA, Members and Associate Members have the right to: (a) receive from ICA-AP all appropriate services, information and assistance; and (b) participate in any global/ regional sectoral organization or thematic committee of ICA in accordance with its Constitution.

Members also have the right to: (a) take part in formulating ICA global/regional policies and work programs of ICA authorities; and (b) appoint representatives to the ICA General and Regional Assemblies and to nominate candidates for election to the Global/Regional Board.

#### **Article 6: Obligations of Member Organizations**

Members and Associate Members have the following obligations:

1. To observe the aims and policy of ICA and ICA-AP and to conform in its activity to the ICA Cooperative Identity Statement;
2. To take all such actions as may be recommended by the Authorities of ICA-AP in support of its policy decisions;

3. To supply ICA and ICA-AP with their membership data, annual report and a complimentary copy of all its relevant publications, as well as regularly inform ICA and ICA-AP on significant national cooperative developments, changes in its rules and bylaws, and all actions of the public authorities which affect the cooperative moment; and
4. To pay annual subscription to ICA in accordance with ICA Rules.

### **Article 7: Regional Authorities**

The regional authorities of ICA-AP are: Regional Assembly, Regional Board and Regional Director.

### **Article 3: Regional Assembly**

1. Under Article 16 of the ICA Rules, there shall be a Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific region, consisting of representatives appointed by the ICA member organisations in the region.
2. The Regional Assembly shall, as a rule, take place every second year, alternating with ICA General Assembly, if not decided otherwise by it.
3. The total number of voting representatives from any country shall not exceed the maximum number of member organisations from any country in the region.
4. Member organisations in the region shall be entitled to additional votes based on multiple of ICA Geneva membership subscription or as otherwise approved by the Regional Assembly.
5. Member organisations from the region shall have the right to send non-voting Observers from their own organizations to the Regional Assembly upon payment of registration fee.
6. Non-members of ICA such as international organizations, parastatal organizations and other institutions concerned with the promotion of cooperatives can be invited to the Regional Assembly as Observers upon

### **Article 8: Regional Assembly**

1. There shall be a Regional Assembly for Asia and Pacific region, consisting of representatives appointed by the ICA member organizations in the region;
2. Regional Assembly, being the highest authority of ICA-AP, deals with the development of cooperatives in the region and formulates policies on major issues beneficial and relevant to the ICA and the cooperative movements in the region;
3. The Regional Assembly shall, as a rule, meet every second year. Extra ordinary meetings of the Regional Assembly may be convened on the decision of the Regional Board or at the request of one-fifth of members; and
4. All questions on which the Regional Assembly votes are decided by a majority of the votes cast, unless specified otherwise. Voting procedures for election shall be in accordance with the ICA Voting Rules.

payment of registration fee unless the existing members from the same country oppose.

7. The functions of the Regional Assembly shall be:

- a. Draw up their own business procedures and representation rules, subject to approval by the ICA General Assembly;
- b. Establish the priorities for the ICA-AP work programme in the region;
- c. Implement the decisions of the ICA *General Assembly in the region*;
- d. Submit reports, proposals, and resolutions for the consideration of the General Assembly;
- e. Elect a person as President of the region who shall also serve as global **ICA Vice-President**, subject to ratification by the General Assembly. The President of the region shall, as a rule, be the **Chairperson** of the **Regional Assembly** and the **Standing Committee**. The person to be eligible for election as President of the region must have served on one or more ICA governing bodies for at least two years;
- f. Elect two Vice Presidents, one of whom shall preferably be a woman. The two Vice Presidents shall be the Vice Chairpersons of the Regional Assembly and the Standing Committee;
- g. Elect a maximum of eight Members to the Standing Committee, in addition to President and two Vice Presidents, from among the candidates proposed by member organisations in the Region;
- h. The term of office of President, Vice Presidents and Members of the Standing Committee shall be **FOUR** years. In case any elected person ceases to represent or is withdrawn by his/her sponsoring member organization, the sponsoring organization may nominate a replacement and the decision on the replacement rests

## Article 9: Powers of Regional Assembly

The powers of the Regional Assembly shall be:

1. Implement the decisions of the General Assembly in the region;
2. Approve the ICA Regional Strategic Plan;
3. Elect a maximum of eleven (11) Members to the Regional Board from among the candidates proposed by the member organizations in the Region;
4. The term of office-bearers of the Regional Board is **four** years. In case any elected person ceases to represent or is withdrawn by his/her sponsoring member organization, the sponsoring organization may nominate a replacement for the remaining term and the decision on the replacement rests with the Regional Board;
5. Draw up business procedures and representation rules for the ICA-AP, subject to approval by the General Assembly; and
6. Establish Sectoral Organizations and Thematic Committees and approve their Constitutions.

with the Standing Committee; and

- i. Establish Regional Specialized Committees and Thematic Committees and approve their Constitutions.

#### **Article 4: Standing Committee**

1. Under Article 20 of the ICA Rules, there shall be a Standing Committee (Regional Elected Body) consisting of a President, two Vice Presidents and eight Members elected by the Regional Assembly. No more than one person from one member country can be elected to the Standing Committee.
2. The Asia-Pacific members of the ICA Board, who are not members of the Standing Committee, shall have the right to attend and speak at meetings of the Standing Committee.
3. No person shall be entitled to serve on the Standing Committee whose organisation has ceased affiliation with the ICA.
4. A quorum of the Standing Committee shall be constituted when more than half of its members are present. Acceptance of a resolution shall be on a two-third majority of all Committee members present and voting. Each member of the Committee is entitled to one vote.
5. The Regional Director of ICA-AP shall be the Secretary of the Standing Committee.
6. The functions of the Standing Committee shall be:
  - a. To work within the policy guidelines and decisions laid down by the Regional Assembly;
  - b. To manage the affairs of ICA at regional level between the meetings of the Regional Assembly;
  - c. To prepare the Agenda and organise the meeting of the Regional Assembly;
  - d. To reinforce member organisations'

#### **Article 10: Regional Board**

1. There shall be a Regional Board consisting of a Chairperson, two Vice Chairpersons and eight Members elected by the Regional Assembly. Not more than one person from one country can be elected to the Regional Board;
2. Elect a person as **President** of the region who shall also serve as global ICA Vice-President, subject to ratification by the General Assembly. The President of the region shall, as a rule, be the **Chairperson** of the Regional Assembly and the Regional Board. The person to be eligible for election as President of the region must have served on one or more ICA governing bodies for at least two years;
3. Elect two Vice Chairpersons, one of whom shall preferably be a woman. They shall also be Vice Chairpersons of the Regional Assembly;
4. The Asia Pacific members of the ICA Board and a youth representative, who are not members of the Regional Board, shall have the right to attend and speak at meetings of the Regional Board;
5. No person shall be entitled to serve on the Board whose organization has ceased affiliation with the ICA;
6. A quorum of the Board shall be constituted when more than half of its members are present. Acceptance of a resolution shall be on a two-third majority of members present and voting;
7. Each member of the Board shall be entitled to one vote;
8. Formulate rules for the election of regional board members and office bearers;
9. To manage the affairs of ICA-AP between the meetings of the Regional Assembly; and
10. The Board shall meet at least once a year. The meetings shall be convened by the President or at the request of

active participation in ICA activities in the region;

- e. To promote sustainable cooperative development in the region;
- f. To strengthen and expand Sectoral Organizations and Thematic Committees in the region and ensure their cooperation with their global equivalent;
- g. To enhance the image of ICA and the Cooperative Movement in the region;
- h. To provide recommendations on membership applications from its region to the ICA Board; and
- i. To ensure regional finance and budgeting is strictly monitored and within the general guidelines of ICA;
- j. To approve and monitor the annual budget and work plan prepared by the Regional Director before submitting to the Director-General and ICA Board for final approval.

#### **Article 5: Meetings**

1. The Regional Assembly shall be convened by the Standing Committee. The ordinary Regional Assembly takes place every second year, alternating with the ICA General Assembly. The time and venue of the next Regional Assembly shall normally be decided by the previous Regional Assembly or by the decision of the Standing Committee.
2. If necessary, the Standing Committee may convene a special Regional Assembly either on its own decision or at the request of at least **one-third** of the ICA member organisations in the Region.
3. The Standing Committee meeting shall be convened by the President of the region at least once in a year.
4. The Regional Director shall be responsible for preparation and circulation of meeting documentation, and for practical arrangements of the

one-third of the members; and

11. The Regional Director of ICA-AP shall be the Secretary of the Regional Board.

#### **Article 11: Powers of Regional Board**

The powers of the Regional Board shall be:

1. To work within the ICA Strategic Plan and decisions laid down by the Regional Assembly;
2. To convene the meeting of the Regional Assembly;
3. To reinforce member organizations' active participation in ICA activities in the region;
4. To promote sustainable cooperative development in the region;
5. To build relations between other bodies of the ICA;
6. To enhance the image of ICA and the cooperative movements within the region;
7. To establish committees and working groups where appropriate;
8. To provide recommendations on membership issues from the region to the ICA Board;
9. To be responsible for appointment of the Regional Director in conjunction with the ICA Director-General; and
10. To approve the annual work plan/budget prepared by the Regional Director before submitting to the Director-General for integration into the global work plan/budget.

#### **Article 12: Regional Director**

The Regional Director shall be responsible for:

1. Promotion and protection of cooperative values and principles at the regional level;
2. Implementation of ICA Strategic Plan within the region;

Committee.

5. The official language of the Regional Assembly/Standing Committee shall be English. Delegates using other than English shall arrange their own interpreters.

#### **Article 6: Finance**

1. The delegates or their sponsoring organisations shall be responsible for covering the expenses of their participation at the Regional Assembly/Standing Committee.
2. Participation in the Regional Assembly and other related meetings will be subject to payment of Registration Fee as prescribed by the Standing Committee.
3. In line with ICA tradition, Regional Assembly shall be hosted by the member organisations in the region who

3. Representation on request of member organizations on policy concerns to governmental bodies and the public;
4. Organization of the Regional Assembly and support elected bodies;
5. Recruitment of staff at ICA-AP;
6. Carrying out any other activities as may be requested by the Director-General or Regional Board; and
7. Submitting annual work program and budget, as approved by the Regional Board, to the Director-General for inclusion in the overall global budget of the ICA.

#### **Article 13: Sectoral Organisations**

1. The Regional Assembly may establish or dissolve Sectoral Organisations and Thematic Committees;
2. Regional Sectoral Organizations may be established in areas of economic and social activity of cooperatives as considered desirable;
3. Regional Thematic Committees may be established based on requirements of the region; and
4. The sectoral organizations and thematic committees will draw up rules for approval by the Regional Assembly. They will work within the Regional Strategic Plan and will submit annual work plans/ budgets to the Regional Director.

#### **Article 14: Official Language**

The official language of the Regional Assembly/ Regional Board is English. Delegates using other than English shall arrange their own interpreters

#### **Article 15: Finance**

1. The delegates or their sponsoring organisations shall be responsible for covering the expenses of their participation at the Regional Assembly/Regional Board;

may take care of logistic and other related costs as mutually agreed upon.

4. The budget and financial resources for implementing the work plan of ICA-Asia and Pacific shall be derived from the following sources:

- a. Re-distribution of membership subscription to the region;
- b. Funds provided through agreements with development agencies including governmental organisations;
- c. Special contributions; and
- d. Income from other sources as agreed by the Regional Assembly on the recommendation of the Standing Committee.

#### **Article 7: Others**

1. These Rules and any subsequent amendments shall be subject to the approval of the Regional Assembly.
2. For all other matters, which are not covered by these Rules, ICA Rules (September 2003) shall apply.

2. Participation in the Regional Assembly and other related meetings will be subject to payment of Registration Fee as prescribed by the Regional Board;

3. In line with ICA tradition, Regional Assembly shall be hosted by the member organisations in the region who may take care of logistic and other related costs as mutually agreed upon;

4. The budget and financial resources for implementing the work plan of ICA-AP shall be derived from the following sources:

- Re-distribution of membership subscription to the region;
- Funds provided through agreements with development agencies including governmental organizations;
- Special contributions and income from other sources.

#### **Article 16: Others**

1. Amendments to these Rules and any subsequent alterations shall be subject to the approval by the Regional Assembly.
2. For all other matters, which are not covered by these Rules, ICA Rules shall apply.



# STRATEGIC PLAN OF ICA-AP FOR 2009-2012

## Strategic Objective 1- MEMBERSHIP: Consolidate and Increase Membership

<b>Strategic Objectives</b>	<b>Key Result Areas</b>	<b>Strategic Initiatives</b>
MEMBERSHIP: Consolidate and Increase Membership.	Retain existing members	Undertake member oriented actions Respond efficiently to members' requests
	Add new members	Membership drive strategy Strategic presence of ICA
INFLUENCE: Increase Global Influence to Promote Coops as a Specific Values Based Business Model.	Improve ICA's effectiveness as a lobbyist and advocate for the cooperative business model and values.	Relationship with Government Coordination with MOs Market effectiveness of coop business models
	Maintain and further develop effective communications.	Website Annual reports Periodicals/ journals/ media
	Build the credibility of the ICA as the centre of excellence for knowledge, expertise and coordinated action about cooperatives.	On-line database Advice on policy/ legislation on coops Cooperative research Archives/ library

**ANNEXURE - 4**

Strategic Objectives	Key Result Areas	Strategic Initiatives
DEVELOPMENT: Develop Strong Cooperative Enterprises for Social and Economic Progress.	Improve capacity building.  Strengthen inter-cooperation	Knowledge management system Training and HRD networking  Networking of business interests Exchange/ exposure missions
GOVERNANCE: Strengthen ICA's Sustainability Through Financial Capacity, Good Governance and a Committed People Base.	Consolidate and build strategic alliances/networks.  Seek significant funding from alternative sources.  Maximise effectiveness and good governance of all ICA.	Trade forum/ Coop forum/ Coop-Govt. forum System preferences for cooperatives  Sales of services Foster partnership Development cooperation  Improve governance regime Membership policy
	Build skills appropriate to roles and responsibilities.  Strengthen the organizational development of ICA.	Human Resource policy  Effective organizational structure & policy Restructuring initiatives Statutory obligations

# Constitution of the ICA Asia Pacific Committee

## on Co-operative Research

### Preamble

This Committee is a Thematic Committee of the International Co-operative Alliance and shall function in accordance with the aims and objectives of the ICA and the policies and decisions of the ICA Regional Assembly.

### Article 1: Name

The name of the Committee shall be "The ICA Asia Pacific Committee on Co-operative Research". It will be referred to as the Research Committee.

### Article 2: Aim and Objective

To promote and support the initiation and furtherance of research activities within co-operatives and research organizations at regional, national and local levels, so as to enhance their social and economic effectiveness.

### Article 3: Functions

The functions of the Research Committee shall be:

- a. to promote the systematic dissemination of information on the significance of research for co-operatives and co-operative organizations and to promote research activities wherever relevant;
- b. to help further the development of appropriate research frameworks within the regions of the ICA;
- c. to ensure the inclusion of research related activities as an integral element on the agendas of ICA Regional Assemblies;
- d. to facilitate effective interaction among the ICA global research framework, including the organization of joint conferences;
- e. to establish effective network relationships among all relevant bodies within and outside of ICA engaged in co-operative research;
- f. to facilitate through such network relationships the exchange of experience, research papers, information and other relevant elements among institutions and bodies concerned with co-operative research;
- g. to initiate contact and interaction with relevant non-ICA frameworks concerned with co-operative research including those drawn from the academic world, from the world of international organizations and civil society, communities, etc.;
- h. to develop effective working relationships with other ICA thematic committees, particularly with the committees concerned with HRD;

ANNEXURE - 5

- i. to carry out any other activities relevant and/or conducive to the promotion and furtherance of the aims and objectives of the Research Committee.

#### **Article 4: Membership**

- a. The members of the Research Committee shall be persons responsible for and actively involved in co-operative research;
- b. In general, representatives from ICA members may be invited to participate in Research Committee meetings and/or activities;
- c. The ICA Regional Director, or nominees designated by him or her, shall be invited to attend meetings of the Research Committee;
- d. Chairpersons and Secretaries of global and other regional research committees shall be invited to attend meetings of the Research Committee;
- e. The secretariat shall keep a register of members;
- f. There will be no annual membership fee. However, participation in activities may carry a fee to be determined from time to time.

#### **Article 5: Office**

The office of the Research Committee shall be that of the ICA regional office in Delhi unless a decision is taken by the Committee and approved by the ICA Regional assembly that it be located elsewhere.

#### **Article 6: Officers**

- a. The Research Committee shall elect a Steering Committee consisting of a Chairperson, Vice Chairpersons, a Secretary and other Committee members.
- b. Steering Committee members shall serve for a period of four years. Elections shall be held at every fourth year. Retiring officers shall be eligible for reelection.
- c. Chairperson is responsible for convening and presiding over the meetings of the Research Committee and the Steering Committee.
- d. Chairperson is to serve as a liaison officer with the ICA Asia Pacific and the ICA global Research Committee.

#### **Article 7: Meetings**

- a. The Research Committee shall meet regularly biennially at the time and place of the Asian Co-operative Research Conferences and places when necessary.
- b. The Steering Committee shall communicate by email. It may meet at any times and places if and when necessary.
- c. Meetings of the Research Committee shall be convened by the Chairperson. The Secretary of the Research Committee shall inform members in good time of the date, place and agenda of the meetings and shall provide them with relevant reports, background material, etc. Meetings of the Steering Committee shall be convened by the Chairperson. The Secretary shall inform Steering Committee

- members in good time of the date, place and agenda of the meetings and provide them with relevant reports, background material, etc.
- d. The language of the meetings of the Research Committee and its Steering Committee shall be English. Participants requiring interpretation in any other language may be accompanied by personal interpreters at their own expense.
  - e. The quorum of the Research Committee shall consist of members from seven countries. The quorum for a meeting of the Steering committee shall consist of four members. In the absence of the Chairperson, one of the Vice Chairpersons shall chair the meetings of the Research Committee and/or of the Steering Committee. In the absence of both the Chairperson and the Vice Chairpersons, members of the Research Committee shall elect a member to serve as chairperson for the meeting.

#### **Article 8: Reporting**

- a. The Research Committee shall report to each session of the Regional Assembly as to its activities, programmes, etc.
- b. Written reports shall be submitted to appropriate ICA bodies as requested and/or required.
- c. The Steering Committee shall report, verbally and in writing, to each of the meetings of the Research Committee on its activities, and in between meetings on matters of importance using various means of communication.

#### **Article 9: Financing**

- a. Participation in meetings and activities of the Research Committee and its Steering Committee shall be on a self-financing basis.
- b. As an ICA Thematic Committee, the Research Committee will seek appropriate institutional support from ICA when relevant.

#### **Article 10: Amendments**

Amendments to this document shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the members of the Research Committee present and shall become operative after they have been approved by the ICA Standing Committee.

Adopted: August 16, 2006

# **CONSTITUTION OF THE ICA COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY/CAMPUS CO-OPERATIVES FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

## **PREAMBLE**

This Committee is being formed to take initiatives in the development of co-operatives in educational institutions in Asia and the Pacific Region. It shall be a Committee of the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia-Pacific.

### **Article 1: Name**

- 1.1 The name of the Committee shall be **"ICA Committee on University / Campus Co-operatives for Asia and the Pacific"**. Hereinafter, it will be referred to as the "Committee" and for all transactions, shortly referred to as **University/Campus Committee**.

### **Article 2: Area of Operation**

- 2.1 The area of operations of the Committee shall be in Asia and the Pacific Region i.e. area covered by the ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

### **Article 3: Objectives**

- 3.1 The main objective of the Committee shall be to promote the growth and development of co-operatives in educational institutions (university/college/high school) in pursuance with the objectives of the ICA-AP.

Specifically, it aims to undertake the following objectives:

- 3.1.1 To promote university/campus co-operatives realize a satisfactory campus life and contribute to the development of students and the educational institution.
- 3.1.2 To encourage exchanges of information of activities, knowledge and know-how and to develop businesses, services and activities of co-operatives.
- 3.1.3 To empower students, faculty members and staff to be effective and efficient co-operative leaders.
- 3.1.4 To promote the idea of university/campus co-operatives and to assist in the organization of new university/campus co-operatives.
- 3.1.5 To assist in the strengthening, reconstruction and rehabilitation of existing university/campus co-operatives.



3.1.6 To promote the betterment of the environment, communities and peace.

3.1.7 To encourage exchanges and promote linkages among university/campus co-operatives and educational institutions at all levels (i.e. local, national, regional and global).

#### **Article 4: Activities**

4.1 The activities of the Committee shall be as follows:

4.1.1 The Committee shall have its meeting at least once a year and shall issue Newsletters either electronically or in printed form.

4.1.2 The Committee shall arrange activities or programs for promoting and developing university/campus co-operatives in coordination with the ICA and other institutions;

4.1.3 The Committee shall liaise with national, regional or global organizations in pursuance with its objectives.

4.1.4 The activities of the Committee shall be reported to the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific.

#### **Article 5: Membership**

5.1 The members of the Committee shall consist of representatives from university/campus co-operative network organizations in the region:

a) National Apex organization of university/campus co-operatives

b) Secondary/regional level organizations of university/campus co-operatives in the absence of (a)

c) Representative approved by the Committee in the absence of (a) and (b).

5.2 Each member organization shall be represented by one person in the Committee.

5.3 The admission or resignation of the members of the Committee shall be discussed and approved in the meeting of the Committee.

#### **Article 6: Office**

6.1 The Office of the Committee shall be at the ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

#### **Article 7: Meetings**

7.1 The Meetings of the Committee shall be held at least once every year. It shall be convened by the Secretary who shall also furnish the Committee with a report on the activities.

7.2 The proceedings of the meetings of the Committee shall be conducted in English. Participants requiring interpretation in another language may be accompanied by personal interpreters at their own cost.

- 7.3 The representative of the member organization present in the meeting shall be entitled to one vote.
- 7.4 Members who have not paid their annual membership dues to the Committee shall not be entitled to vote.
- 7.5 Eminent academicians/administrators of the educational institutions may be invited to the meetings of the Committee as observers or speakers. The observers shall not have any voting rights.
- 7.6 A quorum shall be at least three members.

### **Article 8: Officers**

- 8.1 The Committee shall elect a Chairperson and two Vice Chairpersons, with due consideration to gender parity. The term of office shall be from the ICA Regional Assembly to the next. Retiring office bearers shall be eligible for re-election.
- 8.2 The Project Director/Officer of the ICA University/Campus Co-operative Development Project for Asia and the Pacific shall function as the Secretary of the Committee.
- 8.3 The Committee shall have Co-Secretaries to assist the Secretary, whenever necessary.
- 8.4 In the absence of the Chairperson in the meeting, the Committee shall elect a Chair from among the members present to conduct the proceedings of the meeting.

### **Article 9: Finances**

- 9.1 The funds needed to meet the expenditures of the meetings and activities of the Committee shall be derived from:
- a) The annual membership fee of US\$ 100 from each member organization.
  - b) The annual project fund of the ICA University/Campus Co-operative Development Project for Asia and the Pacific.
  - c) Other contributions.
- 9.2 The financial year of the Committee shall be one calendar year.

### **Article 10: Amendments**

- 10.1 Any amendment to the Constitution of the Committee shall be tabled, discussed and endorsed by the Committee.
- 10.2 This amendment shall take effect upon the approval by the ICA Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific.

# 8<sup>th</sup> Ministers Conference on Cooperative Legislation and Policy

## Kuala Lumpur Declaration

- **Noting** the multi-dimensional impact of globalization on the socio-economic lives of peoples of Asia and Pacific and their institutions particularly cooperatives;
- **Taking** note that while globalization and liberalization of national economies has resulted in enhanced economic growth and prosperity, its gains have not been equitably distributed among the people particularly the poorer and more vulnerable sections of the community;
- **Appreciating** the desire of the Cooperative Movement to participate in the developmental process in harnessing the gains of globalization aimed at poverty reduction, employment generation and equitable national development ;
- **Realizing** the importance of enabling cooperative legislation and policies for creating conducive environment for development of cooperatives;
- **Appreciating** the role of ICA to continuously facilitating the dialogue between the Cooperatives and the Governments to enhance the role of cooperatives for the economic growth and prosperity in the region.

**We, the participants** of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ministers Conference on "Cooperative Legislation and Policy" held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 12-15 March 2007:

**Urge upon** the Governments to catalyze the process of re-orienting the Cooperative Legislation and Policy to strengthen apolitical and autonomous character of cooperatives and to provide a positive level playing field to cooperatives to enable them to compete in the globalised market.

**Call upon** the Cooperative Movements to contribute effectively in the process of economic development, amongst others, by organizing small producers including farmers, workers and protecting consumers through self-help mode and also ensuring increased participation of women and youth in the cooperatives.

**Exhort** Cooperatives and Governments to strengthen management capacity, participatory governance and fair business relationship for ensuring healthy functioning of cooperative system through innovative strategies.

**Calls upon** Cooperatives and Governments in the region to periodically review the efficacy/effectiveness of Cooperative Legislation and Policy as well as to introduce appropriate reforms considering the dynamic changes and trends emerging in their respective national economies.

**ANNEXURE - 7**

**Recognizing** cooperatives are an important and significant sector of the national economy effectively contributing to its development, **we affirm our support** for the Cooperative Movement as a sustainable and efficient institution through:

1. Encouragement of cooperative entrepreneurship by inculcating entrepreneurial spirit and skills among the members, leaders and managers of the cooperatives through education and training.
2. Attainment of economies of scale and strategic business alliances among cooperatives both domestically and internationally.
3. Role clarity among different tiers to enhance impact of the Cooperative Movement.
4. Harnessing the gains of the fair globalization and liberalization for the benefit of members.

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9<sup>th</sup> April 2007

# **9th Meeting of ICA-AP Regional Assembly**

**Beijing (China), 5th September 2010**

## **AGENDA NOTES**

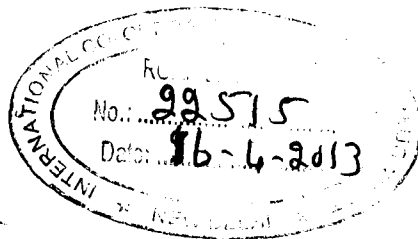


**International Co-operative Alliance - Asia and Pacific  
New Delhi, India.**

## 9<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE ICA REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Theme: Sustainable Innovations – Opportunities for Cooperatives to Grow  
Beijing (China): 5<sup>th</sup> September 2010 {09:00~16:00}

### AGENDA NOTES



#### Agenda Item 01 : Opening Remarks

Following the joint opening ceremony of 6<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Cooperative Forum and Regional Assembly on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of ICA Regional Assembly will be officially opened on 5<sup>th</sup> September. Mr. Li Chunsheng, President of ICA-Asia and Pacific and also the Chairman of ICA Regional Assembly will chair.

#### Agenda Item 02 : Approval of Agenda

Delegates would be requested to formally approve the Agenda.

#### Agenda Item 03 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting held in Hanoi on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2008

The Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of ICA Regional Assembly held in Hanoi (Vietnam) on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2008, as enclosed at Annexure-1 were circulated to all the delegates and member organizations. No suggestions/observations/ amendments have been received. Minutes may be confirmed.

#### Agenda Item 04 : Perusal of Minutes of ICA-AP Regional Board Meetings since last Regional Assembly

Since the last Regional Assembly, four meetings of the Regional Board were held. Confirmed minutes of the meetings are enclosed at Annexure-2. Necessary follow-up action on these minutes has already been taken. The delegates of the Regional Assembly may kindly peruse.

#### Agenda Item 05 : Approval of revised new Rules of ICA-AP

The ICA Governance Committee was given the mandate to review the Rules of the ICA regions so as to ensure that those were in conformity with the ICA Rules approved by the Special 2008 General Assembly held in Rome. ICA Rules being the global rules of the organization carry global significance and therefore the regional rules should be in conformity with the ICA Rules and avoid restating what is found

in the ICA Rules – especially with regard to mission statements, membership, powers and responsibilities, etc. This in turn would have the advantage that if and when the ICA Rules were amended by the General Assembly with regard to these issues, the amendments would automatically apply to the regions enabling a consistency in the governance.

The ICA-AP has accordingly revised its Rules which were approved by the last RA in Hanoi in 2008. The new Rules of ICA-AP, as approved by the Regional Board, are enclosed at Annexure-3. The Regional Assembly may kindly approve the Rules.

**Agenda Item 06 : Report of ICA-AP Activities in 2009 & 2010**

The report of main ICA-AP activities carried during the year 2009 and progress of activities for the year 2010 is attached at Annexure-4.

**Agenda Item 07 : ICA-AP Financial Report for 2009 and 2010**

The ICA-AP Financial Report for the year 2009 and for the period January to June 2010 is given at Annexure-5.

**Agenda Item 08 : ICA-AP Work Plan for 2011**

The draft ICA-AP Work Plan for 2011 is attached at Annexure-6.

**Agenda Item 09 : ICA-AP Membership Situation**

The following ten organizations from seven countries have joined ICA since last Regional Assembly in Hanoi in December 2008:

1. All China Federation of Handicraft & Industrial Cooperatives (ACFHIC), China.
2. International Committee for the Promotion of Chinese Industrial Cooperatives (ICCIC), China.
3. National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Limited (FISHCOPFED), India.
4. National Labour Cooperatives' Federation of India Limited (NLCF), India.
5. Iran Oilseeds & Vegetable Oil Processing Factories Coop Co.(Farida Oil Co.), Iran.
6. iCOOP Solidarity of Consumer Cooperatives, Rep. of Korea.
7. Korean Association of Social Economy Enterprises (KASEE), Korea.
8. National Association of Mongolian Agricultural Cooperatives (NAMAC), Mongolia.



9. National Cooperative Federation & Development Center (VICTO National), Philippines.
10. Republican Union of Consumer Societies (Soyuz Tadjikmatlubot), Tajikistan.

Central Union of Cooperative Societies (CUCS) of Israel has ceased to be a member of ICA due to non-payment of subscription fee.

The following organizations have applied for membership of ICA:

- China Fisheries Association (CFA), China
- Supervision & Central Coordination Union of Rural Agricultural Cooperatives (SCURA), Iran.
- National Association of Labour Banks, Japan.
- Mongolian Coop Training and Information Center (MCTIC), Mongolia.
- Cooperative House Building and Finance Corporation Ltd., Lucknow, India.

The total membership of ICA-AP is 68 organizations from 25 countries.

**Agenda Item 10 : Approval of Constitution of the Asia-Pacific Health Cooperative Organization (APHCO)**

It may be noted that 2008 Special ICA General Assembly held in Rome (Italy) had resolved that there should be only one time annual membership fee of ICA thereby doing away with the membership fee of sectoral organizations. This consequently applies equally at the global, regional and sectoral levels. Accordingly, no sectoral organization, globally or regionally, would be allowed to collect separate membership subscription or have non-members participating in the meetings. As such, it is the responsibility of ICA regional offices to ensure adherence of this resolution by regional sectoral/thematic committees. However, considering the budgetary constraints, there will of course be a major discussion at the ICA Global Board Meeting in Beijing about the future of the Sectoral Organisations and that will include the financial aspect also.

The Constitution of the Asia-Pacific Health Cooperative Organization (APHCO) was discussed at the last Regional Board meeting held in Seoul on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010 and it will be again discussed in Beijing on 1<sup>st</sup> September. The Constitution is enclosed at Annexure-7. Regional Assembly may kindly approve the Constitution.

**Agenda Item 11 : Revival of ICA Committee on Fisheries for Asia and Pacific**

The ICA Committee on Fisheries for Asia and Pacific was in existence until 1998 and it used to hold its meetings regularly. Its revised Constitution was also approved by the Regional Assembly held in Seoul (Republic of Korea) in 1998. After that due to

lack of interest among committee members, it was discontinued. Now, on the insistence of some members, it has been decided to revive the Fisheries Committee. The meeting of the revived Fisheries Committee is scheduled to be held in Beijing on 2<sup>nd</sup> September. The RA may accord its approval.

**Agenda Item 12 : Report on 6<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Cooperative Forum.**

The 6<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Coop Forum would be held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2010 a day before the Regional Assembly. The Forum will have presentations by eminent cooperative experts and leaders on the theme "Cooperatives - The Sector of Global Importance". The sub-themes that would underpin the objective of the main theme are (a) Visibility of Cooperatives and Year 2012; (b) Cooperatives - A Responsible Civil Society; (c) Corporate Governance in Cooperatives; (d) Level Playing Field for Cooperatives; and (e) Cooperatives: The Sector for Empowerment of Women and Youth. The deliberations at the Forum will help delegates have a deeper insight into the most relevant and crucial contextual issues important to cooperatives. We expect nearly 250 international participants in this Cooperative Forum, besides a large number of local participants.

A brief report and issues arising out of the Forum will be placed before the Regional Assembly on 5<sup>th</sup> December.

**Agenda Item 13 : Report on Cooperative-Government Dialogue on Cooperative Development**

The 17<sup>th</sup> Dialogue between the Cooperatives and the Governments in Asia-Pacific region will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September to evince the interests of the governments in drawing an actionable, realizable and verifiable action plan for the socio-economic development through cooperatives.

A brief report will be placed before the Regional Assembly.

**Agenda Item 14 : Report of 5<sup>th</sup> Regional Women's/Youth Forum**

A brief report will be placed before the Regional Assembly by the Chairperson of ICA Women's Committee.

**Agenda Item 15 : Reports from ICA Sectoral/Thematic Committees**

Chairpersons of the following ICA-AP Sectoral/Thematic Committees will present their report before the time of Regional Assembly:

- (a) *Agricultural Committee*
- (b) *Regional Cooperative Banking Association*
- (c) *Consumer Committee*

- (d) Fisheries Committee
- (e) HRD Committee
- (f) Asia-Pacific Health Coop Organization
- (g) Research Committee
- (h) University/Campus Committee
- (i) Women's Committee
- (j) Youth Committee

*Pursuant to the recommendations of international conference on Cooperative Tourism held in India in October 2008 and the seminar on Coops-A Better Business Model: Emerging Opportunities in October 2009, a preparatory meeting on setting up Coop Tourism Committee in the Asia-Pacific region will be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September. A brief report will be presented at the RA.*

**Agenda Item 16 : Discussion on Important Events:**

ICA Expo 2010, Bangalore (India), 8-10 December

The ICA Expo 2010 would be held in Bangalore (India) from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> December 2010 in collaboration with Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative (IFFCO). ICA Expo 2010, as such would be a real opportunity to show case our values, achievements, growth, importance and, most of all, highlight how much of a player the Cooperative Movement could be in the global economy.

The first ICA Expo was held in Oct 2008 in Lisbon, Portugal and the event attracted nearly 8,000 visitors. Intended mainly for professionals of the sector, the fair promoted the growth of cooperative business, the practice of inter cooperation among participants and the implementation of strategic alliances.

A brief presentation on the preparations for the ICA Expo 2010 would be made at the meeting.

UN Proclamation of International Year of Cooperatives 2012

The 64th Session of the United Nations General Assembly adopted the resolution - "Cooperatives and social development" - in which it proclaimed the International Year of Cooperatives (IYC) to be celebrated in 2012. The UN resolution recognizes that the cooperative business model is a major factor of economic and social development, promoting the fullest possible participation in the economic and social development of people in both the developed and developing world, and that, in particular, cooperatives contribute to the eradication of poverty. The resolution also encourages all governments to create a more supportive environment for cooperative development, particularly when it comes to securing finances for capital building.

Members are requested to take necessary strategic initiatives on this matter as early as possible.

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ICA-AP (1960-2010)

The year 2010 marks completion of 50 years of ICA-AP and there is every reason to celebrate the history and glory of ICA-AP that has been serving the cooperative members in the biggest and most vibrant region of the world. There would not be a better way to unravel the contributions made by the ICA-AP during last 50 years in this region than releasing a Book containing salient features of ICA's evolution to present form. As a prelude to historic book release, a booklet containing chronology of events in last five decades has been prepared and is ready for release and distribution.

ICA will hold special event in New Delhi in November 2010 in conjunction with the celebrations of Indian cooperative week from 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> November 2010 to mark the occasion by releasing the book.

It is proposed to start 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations at the 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly in Beijing. The culmination of anniversary celebrations would be at the 2<sup>nd</sup> ICA Expo in Bangalore (India) in December 2010.

**Agenda Item 17 : Any Other Business**

**Agenda Item 18 : Consideration of Venue and Date of next Meeting**

On behalf of Japanese Joint Committee (JJC), Mr. Hiroshi Tsuchiya, Executive Director of JA-ZENCHU (Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan) has offered to host the next meeting of ICA-AP Regional Assembly in Japan in the last quarter of 2012 for 5 days. The RA may approve the proposal.

**Agenda Item 19 : Closing Session**

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*Tea break* : 10:30~11:00  
*Lunch break* : 12:30~14:00

**ANNEXURE-1**  
Minutes of the 8th Meeting of  
ICA-AP Regional Assembly

**MINUTES OF THE 8<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF ICA-AP REGIONAL ASSEMBLY  
Hanoi (Vietnam): 5<sup>th</sup> December 2008**

**AGENDA ITEM 01:                      OPENING REMARKS**

The joint opening ceremony of the 5<sup>th</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum and 8<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly was held at My Dinh National Convention Center in the afternoon of Wednesday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2008. His Excellency Nguyen Phu Trong, Chairman, National Assembly of Socialist Republic of Vietnam inaugurated the event which was hosted by Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA). Mr. Ivano Barberini, President of ICA; Mr. Li Chunsheng, President, ICA - Asia and Pacific; and Mr. Nguyen Tien Quan, President of VCA addressed the gathering of 900 cooperators from Vietnam and various parts of the world. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA - Asia and Pacific, raised a vote of thanks on behalf of ICA-AP.

The Regional Coop Forum was dedicated on the theme "COOPERATIVE ADVANTAGE IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS" along with three related Sub-themes, namely, (a) *Coop Advantages in Ensuring Inclusive Growth of Economy*; (b) *Enhancing Management Capacity in Cooperatives*; and (c) *Business Networking to position Coops as a Preferred Brand*.

Subsequent to the deliberations at the ICA Regional Cooperative Forum, the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICA-AP Regional Assembly was held at Melia Hotel, Hanoi (Vietnam) on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2008. 195 participants from 24 countries and three international organizations attended the Regional Assembly.

Mr. Li Chunsheng, President, ICA-AP and being the Chairman of ICA-AP Regional Assembly opened the meeting and welcomed all the members and special invitees including the ICA global board members. He expressed his happiness for the participation of most of the member organizations' representatives at the Regional Assembly in Hanoi. He was happy to learn about laudable achievements made by the Cooperative Movements in various countries of the Region during the last two years. He also referred to the challenges before cooperatives due to global economic recession. After his brief remarks, he requested Mr. Ivano Barberini, President of ICA, to formally inaugurate the meeting.

Mr. Ivano Barberini expressed his pleasure on attending 2008 Regional Assembly of ICA-AP. He thanked all the participants for their participation in various meetings. He said that this was an important meeting. He overwhelmingly thanked the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA), particularly its President, Mr. Nguyen Tien Quan, for the excellent arrangements made for the Cooperative Forum and the Regional Assembly. He welcomed all the delegates to the meeting and wished good discussions on the Agenda for consensus.

At the request of the Chairman, Mr. Mamoru Moteki, the newly elected President of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (JA-ZENCHU) made a brief introductory speech. He said that the world was facing global financial crisis sparked by the US sub-prime loan issue. He also referred to the natural disasters caused by global warming in the world causing great problems to peoples' livelihood. He reaffirmed the need of mutual help as the basic idea of cooperatives so as to reinforce the relationship with members more closely than ever.

**AGENDA ITEM 02:                      APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Chair asked the members if they had any comments on the Agenda. The Agenda, which was circulated at the meeting, was unanimously approved.

**AGENDA ITEM 03:**

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup>  
MEETING HELD IN COLOMBO ON 18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2006**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Regional Assembly held in Colombo (Sri Lanka) on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2006 were circulated to all the delegates/member organizations and no comments/suggestions/amendments were received. The minutes were confirmed.

**AGENDA ITEM 04:**

**PERUSAL OF MINUTES OF ICA-AP SC MEETINGS  
SINCE LAST REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

Since last Regional Assembly, five meetings of the Standing Committee were held. Confirmed minutes of these meetings were circulated at the RA. Necessary follow-up action on these minutes had already been completed. The delegates of the RA endorsed the minutes of the Standing Committee.

At this point, Mr. G.H. Amin, President of National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) and Member of the ICA-AP Standing Committee took over as Chair of the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 05:**

**APPROVAL OF NEW RULES OF ICA-AP**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee referred to the contents of the new Rules of ICA-AP and broadly mentioned a few of the changes like Standing Committee would hence be called as Regional Board and also referred to the constitution, powers and meeting schedule of the Regional Board.

He further said that the Regional Board in its meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December, had decided to amend Article-10.4 (Regional Board) as follows:

*A Youth Representative shall be co-opted in the Regional Board. The Asia Pacific members of the ICA Board who are not members of the Regional Board, shall have the right to attend and speak at the Regional Board.*

The new Rules of ICA-AP were accordingly proposed for required amendment that was unanimously approved by the Regional Assembly.

**AGENDA ITEM 06:**

**PROGRESS REPORT FROM REGIONAL DIRECTOR, ICA-AP**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the activities of the ICA-AP carried out during January to November 2008. He also presented the financial report of ICA-AP for the period January to September 2008. The members noted that there was a surplus of CHF 10,100 in Delhi office during the year 2008.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee mentioned that the total membership of ICA-AP as on that day was 59 organizations from 23 countries. Sharjah Cooperative Society-UAE, Fiji Cooperative Union Limited-Fiji, and Indian Farm Forestry Development Cooperative Limited (IFFDC)-India had joined the ICA membership recently.

The Regional Assembly (RA) thanked the Regional Director and his staff for conducting so many important activities. The delegates expressed their happiness with regard to the outstanding performance and positive financial results of ICA-AP. The report was unanimously accepted by the RA.

At this point, Mr. Adi Sasono, President of Dewan Koperasi Indonesia (DEKOPIN) and Member of the ICA-AP Standing Committee took over as Chair of the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 07: APPROVAL OF ICA-AP STRATEGIC PLAN AND MULTI-ANNUAL BUDGET FOR 2009-2012**

Mr. Rajiv Mehta presented the framework and contents of the ICA-AP Strategic Plan for 2009-2012 synchronizing with the Strategic Objectives of ICA.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the Multi-Annual Budget of ICA-AP for 2009-2012. The delegates took note of the contents and approved the Strategic Plan and Multi-Annual Budget for 2009-2012.

**AGENDA ITEM 08: APPROVAL OF WORK PLAN OF ICA-AP FOR 2009**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the ICA-AP Work Plan for 2009. He informed the meeting that the details of the events would be worked out with the concerned member organizations.

He also informed the RA that Mr. Mohammad Al Ansari, Chairman of the Union of Consumer Cooperative Societies in Kuwait had announced a special contribution of US\$ 10,000 to conduct activities in response to global economic crisis.

Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked the ICA-AP secretariat for preparing a very good Work Plan for 2009.

At this point, Dr. Mohd Ali Baharum, Deputy President of ANGKASA (National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia) took over as Chair of the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 09: APPROVAL OF CONSTITUTION OF THE ICA-AP COMMITTEE ON COOPERATIVE RESEARCH**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting about creation of ICA-AP Youth Committee in last RA at Colombo. ICA-AP had received two proposals for setting up two separate Committees for (a) Cooperative Research and (b) University/Campus Cooperatives. He further informed that the ICA-AP Regional Board, in principle, had agreed to set up these two Committees at its meeting held in Manila in March and in Hanoi on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008.

After discussions, the RA unanimously approved the Constitution of the ICA-AP Committee on Cooperative Research.

**AGENDA ITEM 10: APPROVAL OF CONSTITUTION OF THE ICA-AP COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY/CAMPUS COOPS**

The RA unanimously approved the Constitution of the ICA-AP Committee on University/Campus Cooperatives with the following amendment:

*Article 8-Officers: Para 8.4 (In the absence of the Chairperson in the meeting, the Committee shall elect a Chair from among the members present to conduct the proceedings of the meeting) should be deleted since there was a provision for two Vice Chairpersons in the Constitution.*

At this point, Dr. Yehudah Paz, President of NISPED and Member of the ICA-AP Standing Committee took over as Chair of the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 11: RE-CONSTITUTION OF ICA-AP REGIONAL BOARD**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the RA that the term of the current board members would be over by December 2008. As per the new Rules of ICA-AP, the Regional Assembly should elect a maximum of eleven (11) members to the ICA-AP Board for a term of four years.



He confirmed having received 15 nominations from member organizations by the ICA-AP Secretariat. The list was already circulated to the participants at the RA.

Mr. Li Chunsheng opined to elect 11 members out of 15 through election and proposed the name of Dr. Yehudah Paz as Chairman of the Election Committee to conduct the election.

Dr. Paz explained that according to the new Rules, the members of the Regional Board would elect the Chair and the Vice Chairs. So there would be a short meeting of the newly elected board members to elect the Chair and Vice Chairs before the closing of the Regional Assembly so that the delegates had the opportunity to know the names. The RA agreed to hold a short meeting of newly elected Board immediately after the election result was declared.

Dr. Paz elucidated the election procedure and thanked Mr. Shil Kwan Lee and his team for the excellent arrangements made for the election. He also wished a good luck to all the candidates contesting the election.

After counting the number of votes, following persons were declared elected to the ICA-AP Regional Board for the next four years.

S.#	Name of the Member	Country	Position/Organization
01	Mr. Li Chunsheng	China	Vice President, ACFSMC.
02	Mr. G.H. Amin	India	President, NCUI.
03	Mr. Adi Sasono	Indonesia	President, DEKOPIN.
04	Ms. Hitomi Tanaka	Japan	Board of Director, JCCU.
05	Mr. Won-Byung Choi	Korea	Chairman, NACF.
06	Dr. Mohd Ali Baharum	Malaysia	Dy. President, ANGKASA
07	Mr. Guillermo P. Cua	Philippines	Congressman/NATCCO.
08	Mr. Chan Tee Seng	Singapore	Chairman, SNCF.
09	Mr. Bandupala Ranaweka	Sri Lanka	Chairman, NCC.
10	Mr. Mongkalut Pukanut	Thailand	Chairman, CLT.
11	Dr. Nguyen Tien Quan	Vietnam	President, VCA
12	Mr. Teo Say Hong	Singapore	Youth Representative (co-opted)

A special meeting of the newly elected ICA-AP Regional Board Members was held immediately after the declaration of results. At the special meeting following were elected unanimously:

Mr. Li Chunsheng : ICA-AP President and Chair of the Regional Assembly  
 Mr. G.H. Amin : Vice Chair of the Regional Assembly  
 Ms. Hitomi Tanaka : Vice Chair of the Regional Assembly

Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked the members of the Regional Board for electing him as Chairman of the Assembly and pledged before the RA to work efficiently in collaboration with the support of board members. All other board members also thanked the RA for electing them.

Mr. Ivano Barberini, Mr. Iain Macdonald and Mr. Shil Kwan Lee congratulated the newly elected board members and wished them best of performance.

#### AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT ON 5<sup>TH</sup> ICA REGIONAL COOP FORUM

The 5<sup>th</sup> ICA Regional Cooperative Forum was held at Melia Hotel, Hanoi (Vietnam) on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2008, preceded by a joint inauguration of the Forum and the 8<sup>th</sup> ICA Regional Assembly in the

afternoon of 3<sup>rd</sup> December at My Dinh National Convention Center by His Excellency Nguyen Phu Trong, Chairman, National Assembly of Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The Forum was hosted by the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA). The Forum was marked by an overwhelming participation of more than 195 participants from 24 countries and three international organizations.

The theme of the Forum was "COOPERATIVE ADVANTAGE IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS" along with following sub-themes: (a) *Coop Advantages in Ensuring Inclusive Growth of Economy*; (b) *Enhancing Management Capacity in Cooperatives*; and (c) *Business Networking to position Coops as a Preferred Brand*.

Eminent cooperative researchers and practitioners had participated at the Forum. Thematic presentations were made by Mr. Iain Macdonald, Director General of ICA and Mr. Chan Tee Seng, Chairman of SNCF. Presentations on sub-themes were made by Mr. Sanjiv Chopra, Mr. Bruno Roelants, Mr. Chan Ho Choi, Mr. Jiro Ito and Mr. Paul Hazen.

The Forum proceedings and presentations were summarized by Dr. Yehudah Paz, former ICA Global Board Member, who presented a report on the Forum at the Regional Assembly.

At this point, Mr. **Bandupala Ranaweka**, President of National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka (NCC) and Member of the ICA-AP Standing Committee took over as Chair of the meeting.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 13: REPORT OF 5<sup>TH</sup> COOP RESEARCH CONFERENCE**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Asian Cooperative Research Conference was held at Melia Hotel, Hanoi, on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2008. 15 researchers from India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam participated at the Conference. The theme of the Conference was "Strengthening Cooperative Advantage under the Competitive Environment". This time also the Consumer Cooperative Institute of Japan (CCIJ) extended scholarships to six researchers from India and one from the Philippines.

Majority of the presenters were academicians with considerable research experience to their credit. Their papers reflected in-depth analysis of researched data and case studies. They brought out very important findings and revealed facts and figures for future planning.

After the Conference, a Steering Committee Meeting was held which was presided over by Mr. Akira Kurimoto. Dr. G.N. Saxena of Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) and Mr. Akira Kurimoto of Consumer Cooperative Institute of Japan (CCIJ) were unanimously elected as Chair and Vice Chair of the Research Committee respectively for a period of four years. Both Dr. Saxena and Mr. Kurimoto are members of the ICA Global Research Committee.

Mr. Kurimoto and Dr. Saxena thanked the members for electing them as key office-bearers of the Research Committee.

It was decided to hold the next Conference in China in 2010 in conjunction with the next ICA Regional Assembly.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 14: REPORT OF 5<sup>TH</sup> REGIONAL WOMEN'S FORUM**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Regional Women's Forum was held at Melia Hotel on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. The theme of the Forum was "Advantage of Gender Integration in the Economy of Cooperatives in Asia-Pacific". A total of 50 cooperators from eight countries attended the Forum.

Ms. Hitomi Tanaka, Chairperson of the ICA-AP Women's Committee welcomed the guests and participants and thanked them for their presence. Dr. Nguyen Tien Quan, President of VCA delivered the opening address and declared the Forum open. Mr. Ivano Barberini, President of ICA

and Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA-AP also addressed the Forum and re-affirmed their commitment for achieving total gender integration in cooperatives.

The keynote speech on the theme was delivered by Ms. Bui Thi Lan of Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Nepal. She talked about significant contribution of women as food provider to the family as well as to the community and focused on various FAO programs on socio-economic development of women to ascertain food security.

A panel discussion was held after the presentations. The topics of discussion were (a) Joint membership of couple/spouse of the member in agricultural cooperatives for increasing number of women in cooperatives; and (b) 33% reservation of women at all levels, especially at leadership for active participation in cooperative business. Based on the conclusion of the panel discussions, the Forum assigned a number of actions to ICA as well as all the members, partners and stake holders.

At this point, Mr. Li Chunsheng took over as chair of the meeting.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 15: REPORTS FROM ICA-AP SPECIALISED COMMITTEES**

**Women's Committee:** The meeting of the ICA-AP Regional Women's Committee was held at Melia Hotel in Hanoi on 1<sup>st</sup> December from 14:00 to 17:00 hours. Six members from five countries attended the meeting. In the absence of the Chair, the meeting was presided over by Ms. Hitomi Tanaka, Vice Chair of the Committee. The Vice President of VCA addressed the participants and extended a warm welcome.

Ms. Hitomi Tanaka from Japan and Ms. Norma Preyaras from the Philippines were unanimously elected as Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee. It was decided that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair will be filled up by nomination from Singapore.

The Secretary presented the work plan for 2009 which was approved by the Committee. Country reports on gender integration and women development activities in cooperatives were presented by AWCF, Philippines and Vietnam. The next meeting of the Committee would be held in 2009 in conjunction with some important ICA event.

**Consumer Committee:** The 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation was held at Melia Hotel, Hanoi, on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. 15 participants (members and observers) from India, Indonesia, Japan, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Vietnam attended the meeting. Mr. Nguyen Cuu Quoc, Vice President of VCA delivered the welcome speech at the meeting and Mr. Jiro Ito, Chair of the Committee presided.

In addition to routine agenda, special presentation on Store Development on "Saigon Coop - the way to become Vietnam's leading retailer" was presented by Ms. Tran Thi Kim Quyen. Another special presentation on "How NTUC FairPrice help Consumers cope with the cost of living in Singapore" was made by Mr. Poh Leong Sim, Vice Chair of the Committee and Group Company Secretary/Director (Legal) of NTUC FairPrice, Singapore.

It was decided that the next meeting of the Committee would be held in Pune (India) in November-December 2009 along with a regional workshop/seminar.

**Consumer Sub-committee on University/College Coops:** The 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ICA Consumer Sub-Committee on University/College Cooperatives was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December at Melia Hotel, Hanoi. 12 participants from India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Vietnam attended the meeting. In addition to routine Agenda, it was confirmed that Sub-Committee would be upgraded to a full-fledged Committee, as approved by the Regional Assembly.

Professor Kokichi Shoji was elected as Chairperson of the full Committee and Professor Mohd. Ali Hasan and Professor Zenaida Diola were elected as Vice-Chairpersons of the Committee unanimously. Mr. T. Kuriki from Japan and Dr. Y. Dongre from India were nominated as Co-Secretaries of the Committee. The term of the office-bearers would be two years (from one Regional Assembly to another).

Before the meeting of the Sub-Committee, a Regional Workshop on University/Campus Cooperatives was held in the morning at the same venue. 35 participants from 8 countries attended the workshop. Mr. Nguyen Van Bien, First Vice President of VCA delivered the welcome speech. Prof. Kokichi Shoji, Chairperson of the Sub-Committee presided. The representatives of each country presented country report on the present status of University/College Coops in their respective countries.

**Agriculture Committee:** The 38<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICA-AP Committee on Agriculture was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December at Melia Hotel in Hanoi, soon after the ICAO Conference on "Protection of Small Family Farmers through Co-operatives" The theme of the Conference was Quality Production-Quality Food and Quality Trade through Cooperatives. 30 delegates from eight countries, namely, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, Korea, Sri Lanka and Vietnam attended the conference and the committee meeting.

The Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Chan-Ho-Choi, steered the meeting as per the agenda and following decisions were made: (a) UCCS Kuwait would be inducted as a new member of the Committee; (b) A conference would be held in early 2009 to assess the "Impact of Global Economic Meltdown on Food Security and Agricultural Cooperatives". The conference would be a joint sponsorship of IFFCO, UCCS Kuwait and ICAO.

Mr. N.P. Patel, Vice Chairman of IFFCO (India) and Mr. Sunil Silva, General Manager of NCC (Sri Lanka) were unanimously elected as Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee for a term of four years.

The meeting ended with remarks from newly elected Chairman of the committee, Mr. N.P. Patel who thanked Mr. Chan-Ho-Choi, Secretary General, ICAO for hosting the 38<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Committee and also thanked the participants and resource persons for making impressive and thought provoking presentations.

**Regional Cooperative Banking Association (RCBA):** The 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of RCBA was held on 1<sup>st</sup> December at Melia Hotel, Hanoi. 13 participants (members and observers) from India, Korea, Sri Lanka and Vietnam attended the meeting.

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, the Vice President of VCA, Mr. Nguyen Xuan Hien, was requested to chair the meeting. In his opening speech he said "although in Vietnam there has not been any cooperative banking association, we hope that at this meeting we can share valuable experience, accumulate useful information to establish a cooperative bank in the future".

Mr. B.D. Sharma introduced the working of the RCBA as well as the coop credit and banking institutions in Asia-Pacific region. He said that the RCBA was established to exchange views from time to time on the contemporary issues.

Mr. Deepak Kumar made a presentation on "Role of NABARD in the Development of Coop Banks in India". Mr. B. Subrahmanyam highlighted on the issues such as need for networking among coop banks and the need for appreciating the concept, importance in identifying the indicators and implementing corporate social responsibility. The representatives of other countries present verbally informed about the trends in cooperative credit and banking sector in their countries.

In the absence of both the Chairman and Vice Chairman, the meeting resolved that the existing Chairman and Vice Chairman should continue to hold their positions until the next meeting.

**HRD Committee:** The seminar on New Dimensions of Cooperative HRD Institutions in the Globalised Environment and the 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting of ICA Committee on Human Resource Development (HRD) for Asia and Pacific and was held in the forenoon of 3<sup>rd</sup> December at Melia Hotel, Hanoi. 37 participants from ten countries, namely, India, Indonesia, Israel, Korea, Kuwait, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Vietnam attended the seminar/meeting.

The opening session was attended by Mr. Nguyen Van Bien, Vice President of VCA; Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director of ICA-AP; and Mr. Bhagwati Prasad, Chief Executive of NCUI. The following four presentations were made at the seminar: (a) Global HRD Networking Centre by Mr. Bhagwati Prasad, Chief Executive of NCUI, India; (b) Networking among Cooperative HRD Institutions - Significance and Challenges by Mr. Yuzri Suhud, Secretary General of DEKOPIN, Indonesia; (c) Strategies for Networking by Ms. Julia Bee Bte Ramjan, Deputy Director, Cooperative College of Malaysia.; and (d) Role of HRD Institutions in Capacity Building for Good Governance and Professionalisation by Mr. Zulkifli Mohammad, Chief Executive, SNCF, Singapore.

The seminar was followed by the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of HRD Committee which was presided over by Mr. Bhagwati Prasad, Chairman of the Committee. He welcomed the presence of the members and thanked them for coming to the meeting. He stressed the importance of Global HRD Networking ([www.hrd.coop](http://www.hrd.coop)) developed and maintained by National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) and Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management (VMNICM) in collaboration with ICA. He also said that the HRD portal was restructured with 11 languages and registration of experts of cooperatives were also included in the new portal.

Mr. K.K. Ravindran, Managing Director of National Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks Federation, India, offered to host the next seminar on “**Role of HRD Institutions in Changing Economic Scenario**” and meeting in Mumbai sometime in 2009. The meeting unanimously accepted the proposal.

A suggestion was made at the meeting that the Cooperative Learning Center (CLC) would be managed by the Asian region. After discussions, it was decided that a detailed project report should be prepared by the HRD Committee and be placed before the next meeting for its approval. If some funds could be raised through HRD institutions, an external consultant could be appointed. Otherwise, the project report would be prepared internally.

**Youth Conference:** The Youth Conference was held on 1<sup>st</sup> December at Melia Hotel, Hanoi. More than 60 delegates from India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Vietnam participated. Many youth delegates from the College of Technology and Management, College of Vocational Training, Technical and Fine Art belonging to Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) and other affiliated units of VCA also participated.

The Conference was inaugurated by Dr. Nguyen Tien Quan, President of VCA. The theme of the Conference was Cooperatives and Youth Entrepreneurship. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, welcomed the delegates on behalf of the ICA.

Dr. T. Paranjothi, Secretary, NCCT; Dr. A. Fronda from the Philippines; Mr. Rajiv Mehta, Director (Development), ICA-AP and Mr. Teo Say Hong, Chairperson of the ICA-AP Youth Committee made presentations on various aspects related to youth and their employment, etc.

After the Conference the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Youth Committee was held. The meeting discussed the activities held since the last meeting in Singapore and the action plan for the coming year. Mr. Teo Say Hong was re-elected as Chairperson of the Committee, while Ms. Nguuyen Thi Thu Hao of VCA and Mr. Ilham Nassai from Kopindo, Indonesia were elected as Vice Chairs.

Mr. Teo Say Hong also suggested that the Chairperson of the Regional Committee should represent at the proposed Global Youth Committee, for which the Regional Youth Committee would extend all

help. Participation of the Chairperson of the Regional Committee would help in continuity of youth activities globally. The meeting agreed to the suggestion.

The next meeting of the Committee was decided to be held in Singapore during 2009. The next Youth Conference would, however, be held in China in conjunction with the next RA in 2010.

**AGENDA ITEM 16:                      *REPORT OF THE 8<sup>TH</sup> MINISTERS' CONFERENCE  
HELD IN MALAYSIA FROM 12<sup>TH</sup> TO 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2007***

The 8<sup>th</sup> Ministers' Conference on Cooperative Policy and Legislation was held in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) from 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> March in collaboration with the Ministry of Entrepreneur and Cooperative Development (MECD) and ANGKASA. The opening ceremony of the Conference was held in the afternoon of 12<sup>th</sup> March at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Center (KLCC). Around 900 people attended the inauguration. The Conference was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Malaysia. The inaugural session was also addressed by the Hon'ble Minister of the MECD and the ICA President.

The theme of the Conference was "Fair Globalisation through Cooperatives". Around 316 participants and observers, including 10 ministers, from 21 countries and four international organizations attended the Conference.

The Conference was quite successful in terms of achieving its core objective of sensitizing the Governments to the need of realizing full potential of cooperatives in building national economy, especially in the context of globalization, demanding the legislative cum policy support for the cooperatives to play an important role in equitable distribution of the benefits accruing from the liberalized global economy.

The Conclusions and Recommendations of the Conference were circulated to the governments and member organizations of ICA in Asia-Pacific region for taking appropriate action on the Recommendations. The Kuala Lumpur Declaration adopted by the Conference was read out by Mr. Rajiv Mehta for the benefit of the participants present at the RA.

**AGENDA ITEM 17:                      *ANY OTHER BUSINESS***

Mr. Rajiv Mehta made a presentation on *Myanmar Post Cyclone Reconstruction Program for Cooperatives*. He said that ICA had received US\$ 72,270 for the reconstruction of disaster affected cooperatives in Myanmar from the following agencies: IFFCO-India; ACFSMC-China; JCCU-Japan; ZENROSAI-Japan; JJC-Japan and Teachers Coop-Singapore.

*A Statement on the Increasing Role of Cooperatives in Recent Global Economic Crisis* aimed at containing the ill effects of the global economic recession, and calling on political leaders to recognize the important role that cooperatives could play in existing crisis, was distributed among the members for their approval. The Statement was unanimously approved by the RA.

Mr. Iain Macdonald said that the Statement was well written and informed the importance of it. He requested the members to send the Statement to their respective governments.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the meeting that the Statement would be sent to all ICA-AP member organizations, governments and media for wider circulation. He also requested the members to widely circulate it in their countries.

**AGENDA ITEM 18:                      *CONSIDERATION OF VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING***

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee informed the RA that All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives (ACFSMC) had agreed to host the next meeting of ICA-AP Regional Assembly in China in 2010. The

meeting accepted the offer of ACFSMC and decided to host the next meeting in China in 2010. The date and venue would be decided in consultation with the ACFSMC. The RA thanked the ACFSMC for agreeing to host the ICA events in 2010 in China.

*AGENDA ITEM 19: CLOSING SESSION*

Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked the members for coming and attending the meeting. He appreciated the excellent arrangements made by the host organization in Vietnam (Vietnam Cooperative Alliance) for the meetings in Hanoi.

Mr. Ivano Barberini said that the 2008 RA was concluded with good results, especially with the Statement on the Increasing Role of Cooperatives in Recent Global Economic Crisis that was approved by the RA. The ICA global Board at its meeting held in Hanoi had decided to continue the relation with the governments and accordingly ICA would be sending a letter to G20 countries because China and India were not included in the G8. He also congratulated the VCA for its efficiency and great hospitality. He specially congratulated the members of the ICA-AP Regional Board.

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee said that a total of 16 different meetings were held in Hanoi from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> December and he thanked the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) for making excellent arrangements and the kind hospitality.

The RA proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Shil Kwan Lee and his able staff for carrying out the ICA-AP's work with success. The RA also thanked Mr. Ivano Barberini, ICA President for coming and spending his valuable time.

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

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**ANNEXURE-2**  
**Minutes of the four ICA-AP**  
**Regional Board Meetings.**



## Annexure-2

### **Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the 2008 elected Regional Board of ICA-AP held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009 at the Conference Hall in JCCU, Tokyo.**

The meeting was attended by the following members and observers:

1. Mr. G.H. Amin, President, NCUI, India - Vice Chairperson
2. Ms. Hitomi Tanaka, JCCU, Japan - Vice Chairperson
3. Mr. Chan Tee Seng, Chairman, SNCF, Singapore - Member
4. Mr. Adi Sasono, President, DEKOPIN, Indonesia - Member
5. Mr. Bandupala Ranawaka, President, NCC, Sri Lanka - Member
6. Mr. Mongkalut Pukanut, Chairman, CLT, Thailand - Member
7. Dr. Nguyen Tien Quan, President, VCA, Vietnam - Member
8. Dr. Mohd Ali Baharum, Dy. President, ANGKASA, Malaysia - Member
9. Mr. Teo Say Hong, SNCF, Singapore - Youth Representative
10. Mr. Rong Jun, ACFSMC, China - Alternate Member
11. Mr. Chan Ho Choi, NACF, Korea - Alternate Member
12. Mr. Surinder Kumar Jakhar, Chairman, IFFCO, Member Global Board of ICA
13. Mr. Toshifumi Yamashita, President, JCCU, Japan - Observer
14. Dr. Gopal N. Saxena, Director (Coop Dev), IFFCO, India - Observer
15. Mr. Zhang Wangshu, ACFSMC, China - Observer
16. Mr. Soeryo Bawono, Vice President, DEKOPIN, Indonesia - Observer
17. Mr. Yuzri Suhud, Secretary General, DEKOPIN, Indonesia - Observer
18. Mr. Aharuyoshi Amano, JCCU, Japan - Observer
19. Mr. Phanuwat Wanraway, CLT, Thailand - Observer
20. Ms. Tran Thu Hang, Interpreter, VCA, Vietnam
21. Mr. Iain Macdonald, Director General, ICA, Geneva.
22. Mr. Jan-Eirik Imbsen, Director Development, ICA, Geneva.
23. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, RD, ICA-AP, New Delhi - Secretary
24. Mr. Rajiv Mehta, DRD, ICA-AP, New Delhi.
25. Mr. Yoshimitsu Nakamura, ICA-AP (SBO).

#### **Agenda Item 01 :       Opening Remarks**

At the beginning Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA-AP welcomed all the delegates and thanked JCCU for hosting the meeting. He requested Mr. G.H. Amin, President, NCUI cum Vice Chairman of the ICA - AP Regional Board to Chair the meeting due to indisposition of Mr. Li Chunsheng, President of the ICA - Asia and Pacific. Pursuant to the request of RD, Mr. Amin chaired the meeting.

At the very outset Mr. Amin greeted the participants and mourned sudden and untimely death of Mr. Barberini on 6<sup>th</sup> May in Italy. He shared the grief of Indian Cooperative Movement with all his fraternal colleagues duly mentioning that it was in the month of February that he had the privilege to listen to Late Mr. Barberini's Vaikunth Bhai Memorial Lecture on Role of Cooperatives in Global Economic Crisis that Mr. Barberini had very gracefully delivered at NCUI.

Mr. Amin mentioned that he had no idea that he would never meet Mr. Barberini thereafter and termed it a tragic loss for the cooperative world when we had needed him most. He termed Late Mr. Barberini as a great scholar, leader and above all a noble human being. Mr. Amin then requested all the participants to stand and observe a two minute silence as a mark of respect to noble cooperative leader and urged upon all to pray to God to bestow peace to the departed soul of Late Mr. Barberini.

After having observed silence for two minutes, the Board resumed the agenda for the day.

Mr. Yamashita, President of JCCU welcomed all the Regional Board members present at the meeting and thanked them for having flown all the way to Japan despite the swine flu fear. He referred to doing away with neck tie due to summer room temperature being kept at 28 degree Celsius so as to reduce carbon emission in the air. Therefore, new dress code in JCCU had no neck-tie. Mr. Yamashita paid rich tributes to Mr. Barberini. He referred to the economic meltdown and termed global economic crisis as the crisis of confidence. He also emphasized the need of world peace and nuclear disarmament and proposed a resolution for the cooperatives to contribute significantly in this context of global importance and welfare.

Mr. Iain Macdonald, Director General, ICA expressed his happiness on coming to Japan after 14 years and fully endorsed the views expressed by Mr. Yamashita. He informed the members about the sad demise of Mr. Barberini who was quite eager to come to Japan. He said that Mr. Barberini was working until two hours before his death. He had finished a book on Cooperatives the day he had died. According to Mr. Barberini the root cause of the economic crisis was capital greed and going beyond the board. He said that Mr. Barberini had termed the crisis as huge but with huge opportunity for cooperatives and accordingly the theme of Geneva General Assembly of ICA in November 2009 would be "Global Crisis - Cooperative Opportunity".

Mr. Jakhar, Chairman IFFCO cum Board Member of ICA greeted the participants and expressed his deep sorrow on the sad demise of Mr. Barberini. He termed him as the crusader against cooperative imperfections and a great philosopher cum cooperative conservationist of the century. He referred to his last meeting with him at his residence in Chandigarh, India where Mr. Barberini had very freely explained the logic behind the shift in criteria of ICA membership from turnover to membership basis. He remembered Mr. Barberini for his profuse liking for the Asia-Pacific region in general and India in particular because of the size of membership.

Mr. Jakhar also paid rich tributes to late Mr. Guillermo P. Cua, Regional Board Member from the Philippines and hailed his role as a true cooperator who not only enriched the policy content on cooperatives in the Philippines, but also used his influence in streamlining the critical section of Cooperative Act in the Philippines.

Mr. Jakhar highlighted the role of ICA in the present global economic crisis and committed full support of IFFCO in the resurgence of cooperative movement across the globe.

Mr. Amin thanked Mr. Yamashita, Mr. Iain Macdonald and Mr. Surinder Kumar Jakhar for their remarks. Mr. Amin also wished Mr Li Chunsheng a speedy recovery.

Mr. Amin began the meeting on the note of severe economic crisis that had engulfed the whole world that had affected cooperatives as well. He laid emphasis on the fact that the right time had matured to show the world about the advantages and strengths of cooperatives in standing tall during crisis. Mr. Amin reminded the ICA Regional Board about great challenge that lied ahead and important role ICA could play in advocating the importance of cooperatives in insulating the global economy from such turmoil. Mr. Amin expressed his happiness about the ICA-AP for having planned an important conference next month in Bangkok on Enhancing the Role of Cooperatives in Faster Recovery from Economic Crisis. He expressed his confidence about the success of the conference that would certainly show right direction to both the governments and the cooperatives in forming the strategy to revive economic growth with due inclusions through cooperatives. He appreciated the role of ICA- AP Regional Director Mr. Shil Kwan Lee in this context.

#### **Agenda Item 02 : Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Amin requested all the members to please approve the Agenda for the meeting and welcomed suggestion in this regard. The agenda was accepted.

**Agenda Item 03 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the last meeting held in Hanoi on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008**

Mr. Amin asked the members if they had received the minutes of our last meeting held in Hanoi. He sought comments from the members on the minutes brought by ICA -AP. The minutes were confirmed.

**Agenda Item 04 : Presentation on Cooperatives in Japan**

Mr. Amin requested Madam Tanaka to make a presentation on Cooperative Movement in Japan. Ms. Tanaka made an impressive presentation on the Japanese Cooperatives with special reference to Consumer Coops catering to 25 million members with a turnover of 34.1 billion USD for the services ranging from retail sale to home delivery, medical, insurance and housing. She also covered the fisheries coops, university and campus coops, forest owners' coops and workers' coops. Mr. Higuchi from JA-Zenchu made presentation on the Agricultural Coops in Japan.

**Agenda Item 05 : Review of Cooperative Development in the region**

Mr. Amin requested Mr. Lee to facilitate presentations on the Review of Cooperative Development in the Region. Representatives from China (Mr. Rong Jun), Indonesia (Mr. Adi Sasono), Malaysia (Mr. Ali Baharum), Singapore (Mr. Seng Chan Tee), Sri Lanka (Mr. Bandu Ranawaka), Korea (Mr. Chan Ho Choi), Thailand (Mr. M. Pukanut) and Vietnam (Mr. N.T. Quan) made presentations on the latest status of cooperative movement in their respective countries.

**Agenda Item 06 : Presentation on International Accounting Standards**

Mr. Satoshi Takano, Deputy Director, Management Planning Department, Zenrosai, Japan made a presentation on the IAS and touched upon the peripheral issues relevant to cooperatives focusing on the basic aspect as to how should we tackle with the convergence on "Financial Instruments with characteristics of Equity" between FASB and IASB? He said that ICA IAS working group still had to work to ensure full recognition and understanding of the special nature of the co-operative enterprise by the international accounting standard setters. Mr. Lee desired that the IAS working group recommendations could be shared with the members of ICA-AP by the ICA HQ.

**Agenda Item 07 : Interim Report on ICA-AP Activities and Discussion on 2009 Important Activities**

Mr. Amin requested Mr. Lee to present interim report on ICA-AP Activities and about activities of ICA in the region during 2009. Mr. Lee made a presentation on the interim activity report of ICA - AP during first part of year 2009 and proposed following revised activity schedule for the rest of the year 2009.

- Exploratory Mission to Kazakhstan, 9-12 June.
- National Conference on Cooperative Development, Myanmar, 16-18 June.
- Exploratory Mission to Mongolia, 23-28 June.
- Management Capacity Building of Women for Cooperative Development, Malaysia, 29th June to 3rd July.
- Conference on Enhanced Role of Cooperatives in the Recovery from Global Economic Crisis, Thailand, 2-4 July.
- National Workshop on Development of University/Campus Coops, Thailand, 11-13 July.
- 1st Training Course on Capacity Building for Marketing, Japan, 28th July to 22<sup>nd</sup> August.
- 4th Training Course on Promotion of Sustainable Enterprises for Rural Women, Vietnam and

Japan, 20th August to 25th September.

- Regional Workshop for Managers on Management of Consumer Coops, Singapore, 24-26 Aug
- 3 Training Programs for Managers of Consumer Cooperatives, Miyagi/ Tokyo/Kobe, July/Sept./October.
- ICA Conferences on Cooperative Development, Brunei/Iran/Bhutan/ Maldives/ Pakistan, Aug-November.
- Study Tour to Agricultural Cooperatives, Korea, 21 - 25 September.
- Workshop on Enhancing Role of Women in Coop Business, Philippines, 8-10 September.
- 2nd Training Course on Capacity Building for Marketing, Japan, 2-27 November.
- Workshop on Development of Consumer Cooperatives, India, 8-11 December.
- Re-construction of Cyclone Affected Cooperatives in Myanmar, January-October.
- Project on Women and Youth Empowerment through Coops in Sri Lanka, January-October.
- Project on Promotion of Sustainable Model of Agricultural Cooperatives for Poverty Alleviation of Farmers, Afghanistan, Cambodia and Laos, January-December.
- Project on Mainstreaming of HIV Issues in the Education and Training System of Cooperatives, India, January-December.

All the members expressed their happiness with regard to the performance and accepted the activity plan as above.

**Agenda Item 08 : Financial Report of ICA-AP**

Mr. Lee made a presentation on the interim financial report of ICA-Asia and Pacific for 2008 and also presented a forecast on the overall financial status of ICA-AP during 2009. During 2008 the ICA-AP could have surplus of 1,429 CHF as against anticipated surplus of 5,416 CHF. During 2008 ICA-AP received special contributions from MAFF, Japan (926,464 CHF), JCCU Japan (100,100 CHF), ACFSMC, China (55,000 CHF), IFFCO India (38,500 CHF), NACF, Korea (33,000 CHF) and SNCF, Singapore (23,622 CHF).

For the year 2009, ICA-AP had spent 59,957 CHF until March 2009 and expected to utilize full budget available for 2009.

**Agenda Item 08 : Discussion on ICA-AP Membership Status**

Mr. Lee presented a report on the membership status and stated the fact that the total membership of ICA-AP consists of 61 Organizations from 23 Countries. He named the two newly entered members namely: iCOOP Solidarity of Consumer Coops, Korea; and National Labour Coops Federation (NLCF), India. He said that two cooperatives, namely, Republican Union of Consumer Societies, Tajikistan and National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Limited (FISHCOPFED), India had applied for the membership. Mr. Lee explained about the membership expansion strategy and introduced a new brochure titled "JOIN ICA" recently published to market the benefits of joining the ICA network.

**Agenda Item 09 : Other Business Matters Arising**

Before deciding the venue and date for the next meeting, Mr. Shil Kwan Lee announced his decision to retire from the services of ICA after 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 despite the fact that his contract was valid until December 2010. He advised the members of the Regional Board to suggest name of suitable candidates to the Director General of ICA for the appointment of his successor.

**Agenda Item 10 : Date and Place of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Regional Board was decided to be held in Geneva on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2009 from 14:00 to 18:00 hours in conjunction with the ICA General Assembly.

The meeting concluded with thanks to Mr. G.H. Amin for chairing and conducting the meeting.

## Minutes of the Special ICA-AP Regional Board Meeting Held in Beijing on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Special meeting of the ICA-AP Regional Board was held in Minzu Hotel, Beijing (China) on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2009 mainly to transact the Agenda of stronger regional representation of the Asia-Pacific region in the ICA Global Board and selection of the Regional Director, ICA AP. Following were present at the Special Regional Board meeting.

1. Mr. Li Chunsheng, ACFSMC, China - Chairperson
2. Ms. Hitomi Tanaka, JCCU, Japan - Vice Chairperson
3. Mr. G.H. Amin, NCUI, India - Vice Chairperson
4. Mr. Won-Byung CHOI, NACF, Korea - Member
5. Mr. Surinder Kumar Jakhar, IFFCO - Global Board Member
6. Mr. Naoki Higuchi, JA Zenchu, Japan - Global Member Representative
7. Mr. Zulkifli Mohammed, SNCF, Singapore - Member Representative
8. Mr. Adi Sasono, DEKOPIN, Indonesia - Member
9. Mr. Mongkalut Pukanut, CLT, Thailand - Member
10. Mr. Ismail Bin Nordin, ANGKASA, Malaysia - Member Representative
11. Mr. Chan-Ho CHOI, General Manager, NACF, Korea - Regional Director Select
12. Mr. Kwang-Seok HONG, NACF, Korea - Accompanying Delegate
13. Mr. Kyu-Ha YEON, NACF, Korea - Accompanying Delegate
14. Dr. Gopal N Saxena, Director (Coop Dev.), IFFCO - Accompanying Delegate
15. Mr. Nasir Khan Yahaya, ANGKASA - Accompanying Delegate
16. Mr. Soeryo Bawono, DEKOPIN, Indonesia - Accompanying Delegate
17. Mr. Phanuwat Wanraway, CLT, Thailand - Accompanying Delegate
18. Mr. Iain Macdonald, Director General, ICA - Special Invitee
19. Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA-AP
20. Mr. Rajiv I.D. Mehta, Deputy Regional Director, ICA-AP

### *Opening Remarks by the President, ICA-AP*

Mr. Li Chunsheng extended a hearty welcome to all the participants. Citing reasons for the Special Regional Board Meeting, he referred to the election of Global ICA Board Members in the forthcoming General Assembly in Geneva and recruitment of Regional Director following the retirement of Mr. Shil Kwan Lee by the end of this year.

He further elaborated the need of improved representation of Asia-Pacific region in the Global Board and also explained the process adopted for the recruitment of Regional Director.

He extended a special thanks to the Director General of ICA for having made it possible to attend the Special Board Meeting and also for facilitating selection of new Regional Director.

### *Approval of the Minutes of last RB meeting in Japan*

Minutes of the last meeting of the Regional Board held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009 in Tokyo were approved by the members present.

### *Review of Cooperative Movement in the region*

The country papers on recent cooperative developments in China, India, Indonesia, Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Japan were presented by the following representatives:

1. China by Mr. Li Chunsheng
2. India by Mr. G.H. Amin

3. Indonesia by Mr. Adi Sasono
4. Korea by Mr. Won-Byung CHOI
5. Singapore by Mr. Zulkifli Mohammed
6. Malaysia by Mr. Ismail Bin Nordin
7. Thailand by Mr. Mongkalut Pukanut
8. Japan by Ms. Hitomi Tanaka.

Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked the members for making the presentations and requested the members of the ICA Global Board from the region for their contribution and thoughts.

Mr. S.K. Jakhar, Chairman, IFFCO thanked the ACFSMC leadership for hosting the special RB meeting. While showing his happiness over the immunity of coops from the ill effects of global economic recession he conveyed his serious concerns on various types of natural disasters that had posed a serious threat to the agriculturists in the affected countries. India was one among them where the erratic and untimely rainfall had reduced the sown farm area causing sharp decline in the agriculture production in the ensuing season. Cooperatives would be most affected and vulnerable and there was a need to ponder over the problem. He asked ICA to organize subject specific brainstorming to find a new system of sharing from each others' lessons and experiences.

Mr. Naoki Higuchi, Deputy General Manager, JA Zenchu mentioned about the JA National Congress that was held recently on 8<sup>th</sup> October and attended by more than 4,000 delegates from Japan. The Congress had discussed new strategy for agri coops in Japan in the background of new government in Japan. The Congress had unequivocally agreed to the need of rejuvenating agri coop movement in Japan. The Congress had also taken serious view on the global economic crisis and impact on coops in Japan.

#### *Discussions on 2010 Activities of ICA-AP*

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee first presented the progress made against the activity plan for 2009 and then briefed on the activities planned for the rest of 2009. He thereafter assured the members that the suggestions made by them would be incorporated in the 2010 plan of ICA-AP. The draft activity plan for the year 2010 would be ready by mid of November for the approval of Regional Board and the final 2010 plan duly aligned with the ICA global plan would be ready by mid of December 2009. The year 2010 would have some additional member centric activities through the newly inducted members from Kazakhstan and Tajikistan in the CIS sub-region of ICA-AP and Mongolia in the Central Asian sub-region.

Mr. G.H. Amin advised the Regional Director to ensure timely monitoring and evaluation of the activities for greater impact. The Director General while appreciating the need of impact assessment hailed the activities of ICA-AP region and appreciated the role of Regional Director and the Deputy Regional Director together with their efficient team.

Mr. Adi Sasono, President, DEKOPIN, Indonesia conveyed the decision of DEKOPIN to organize international seminar on Food security & Bio-energy in Jakarta in the first week of December 2009 and extended warm invitation to all the members present. He asked ICA AP to incorporate this activity in the 2009 plan of ICA-AP. Similarly, Dr. Saxena informed about the special seminar of ICA AP Research Committee in New Delhi on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> October in Gurgaon (India) and advised ICA-AP to include it in the 2009 activity schedule.

#### **Governance Agenda**

##### *General Assembly in November 2009 in Geneva*

DG, Mr. Macdonald shared detailed information on the programs and events during the course of ICA GA in Geneva in November 2009. He asked the Members of the RB and the staff of ICA-AP to expedite registration of the delegates from the Asia Pacific region.

### *Election of the members of ICA Global Board*

Concerning the constitution of the Global Board of ICA, the Chairman ICA-AP RB Mr. Li Chunsheng referred to the membership power and accordingly sought opinion of the RB Members on the need of issuing a statement on the rights of the members to vote according to the voting system and vote in favour of the nominees from the AP region so as to have greater representation of the cooperatives from the region in the larger interest of the cooperative community from the biggest and fastest growing region of the world. He also asked RD to issue a letter to all the prospective nominees advising them to prepare a small introductory speech for two minutes at the GA to impress upon the representatives of the ICA Members from the world about their suitability and utility at the ICA Global Board. Mr. Amin seconded the proposal and advised RD to issue the letters to all the members of ICA from the Asia Pacific region.

Mr. Higuchi asked the RD to make sure that the voting system is properly understood by the members.

Mr. Zulkifli stated the need of assessing the prospects of each nominee and accordingly issuing an advisory to weaker candidates to withdraw so as to strengthen the chances of other strong candidates.

Mr. Lee agreed with the advice of Mr. Higuchi and sought opinion of the members on the suggestion made by Mr. Zulkifli.

Mr. Lee thereafter reiterated the need of more seats in the ICA Global Board from the Asia Pacific region and besides called upon the members of the RB to even look for new DG from the Asia Pacific region subsequent to retirement of Mr. Macdonald by the mid of next year.

Responding to the suggestion of Mr. Lee, the DG Mr. Macdonald appreciated the feelings of RD on the Eurocentric Global Board of ICA and supported the idea of Mr. Lee about the DG from this region. He further substantiated it by saying that changes are on the anvil and when ICA could have first woman President then why not a new DG from AP region.

### *Appointment of Regional Director of ICA-AP*

Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked the ICA Director General for working hard on the recruitment process of the Region Director for the ICA Asia Pacific region.

The Director General after having shared the details about the process adopted for the recruitment of Regional Director announced the name of **Mr. Chan Ho Choi** as the next Regional Director of ICA-AP with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010. He congratulated Mr. CHOI on his selection. All the board members endorsed his appointment.

Mr. Chan Ho Choi addressed the members of the Regional Board and committed to serve ICA on the lines of the Strategic Objectives set for the ICA.

### *2010 Regional Assembly of ICA-AP*

Highlighting 2010 important activities in the region, Mr. Lee mentioned about the ICA Expo 2010 in India in December 2010 and ICA-AP Regional Assembly in China in September 2010. He proposed to hold Coop-Government Dialogue together with the ICA-AP Regional Assembly and Coop Forum to follow the implementation of the steps pronounced in the 8<sup>th</sup> Ministers Conference Declaration held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in March 2007. He sought the opinion of the members in due course of time so as to finalize the schedule of events in China in 2010.

Mr. Li Chunsheng appreciated the functioning of the Regional Office and agreed to the proposal put forth by the Regional Director and also agreed to the suggestions made by Members of the RB.

Mr. Macdonald further added the need of inter-regional coordination and collaboration for learning from each other's experiences.

#### **Any other business matter**

##### *Earthquake in Indonesia*

Mr. Adi Sasono gave a brief account of the devastation caused by earthquake last month in Indonesia. He was requested by the Regional Director to send broad figures on the damage caused to cooperatives and type of assistance required to restart the operations of coops.

##### *UN General Assembly – Year of Cooperatives*

DG informed the delegates that the global economic crisis had shaken the confidence of investors and consumers in profiteering corporate structures thereby opening the doors for value based economic models. The UN had accordingly launched a campaign to declare 2012, the Year of Cooperatives. The UN General Assembly would be soon making a formal decision to this effect and the scope and value of cooperatives would grow many folds.

##### *Next Meeting of the Regional Board*

The next meeting of the Regional Board would be held in Geneva on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

The Special Regional Board meeting concluded with thanks to the Chair and the ACFSMC for making all out efforts in seeing to the comfort and convenience of the delegates.

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**Minutes of the ICA-AP Regional Board Meeting held at**  
International Convention Center, Geneva (Switzerland)  
18<sup>th</sup> November 2009: 09:00~13:00 hours

Meeting of the ICA-AP Regional Board was held in Geneva on Thursday, the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009. Following leaders and the officials attended the meeting.

- 01 Mr. Li Chunsheng, ACFSMC, China - Chairperson
- 02 Mr. G.H. Amin, NCUI, India - Vice Chairperson
- 03 Mr. Haruyoshi Amano, JCCU, Japan - Representative - Vice Chairperson Ms. Tanaka
- 04 Mr. Won-Byung CHOI, NACF, Korea - Member
- 05 Mr. Surinder Kumar Jakhar, IFFCO - Global Board Member
- 06 Mr. Mongkalut Pukanut, CLT, Thailand - Member
- 07 Prof Dr Mohammed Ali Baharum, President, ANGKASA, Malaysia - Member
- 08 Mr. Nguyen Van Bien, Vice President, VCA, Vietnam - Alternate Member
- 09 Ms. Dolly Goh, CEO, SNCF - Representative of Mr. Chan Tee Seng, President, SNCF, Singapore - Member
- 10 Mr. Seah Kian Peng, Singapore - Observer
- 11 Mr. M.G.S. Silva, GM, NCC, Sri Lanka - Representative of President, NCC, Sri Lanka - Member
- 12 Mr. N.P. Patel, Vice Chairman, IFFCO, India - Observer
- 13 Mr. D.P. Baskota, Chairman, NCF, Nepal - Observer
- 14 Mr. Iain Macdonald, Director General, ICA
- 15 Mr. Jan Erik Imbsen, Director Development, ICA
- 16 Mr. Chan-Ho CHOI, General Manager, NACF, Korea - Regional Director Select
- 17 Dr. Gopal N Saxena, Director (Coop Dev.), IFFCO - Accompanying Delegate
- 18 Mr. Phanuwat Wanraway, CLT, Thailand - Accompanying Delegate
- 19 Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, Regional Director, ICA-AP
- 20 Mr. Rajiv I.D. Mehta, Deputy Regional Director, ICA-AP

**Agenda Item 01 : Opening Remarks**

In his opening remarks, Mr. Li Chunsheng welcomed all the participating members of the ICA-AP Regional Board. Broaching the objective of the meeting, he highlighted the need of a coordinated action by the members of ICA from the Asia-Pacific region in the voting for election of members for the ICA Global Board. He sought cooperation of the ICA-AP board members in mobilizing effective and meaningful voting by the members from AP region. Mr. Li Chunsheng extended a warm welcome to Ms. Dolly Goh, the Chief Executive of SNCF and introduced her to the members of the regional board.

**Agenda Item 02: Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda of the meeting was approved.

**Agenda Item 03: Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting held in Beijing on 12<sup>th</sup> October**

The minutes of the Special Regional Board Meeting held in Beijing (China) on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2009 were also approved.

**Agenda Item 04: ICA-AP Activities Carried Out/Planned in 2009**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee gave a brief account of the activities carried out by ICA-AP during 2009 until the end of October 2009 and planned for the remaining period. He appreciated the support of IFFCO in supporting special project on women & youth empowerment in Sri Lanka and also supporting pertinent conference on role of cooperatives in mitigating the impact of global economic crisis that was held in July in Bangkok. Referring to termination of the AGRITERRA project, he made a mention about the cooperative law in Laos that would soon be passed by the Parliament. He also made a special mention of Mongolia for its networking initiatives for 2012 as the UN year of cooperatives. He referred to his visits to Kazakhstan and Mongolia and mentioned about three new members of the ICA from central Asia.

Mr. Lee briefed about the need of reconstructing the disaster affected cooperatives in Indonesia and shared the contents of the appeal issued by ICA in this context. Mr. Imbsen referred to the protocol on reconstruction being developed with the NISPED of Israel.

Mr. Seah advised the ICA-AP to motivate Fiji, Australia and New Zealand to participate in the events of ICA.

M. Rajiv Mehta presented a report on the reconstruction support given to cooperatives in Myanmar and highlighted major interventions. Mr. Li Chunsheng desired to have a completion report on the post disaster coop reconstruction program of ICA in Myanmar.

**Agenda Item 05: ICA-AP Financial Report for 2009**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented statement of expenditure incurred by ICA-AP until the end of October 2009.

**Agenda Item 06: ICA-AP Membership Situation**

Mr. Macdonald appreciated the efforts made by Mr. Lee in expanding the membership base of ICA in the Asia-Pacific region. He further advised the ICA-AP office to explore possibilities of bringing Bhutan, Jordan, Yemen, Syria, islands in Fiji and a few more countries from central Asia in the network of ICA.

Mr. Amin, Vice President ICA Asia Pacific endorsed the views of the DG. Highlighting the importance of Arabian countries, Dr. Ali Baharum advised Mr. Lee to induct a staff fluent in Arabic so as to have more members from GCC countries. Mr. Imbsen offered the services of ICA HO staff till the arrangements are made.

Mr. Li Chungsheng also stressed the need of enrolling more members from the AP region of ICA.

**Agenda Item 07: ICA-AP Work Plan/Budget for 2010**

Mr. Shil Kwan Lee presented the first draft of 2010 budget and activity plan of ICA-AP.

Mr. Jakhar advised ICA-AP to pay more attention on Agriculture cooperatives and sought support of ICA-AP in facilitating a pilot initiative of MARKFED, Punjab to import agriculture machinery from Korea at a subsidized rate. Mr. Choi, Chairman of NACF proposed to set up a machinery bank for the coops.

Mr. Pukanut, Chairman of CLT stressed the need of educating leaders, bureaucrats and members of coop community in Laos and Cambodia to learn about Thai model of cooperatives so as to wash away their notion about government controlled coops.

Dr. Ali Baharum desired to have real trade facilitation by ICA-AP and advised a special supplement on trade on the ICA-AP website.

Answering the question posed by a few board members about the membership fee distribution between HO and Regional Office, the DG replied that by 2012 the percentage share will be 50:50 between the HO and RO.

**Agenda Item 08: Election of the Members of ICA Global Board**

The election procedure was briefly explained by the DG. Mr. Lee requested all the members of the board to do canvassing for the candidates from AP region and elect them.

**Agenda Item 09: ICA-AP Regional Assembly, Beijing, September 2010**

Mr. Li Chunsheng made an impressive presentation on the 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly of ICA-AP in Beijing (China) in September 2010.

**Agenda Item 10: Other Business Matters Arising**

Mr. Baskota expressed the need of a larger representation of Asia-Pacific in the Global Board of ICA.

Mr. Lee informed the members of the Regional Board about the proposal of Iran to host next Ministers' Conference on Cooperative Policy & Legislation. The members advised RD to take the decision after carefully consulting the Iranian authorities.

Mr. Lee sought permission of the Chair to say good bye with a special thanks to the RB members. He expressed his deep sense of appreciation to all the members of ICA from the region for their kind support and cooperation in making his tenure quite successful and rewarding. He advised the leadership of the region to take coops a step higher by taking best advantage of the Asianization process. He reposed his confidence in the team of ICA Asia Pacific. Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked Mr. Lee for his good role and requested him to share his valuable experiences with Dr. Choi in making this region progress continuously.

Referring to the amendments to the ICA-AP rules, Mr. Li Chunsheng asked Regional Office to submit it to the Regional Board for authorization and seek approval of Regional Assembly.

**Agenda Item 11: Date and Place of Next Meeting**

Next meeting of the ICA AP Regional Board was fixed for early April 2010 in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

## Minutes of the ICA-AP Regional Board Meeting

Seoul (Republic of Korea): 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010

The meeting of the ICA-AP Regional Board was held at the premises of National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) in Seoul on Monday, the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010 from 09:30 to 16:30 hours. Following members attended the meeting:

1. Mr. Li Chunsheng, ACFSMC, China - Chairperson
2. Ms. Hitomi Tanaka, JCCU, Japan - Vice Chairperson
3. Mr. G.H. Amin, NCUI, India - Vice Chairperson
4. Mr. Benny A. Kusbini, DEKOPIN, Indonesia - Alternate Member
5. Mr. Won-Byung Choi, NACF, Korea - Member
6. Prof. Data Dr. Mod. Ali Baharum, ANGKASA, Malaysia - Member
7. Mr. Artemio M. Jose, NATCCO, Philippines - Alternate Member
8. Mr. Chan Tee Seng, SNCF, Singapore - Member
9. Mr. Bandupala Ranaweka, NCC, Sri Lanka - Member
10. Mr. Mongkalut Pukanut, CLT, Thailand - Member
11. Dr. Nguyen Tien Quan, VCA, Vietnam - Member
12. Mr. Surinder Kumar Jakhar, IFFCO - ICA Global Board Member
13. Mr. Hiroshi Tsuchiya, JA-ZENCHU, Japan - Observer
14. Mr. Nobumasa Kitajima, APHCO, Japan - Observer
15. Mr. Mr. Luxiao Hao, ACFSMC, China - Observer
16. Mr. Zhang Wangshu, ACFSMC, China - Observer
17. Mr. Li Shun, ACFSMC, China - Interpreter
18. Dr. Gopal N Saxena, IFFCO, India - Observer
19. Mr. Bachrul Chairi, DEKOPIN, Indonesia - Observer
20. Ms. Makiko Sakurai, JCCU, Japan - Interpreter
21. Mr. Sang Chul Kim, NACF, Korea - Observer
22. Mr. Phanuwat Wanraway, CLT, Thailand - Interpreter
23. Mr. Hoang Nghia Trung, VCA, Vietnam - Interpreter
24. Mr. Chan-Ho Choi, RD, ICA-AP
25. Mr. Rajiv I.D. Mehta, DRD, ICA-AP
26. Mr. K. Sethu Madhavan, ICA-AP

### Agenda Item 01 : Opening Remarks

Mr. Won-Byung Choi, Chairman of National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) thanked the members for accepting the invitation and coming to attend the Regional Board Meeting in Seoul. He said that NACF had made good arrangements for the meeting. He specially thanked Mr. Li Chunsheng and Dr. Chan Ho Choi for holding the Regional Board meeting in Seoul. He wished the participants a fruitful meeting and a comfortable and memorable stay in Seoul.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Li Chunsheng welcomed all the participating members of the ICA-AP Regional Board. He also extended a warm welcome to Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, former Regional Director of ICA-AP; Mr. Hiroshi Tsuchiya, Executive Director of JA-ZENCHU, Japan and Mr. S.K. Jakhar, ICA Global Board Member for having made it possible to attend the meeting in Seoul. He said that we were meeting after six months and lot of changes had taken place since then. He informed the meeting that Indonesian Cooperative Council (DEKOPIN) had constituted a new board and Mr. H.A.M. Nurdin Halid was elected as President of DEKOPIN. Since Mr. Halid was very busy he had sent Mr. Benny A. Kusbini, the Vice President of International Relations to this meeting. Mr. Benny introduced himself and thanked the Chairman. Mr. Li Chunsheng requested Mr. Benny to convey the best wishes of Regional Board to the new President of DEKOPIN.

Dr. Chan Ho Choi extended a warm welcome to the members of ICA-AP Regional Board. He specially thanked Mr. Hiroshi Tsuchiya, Executive Director of JA-ZENCHU and Mr. S.K. Jakhar, ICA Global Board Member for making it possible to attend the meeting.

**Agenda Item 02: Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Li Chunsheng invited views and comments of the members on the Agenda. The Agenda of the meeting was unanimously approved.

**Agenda Item 03: Confirmation of the Minutes of the last meeting held in Geneva on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

Dr. Chan Ho Choi informed the meeting that the minutes of the Regional Board meeting held in Geneva (Switzerland) on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2009 were circulated among the members and no comments/suggestions were received. The minutes were confirmed.

**Agenda Item 04: Plan and Progress of ICA-AP Activities in 2010**

Dr. Chan Ho Choi gave a brief account of the activities carried out by ICA-AP from January to March and scheduled for the remaining period of 2010. He also presented the ICA-AP budget for 2010. He said that a surplus of CHF 2,048 was expected during the year 2010.

Mr. Pukanut from Thailand stressed the need of educating leaders, bureaucrats and members of coop community in Laos and Cambodia to learn about Thai model of cooperatives and wash away their notion about government controlled coops.

The members thanked the Regional Director and his staff for planning so many important activities during 2010.

**Agenda Item 05: ICA-AP Financial Report for 2009**

Dr. Chan Ho Choi presented the financial report of ICA-AP for the year 2009. The members noted that there was a surplus of CHF 1,330 in Delhi office for the year 2009. All members expressed happiness with regard to the outstanding performance and positive financial results of ICA-AP.

Dr. Choi also presented the details of contribution received from development partners/members for the year 2009. He thanked the members for their contribution in kind for organizing various activities. He also informed the meeting that the JCCU had seconded a person at Singapore Business Office and NCUI had seconded a person at New Delhi office.

Responding to above, Dr. G.N. Saxena said that we should also thank NACF for the secondment of Dr. Chan Ho Choi at New Delhi. He, however, requested Dr. Choi to reflect the RD's salary contribution made by NACF in the financial report of ICA-AP.

Dr. Choi responded that the NACF was providing special contribution of US\$ 30,000 to ICA-AP for special activities instead of salary.

**Agenda Item 06: ICA-AP Membership Situation**

Dr. Chan Ho Choi informed the meeting that the following five organizations were admitted into ICA Membership since last Regional Board Meeting. (a) All China Federation of Handicraft and Industrial

Cooperatives (ACFHIC); (b) International Committee for the Promotion of Chinese Industrial Cooperatives (ICCIC); (c) Korean Association of Social Economy Enterprises (KASSE); (d) Iran Oilseeds and Vegetable Oil Processing Factories Cooperative Company (Farda Co.); and (e) Supervision and Coordination Central Union of Rural and Agricultural Cooperatives of Iran (SCURA). The total membership of ICA-AP as such was 69 member organizations from 25 countries.

He also informed the meeting that China Fisheries Association (CFA) and VICTO National of the Philippines had applied for membership of ICA.

Highlighting the importance of Arabian countries, Dr. Ali Baharum advised Dr. Choi to induct a staff fluent in Arabic so as to have more members from GCC countries.

The members appreciated the efforts made by Dr. Choi in expanding the membership base of ICA in the Asia-Pacific region.

#### **Agenda Item 07: Discussion on Rules of the ICA-Asia and Pacific**

Mr. Rajiv I.D. Mehta presented the proposed amendments in the Rules of ICA-AP. He informed that the ICA Governance Committee was given the mandate to review the Rules of the ICA regions so as to ensure that those were in conformity with the ICA Rules approved by the Special 2008 General Assembly held in Rome.

He further informed that ICA Rules being the global rules of the organization carry global significance and therefore the regional rules should be in conformity with the ICA Rules and avoid restating what was found in the ICA Rules – especially with regard to mission statements, membership, powers and responsibilities, etc. This in turn would have the advantage that if and when the ICA Rules were amended by the General Assembly with regard to these issues, the amendments would automatically apply to the regions enabling a consistency in the governance.

Responding to proposed amendments, Mr. Amin said that we should not delete the Articles 2 (Objects); 4 (Membership); 5 (Rights of Member Organizations); 6 (Obligations of Member Organizations); 11 (Powers of Regional Board); and 12 (Regional Director) from the existing Rules of ICA-AP which were approved by the Regional Assembly in Hanoi in 2008. He also referred to the filling up of elected position which should be replaced by election only and not nomination.

Ms. Tanaka said that under Article-9: Regional Director - 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence should be amended as “His/Her” as a woman could also be the Regional Director of ICA-AP in the future. The members unanimously agreed to this suggestion.

Commenting on Article-3 concerning Structure where it was mentioned that a regional office in New Delhi, India and a sub-regional office in Singapore. Dr. Ali Baharum suggested that we should take out the name of the countries since the office could be located anywhere in the region.

Dr. Choi said that the Rules could be amended by the Regional Board and Regional Assembly whenever necessary.

Mr. Li Chunsheng requested the members to send their proposals to the Regional Director and this could be further discussed at the next Regional Board Meeting in Beijing on 1<sup>st</sup> September.

After lunch a video presentation on Introduction of NACF Core Business Activities (marketing, mutual credit, guidance) was made by the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) for the benefit of members. The members appreciated the presentation and a copy of the same was distributed at members’ request.

**Agenda Item 08: Discussion on setting up of a new Committee Asia-Pacific Health Coop Organization (APHCO) and its Constitution**

Mr. Nobumasa Kitajima, Chief of Secretariat of Asia-Pacific Health Cooperative Organization (APHCO) made a presentation about APHCO. He said that at the moment eight countries (Japan, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Korea, Mongolia, India and Malaysia) were members of APHCO.

Dr. Choi said that to become a member of the Committee, the organization had to be a member of the ICA as per ICA Geneva rules. However, at the regional level ICA had not yet taken a decision on this matter. He requested the members to approve the setting up of this Committee and also said that at the next meeting he would bring proposal for Fisheries Committee for the consideration of the Regional Board.

Dr. Saxena said that the ICA global board had not taken a decision on collecting subscription or giving of funds from the central budget to specialized committees and this issue was still pending. So as a rule APHCO might be allowed to collect subscription from members. Likewise, all Committees could be allowed to collect subscription from members.

Dr. Choi said that all Committees should not be treated the same way and ICA-AP would allow new Committees to collect subscription, if they so desire on case by case basis. He also said that the members of the Thematic Committees are mainly from the member organizations and they did not collect any money. But members of all sectoral organizations are not members of ICA.

Mr. Kitajima said that APHCO needed some money for the activities and also to pay to the ICHO subscription.

Mr. Quan said that the rules and structure were not very clear. Dr. Choi suggested that Article 5 and 6 should be inter-changed.

Mr. Kitajima said that he would report it to the APHCO Board. Mr. Kitajima was further requested to submit the revised Rules at the Regional Board meeting in Beijing for its consideration.

**Agenda Item 09: Discussion on Important Events in the Year 2010**

*ICA-AP Regional Assembly, Beijing, September*

Dr. Chan Ho Choi informed the meeting that the 9<sup>th</sup> ICA-AP Regional Assembly together with the 6<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Cooperative Forum and other related events would be held at the Beijing International Convention Centre (BICC) in Beijing, China from 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> September 2010 under the auspices of All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives (ACFSMC).

Mr. Zhang Wangshu of ACFSMC made an impressive presentation about the preparations of the Beijing events for the benefit of the members.

A note on the theme of the Assembly/Coop Forum "**Cooperatives-The Sector of Global Importance**" was circulated at the meeting and the members were requested to send their suggestions to ICA-AP as soon as possible.

Mr. Phanuwat said that the members from CLT may be allowed to attend the joint opening ceremony on 3<sup>rd</sup> September without paying the registration fee.

### *ICA Expo 2010, Bangalore (India), 8-10 December*

Dr. Chan Ho Choi informed the meeting that ICA Expo 2010 would be held in Bangalore (India) from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> December 2010 in collaboration with Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative (IFFCO). ICA Expo 2010, as such would be a real opportunity to show our values, achievements, growth, importance and, most of all, highlight how much of a player the Cooperative Movement could be in the global economy.

The first ICA Expo was held in Oct 2008 in Lisbon, Portugal and the event attracted nearly 8,000 visitors. Intended mainly for professionals of the sector, the fair promoted the growth of cooperative business, the practice of inter cooperation among participants and the implementation of strategic alliances.

Dr. Saxena made a brief presentation on the preparations for the ICA Expo 2010. He said that 11 organizations had already confirmed their participation and another 12 organizations were in dialogue with the organizers.

Dr. Choi said that ICA Expo 2010 was very important for networking and requested the members to confirm their participation as soon as possible.

### *UN Declaration on 2012 International Year of Cooperatives*

Dr. Chan Ho Choi informed the members that the 64<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly adopted the resolution - "Cooperatives and social development" - in which it proclaimed the International Year of Cooperatives (IYC) to be celebrated in 2012. A Press Release issued by the United Nations and the ICA declaring 2012 International Year of Cooperatives was circulated at the meeting for the benefit of members. Dr. Choi requested the members to take necessary initiatives on this matter as early as possible.

### *50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ICA-AP (1960-2010)*

Dr. Choi informed the meeting that the year 2010 marks completion of 50 years of ICA-AP and there was every reason to celebrate the history and glory of ICA-AP that had been serving the cooperative members in the biggest and most vibrant region of the world. There would not be a better way to unravel the contributions made by the ICA-AP during last 50 years in this region than releasing a Book containing salient features of ICA's evolution to present form. It was proposed to start 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations at the 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly in Beijing. The culmination of anniversary celebrations would be at the 2<sup>nd</sup> ICA Expo in Bangalore (India) in December 2010.

He further said that it was his keen desire to capture this historic occasion as a launching pad for spreading awareness about the relevance and significance of cooperatives in general and UN Year of Cooperatives-2012 in particular.

### **Agenda Item 10: Other Business Matters Arising**

1. Mr. Rajiv I.D. Mehta presented the Terminal Report on ICA's Cooperative Reconstruction Program for Cyclone Affected Cooperatives in Myanmar. He informed the meeting that the total collection was US\$ 85,790 that was disbursed through Central Cooperative Society (CCA) to identified nine most marginalized primary cooperatives. In addition, two major interventions - the Conference on Cooperative Development in Myanmar and Lessons Learned Workshop were also made jointly by ICA-AP and CCS.

2. On behalf of Japanese Joint Committee (JJC), Mr. Hiroshi Tsuchiya, Executive Director of JA-ZENCHU (Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan) offered to host the next meeting of ICA-AP Regional Assembly in Japan in the last quarter of 2012 for 5 days.



Dr. Choi informed the meeting that last year ICA-AP had approached Japan to host the Regional Assembly in 2010 and at that time they wanted more time to take a final decision. The members accepted the invitation and agreed to put up this issue to the Regional Assembly in Beijing for its approval.

3. The ACFSMC made a presentation on the proposed *International Cooperative Promotion Center of China*. The Center would be operational from 2<sup>nd</sup> half of next year. They hoped to get the cooperation of all members on this matter.

**Agenda Item 11:            Date and Place of Next Meeting**

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the ICA-AP Regional Board in Beijing (China) in the forenoon of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010 in conjunction with the ICA-AP Regional Assembly.

Mr. Li Chunsheng thanked the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) of Korea for making excellent arrangements for the meeting and the kind hospitality.

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

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**ANNEXURE-3**  
Rules of ICA-Asia and Pacific

## RULES OF ICA-ASIA AND PACIFIC

*(Existing Rules are approved by ICA-AP Regional Assembly in Hanoi on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2008)*

EXISTING RULES	CHANGES PROPOSED
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article 1: Mission Statement</b></p> <p>The International Cooperative Alliance - Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP) shall strive to promote and strengthen the Cooperative Movement in the Asia-Pacific region in the spirit of ICA Cooperative Identity Statement (ICIS).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article 2: Objects</b></p> <p>ICA-AP is a regional representative of cooperative organizations of all kinds that has the following objects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To promote the cooperative movement in Asia-Pacific region and facilitate its global integration;</li> <li>2. To promote and protect cooperative values and principles;</li> <li>3. To facilitate the development of economic and other mutually beneficial relations among its member organizations; and</li> <li>4. To promote sustainable human development and gender equity to further the economic and social progress of people, thereby contributing to peace and security in the region.</li> </ol> <p>The ICA-AP shall not affiliate itself to any political or religious organization and shall maintain independence in all its activities.</p>	<p>The International Co-operative Alliance - Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP) is the ICA region that serves members of the International Co-operative Alliance in the Asia and Pacific region.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article-1: Mission Statement</b></p> <p>The ICA-AP shall implement the ICA Mission as stated in the Statutes of the International Co-operative Alliance at the regional level.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article 2: Objects</b></p> <p>The ICA-AP will promote the Objects of the International Co-operative Alliance as stated in the Statutes of the International Co-operative Alliance at the regional level.</p>

<p><b>Article 3: Structure</b></p> <p>The ICA-AP is organized at the regional, sectoral and thematic levels and comprises the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a central office in New Delhi, India</li> <li>• a sub-office in Singapore</li> </ul> <p>The ICA-AP is open to all cooperative organizations in Asia-Pacific region.</p> <p>Regional Assembly is the supreme body of ICA-AP and all the decisions are monitored and supervised by the elected Regional Board.</p> <p>The Regional Director through a team of technical staff implements the plans and actions approved by the Regional Assembly.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article 4: Membership</b></p> <p>The decision to admit to membership of the ICA lies with the ICA Global Board. Organizations are eligible for two types of membership: (a) <b>Members</b> (full members with voting rights); and (b) <b>Associate Members</b> (without voting rights). Members of ICA from Asia-Pacific region automatically become members of ICA-AP.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article 5: Rights of Member Organizations</b></p> <p>Subject to fulfillment of financial obligations to ICA, Members and Associate Members have the right to: (a) receive from ICA-AP all appropriate services, information and assist-ance; and (b) participate in any global/ regional sectoral organization or thematic committee of ICA in accordance with its Constitution.</p> <p>Members also have the right to: (a) take part in formulating ICA global/regional policies and work programs of ICA</p>	<p><b>Article 3: Structure</b></p> <p>The ICA-AP is structured at the regional, sectoral and thematic levels and comprises the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a regional office in New Delhi, India</li> <li>• a sub-regional office in Singapore</li> </ul> <p>The ICA-AP serves all ICA members in Asia and Pacific region.</p> <p>The Regional Assembly is the highest authority of ICA-AP and all the decisions are monitored and supervised by the elected Regional Board.</p> <p>The Regional Director through a team of technical staff implements the plans and actions approved by the Regional Assembly.</p> <p>Deleted</p> <p>Deleted</p>
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authorities; and (b) appoint representatives to the ICA General and Regional Assemblies and to nominate candidates for election to the Global/Regional Board.

**Article 6: Obligations of Member Organizations**

Members and Associate Members have the following obligations:

1. To observe the aims and policy of ICA and ICA-AP and to conform in its activity to the ICA Cooperative Identity Statement;
2. To take all such actions as may be recommended by the Authorities of ICA-AP in support of its policy decisions;
3. To supply ICA and ICA-AP with their membership data, annual report and a complimentary copy of all its relevant publications, as well as regularly inform ICA and ICA-AP on significant national cooperative developments, changes in its rules and bylaws, and all actions of the public authorities which affect the cooperative moment; and
4. To pay annual subscription to ICA in accordance with ICA Rules.

**Article 7: Regional Authorities**

The regional authorities of ICA-AP are: Regional Assembly, Regional Board and Regional Director.

**Article 8: Regional Assembly**

1. There shall be a Regional Assembly for Asia and Pacific region, consisting of representatives appointed by the ICA member organizations in the region;
2. Regional Assembly, being the highest authority of ICA-AP, deals with the development of cooperatives in the region and

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**Article 4: Regional Authorities**

The regional authorities of ICA-AP are: Regional Assembly, Regional Board and Regional Director.

**Article 5: Regional Assembly**

1. There shall be a Regional Assembly for Asia and Pacific region, consisting of representatives appointed by the ICA members in the region;
2. The Regional Assembly, being the highest authority within the ICA-

formulates policies on major issues beneficial and relevant to the ICA and the cooperative movements in the region;

3. The Regional Assembly shall, as a rule, meet every second year. Extra ordinary meetings of the Regional Assembly may be convened on the decision of the Regional Board or at the request of one-fifth of members; and
4. All questions on which the Regional Assembly votes are decided by a majority of the votes cast, unless specified otherwise. Voting procedures for election shall be in accordance with the ICA Voting Rules

#### **Article 9: Powers of Regional Assembly**

The powers of the Regional Assembly shall be:

1. Implement the decisions of the General Assembly in the region;
2. Approve the ICA Regional Strategic Plan;
3. Elect a maximum of eleven (11) Members to the Regional Board from among the candidates proposed by the member organizations in the Region;
4. The term of office-bearers of the Regional Board is **four** years. In case any elected person ceases to represent or is withdrawn by his/her sponsoring member organization, the sponsoring organization may nominate a replacement for the remaining term and the decision on

AP, is stipulated in the Statutes of the International Co-operative Alliance with the following added provisions;

- a. The Regional Assembly further deals with the development of co-operatives in the region and formulates policies on major issues beneficial and relevant to the ICA-AP and the co-operative movements in the region;
3. The Regional Assembly shall, as a rule, meet every second year. Extra ordinary meetings of the Regional Assembly may be convened on the decision of the Regional Board or at the request of one-fifth of members;
4. All questions on which the Regional Assembly votes are decided by a majority of the votes cast, unless specified otherwise. Voting procedures for election shall be in accordance with the ICA Bye-Laws.

#### **Article 6: Powers of Regional Assembly**

The powers of the Regional Assembly are stipulated in the Statutes of the International Co-operative Alliance with the following additional provisions.

1. The President of the region shall, as a rule, be the **Chairperson** of the Regional Assembly and the Regional Board;
2. The Regional Assembly shall elect **two** Vice Chairpersons, one of whom shall preferably be a woman. They shall also be the Vice Chairpersons of the Regional Assembly;
3. The Regional Assembly shall establish Sectoral and Thematic Committees at the regional level and approve their Constitutions.

the replacement rests with the Regional Board;

5. Draw up business procedures and representation rules for the ICA-AP, subject to approval by the General Assembly; and
6. Establish Sectoral Organizations and Thematic Committees and approve their Constitutions.

#### **Article 10: Regional Board**

1. There shall be a Regional Board consisting of a Chairperson, two Vice Chairpersons and eight Members elected by the Regional Assembly. Not more than one person from one country can be elected to the Regional Board;
2. Elect a person as **President** of the region who shall also serve as global ICA Vice-President, subject to ratification by the General Assembly. The President of the region shall, as a rule, be the **Chairperson** of the Regional Assembly and the Regional Board. The person to be eligible for election as President of the region must have served on one or more ICA governing bodies for at least two years;
3. Elect two Vice Chairpersons, one of whom shall preferably be a woman. They shall also be Vice Chairpersons of the Regional Assembly;
4. A Youth Representative shall be co-opted in the Regional Board. The Asia Pacific members of the ICA Board who are not members of the Regional Board, shall have the right to attend and speak at the Regional Board;
5. No person shall be entitled to serve on the Board whose organization has ceased affiliation with the ICA;
6. A quorum of the Board shall be

#### **Article 7: Regional Board**

1. There shall be a Regional Board of **11** persons consisting of a Chairperson, two Vice Chairpersons and eight Members elected by the Regional Assembly. Not more than one person from one country can be elected to the Regional Board;
2. The term of office-bearers of the Regional Board is **4** years. In case any elected person ceases to represent or is withdrawn by his/her sponsor, the sponsor may nominate a replacement for the remaining term and the decision on the replacement rests with the Regional Board;
3. A Youth Representative shall be co-opted in the Regional Board. The Asia and Pacific members of the ICA Board who are not members of the Regional Board, shall have the right to attend and speak at the Regional Board;
4. No person shall be entitled to serve on the Board whose has ceased affiliation with the ICA;
5. A quorum of the Board shall be constituted when more than half of its members are present. Acceptance of a resolution shall be on a two-third majority of members present and voting;

constituted when more than half of its members are present. Acceptance of a resolution shall be on a two-third majority of members present and voting;

7. Each member of the Board shall be entitled to one vote;
8. Formulate rules for the election of regional board members and office bearers;
9. To manage the affairs of ICA-AP between the meetings of the Regional Assembly;
10. The Board shall meet at least once a year. The meetings shall be convened by the President or at the request of one-third of the members; and
11. The Regional Director of ICA-AP shall be the Secretary of the Regional Board.

#### **Article 11: Powers of Regional Board**

The powers of the Regional Board shall be:

1. To work within the ICA Strategic Plan and decisions laid down by the Regional Assembly;
2. To convene the meeting of the Regional Assembly;
3. To reinforce member organizations' active participation in ICA activities in the region;
4. To promote sustainable cooperative development in the region;
5. To build relations between other bodies of the ICA;
6. To enhance the image of ICA and the cooperative movements within the region;
7. To establish committees and working groups where appropriate;

6. Each member of the Board shall be entitled to one vote;
7. The Board shall meet at least once a year. The meetings shall be convened by the President or at the request of one-third of the members;
8. The Regional Director of ICA-AP shall be the Secretary of the Regional Board.

#### **Article 8: Powers of Regional Board**

The powers of the Regional Board are stipulated in the Statutes of the International Co-operative Alliance.



8. To provide recommendations on membership issues from the region to the ICA Board;
9. To be responsible for appointment of the Regional Director In conjunction with the ICA Director-General; and
10. To approve the annual work plan/ budget prepared by the Regional Director before submitting to the Director-General for integration into the global work plan/budget.

**Article 12: Regional Director**

The Regional Director shall be responsible for:

1. Promotion and protection of cooperative values and principles at the regional level;
2. Implementation of ICA Strategic Plan within the region;
3. Representation on request of member organizations on policy concerns to governmental bodies and the public;
4. Organization of the Regional Assembly and support elected bodies;
5. Recruitment of staff at ICA-AP;
6. Carrying out any other activities as may be requested by the Director-General or Regional Board; and
7. Submitting annual work program and budget, as approved by the Regional Board, to the Director-General for inclusion in the overall global budget of the ICA.

**Article 13: Sectoral Organisations**

1. The Regional Assembly may establish or dissolve Sectoral Organisations and Thematic

**Article 9: Regional Director**

The Regional Director is the Chief Executive of the Asia and Pacific region. His/Her responsibilities are stipulated in the Rules of the International Co-operative Alliance.

**Article 10: Sectoral and Thematic Committees**

1. The Regional Assembly may establish or dissolve Sectoral and

Committees;

2. Regional Sectoral Organizations may be established in areas of economic and social activity of cooperatives as considered desirable;
3. Regional Thematic Committees may be established based on requirements of the region; and
4. The sectoral organizations and thematic committees will draw up rules for approval by the Regional Assembly. They will work within the Regional Strategic Plan and will submit annual work plans/ budgets to the Regional Director.

#### **Article 14: Official Language**

The official language of the Regional Assembly/ Regional Board is English. Delegates using other than English shall arrange their own interpreters.

#### **Article 15: Finance**

1. The delegates or their sponsoring organisations shall be responsible for covering the expenses of their participation at the Regional Assembly/ Regional Board;
2. Participation in the Regional Assembly and other related meetings will be subject to payment of Registration Fee as prescribed by the Regional Board;
3. In line with ICA tradition, Regional Assembly shall be hosted by the member organisations in the region who may take care of logistic and other related costs as mutually agreed upon; &
4. The budget and financial resources for implementing the work plan of ICA-AP

Thematic Committees;

2. Regional Sectoral Committees may be established in areas of economic and social activity of co-operatives as considered desirable;
3. Regional Thematic Committees may be established based on requirements of the region;
4. The sectoral and thematic committees will draw up rules for approval by the Regional Assembly. They will work within the Regional Strategic Plan and will submit annual work plans/ budgets to the Regional Director.

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3. In line with ICA tradition, Regional Assembly shall be hosted by the member organisations in the region who may take care of logistic and other related costs as mutually

<p>shall be derived from the following sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-distribution of membership subscription to the region;</li> <li>• Funds provided through agreements with development agencies including governmental organizations;</li> <li>• Special contributions and income from other sources.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article 16: Others</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Amendments to these Rules and any subsequent alterations shall be subject to the approval by the Regional Assembly.</li> <li>2. For all other matters, which are not covered by these Rules, ICA Rules shall apply.</li> </ol>	<p>agreed upon;</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article 13: Others</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Amendments to these Rules and any subsequent alterations shall be subject to the approval by the Regional Assembly;</li> <li>2. For all other matters, which are not covered by these Rules, ICA Statutes shall apply.</li> </ol>
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30<sup>th</sup> April 2010

**ANNEXURE-4**

Report of Important Activities carried out in 2009  
and Progress of ICA-AP Activities in 2010.

## Annexure-4

### Report of Important Activities Carried out in 2009

1. **Dr. Hosseini Nia**, Deputy Minister of Cooperatives, Islamic Republic of Iran along with 20 officials of most successful cooperatives from Iran visited ICA-AP in January 2009 to have meeting with the Regional Director. The main objective of the visit was to understand the collaboration between Government and Cooperative Movement for the development of cooperatives.
2. **Mr. Ivano Barberini**, President of ICA visited India from 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> February 2009 in response to the invitations extended by Hon'ble Captain Kanwal Jeet Singh, Cooperative Minister of Punjab, Government of Punjab to inaugurate the National Conference on **Revival of Rural Cooperative Credit in India** in Chandigarh on 9<sup>th</sup> February and Mr. G.H. Amin, President of NCUI to deliver Vaikunth Bhai Mehta Memorial Lecture in New Delhi on 12<sup>th</sup> February. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between ICA and the Punjab Government to establish an International Centre for Promotion and Development of Cooperatives in Punjab. Mr. Barberini also delivered the 15<sup>th</sup> Vaikunthbhai Mehta Memorial Lecture on **Role of Cooperatives in Economic Recession** at NCUI auditorium on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2009 which was organized by NCUI.
3. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Training Course on **Enhancement of Farmers' Income and Poverty Reduction through Cooperatives** was held in India/ Iran/Japan from 8<sup>th</sup> January to 18<sup>th</sup> April in collaboration with IFFCO in India, ICC in Iran and JA ZENCHU/IDACA in Japan. Twelve participants from 9 countries attended the Training Course. The focus of the Course was on strengthening of farm guidance method, joint collection, shipment, safety and improvement in quality of farm products aimed at increasing farmers' income as a new development for the training course.
4. A Conference on Consumer Cooperative Profile Raising was held in Colombo (Sri Lanka) from 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> March in collaboration with Consumer Cooperative Societies Federation of Sri Lanka (COOPFED). Around 50 participants from Sri Lanka attended the Conference.
5. A joint workshop on Development of Consumer Cooperatives was held in Vietnam on 8-9 April in collaboration with Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA). 45 leaders from 15 cooperatives of Thua Thien Hue Province attended the workshop. The objective of the workshop was to improve the knowledge and skills on business of consumer cooperatives especially in the context of current global economic recession.
6. The Regional Director visited the following organizations in Japan from 20-23 April to hold discussions on various activities: Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA); Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union (JCCU); and National Federation of University Cooperative Associations (NFUCA). He also participated in the inaugural ceremony of the new building of JA-ZENCHU (Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives).
7. With the support of ICA-AP a joint international workshop for cooperative rural financial services in Asia-Pacific region was organized by ACFSMC and Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Development (NISPED) of Israel in Shandong Province of China from 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April. About 30 participants including three international participants from Israel, Mongolia, Nepal and Vietnam attended the workshop.
8. The Regional Director attended the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of Asian Development Bank (ADB) held in Bali (Indonesia) from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> May 2009.
9. ICA-AP supported the organization of a national seminar on Finalization of Cooperative Decree to provide legal framework for cooperatives in Laos. The seminar was organized from 18<sup>th</sup> to

20<sup>th</sup> May in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAFF) of Laos. Nearly 50 participants attended the seminar.

10. The Ministry of Social Affairs in Saudi Arabia organized The Cooperative Societies Forum in Riyadh from 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> May with the objective of promoting the scope and potential of cooperatives in the biggest country in the GCC sub-region. ICA was invited to the Forum to add a global perspective to the deliberations at the Forum. It was attended by more than 150 delegates from Saudi Arabia and other countries of the GCC sub-region like UAE, Kuwait, Yemen, Bahrain and Oman.

11. The meeting of ICA-AP Regional Board was held in Tokyo (Japan) on 1<sup>st</sup> June followed by field visits on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. The meeting reviewed the work plan for 2009 and membership issues. The members presented the latest status of cooperative development in their respective countries. A presentation on International Accounting Standards was also made for the benefit of the members. The next meeting of the Regional Board will be held in Geneva on 17<sup>th</sup> November in conjunction with the ICA General Assembly.

12. The Regional Director, Mr. Shil Kwan Lee, visited Kazakhstan from 9-12 June. The purpose of his visit was to hold discussions with Union of Consumer Societies on strengthening the role of ICA-AP for cooperative development in Central Asia.

13. An ICA Conference on Cooperative Development was organized in Myanmar from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> June in collaboration with the Central Cooperative Society (CCS). The objective of the conference was to garner policy support from the Government of Myanmar for promoting cooperatives as an alternative of significance. More than 70 participants attended the conference.

14. The Regional Director also visited Mongolia from 23-27 June. He held detailed discussions with the President and senior officers of National Association of Mongolian Agricultural Cooperatives (NAMAC). As a result of his visit, NAMAC has applied for membership of ICA.

15. A workshop on Management Capacity Building of Women for Cooperative Development was held in Malaysia from 29<sup>th</sup> June to 3<sup>rd</sup> July in collaboration with ANGKASA. 50 participants (including 4 persons from China, Philippines and Vietnam), both men and women cooperative leaders and trainers attended the workshop.

16. A conference on Enhanced Role of Cooperatives in Recovery from the Economic Crisis was organized by ICA-AP in collaboration with Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT) and Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative (IFFCO) in Bangkok from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> July. The objective was creating a shared vision on the scope and role of cooperatives in the global economic crisis so as to devise a common strategy to REPOSITION cooperatives as preferred form of enterprises and Global Alternative of Significance. 75 participants from Cooperatives and Governments of 16 countries in the Asia-Pacific region attended the conference.

17. A national workshop on Development of University/Campus Cooperatives was organized by NFUCA in Thailand from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> July in collaboration with Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT). The workshop was attended by more than 70 participants from Thailand. The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the University/Campus Cooperative Committee was also held in Thailand and that was attended by 15 members from seven countries.

18. The 1<sup>st</sup> Training Course of 2009 on Capacity Building for Marketing was held in Japan from 28<sup>th</sup> July to 22<sup>nd</sup> August in collaboration with JA-ZENCHU and IDACA. 18 participants attended the training course. The training course was designed to give participants the skills to help organize the marketing activities of primary cooperatives in their own countries.

19. The ICA-AP in collaboration with the JA-ZENCHU and IDACA held the 4<sup>th</sup> Training Course on "Promotion of Sustainable Enterprises for Rural Women" from 20<sup>th</sup> August to 25<sup>th</sup> September in Vietnam and Japan. Twelve women participants from six countries attended the Training Course.

The main objectives of the Training Course were (a) to learn methods of enterprise development by rural women through case studies; (b) to study management methods of micro-enterprises by rural women; and (c) to learn methods of encouraging women to be involved in rural communities' development.

20. The 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Workshop for Managers on Management of Consumer Cooperatives was held in Singapore from 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> August. The workshop was hosted by the Singapore National Cooperative Federation (SNCF) and supported by NTUC FairPrice. 17 managers of consumer cooperatives from four countries (Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam) participated in the three-day workshop.

21. A Workshop on Enhancing Role of Women in Cooperative Business was held in the Philippines from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> September in collaboration with NATCCO. 15 participants from five countries attended the workshop.

22. A joint workshop on Enhanced Cooperative Role in Rural Development was held by ICA-AP in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September in collaboration with the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF). 11 participants from five countries (India, Iran, Mongolia, Philippines and Vietnam) attended the workshop.

23. The Summit of Asian Economic Cooperative Organization was held by All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives (ACFSMC) in Nanning from 20<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> October in collaboration with ICA-AP. 9 cooperative leaders from other Asian countries attended the Summit together with Chinese cooperative leaders.

24. The special meeting of ICA-AP Regional Board was held in Beijing (China) on 12<sup>th</sup> October followed by field visits on 13<sup>th</sup> October. The meeting discussed the following: election of global board members from Asia-Pacific region; work plan for 2010; 2010 regional assembly; and appointment of new regional director. The selection committee, comprising with ICA DG, Mr. Iain Macdonald, having interviewed the six short-listed candidates, selected Dr. Chan Ho CHOI as new Regional Director. The members presented the latest status of cooperative development in their respective countries. It was decided that the next meeting of the Regional Board will be held in Geneva on 18<sup>th</sup> November in conjunction with the ICA General Assembly.

25. A Seminar of ASEAN Agricultural Industrialization Management was held by All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives (ACFSMC) from 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> October in Guilin (China).

26. A seminar on "Cooperatives a Better Business Model: Emerging Opportunities" was held at FMDI, Gurgaon (India) from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> October in collaboration with Indian Farmers' Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO). 45 participants from 4 countries attended the seminar.

27. As the third stage of China-Israel Cooperative Training Course, Chinese Cooperative Movement sent a 12-member delegation of primary cooperative leaders for a study visit to Israel cooperatives from 24<sup>th</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> November. The key-note speech was delivered by Mr. J.N.L. Srivastava, Ex. Secretary, Agriculture, Government of India. He dwelled upon the values that cooperatives adhere to in terms of developing human capital that remains one of the biggest challenges before societies at large.

28. The 1<sup>st</sup> ICA-SNCF Business Seminar for Cooperative Leaders was held by ICA-AP in Singapore from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> October in collaboration with Singapore National Cooperative Federation (SNCF). 18 cooperative leaders from eight countries attended the seminar. The main objective of this seminar was to provide cooperative leaders, especially from ASEAN countries, with an insight of competitive cooperative business that will catapult their careers even on this global economic crisis and forge and foster camaraderie and integration with the different cooperatives within the region.

29. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Training Course of 2009 on Capacity Building for Marketing was held in Japan from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> November in collaboration with JA-ZENCHU and IDACA. 23 participants from 9 countries attended the training course. The training course was designed to give participants the skills to help organize the marketing activities of primary cooperatives in their own countries.

30. The 43<sup>rd</sup> meeting of ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperatives was held on 9<sup>th</sup> December at Pune (India). 28 participants from Japan, India, Korea, Myanmar, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Vietnam attended the meeting. The meeting was hosted by the National Consumer Cooperative Federation (NCCF) of India. In addition to routine agenda, a special report on Consumer Cooperatives in Korea was presented by iCOOP Korea.

31. The Deputy Regional visited Bangladesh from 21<sup>st</sup> t 24<sup>th</sup> December to meet the newly elected board members of Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union (BJSU) and also to meet the high ranking officials of the government dealing with cooperatives in Bangladesh. The background of the visit was a long silence from the BJSU and their non-participation in many of ICA's important events. They also had not paid their subscription for two years consecutively.

32. ICA-AP organized a training program on "Capacity Building of Women Cooperative Leaders for Entrepreneurship Development" for the women cooperative leaders and extension staff of Ministry of Agriculture, Laos. The training was held from 21-25 December in Vientiane city.

33. ICA-AP along with NCUI and NCCT implemented a project on HIV/AIDS to holistically address and sustain the burden of HIV/AIDS. The 1<sup>st</sup> phase had three critical components - sensitization workshops, training of trainers, and awareness campaigns for the coop leaders. Out of which sensitization workshops were carried out in seven targeted states in India covering 400 cooperative leaders and decision-makers. This initiative of ICA proved to be a serious attempt to provide a platform to the cooperative leaders and policy makers to discuss openly on the facts about the disease and make policy decisions to implement all effective means of prevention.

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## **Progress of ICA-AP Activities in 2010**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Training Course on Enhancement of Farmer' Income and Poverty Reduction through Cooperatives, India, India, Japan, 7<sup>th</sup> January-17<sup>th</sup> April**

This training course was the 4<sup>th</sup> year program by the financial support of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japan, and with the institutional supports and cooperation of the JA-ZENCHU and IDACA. During the 100 days of training, 12 participants from 10 countries, namely China, India, Iran, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam undertook their training course in the 4 institutions/organizations namely FMDI/IFFCO(13days) and IRMA of India (30 days), CURACI of Iran (8days), IDACA of JA-ZENCHU (45 days). As an integral part of the course, participants had to submit their country reports and project proposals for their own use of developments. Therefore it was a comprehensive, integrated and very practical training course for the selected participants, as they evaluated by the participants themselves. A follow up study has been discussed with IDACA and MAFF of Japan so that two parties of cooperative program can assess the effects and things to improve for further development.

### **Exploratory Mission to Iran, 15-18 February**

A delegation consisting ICA-DG Mr. Iain Macdonald, Chan Ho Choi, Regional Director and Mr. Rajiv Mehta visited Iran from 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> February by their invitation. The purpose of the visit was to understand the vision of Islamic Republic of Iran on cooperative and their strategy to increase the share of coops in the GDP. Meetings with Honorable Minister and Dy. Ministers were held on the premise of ICA's technical support to Ministry of Cooperatives in realizing full potential of cooperatives in Iran. The Ministry of Cooperatives sought ICA's support in setting up an international center for cooperative development in Teheran. The Minister of Cooperatives was also proposed to hold the 9<sup>th</sup> Minister's Conference in Iran together with their proposing 'International Coop Trade Exhibition' in the year of 2011.

### **Exploratory Mission to Thailand, 15-16 March**

The Regional Director visited Thailand from 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> March to be acquainted himself to the cooperative movement of Thailand; to sensitize the 2012 UN International Year of Cooperatives and ICA EXPO in December; and to hold discussions with the Chairman and Executive Director of CLT on the regional participation of CLT in the various activities of ICA-AP, especially on the sectoral representations. He also visited CLT's Training Center where he found that there is a great need to make a network among training centers in the Region to share their curriculums, facilities, trainers and visitors.

### **Exploratory Mission to the Philippines, 26-27 March**

The Regional Director also visited the Philippines from 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> March in order to be acquainted himself on the current status; to sensitize the 2012 UN International Year of Cooperatives and ICA EXPO in December; and to hold discussions with the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO) regarding their alternative ICA-AP Board membership. He also met the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of VICTO National in Cebu when they already applied for the ICA membership.

### **ICA-AP Regional Board Meeting, Seoul Korea, 19<sup>th</sup> April**

As seen in the Meeting Minutes important items discussed were: Plan and Progress of ICA-AP Activities in 2010; ICA-AP Financial Report for 2009; ICA-AP Membership Situation; Discussion on Rules of the ICA-Asia and Pacific; Discussion on setting up of a new Committee Asia-Pacific Health Coop Organization (APHCO) and its Constitution; Discussion on Important Events in the Year 2010 (ICA-AP Regional Assembly, Beijing, September, ICA Expo 2010, Bangalore (India), 8-10 December, UN Declaration on 2012 International Year of Cooperatives, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ICA-AP (1960-2010)); and Other Business Matters.

#### **Regional Workshop for Managers on Management of Consumers Coops, Singapore, 28-29<sup>th</sup> April**

The 10<sup>th</sup> regional workshop for Managers on Management of Consumer Cooperatives was held from 28<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> April in Singapore. It was hosted by the Singapore National Cooperative Federation (SNCF) and supported by NTUC FairPrice. 23 managers of consumer coops from seven countries, namely, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam, attended the workshop. Four important areas of retail business, i.e. store management; merchandising; store comparison and staff training were covered by the resource persons. The participants also visited 3 super markets of NTUC FairPrice and a competitor. They learnt about practical techniques for operating stores such as merchandise assortment, display, pricing and store comparison by using a check list.

#### **Workshop on Enhancing the Role of Women in Coop Business, Iran, 25-27 May**

This workshop was held in Tehran (Iran) from 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> May. The program was organized by ICA-AP and hosted jointly by Central Organization for Rural Cooperatives (CORC) and Central Union of Rural and Agricultural Cooperatives of Iran (CURACI). Men and women cooperative leaders from six countries, namely, China, Malaysia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and India, attended the workshop. The objective of the workshop was to provide a common meeting ground to cooperative women leaders/persons responsible for gender and women development in coops for sharing information and experience about success stories and best practices of their coops and most importantly help women to establish a network for mutual cooperation and business interest across the A-P region.

#### **Special Workshop of Campus/University Coop Committee, Indonesia, 21-25 June**

A workshop on University/Campus Cooperatives was held in Yogyakarta (Indonesia) from 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> June. The main theme of the workshop was "Campus Coops: Responding to Emerging Challenges of Higher Education". Around 100 participants including students from Japan, Korea, Thailand, Philippines, and Indonesia attended the workshop. The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of University/Campus Cooperative Committee was held in Yogyakarta. 15 members of the Committee attended the meeting. Professor Kokichi Shoji was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Committee.

#### **Training Course on Capacity Building for Marketing, Japan, 26<sup>th</sup> July to 20<sup>th</sup> August**

This training project is being implemented by ICA in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan; JA-ZENCHU and IDACA. Two training courses are held every year since 2006 in which 40 participants dealing with agriculture and farmers' organizations from ASEAN countries are trained. The participants learn about marketing methods for farm products and methods of rural development. The objective of the project is to train human resources for organizing farmers and strengthening marketing activities of cooperatives/farmers' organizations. The 1<sup>st</sup> Training Course on Capacity Building for Marketing was held in Japan from 26<sup>th</sup> July to 20<sup>th</sup> August. 18 participants from 9 countries attended the training course.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> VCA Congress**

The Regional Director participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> National Representative Congress of the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) held in Hanoi on 13<sup>th</sup> August and made a presentation at the Congress. The representatives from cooperatives of all sectors - provincial and municipal cooperative alliances, agencies and mass organizations of Vietnam attended the Congress.

#### **Planned Activities**

##### **Workshop on Development of Consumer Cooperatives, Korea, 30-31 August**

ICA-AP in collaboration with iCOOP Korea is organizing a 2-day regional workshop on Development of Consumer Cooperatives in Asia in Seoul from 30<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August. The workshop is expected to strengthen the network of consumer cooperatives in Asia through discussion/dialogue. Around 50 participants from 10 countries in the region are expected to attend the workshop. Field visits to consumer coop stores in Seoul would also be organized on 31<sup>st</sup> August.

### **Meeting of ICA-AP Sectoral and Thematic Committees, China, 1-2 September**

The meetings of the following ICA-AP Sectoral and Thematic Committees would be held in Beijing (China) on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> September in conjunction with ICA-AP Regional Assembly.

1. ICAO/ICA-AP Agriculture Committee joint seminar on "Climate Change, Food Security and Sustainability of Agriculture.
2. Joint seminar of ICBA and RCBA (Regional Coop Banking Association) on Financial Inclusion through Coop Banking-Variou s Forms & Comparative Advantages & RCBA Meeting.
3. Meeting of ICA-AP Youth Committee
4. Meeting of ICA Regional Women's Committee
5. ICA-AP Research Conference on Innovation and Expansion - The Opportunity for Cooperatives to Grow.
6. Meeting of ICA-AP Committee on HRD
7. Meeting of ICA-AP Consumer Committee
8. Meeting of ICA-AP Fishery Committee
9. Meeting of Asia-Pacific Health Cooperative Organization (APHCO)
10. Preparatory meeting on setting up Coop Tourism Committee.

### **ICA-AP Women's/Youth Forum, China, 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

The 6<sup>th</sup> ICA Regional Women's Forum and 5<sup>th</sup> Regional Cooperative Youth Conference would be jointly held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September in Beijing. The theme of the Conference is "Cooperatives: The Sector for Empowerment of Women and Youth". Resource persons from UNDP/FAO based in China and the Chairperson of the Gender Equality Committee are expected to address the Forum.

### **Cooperative-Government Dialogue, China, 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

The Dialogue is held every alternate year. The main objective of the Dialogue is to sensitize the governments to the need of realizing full potential of cooperatives in building national economy. To validate the recommendations of last Ministers' Conference held in 2007 in Malaysia and to draw strategies to incorporate the recommendations in the development plans of the governments and the cooperatives, an interactive Dialogue between the policy-makers and the cooperative officials will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September. The theme of the Dialogue is "Socio-economic Development and Cooperatives". The year 2012 will put spotlight on the functioning of cooperatives world over and the Dialogue will certainly help various governments and cooperative movements in the region to prepare well for the grand occasion.

### **6<sup>th</sup> ICA-AP Cooperative Forum, China, 4<sup>th</sup> September**

The 6<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Coop Forum would be held on 4<sup>th</sup> September a day before the Regional Assembly. The Forum will have presentations by eminent cooperative experts and leaders on the theme "Cooperatives - The Sector of Global Importance". The sub-themes that would underpin the objective of the main theme are (a) Visibility of Cooperatives and Year 2012; (b) Cooperatives - A Responsible Civil Society; (c) Corporate Governance in Cooperatives; (d) Level Playing Field for Cooperatives; and (e) Cooperatives in Social Development. The deliberations at the Forum will help delegates have a deeper insight into the most relevant and crucial contextual issues important to cooperatives and enable them deliberate effectively during the course of Regional Assembly. Around 300 participants are expected to attend the Forum.

### **9<sup>th</sup> ICA-AP Regional Assembly, China, 5<sup>th</sup> September**

The 9<sup>th</sup> ICA-AP Regional Assembly would be held at the Beijing International Convention Centre (BICC) in Beijing, China on 5<sup>th</sup> September under the auspices of All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives (ACFSMC). Deliberations at the Regional Assembly will be based on the theme "Sustainable Innovations - Opportunities for Cooperatives to Grow". The Regional Assembly this time will have a special significance because of the Cooperative-Government Dialogue slated for 3<sup>rd</sup> September immediately after the joint inauguration of the Asia-Pacific Coop Forum and the Regional Assembly. This will afford an opportunity to ICA-AP to show case the strength of its membership base and the vibrancy of ICA in the region to the representatives of the governments and

make a case for the ICA as the networking forum for exchange of information, knowledge and business interests.

#### **5<sup>th</sup> Training Course on Promotion of Sustainable Enterprises for Rural Women, Japan and Vietnam, 12<sup>th</sup> September-16<sup>th</sup> October**

The ICA-AP in collaboration with the JA-ZENCHU and IDACA would be holding the 5<sup>th</sup> Training Course on "Promotion of Sustainable Enterprises for Rural Women" from 12<sup>th</sup> September to 16<sup>th</sup> October in Japan and Vietnam. Part-I of the program would be held in Japan from 12<sup>th</sup> September to 7<sup>th</sup> October (27 days) and Part-II (field study visits) in Vietnam from 8<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> October (8 days). Twelve women participants from six countries, namely, Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Vietnam have been selected to attend the Training Course. The main objectives of the Training Course are (a) to learn methods of enterprise development by rural women through case studies; (b) to study management methods of micro-enterprises by rural women; and (c) to learn methods of encouraging women to be involved in rural communities' development. This is the only training course ICA-AP is offering exclusively for women. The financial assistance for this program is provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries [MAFF], Government of Japan.

#### **Coop Forum, Saudi Arabia, 3-5 October**

Propelled by ICA-AP's interventions in the GCC countries, namely, UAE and Kuwait, the Royal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will hold special Coop Forum of GCC countries from 3<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> October in Jeddah. The purpose of the Forum is to develop synergy among coops in the GCC sub-region of Asia and seek policy support of the GCC Secretariat in developing coop initiatives. ICA-AP has been asked to extend technical support. The ministry of social affairs has directed the National Cooperative Council of Saudi Arabia to initiate a dialogue on obtaining membership of ICA.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Business Seminar for Cooperative Leaders, Singapore, 20-22 October**

ICA-AP in collaboration with the Singapore National Cooperative Federation Limited (SNCF) is organizing a 3-day business seminar for cooperative leaders in Singapore from 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> October. The main objective of this seminar is to offer cooperative leaders, especially those from ASEAN countries, a depth of understanding what social media is really all about and how it is changing the way we do business and offer fresh insight how to use social media to promote their products and services without having to spend too much time on it. 25 participants from the region are expected to attend the seminar.

#### **Study Visit to Agricultural Cooperatives in the Republic of Korea, 25-30 October**

A study visits program to agricultural cooperatives in the Republic of Korea would be held from 25<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> October in collaboration with the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation of Korea (NACF). The main objectives of the program are to familiarize the participants from the region to the well developed agricultural cooperative system (agriculture marketing, banking) and role of cooperatives in Korean economy. Around 15 participants from the region are expected to attend the program.

#### **Training of Trainers for Leadership Development of Women in Coops, Myanmar, October**

Men and women cooperative leaders and trainers are being trained in this program on various skills of gender mainstreaming in cooperatives with an objective to create a pool of trainers/leaders who are gender-sensitized. These skilled human resources are expected to further spread awareness on gender sensitization and train women on various skills of cooperative management in order to enhance their participation at all levels of cooperatives.

#### **Training Programs for Managers of Consumer Cooperatives, Miyagi, 1-17 October and Kobe, 29 October-14 November**

The training programs for managers of consumer cooperatives have been implemented since 2001 in collaboration with the Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union (JCCU). This year, 4 managers (2-India, 1-Philippines, 1-Singapore) for Miyagi and 3 managers (2-Vietnam and 1-Singapore) for Kobe training programs are expected to attend. The entire costs of the training programs are covered by the Japanese Consumer Cooperatives.

#### **Training Courses on Capacity Building for Marketing, Japan, 3-28 November**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Training Course of 2010 on Capacity Building for Marketing would be held in Japan from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> November in collaboration with MAFF, JA-ZENCHU and IDACA. 22 participants from 10 countries are expected to attend the training course. The objective of the training course is to train human resources for organizing farmers and strengthening marketing activities of cooperatives/farmers' organizations.

#### **ICA Conference on Cooperative Development, Pakistan, November**

This Conference would be held in Karachi in November in collaboration with Karachi Cooperative Housing Societies Union Limited. ICA-AP will provide comprehensive technical input on the above issues. However, the host organization is expected to make all the local arrangements related to the conference e.g. conference venue, conference menu, audiovisual support, secretarial and support services. It is also expected of the host organization to take care of the international and local travel and other local costs of the resource persons. The conference is proposed to deliberate on the success stories of the developed co-operatives, the policy framework governing regulation of cooperatives in the countries with strong cooperative movement and policy framework of the host country to promote and develop cooperatives. The conference will help host movement to draw a suggestive framework for sustainable growth of the cooperatives through a set of recommendations for the consideration of the government and the co-operative institutions.

#### **ICA Expo 2010, Bangalore, (India), 8-10 December**

ICA Expo 2010 would be held in Bangalore (India) from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> December in collaboration with Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative (IFFCO). ICA Expo 2010, as such would be a real opportunity to show our values, achievements, growth, importance and, most of all, highlight how much of a player the Cooperative Movement could be in the global economy. The first ICA Expo was held in October 2008 in Lisbon, Portugal and the event attracted nearly 8,000 visitors. Intended mainly for professionals of the sector, the fair promoted the growth of cooperative business, the practice of inter cooperation among participants and the implementation of strategic alliances.

#### **Conference on Strategic Initiatives for Socio-Economic Development through Cooperatives, Bangalore (India), 8<sup>th</sup> December.**

The global trade fair of cooperatives in December 2010 in Bangalore organized by ICA will bring huge opportunity for cooperatives to leverage on cooperative advantages in building trade partnership with cooperatives and using the network of cooperatives in expanding trade outreach of cooperatives across the globe. A conference is proposed to be organized in conjunction with the ICA Expo 2010 to find sustainable trade networking solutions for cooperatives instrumental in socio-economic development.

#### **Sub-Regional Workshop on Development of Consumer Coops, India, 13-15 December**

A sub-regional workshop on Development of Consumer Cooperatives would be held in Mumbai (India) from 13-15 December in collaboration with the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation (NCCF). 25 participants are expected to attend the workshop. The main objective of the workshop is to strengthen the network of consumer cooperatives through discussion/dialogue. Around 20-25 participants from the SAARC countries are expected to attend the workshop.

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**ANNEXURE-5**

Financial Report of ICA-AP for 2009 and 2010

## Annexure-5

## FINANCIAL REPORT OF ICA-AP FOR 2009

DESCRIPTION (All amounts are in Swiss Francs)	Total Budget	ACTUAL Jan-Dec.
<b>INCOME:</b>		
Total Subscription Re-distribution	288,575	263,553
Administrative Contribution	66,000	65,798
Other Income (meeting revenue)	0	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>354,575</b>	<b>329,351</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>		
Personnel Expenses	206,000	192,097
Travel Expenses	47,000	54,200
Premises & General Office Expenses	21,000	19,032
IT and Telecommunication	10,000	14,158
External Services (including audit fee)	18,000	30,006
Meeting Expenses	40,575	12,431
Other Expenses (contingency)	12,000	6,097
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>354,575</b>	<b>328,021</b>
<b>SURPLUS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,330</b>

## FINANCIAL REPORT OF SBO FOR 2009

DESCRIPTION (All amounts are in Swiss Francs)	Total Budget	ACTUAL Jan-Dec.
<b><u>INCOME:</u></b>		
SNCF, Singapore	23,077	23,077
<b>TOTAL</b>	23,077	23,077
<b><u>EXPENSES:</u></b>		
Premises and General Office Expenses	11,000	8,197
Seminar/Workshop Expenses	12,077	14,880
<b>TOTAL</b>	23,077	23,077

### Contribution Received from Partners/Members in 2009

Name of Partner/Member	Amount (CHF)
MAFF, Government of Japan	876,379
JCCU, Japan	84,000
ACFSMC, China	44,000
IFFCO, India	50,000
NACF, Republic of Korea	30,000
SNCF, Singapore	24,000

## FINANCIAL REPORT OF ICA-AP FOR 2010

DESCRIPTION (All amounts are in Swiss Francs)	Total Budget	ACTUAL Jan-June
<b><u>INCOME:</u></b>		
Total Subscription Re-distribution	275,625	136,817
Administrative Contribution	63,495	33,512
Other Income (meeting revenue)	35,778	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>374,898</b>	<b>170,329</b>



<b><u>EXPENSES:</u></b>		
Personnel Expenses	218,333	105,922
Travel Expenses	53,778	30,553
Premises & General Office Expenses	21,022	7,670
IT and Telecommunication	14,000	3,492
External Services (including audit fee)	12,733	888
Meeting Expenses	39,384	695
Other Expenses (contingency)	13,600	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>372,850</b>	<b>149,220</b>
<b>SURPLUS</b>	<b>2,048</b>	<b>21,109</b>

#### FINANCIAL REPORT OF SBO FOR 2010

<b>DESCRIPTION</b> (All amounts are in Swiss Francs)	<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b> Jan-June
<b><u>INCOME:</u></b>		
SNCF, Singapore	22,727	22,727
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,727</b>	<b>22,727</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES:</u></b>		
Premises and General Office Expenses	11,000	6,485
2nd Business Seminar for Coop Leaders	11,727	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,727</b>	<b>6,485</b>

**ANNEXURE-6**  
**ICA-AP Work Plan for 2011**

Annexure-6  
ICA-AP WORK PLAN FOR 2011

S.#	Activity Details	Time Frame	Venue	S.O	K.R.A
01	5th Training Course on Enhancement of Farmers' Income and Poverty Reduction through Coops.	8th January to 19th April	India-Malaysia-Japan	Development	3.01
02	Two Training Courses on Capacity Building for Marketing.	July/August & November	Japan	Development	3.01
03	Training Course on Promotion of Sustainable Enterprises for Rural Women.	September	Japan	Development	3.01
04	Training Programs for Managers of Consumer Cooperatives (Miyagi & Kobe).	Sept.-November	Japan	Development	3.01
05	11th Regional Workshop for Managers on Management of Consumer Cooperatives.	July/August	Singapore	Development	3.01
06	Workshop on Development of Consumer Cooperatives.	Oct-December	Philippines	Development	3.01
07	Study on Consumer Cooperatives in Asia	January-June	Selected countries	Development	3.01
08	Study on Cooperative Trade among Cooperatives in Asia-Pacific region.	January-June	Selected countries	Development	3.01
09	Study on Technical Cooperation among Cooperatives in Asia-Pacific region.	July-December	Selected countries	Development	3.01
10	Study on Communication Strategy for Cooperatives.	July-December	Selected countries	Development	3.01

11	Conference on Strategic Business Alliances among Cooperatives.	April/May	To be decided	Development	3.01
12	Workshop on Enhancing the Role of Women in Cooperative Business.		To be decided	Development/ Influence	3.01 2.01
13	Training for Management Capacity Building of Women Cooperatives.		To be decided	Development/ Influence	3.01 2.01
14	Two ICA-AP Regional Board Meetings		To be decided	Governance	4.02
15	Meetings of ICA-AP Sectoral and Thematic Committees.	April-December	To be decided	Governance	4.02
16	Study Visit to Agricultural Cooperatives in the Republic of Korea.	September	Korea	Influence	2.01
17	Publication of Quarterly Newsletter (ASPACON) & Annual Report and Information Services to members	Jan-December	ICA-AP	Influence/ Membership	2.02 1.01
18	3rd ICA-SNCF Business Seminar for Cooperative Leaders.	October	Singapore	Development	3.02 3.03
19	9th Ministers' Conference on Cooperative Legislation and Policy.			Governance/ Influence	4.02 2.03
20	Interventions on UN Cooperative year Strategy in 2012	Jan.-December	Selected countries	Influence	2.02
21	ICA Conferences on Cooperative Development in Selected Countries.	April-December	Brunei/Kyrgyzstan/ Kazakhstan/ Mongolia/Saudi Arabia/Philippines	Development/ Influence	3.01/3.02 2.01/2.03

**ANNEXURE-7**

**Rules of APHCO (Asia-Pacific Health  
Cooperative Organisation)**

## Annexure-7

### THE ASIA-PACIFIC HEALTH CO-OPERATIVE ORGANIZATION (APHCO)

#### RULES

8. 26. 1997 enacted  
9. 5. 2010 amended

#### 1. Name and Status

This body shall be called the Asia-Pacific Health Co-operative Organization (APHCO). It has the status of a representative organization of health co-operatives in the Asia-Pacific region.

#### 2. Role and Structure

The APHCO is a voluntary association of consumer (user) - owned health co-operatives which seek to provide high-quality and cost-effective health care, of producer (provider) - owned health co-operatives which are based on ethical working conditions, conditions and of the integrated health co-operative organizations.

#### 3. Objectives

- 1) To promote the development of health co-operatives in the Asia-Pacific region
- 2) To provide a forum for the discussion to its member organizations and work for mutual exchange and solidarity among them
- 3) To provide information about member organizations, health and medical care, and activities of the APHCO to its member organizations and other affiliated organizations
- 4) To collaborate with other organizations within the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA), including the International Health Co-operative Organization (IHCO).

#### 4. Membership

- 1) Membership shall be open to co-operative organizations which have, as their main objectives, the provision of health services to their members or the provision of related services to self-employment for health professionals or the integration of consumers' and producers' health co-operatives in a first or higher degree co-operative structure.
- 2) Educational and research institutions which promote activities of health co-operatives or health services are also eligible for membership.
- 3) Associate membership status is available for co-operatives whose main operations are not health services but related services.
- 4) Members and associate members shall normally be national or regional organizations, except in countries where these structures do not exist.

#### 5. General Meeting

- 1) The APHCO shall convene a General Meeting (GM) of members every two years. Extraordinary GMs may be convened upon decision of the APHCO Board, and be called at the request of two-third of the APHCO's affiliated organizations.
- 2) A quorum for the GM is formed by a majority of delegates. The agenda shall be circulated at least six weeks before the meeting.
- 3) The GM shall elect a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and four other Board members.
- 4) Based on the Board subscription formula, each full member organization shall be entitled to one, two or three delegates with one, two or three voting rights with a maximum three delegates with three voting rights.
- 5) In order to maintain an appropriate equilibrium among or within members' countries, the total number of votes per country shall be established five. And three votes for organizations

on a regional or local level.

- 6) Associate members may attend the GM without voting rights.
- 7) Decisions shall be taken by a simple majority of votes. The Chairperson shall have a casting vote.
- 8) The GM shall approve the reports on the APHCO's activities, finance, work programme and budget.

#### 6. Board

- 1) The Board shall consist of a Chairperson, two Vice-Chairpersons, and three other Board members.
- 2) A Meeting of the Board shall be called at least once per year by the Chairperson.
- 3) The Board shall approve the admission of new members.
- 4) The Board shall decide upon a subscription formula.
- 5) The Board shall provide the GM with reports on the APHCO's activities and finance, work programme and budget, and shall seek to implement any resolutions passed by the GM.

#### 7. Board Members

- 1) The APHCO shall elect a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and other Board members for a two-year term. Re-election shall be permitted.
- 2) The Chairperson is the chief representative of the APHCO and shall provide organizational leadership of the APHCO. The Chairperson shall preside over the General Meeting and Board of the APHCO.
- 3) The Vice-Chairperson shall assist and support the Chairperson in every possible way. The Vice-Chairperson shall act in the absence of the Chairperson.
- 4) The Board members shall participate in the management of the APHCO. Vacancies shall be filled through election by the Board for the remainder of the original term of office.

#### 8. Secretariat

- 1) A Secretary shall be appointed at the Board. The Secretary shall conduct organizational affairs according to the decisions of the Board, and shall provide the Board with the reports on the APHCO's activities and the state of finance.
- 2) The Secretariat shall be located where the Board decides.

#### 9. Finance

- 1) The APHCO shall be financed by the subscription payments of its members and associate members, based on a subscription formula decided by the Board. A share of expenses and a contribution may be sought for special activities.
- 2) The financial year shall be the calendar year.
- 3) Expenses incurred through attendance at meetings shall be borne by the member organizations.
- 4) Funds to cover the expenses of the Secretariat shall be included in the biennial budget, which is presented by the Board for approval of the GM.

#### 10. Dissolution

- 1) The APHCO may be dissolved by a three-quarters majority of votes at the GM.
- 2) The Board shall be in charge of financial issues after the APHCO's dissolution.

#### 11. Implementation and Amendments

The Rules shall come into effect upon their approval at the founding meeting of the members of the APHCO. They may be amended by a two-thirds majority of votes at the GM.