



International Co-operative Alliance (ICA)

ICA General Assembly
Meeting Documentation

Addendum



“INNOVATION IN CO-OPERATIVE BUSINESS”

14-19 October 2007

ICA General Assembly Meeting Documentation Addendum

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The ICA General Assembly is hosted by the Singapore National Co-operative Federation (SNCF)

October 2007

Additional documentation

The ICA Board at its meeting on 15 September 2007 approved the distribution of additional documents for consideration by the General Assembly.

A motion to suspend the Standing Orders of the ICA General Assembly is being proposed in order for the GA to consider an amendment to the ICA Rules.

In addition, members have submitted three draft resolutions, whose texts are included here.

Information from the Elections Committee

The Elections Committee confirms the nominations of the following as candidates for election at the General Assembly in Singapore, namely

ICA Board

- Mr S. K. Jakhar
Chair, Indian Farmers Fertiliser Co-operative (IFFCO)

ICA Audit & Control Committee

- Mr M.G.S. Silva
General Secretary, National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka
- Mr Toshifumi Yamashita
President, Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union (JCCU)

The Committee expresses its disappointment at the lack of women nominees and, in addition, wishes to point out that in future it will not allow candidates to be nominated who do not observe the subscription formula for membership of ICA.

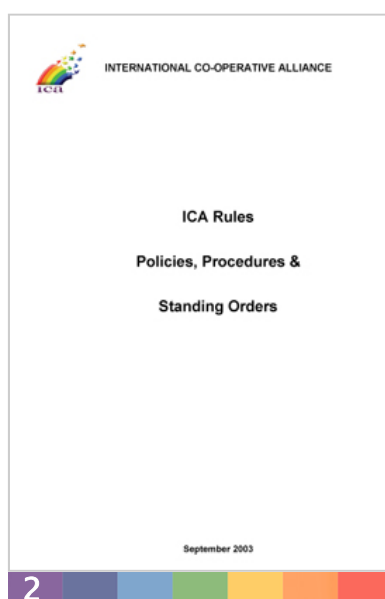
Governance Issues

ICA Policies, Procedures and Standing Orders IV. Standing Orders for General Assembly : Suspension of Standing Orders

23. No motion to suspend a Standing Order for any purpose shall be accepted unless notice in writing is given to the Director-General by not less than 10 representatives, stating the reason for the motion.

The motion to suspend Standing Orders shall be put to the vote after it has been moved and formally seconded, and not more than one speech made in opposition.

To suspend Standing Orders the motion must be approved by a three-fourth majority. If defeated, no second motion for the same purpose shall be permitted.





Motion: Suspension of the ICA General Assembly Standing Orders

Submitted by:

1. Confederazione Cooperative Italiane (Italy)
2. Conseil Canadien de la Coopération (Canada)
3. Co-operative Bank of Kenya Ltd (Kenya)
4. Co-operatives UK (United Kingdom)
5. Federation of Norwegian Agricultural Co-operatives — Norsk Landbrukssamvirke (Norway)
6. Federation of Tenants, Savings and Building Societies – HSB Riksförbund (Sweden)
7. Groupement National de la Coopération (France)
8. Lega Nazionale delle Cooperative e Mutue (Italy)
9. National Auditing Union of Workers' Co-operatives (Poland)
10. National Co-operative Business Association (USA)

In accordance with article 23 of the ICA Standing Orders, the ten members above request the suspension of the Standing Orders of the General Assembly to enable the presentation of amendments to the ICA Rules to the ICA General Assembly 2007, waiving the need for the circulation of documentation to members two months before the date of the Assembly (article VI para 7 of the Standing Orders).

The motion is put to the Assembly to enable the recognition of Cooperatives Europe as a separate legal entity operating as the ICA European region.

Amendment : ICA Rules and Standing Orders

New article: Article 17a to be added after the existing article 17

Article 17a – Entities of the ICA Regions with distinct legal personality

- a) The Regional Assemblies of ICA can set up organisations with a distinct legal personality on the following conditions:
 1. Their Statutes must be approved by the General Assembly of ICA;
 2. An agreement regulating the relations between the ICA and the concerned regional entity must be signed by it and by the Board of ICA and approved by the General Assembly of ICA.
- b) In case of discrepancies between the Statutes of the concerned regional entity previously approved by the General Assembly of ICA and the articles 16,17,20,21 and 27 of the ICA Rules, the Statutes of the concerned regional entity will apply.

The members of the concerned regional entity will remain or can become members of the ICA according to Section II of the ICA Rules.

Statutes of Cooperatives Europe



Cooperatives Europe asbl, the European region of the ICA, is the association uniting the actions of ICA Europe and the CCACE — The Coordinating Committee of the European Co-operative business sectors and the national co-operative apex organisations—to contribute at the European level to the defence and promotion of co-operatives.

A co-operative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise. Co-operatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, co-operative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

The integration process was initiated by the two organisations to use the combined strengths of each to enhance the visibility and impact of the co-operative movement particularly when relating to the institutions of the European Union.

They first, in 2005, set up a common platform. In order to enhance the promotion of the co-operative values and strengthen its effectiveness and its representation at European and EU level, the ICA and its European members together with the members of CCACE decided to ask the General Assembly of Cooperatives Europe asbl (as incorporated on 7 March 2006 under the Belgian law of 27 June 1921) to amend the statute to formally merge the roles and activities of ICA Europe and the CCACE. The ICA will establish “Cooperatives Europe” as the European region of the ICA and as such it will be the European representative voice of the co-operative model of enterprise in Europe. As the European region of the ICA, “Cooperatives Europe” will operate in the framework of the Rules and statutes of the ICA, taking in account the needs and specificities of the European region. The General Assembly of Cooperatives Europe, will be the European Regional Assembly of the ICA.

Amended by the General Assembly 11th November 2006 in Manchester, UK

The founder members:

...

...

and all members who will be accepted as such afterwards



Statutes of Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

CHAPTER 1 : Name – Social address – Term and objectives – Structure

Article 1 (Name)

The name of the Association is “Cooperatives Europe” It is the European Region of the ICA and as such is the European representative voice of the co-operative model of enterprise in Europe as defined by the Council of Europe.

Article 2 (Social address)

Cooperatives Europe’s Head Office is located in Belgium, 32 Square Ambiorix 1000, Brussels and is under Brussels’ legal district supervision. The Association’s Head Office can be transferred to any other place in the Brussels Region by decision of the General Assembly.

Article 3 (Term)

The term of the Association is unlimited. However, the General Assembly could decide to wind up the Association under the terms and conditions of articles 8 and 20 of the Belgian law of 27th June 1921 on non-profit associations.

Article 4 (Objects)

The objects of Cooperatives Europe are:

1. to provide a common association for national and European organisations representing co-operatives in Europe;
2. to promote the fact that, with their values and principles, co-operative enterprises can achieve economic success and at the same time pursue social objectives;
3. to work with the organisations representing the European co-operative sectors and the national inter-sectoral organisations on their issues, based on the principles of complementarity and subsidiarity;
4. to implement the aims, objectives and policies of the ICA at the European level and to promote solidarity among cooperatives.

It shall have the following functions:

1. the promotion and defence of co-operative principles and values as stated in the ICA Statement of Identity (see annex 1);
2. to contribute to the creation of an institutional, legal and economic cultural environment propitious to the development of co-operatives;
3. the representation of co-operatives vis-à-vis the supranational institutions, in particular those of the European Union and the Council of Europe without prejudice to the specific role of the European sectoral co-operative organisations and of the national inter-sectoral organisations;
4. the promotion of common activities amongst all co-operative organisations of European countries;
5. promotion and defence of all forms of co-operative enterprises;

Statutes of Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

6. to support promotion, development and representation strategies developed by the various member co-operative organisations

The Association is not allowed to give any profit to its members or to have any commercial or industrial activities. It will be able to purchase, receive and own any personal and real properties to achieve its objectives.

Article 5 (Structure)

The bodies of the Association are: the General Assembly, the Board, the Presidency, the EU Coordination Committee and the Audit & Control Committee.

CHAPTER 2 : Members – Entries – Resignation and exclusion from the association – Resources

Article 6 (Members)

The Association is made up of full members and associate members.

1 – Full members

Category A: National co-operative organisations being full members of the ICA and having their headquarters in Europe and after ratification by the General Assembly.

National co-operatives organisations which have no legal personality may have a delegate (physical person) member of the Association after ratification by the General Assembly. They are full members.

Category B: European sector organisations as long as a minimum of 33% of their full co-operative members are also full members of the ICA, either directly, or through their national Apex organisation, after ratification by the General Assembly.

European Co-operative organisations which have no legal personality may have a delegate (physical person) member of the Association ratified by the General Assembly. They are full members.

2 – Associate members

Co-operative organisations which do not comply with the criteria of full members or co-operative support organisations may be Associate members by decision of the Board ratified by the General Assembly

In principle, those members who are eligible for category A membership shall not be accepted as associate members.

Only full members may stand for election in any of the bodies of Co-operatives Europe.

The number of full members is unlimited, but must not be under four. However, the number of the members must always be higher than the number of Board's members.

Only the full members are entitled to all the rights given by the law and the statutes.

Article 7: Register of the members

The Board is responsible for the Register of the members. This register indicates the legal statute and the address of the Head Office of the members. All the decisions relative to the admission, the resignation or the exclusion of the members are written in this register by the Board within eight days after the Board has been informed of the decision.



Statutes of Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

Article 8 (Resignation)

The member's resignation must be sent to the Board by registered mail.

The resigning member must fulfil its obligation until the end of the social year, subject to at least six months' notice and to the payment of current or outstanding contributions.

There shall be no refunding of the contributions already paid.

Article 9 (Exclusion)

The Board of Cooperatives Europe may propose to the General Assembly to exclude a member (either full or associated) who does not fulfil its rights and obligations vis-à-vis the association.

Exclusion requires a two thirds majority of members' votes (members present or represented) from the General Assembly (upon recommendation from the Board), with the prior recommendation of the ICA Board for full member category A.

A member who was excluded or who resigned or the assignees of a deceased person have no right on the assets or social fund of the association. They cannot claim any statement, rendering of accounts and inventory or place them under seals.

Article 10 (Subscription)

All members pay an annual subscription.

1– Full members category A:

Full members of the category A pay an annual subscription decided by the General Assembly and defined in accordance with the formula established by the ICA General Assembly.

The maximum ceiling amount for the full members category A is 178 000 €.

Every four years in the framework of the four-year strategy plan, the ICA Board together with the Board of Cooperatives Europe decides on the allocation of these subscriptions between Cooperatives Europe and the ICA HQ.

2– Full members category B:

Full members of category B pay an annual subscription defined by the General Assembly of Cooperatives Europe as it stands in the standing orders.

The maximum ceiling amount for the full members category B is 10 500 €.

On the basis of objective elements and data and for a short term period, the Board may decide a special rate of subscription for cooperatives organisations that have been recently established and/or that have difficulty in paying the required amount.

3– Associate members:

Associate members pay an annual fee which may not exceed 7 500 € or be below 2.500 €.

In order to achieve its social objective, the association may receive donations, grants, inter vivos transfers or devise offered by a legal entity or an individual person or any other organisations. This is possible only if the Board gives its approval and if it follows the article 16 of Belgian law on non-profit associations.



Statutes of Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

CHAPTER 3 : General Assembly

Article 11 (Convocation)

The General Assembly is the supreme structure of the Association and brings together all the members.

The General Assembly is convened by the Board. It will meet at least once a year to approve the accounts of the previous year and the budget for the following year. At the written request of 1/5 of the members, an extraordinary General Assembly may be convened.

All members are invited in writing or by e-mail, at least 6 weeks before the date of the General Assembly. The invitation includes the agenda. Any proposal signed by 1/20 of the members must be added to the agenda.

Article 12 (Legal competencies)

The General Assembly has responsibility in particular for:

1. The ratification of the new members
2. the election of the members of the Board every four years;
3. the election of the co-presidents one of whom is the Vice-President of ICA for the European Region, and the other the Chair of the EU Coordination Committee;
4. the appointment and the dismissal of the auditors;
5. the exclusion and dismissal of a member;
6. the vote every four years of its global multi-annual strategic programme and its strategic budget;
7. the review of strategic plan and multi-annual budget every two years;
8. the discharge for the members of the Board and the auditors;
9. the annual approval of the budgets and accounts;
10. the amendment of the statutes;
11. the transformation of the association into a society with social objectives;
12. the vote of reports, proposals and resolutions for the consideration of the General Assembly;
13. any case required by the statutes;
14. the dissolution of the Association.

Article 13 (Quorum – vote)

The majority of the members have to be present or represented at the General Assembly.

Only full members may have voting rights. Therefore Associate members have no vote at the General Assembly of Cooperatives Europe.

- Each full member of the category A is entitled to have:
 - one vote as a member,
 - one additional vote per 3.500 € (= 5.500 CHF),
 - when there is an excess, it is a round up of the membership fees as established for the year in which the General Assembly is being held.



Statutes of Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

A limitation of the voting rights is fixed in the standing orders.

Full members of the category B will have up to 5 votes, following the standing orders.

Decisions are taken by simple majority of the present and represented members, except when it states differently within the statutes.

By proposition of the Board or 1/5 of members, amendments to the statutes are possible only if they are included in the agenda and if 2/3 of the members are present or represented. If not, a second meeting may be convened within 15 days of the first one. The General Assembly is then valid whatever the number of members present or represented. Any amendment of the statutes requires a majority of 2/3 of the members present or represented. If the amendment is about the objectives or the dissolution, then the majority required is 4/5 of the members present or represented.

Article 14 (Proxy)

A member of the association may give a proxy for the General Assembly to another member of the association. All proxies must be submitted in writing.

Each member may have only three proxies.

Article 15 (Register of decisions)

The decisions signed by the co-presidents and the director must be presented in a report and classified in the General Assembly's register. All members will have access to it.

The minutes of the General Assembly must be sent to all members by e-mail or post.

CHAPTER 4 : Board

Article 16 (Composition)

The association is managed by a Board composed of:

- the co-presidents,
- at least 7 members and a maximum 13 members elected by the General Assembly amongst the full members of the association,
- If the President of a European sectoral organisation is not elected, this European sectoral organisation may have a representative in the Board. Such nomination has to be ratified by the General Assembly.

The members of the Board are elected for a four year term. They are eligible for re-election twice.

In the case of a vacancy on the Board in the course of its mandate, the new member will be elected by the next General Assembly to continue the term of office of its predecessor.

The Director General of ICA is invited to meetings of the Board as an observer.

Article 17 (Convocation – quorum – vote)

The Board is convened by both co-presidents. All members are convened in writing or by e-mail, at least 4 weeks before the date of the Board meeting. The notice of the meeting includes the agenda.

The majority of the members of the Board have to be present or represented.

Each member of the Board has one vote with the exception as stated in article 18 (proxy).

Statutes of Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

Decisions will be taken by a simple majority vote and are recorded in a special minutes book. The minutes of the Board must be sent to all members by e-mail or post.

Article 18 (Proxy)

A member of the Board may give a proxy for a meeting of the Board to another member of the Board.

Each member may have only one proxy.

Exceptionally, Board members can nominate an observer for the meeting if they cannot attend. Any such observer has no voting rights.

Article 19 (Powers)

The Board is competent for the administration and the management of the association. Any competence which is not expressly reserved by law or by statutes for the General Assembly will be delegated to the Board.

The Board shall exercise the following powers in particular:

- to develop a global strategic multi-annual programme which will be submitted to the General Assembly for approval
- to implement and monitor global strategy for the European Region;
- to make recommendations on all membership applications and related issues to the Board of the ICA and shall submit such recommendations to the General Assembly for its ratification;
- to propose and monitor Cooperatives Europe's budget;
- to take decisions on investments, borrowing, mortgages and buying and selling of real estate;
- to present the annual accounts to the General Assembly;
- to receive reports from the Audit and Control committee prior to their submission to the General Assembly;
- to appoint and dismiss in consultation with the General Director of ICA, a Director who will serve as the Regional director of the ICA and decide his/her competencies and his/her salary, and inform the General Assembly;
- to appoint and dismiss a deputy director on the proposal of the director and inform the General Assembly;
- to establish working groups where appropriate, defining their mandates and members.

Article 20 (Vice-presidents)

The Board may nominate from among its members one or two Vice-Presidents for the Board term.

Article 21 (Executive Committee)

The Board may nominate an Executive Committee which shall be composed of two co-presidents, plus a maximum of five members designated by the Board from amongst its members for the Board term.

If established, the Executive Committee would prepare the items for discussions by the Board and may exercise delegated powers granted by the Board.



Statutes of Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

Article 22 (Standing orders)

The Board may propose appropriate standing orders to clarify the operational procedures of the association to the General Assembly for ratification as required.

Article 23 (Liability of the members of the Board)

According to their mandates, the members of the Board contract no personal obligation as for the commitments of the association, and are only responsible for the carrying out of their mandates.

Article 24 (Resignation)

The withdrawal of a Board member will be effective at the next Board meeting.

CHAPTER 5 : Presidency

Article 25 (Co-presidents)

The General Assembly elects two co-presidents, one representative of a national cooperative organisation and the other one on the proposal of the EU Coordination Committee. The first will be the Vice-president of ICA for the region; the other will be the Chair of the EU Coordination Committee.

Co-presidents

1. will co-chair the General Assembly and the Board;
2. shall meet twice a year with the Audit and Control Committee to review the finances of the association;
3. shall provide the policy and organisational leadership of Cooperatives Europe, in collaboration with the Board and assisted by the director.

In case of vacancy of one of the co-presidents, the Board will nominate one of the vice-presidents who will undertake the task until the elections at the next General Assembly.

CHAPTER 6 : EU Coordination Committee

Article 26: EU Coordination Committee

Cooperatives Europe EU Coordination Committee is composed of representatives of :

- European sector organisations,
- national inter-sectoral co-operative organisations coming from European Union and EFTA member countries,
- national inter-sectoral co-operative organisations coming from candidates countries under accession negotiations with the EU.

The EU Coordination Committee, on the basis of the principles of subsidiarity and complementarity, will be responsible for all aspects concerning the preparation, analysis, decision-making and communication related to the consultation process vis-à-vis the European Union's institutions, particularly the legislative programme and funding regimes. The recommendations, decisions and positions it adopts are binding and shall be notified to the Board.

Statutes of Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

CHAPTER 7 : Methods

Article 27 (Methods)

Every four years a multi-annual strategic programme for Cooperatives Europe will be developed in co-operation with the Board of the ICA.

It will focus on:

- the definition of the priorities of the European Region,
- a multi-annual budget necessary for the implementation of this strategic programme, including the net % of the redistribution of the subscription paid by its European full members category A to the global ICA.

Every two years the multi-annual strategic programme will be evaluated during the General Assembly of "Cooperatives Europe" with a specific focus on strategic budgetary review.

The financial supervision of the implementation of this strategic plan and budgets will be undertaken by the Audit and Control Committee (cf. art 30) linked to the ICA Audit and Control Committee and the Financial Director of the ICA.

CHAPTER 8 : Daily management and representation

Article 28

The Director is responsible for the daily management of the association and the implementation of the working programme.

He/she shall:

1. submit a written report to the Board at each meeting about the activities carried out by the association under its direction;
2. make proposals to the Co-presidents concerning administrative and personnel issues. A confidential report on personnel issues will be given to the Board as appropriate;
3. submit to the approval of the Co-presidents any proxy to third parties;
4. maintain relations with the members of Cooperatives Europe; inform them on all issues received from the European Institutions in order to elaborate a punctual position of the association and to submit regular reports on membership issues to the Board;
5. submit to the Board an annual budget and programme of activities, prepared in the framework of the global multi annual strategic programme.
6. report to the DG of the ICA about the activities undertaken by Cooperatives Europe;
7. present regular reports on membership issues to the DG of ICA;
8. attend and advise the meetings of ICA authorities;
9. maintain close relations and provide support as mutually agreed to the thematic committees of the ICA.

The Director shall not contract personal obligation for the commitments of the Association.



Statutes of Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

CHAPTER 9 : Accounts and Budget

Article 29

The financial year starts on 1st January and ends on 31st December of the same year. The first financial year will start on the incorporation date of the association and will end the 31 December 2006.

The accountancy practices of the association follows the rules set out by article 17 of the Belgian law relative to non-profit associations.

The Board submits to the General Assembly the annual accounts of the past year and the budget of the following year.

CHAPTER 10 : Audit and Control Committee

Article 30

The General Assembly shall elect an Audit and Control Committee composed of three to five members for a four year period. Such elections shall take place during the General Assembly at which the Board is elected. The Audit and Control Committee shall:

- examine the financial management of Cooperatives Europe;
- examine the fulfilment of the financial obligations of member's organisations;
- examine the annual financial statement and present it for adoption by the Board;
- report to the General Assembly.

The members have access to all relevant Cooperatives Europe and ICA documents. It will be linked to the ICA Audit and Control Committee.

CHAPTER 11 : Dissolution – Liquidation

Article 31

In case of voluntary liquidation the General Assembly will appoint one or two liquidators and will decide their competencies.

Article 32

If for any reason there is a voluntary or compulsory liquidation, the net assets of the dissolved association will be given to the ICA.

CHAPTER 12 : Any other measures

Article 33

All documents relative to the Association are added and recorded to a file at the office of the Clerk of the Commercial Court, in the Brussels District. They follow articles 23 and 26 novies of the Belgian law relative to non-profit organisations. The documents are available for everyone.

Article 34

All that is not explicitly expressed in the statutes and standing orders will be settled by the Belgian law of 27th June, 1921 relative to non-profit associations.

Statutes of Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

Article 35

In case of lawsuit, the competent tribunal is located in Brussels District, Belgium.

STANDING ORDERS TO THE STATUTES “Cooperatives Europe” ASBL
EUROPEAN REGION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE –

Regulation 1 (In reference art. 5)

The Board may decide to set up an election committee.

Regulation 2 (In reference art.6)

2-1: European sector organisation should have the medium term objective to increase to over 50% the number of their co-operatives organisations which are directly or through their national Apex organisation full members of the ICA.

2-2: European Associate Member organisations should have the medium term objective to become a member of the ICA.

Regulation 3 (admission procedure)

3-1: Full members category A:

1. Organisations shall apply for the status of full members' category A on the official form to be supplied by the secretariat (same as the ICA) and shall send with their application two copies of their rules and their last annual report and balance sheet. If the language in which the rules are printed is not one of the official languages of the ICA, a translation into one of the official languages shall be enclosed.
2. All applications must include the calculation of the subscription in accordance with the rules and standing orders of the ICA.
3. Before any application is submitted to the Board, the Director shall make appropriate inquiries as to the suitability of the organisation concerned to be admitted to membership of the ICA, including consultation with existing member organisations from the same country.
4. The Board makes recommendations on the candidates to the Board of the ICA.
5. The membership is submitted for ratification to the General Assembly of “Cooperatives Europe”.

3-2: Full member category B:

1. Organisations shall apply for the status of full members' category B by letter send and shall send with their applications copies of their rules in French or English, their last annual report and balance sheet and a list of their members. All applications must include the calculation of the subscription in accordance with the rules and standing orders of “Cooperatives Europe”.
2. The Director presents recommendations to prepare the decision of the Board which in-turn will be ratified by the General Assembly.

3-3: Associate members

1. Organisations shall apply for the status of Associated Members by letter and shall send with their applications two copies of their rules in French or English, a list of their members and a letter of motivation.



Statutes of Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

2. The Director presents recommendations to prepare the decision of the Board which will be ratified by the General Assembly.

Regulation 4 (In reference art. 9)

The Board of Cooperatives Europe may propose to exclude a member who:

- does not fulfil its rights vis-à-vis the Association;
- did not attend or was not represented or excused at two ordinary consecutive General Assemblies

For full member category A:

- the Board of Cooperatives Europe makes a proposal on exclusion to the Board of the ICA for recommendation;
- the General Assembly of Cooperatives Europe may then decide to exclude the member with the majority of two thirds of the member votes (member present or represented).

Regulation 5 (In reference art. 10)

5-1: Full members category A:

- Formula of subscription of ICA.

These subscriptions are paid to a global ICA bank account.

5-2: Full members category B:

For the first year:– for European sector organisation with more than 75% of their full member co-operatives being full members of the ICA (as defined in article 6), the subscription is fixed at 3.500 € (base rate).

- for European sector organisations with less than 75% of their full member co-operatives being full members of the ICA (as defined in article 6), the subscription is fixed at 2 x base rate.

This subscription is paid into a Cooperatives Europe bank account.

5-3: Associate members:

The fees of the Associate members are paid into the Cooperatives Europe bank account.

Regulation 6 (In reference art 13)

6-1: Members category A:

There is a maximum of 25 votes per country. The Board may propose to the General Assembly to change this maximum ceiling amount or to propose a limitation of vote for each member category A to a certain percentage of the represented votes.

6-2: Members category B:

Each full member of category B is entitled to have:

- 5 votes if 75% or more of their full members are also full members of the ICA (as defined in article 6)
- 3 votes if at least 50% and less than 75% of their full members are also full members of the ICA (as defined in article 6)
- 1 vote votes if at least 33% and less than 50% of their full members are also full members of the ICA (as defined in article 6).

Statutes of Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

Regulation 7 (In reference art.15)

Within two weeks all members should receive a list of the action points from the meeting pending the receipt of the full minutes.

Regulation 8 (In reference art 16)

If the President of a European sectoral organisation who is directly elected to the Board, loses or retires his Board place during the course of the mandate, the European sectoral organisation may designate a representative, to be ratified by the next Board.

Members of the Board are not remunerated and his/her personal costs connected with his/her Board membership will not be covered by Cooperatives Europe.

The Director and the Deputy Director attend the Board meetings.

Regulation 9 (In reference art 16)

Within two weeks all members should receive a list of the action points from the meeting pending the receipt of the full minutes.

Regulation 10 (In reference art 30)

There must whenever possible be a coordination of in the membership and of the methods of working between the Cooperatives Europe Audit and Control Committee and the European members on the ICA Audit and Control Committee.

List of Founder Members of Cooperatives Europe

Confédération Européenne des Coopératives de Travail, des Coopératives Sociales et des Entreprises Sociales & Participatives (CECOP) aisbl - rue Guillaume Tell 59b - 1060 Bruxelles, Belgique

Confédération Nationale du Crédit Mutuel - association - 88-90, rue Cardinet - 75847 Paris- France

Confederazione Cooperative Italiane (Confcooperative) association, - Borgo Santo Spirito 78 - 00193 Roma Italie

Co-operatives UK Ltd (CO-OP UK) Limited Company - Holyoake House - Hanover Street - Manchester M60 0AS Grande Bretagne

Družstevní Asociace České Republiky (DACR) association - Tesnov 5 - 11001 Praha République Tchèque

Fédération Belge de l'économie sociale et coopérative (Febecoop) asbl - rue Haute 28 - 1000 Bruxelles, Belgique

Pflimlin Etienne représentant le GEBC

Krajowa Rada Spółdzielcza (NCC) association - Ul. Jasna 1 - Skrytka Pocz. 16 - 00-013 Warszawa Pologne

Confederación de Cooperativas de Euskadi (CCE) association - Reyes de Navarra 51 - 01013 Vitoria Gasteiz Espagne

Cornely Marc-Henry Georges, représentant l'UEPS

Deutscher Genossenschafts- und Raiffeisenverband (DGRV) e.V. association - Pariser Platz 3 - 10117 Berlin Allemagne.



Agreement between ICA & Cooperatives Europe

The **International Co-operative Alliance**, an international non-governmental organisation, registered as an association governed by the Swiss Civil Code, articles 60 – 79, with its headquarters at 15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland, acting and represented by Messrs. Ivano Barberini, President, and Iain Macdonald, Director-General, duly authorised for these purposes as declared;

hereafter called “ICA”

AND

Cooperatives Europe asbl, a nonprofit making organisation, registered under Belgian law, with its headquarters at 32, Square Ambriorix, Bte 2, BE-1000, Brussels, Belgium, acting and represented by Dame Pauline Green and Mr. Etienne Pflimlin, co-Presidents, and Rainer Schlüter, Director duly authorised for these purposes as declared;

hereafter called “Cooperatives Europe”

hereafter collectively called the “parties”.

Given that the ICA is a non-governmental association uniting, representing and serving co-operatives throughout the world;

Given that the members of the Regional Assembly Europe of the ICA and the members of the Co-ordinating Committee of European Co-operative Associations and European sectoral co-operative organisations have merged into an organisation with a distinct legal personality, namely Cooperatives Europe, in order to use their joint resources with a view to strengthening the profile and scope of the co-operative movement, in particular in its relations with European institutions;

Given that Cooperatives Europe and the ICA agree that Cooperatives Europe is the European region of the ICA;

The parties agree on the following:

1. ARTICLE 1 – RECOGNITION OF COOPERATIVES EUROPE

1.1 Cooperatives Europe constitutes the European region of the ICA. To that end, the ICA will take the measures necessary to propose to the General Assembly of its members in 2007 that its statutes be amended to allow such recognition.

1.2 Cooperatives Europe as indicated in its statutes subscribes to the ICA declaration on the co-operative identity and to the objectives, global policies, procedures, statutes and rules of the ICA.

2. ARTICLE 2 – DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

2.1 Cooperatives Europe enjoys, in the governance structure of the ICA, the same rights, privileges and duties as any other region of the ICA. The president of Cooperatives Europe, or whichever of the co-presidents is designated by Cooperatives Europe, will be an ex-officio member of the ICA board and Vice-President for the region.

Agreement between ICA & Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

2.2 Cooperatives Europe recognises that the ICA statutes can change over time. Cooperatives Europe agrees, taking into account the European specificity to adapt its statutes in accordance with such changes.

2.3 Cooperatives Europe will submit to the ICA Board any proposed modifications of its statutes before they are adopted.

3. ARTICLE 3 – NOTE ON RELATIONSHIP AND USE OF THE LOGO

3.1 Cooperatives Europe, as the European Region of ICA, will use the ICA's logo on its documents, publications, Internet site and promotional material.

3.2 The ICA promotes its relationship with Cooperatives Europe and will, where appropriate, use the latter's logo on its documents, publications, Internet site and promotional material.

4. ARTICLE 4 – MEMBERS AND COLLECTION OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

4.1 All the European members of the ICA are automatically members of Cooperatives Europe.

4.2 Cooperatives Europe recognises the relevance and importance of all European co-operatives eventually being members of the ICA either in their own right or through associations, federations or other organisations themselves members of the ICA. Cooperatives Europe encourages its members which are not so already to become members of the ICA.

4.3 The admission and exclusion of a category A member by Cooperatives Europe must have the approval of the ICA Board before becoming effective.

4.4 The admission or exclusion of a European member by the ICA should not occur without the opinion of the board of Cooperatives Europe.

4.5 Category A subscriptions to Cooperatives Europe will be established according to the subscription formulas of the ICA and paid to a bank account managed by the ICA. The level of category A membership fees allocated to Cooperatives Europe will be as decided by the ICA Board in the global multi-annual budget plan, after consultation with the board of Cooperatives Europe and other Regional Councils.

5. ARTICLE 5 – ASSETS

5.1 RESERVES In accordance with the proposal on internal debt adopted by the ICA Board in Trento on the 8th December 2006, 75% of the reserves attributed to ICA Europe, as stated in the accounts at 31/12/2006, will be transferred to a Cooperatives Europe bank account in Brussels but stay part of the ICA global reserves. As such they will be consolidated annually with the global ICA reserves. These reserves can be used by Cooperatives Europe as Bank guarantee or as cash flow. Any other intended use of these funds needs the agreement of the ICA Board.

5.2 Physical assets: The physical assets in the offices of Cooperatives Europe which are in the accounts of the ICA will be sold for a symbolic Euro to Cooperatives Europe asbl.



Agreement between ICA & Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

ARTICLE 6 – ACTION PLANS

6.1 Cooperatives Europe informs the ICA of its action plans and their progress. The Director-General of the ICA is invited to attend the meetings of Cooperatives Europe as stated in its statutes.

6.2 The director of Cooperatives Europe has the same rights and duties as those of the directors of the other regions of the ICA

6.3 Cooperatives Europe provides the ICA with the same financial and administrative information as the other regions.

7. ARTICLE 7 – TERM

7.1 This procedural protocol is for an indeterminate term. The parties after one year will evaluate this protocol and adapt as necessary. Each party will be able to end it after a twelve (12) month written notice of cancellation. Before sending such a notice, the parties will do their utmost to resolve the differences or conflicts behind the issue of a notice of cancellation.

8. ARTICLE 8 – DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION

8.1 Notwithstanding the date of signing of this protocol, the parties agree that it will come into effect as of 1st January 2007.

The parties have signed:

FOR: ICA

Mr. Ivano Barberini, President

Mr. Iain Macdonald, Director General

FOR: Cooperatives Europe

Dame Pauline Green, Co-President

Mr. Etienne Pflimlin, Co-President

Mr. Rainer Schlüter, Director



Draft Resolution: Climate Change: Our Co-operative Commitment

Submitted by the Co-operative Group Ltd and Co-operatives UK Limited (United Kingdom)

The ICA General Assembly,

IS AWARE that combating catastrophic climate change is a matter of pressing urgency,

REMINDS co-operatives everywhere of their responsibility and opportunity to take a leading position in taking action to combat climate change and to reduce its harmful impacts,

CALLS on the ICA and its members to focus on the issue of climate change, which poses a serious threat to peoples throughout the world,

DECLARES that the united and co-ordinated action of ICA members, which collectively equate to the tenth largest economy in the world, will make a significant and appropriate contribution to the cause of reducing future climate change impacts,

COMMITTS, as a part of the international co-operative movement and members of the International Co-operative Alliance, co-operatives to:

1. measure and reduce (pro rata) the greenhouse gas emissions that arise as a result of our activities,
2. communicate with, inform and motivate members towards a lower carbon lifestyle,
3. use political influence and that of co-operative members to encourage our Government to play a constructive part in the Kyoto negotiations now taking place, one that recognises the need for global emissions to reduce significantly and quickly.

Draft Resolution: Protecting our Children against Violence

Submitted by the National Co-operative Union of Turkey



The ICA General Assembly,

RECOGNISES that there has been a substantial increase in the number of crimes committed by children and adolescents in the last few years all over the world,

IS AWARE that the negative effect of science fiction movies and computer games which contain elements of violence as well as bloody fight shows staged under the title of sports events is an established fact accepted by all the specialists,

APPRECIATES that some toys we give our children affect their development in a negative way and that when family problems and children driven out to the streets are introduced to the picture, violence turns into a world wide culture,

ACKNOWLEDGES that it is becoming urgent that governments should take more social responsibility to solve this problem and that, as co-operatives are also responsible for the development of a sense of peace, love and brotherhood in societies in which they exist, as well as economic development, they should also work together with governments,

FURTHER RECOGNISES the pioneering role of the International Co-operative Alliance in this field will also be considered to be a reflection of the respect to the co-operative values.

CALLS FOR the setting up of a working group to discuss this problem in detail, produce concrete project proposals and to establish contact with the United Nations and European Union in order to strengthen this struggle and achieve better results.



Draft Resolution: Dotcoop

Submitted by the Co-operatives UK and the National Co-operative Business Association (USA)

The ICA General Assembly,

CONGRATULATES DotCooperation LLC on the extension of its agreement to continue as the Sponsor of the .coop TLD,

NOTES that with the Midcounties Co-operative (UK) serving as the registry operator, the .coop registry is owned and operated 100% by co-operatives,

RECOGNISES the contribution that .coop has made to promoting co-operatives and co-operative identity to peoples around the world since its introduction in 2002,

ASSERTS the importance of co-operatives using .coop as a unifying identity to promote co-operatives and the Co-operative Principles on the Internet – the fastest growing information medium in the world – in order to build awareness of the benefits to people throughout the world of the values of co-operative businesses and organisations,

NOTES the growing involvement of the ICA, particularly its Europe and Americas regions, in promoting the use of .coop by member co-operatives,

CALLS ON all ICA member co-operatives and co-operative organisations, as well as their members and eligible subsidiaries to:

- register their .coop domain names
- actively use their .coop domain names for their web sites
- actively use their .coop domain names for their primary email addresses
- actively use their .coop domain names on all promotional media
- actively promote the use of .coop domain names for all eligible co-operatives in the region or country and
- actively promote the use of .coop as a way to identify co-operatives on the Internet, and

URGES all leading co-operatives and co-operative organisations to support and invest in dotCoop in order to:

- ensure a truly multi-national co-operative ownership of .coop as was always intended
- reduce the cost of future registrations to encourage more and wider use of .coop and
- raise the profile of co-operatives and co-operation throughout the world.



2007 Rochdale Pioneer Award Recipients

*Mrs. Esther Gicheru
The Co-operative College
of Kenya*



*Royal Professor Ungku A. Aziz
National Co-operative Organisation
of Malaysia (ANGKASA)*



*Mr. Francisco Ceballo Herrero
Unión de Cooperativas de Consumidores y
Usuarios de España – Union of
Consumer and User-Owned Co-operatives
of Spain (UNCCUE)*





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