

ICA General Assembly

Convention and Exhibition Centre (COEX), Seoul, Korea

Draft Agenda – revised (17 August 2001)

Tuesday, 16 October

- 08:00-09:30 Registration
- 09:00-09:30 Musical Programme
- 09:30-12:30 Opening Ceremony
- ✦ ICA President
 - ✦ President of the National Co-operative Agricultural Federation (NACF) of Korea
 - ✦ Entertainment
 - ✦ President of the Republic of Korea
 - ✦ Keynote Address
 - Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, Director-General elect, World Trade Organization (WTO)
 - ✦ Video Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN)
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch hosted by NACF
- 14:00 - 16:00 “Co-operation and Peace in the era of Globalisation”
- ✦ Panel Presentation of “Co-operative Thinkers”
 - Moderator: Maria Elena Chavez
 - Panelists:
 - ✦ Pauline Green, Chief Executive & General Secretary, Co-operative Union, UK
 - ✦ Tan Kin Lian, Chairperson, Singapore National Co-operative Federation Ltd. (SNCF)
 - ✦ Goran Hultin, Executive Director, International Labour Office (ILO)
 - ✦ Marie Randriamamonjy, Chief, Women in Development Service, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
 - ✦ Discussion
- 16:00 - 17:30 Introduction to the Business Fora
- ✦ Panel Presentation of Thematic Issues
 - ✦ Guidelines for Co-operative Legislation, Hagen Henry,
 - ✦ Global Co-operative Learning Centre
 - ✦ Jan-Eirik Imbsen/ Yehudah Paz, ICA HRD Committee
 - ✦ .COOP: The new internet domain for co-operatives
Byron Henderson, Vice President of .coop Operations

Wednesday, 17 October

- 09:00-12:00 Business Fora: Co-operative Best Practice
- + How are co-operatives meet the challenge of guaranteeing safe food?
 - + Co-operative financial services: Is the co- operative advantage “on- line”?
 - + Service co-operatives in development: Solutions with care!
- 12:00-13:30 Lunch (Meeting of ICA Presidents – Messrs. Marcus, Melmoth, Rodrigues)
- 13:30-17:00 General Assembly Statutory Business
- + Opening and Welcome (RR)
 - + Approval of draft agenda
 - + Approval of draft minutes of the 1999 General Assembly
 - + Reports to Membership
 - Report from the Business For a (KJF)
 - Report of the President (RR)
 - Report of the Director-General (KJF)
 - Annual Report 2000
 - Financial Reports (Mark Hawkins, Ernst & Young / Chairman, Audit & Control Committee, Ivar Hansen)
 - Proposed Amendments to the ICA Standing Orders (RR)
 - Presentation of Candidates to the Board and Audit & Control Committee
 - ICA president invites candidates to address GA
 - Elections
 - President calls on DG to explain voting procedure – while the votes are counted, the GA resumes it agenda items.
 - President, Vice-presidents, Board members
 - Audit and Control Committee
 - Motions
 - JCCU
 - Board motions
 - Resolutions
 - Presentation of Rochdale Prize award (to Dr. Kurien)
 - Future Meetings (Invitation to Norway for 2003 GA)
 - Report of Elections
 - Certificates of appreciation to outgoing Board members (?)
 - Final words from outgoing President (?)

Closing of the General Assembly

ICA General Assembly 1999

Draft Minutes

The ICA President, Roberto Rodrigues, called the General Assembly to order following the closing of the ICA Congress.

The draft agenda was **approved**.

The draft minutes of the 1997 General Assembly in Geneva were **approved**.

The President then presented his [report to the General Assembly](#).

The President referred to his [speech at the Congress Opening Ceremony](#) concerning the need for governments to support co-operatives in order to lessen the problem of exclusion. He said that the Board had agreed that he should prepare a letter to governments along these lines. This letter would be sent to ICA member organisations before the end of September so that they could decide how best to make use of it in dealing with their own governments. This approach was **approved**.

The President invited comments or questions regarding [his report](#) and the ICA's Annual Report. Comments were made by Mr. V. Ermakov (Russia), Mr. V. Vladyko (Belarus), and Dr. S.S. Sisodia (India).

The President then requested the Director-General, Bruce Thordarson, to present the [results of the Organisational Review](#) initiated by the Board in April 1998. (This report, entitled "ICA 2005", is printed in the ICA's Review of International Co-operation, no. 2, 1999.)

Following this report, Mr. P. Ivanov (Bulgaria) commented on the importance of promoting international business contacts among co-operatives. The report "ICA 2005" was then **accepted** by the General Assembly.

The President then explained that there were five vacancies on the Board since the General Assembly elections of 1997. The General Assembly unanimously **elected**:

- Ousseynou Dieng of Senegal as ICA Vice-President (Africa)
- Miguel Cardozo of Uruguay as ICA Vice-President (Americas)
- Mu Li of China as ICA Vice-President (Asia and the Pacific)
- Mutsutami Harada of Japan to the ICA Board
- James Olesitse of Botswana to the ICA Board

The President presented certificates of appreciation to retiring Board members Bernard Wolimbwa, Yang Deshou, and Hiroshi Kohno.

Turning to the item of Financial Reports, the President invited Mr. Mark Hawkins of Ernst and Young, Geneva, to present the independent auditors' report.

Mr. Ivar Hansen, President of the ICA's Audit and Control Committee, then presented his committee's report for the last two years. It contained the recommendations that:

- The two-year surplus of CHF 17,653 be transferred to the ICA General Reserve
- The Board appoint a Sub-Committee for Finance
- The audited accounts for 1997 and 1998 be approved.

The President noted that the Board, at its meeting in Lévis, Québec, on 27 August, had decided to establish a Finance Committee consisting of the President, Vice-Presidents, and five other Board Members. The recommendations of the Audit and Control committee were then **approved**.

The President then invited the Chairman of the Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union, Shigenori Takemoto, to present a Peace Resolution (which is printed in the ICA's Review of International Co-operation, no. 2, 1999). This Resolution was **approved**.

The President of the Organisation of Co-operatives of Brazil, Dejandir Dalpasquale, invited members to attend the ICA's Regional Assembly for the Americas, which will be combined with a national Brazilian Congress and a Global ICA Forum, in Rio de Janeiro during the first week of December, 2000.

The Chairman of the National Agricultural Co-operative Federation of Korea, Chung Dae-Kun, officially invited the General Assembly to hold its next meeting, in the year 2001, in Seoul. This invitation was **accepted**.

Under the item Any Other Business, the President accepted from Jack Shaffer, former Executive Secretary of COPAC, a copy of a new Historical Dictionary about the world-wide co-operative movement. The President also invited Dr. José Espriu of Spain to address the General Assembly.

There being no other business, the President thanked the host movements and local organisers, the ICA staff, the interpreters, and the ICA members for having contributed to an extremely successful Congress and General Assembly.

He declared the General Assembly **closed**.



SUMMARY OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ICA PRESIDENT

ROBERTO RODRIGUES

1999-2001

Quebec City played host to the ICA Millennium Congress, from 29 August to September 1 1999. It was extremely successful, with more than 1,300 participants representing 80 countries, who were welcomed most warmly by the people of Quebec. During the event, the participants were made aware of the magnitude of the Canadian co-operative movement, mirrored in the Desjardins credit co-operative, one of the most important in Canada.

Between 1999 and 2001, Roberto Rodrigues participated in approximately 234 international events, as well as 137 events within Brazil.

During this period, the ICA President embarked upon 58 working visits, to the following countries:

- ✦ Africa (3): Benin, Ghana, Cape Verde
- ✦ The Americas (14): Argentina (4), The United States (2), Colombia (2), Canada, Mexico, Peru, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic and Paraguay
- ✦ Asia (13) : China, Israel, Palestine (Ramallah), Turkey, Greece, Singapore, Malaysia, Japan (2), Thailand, Nepal, India and Iran.
- ✦ Europe (27) : Italy (7), Finland, Switzerland (7), Spain, Poland, France (2), Germany, United Kingdom, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Austria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Bulgaria.

1. Meetings

In 2000 the ICA President participated in the ICA regional assemblies of Africa, (Benin), Asia (Singapore), Europe (Bratislava) and The Americas (Rio de Janeiro).

During his presidency, Roberto Rodrigues paid two working and lobbying visits to West Africa. He visited Benin, Cape Verde, Ghana and Senegal.

In all these countries, Mr. Rodrigues met with top governmental officials. He was honored by audiences with the President of Benin, Mr. Mathieu Kerekou; the Prime Minister of the Republic of Senegal, Mr. Mamadou Loum; by two Presidents of legislative assemblies (Senegal and Benin); by two Presidents of ECOSOC; and by five Ministers. Mr. Rodrigues has also participated in the following activities:

- ✦ The Fourth Meeting of the ICA Regional Assembly for Africa, in Benin
- ✦ Field visits of women's groups and co-operatives (agricultural, health, housing, savings/credit, artisan and handicraft)
- ✦ Meetings with co-operative congresses, unions, federations and women co-operative committees
- ✦ Press conferences

The key issues and main impact of these visits can be seen at the political, legislative and co-operative levels.

The major challenge and change co-operatives must face lies in the attitude of co-operative members exposed to uncertainty, and sometimes doubt, about what co-operatives can offer them.

The messages, lobbying and press conferences addressed to the co-operative movements, helped these organizations to:

- ✦ become aware of the importance of co-operatives in addressing the major development challenges facing Africa today, such as unemployment, social exclusion, health, etc.
- ✦ become aware that globalisation, liberalisation, competition and concentration are unavoidable. Co-operatives in Africa, to catch up, must reorganise and adapt themselves into realistic economic enterprises which are well managed, while abiding by - and living according to - their co-operative ideals, values and principles.
- ✦ undertake self-adjustment programs in Benin, Burkina, Cape Verde and Senegal.
- ✦ promote and integrate women into co-operatives. In FECECAM-Benin, about 40% of the total membership are women, as are 17% of the board members. In Senegal, 23% of board members are women.
- ✦ become ICA members. Three co-operatives from Benin and Cape Verde became members under the presidency of Roberto Rodrigues.

The most important impact of Mr. Rodrigues' presidency in Africa is tangible at the political and legislative levels.

- ✦ His visits to West Africa helped emphasize the vital role that the ICA plays in co-operative development, and helps to create a more peaceful, democratic world.
- ✦ The governments of the visited countries became aware of the importance of political support for the co-operative movements. Good understanding and trusting partnerships have been developed between co-operatives and governments.
- ✦ There is a growing awareness about co-operative policies and legislation, which is translated through co-operative reform programs, thanks to the lobbying of the ICA presidency. These programs are on going in Benin, Ghana and Senegal.

2. Meetings with the UN System

The ICA President took part in a meeting about sustainable agriculture, promoted by the United Nations Committee for Sustainable Agriculture, entitled "The best usage of natural resources to assure the food production cycle". It was held at the headquarters of the UN on 24 April, 2001. The following day, Mr. Rodrigues gave the opening plenary speech in Section 3 of the CSD-8 (Commission of Sustainable Development) regarding the "Knowledge for a sustainable agriculture production system: education, training and information diffusion".

3. ICA Action Plan

After leading the international co-operative movement for over 100 years, and considering the immense political and economic changes that have taken place around the world, the members of the Board arrived at the conclusion that it there was a pressing need to review all

aspects of ICA operations, with a view to updating its operations and continuing the important work of fostering and developing the system. A special report was prepared as part of this review process.

This report was prepared by Edgar Parnell, former CEO of the Plunkett Foundation, and provided the focus for discussion at two special meetings: of the ICA Board held in Paris on 17 October 1998; and at a joint meeting of the ICA Board and the Chairpersons of the Specialised Bodies on 18 October 1998. Taking into account the views expressed at these two meetings, the original document was revised and a series of key issues were identified.

Based on this document, the Director General prepared a final proposal, in the shape of two papers that were proposed to the Board: “ A Vision Statement for 2005 and The Action Plan”, both later approved by the ICA General Assembly, held in Quebec City, on 1 September, 1999.

Starting the implementation of the Plan, the ICA Board confirmed the new administrative structure proposed by the new Director General, according to the four focus areas: co-operative identity, international co-operative presence, development and networking with communication as an important crosscutting issue. During the years 2000 and 2001 the implementation was underway and it is expected the new Presidency and Board members to continue the task.

4. The review of ILO Recommendation 127

The Governing Body of the International Labour Organization of United Nations – ILO - decided, during its session in March 1999, to include in the years 2000 and 2001 the question of the revision of the Recommendation 127 in the agenda of the ILO Conference, which includes the 177 member states of the Organization.

The ICA participated in the Eighty-ninth Session of the Conference, held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 5-21 June 2001, being represented by the Director General, Karl Fogelstrom, and the Deputy Director General, Maria Elena Chavez.

5. Membership

At the beginning of the mandate, the ICA had 224 associate members. Today, there are 253 members, representing a 13% increase. In 1996, ICA had receipts of CHF 1.97 million . At the end of this year it will reach CHF 2.4 million, an increase of 20%.

There has also been a change in the Specialized Bodies. Until 1997, the ICA was operated very centrally. The Specialised Organisations were much like satellites revolving around the ICA. However, more and more, members preferred to remain members of the Specialised Organisations and the ICA. A new strategy was approved in 1997, and today we have institutional co-operation with nearly all of the Specialised Organisations.

The meetings promoted by ICA have also undergone profound changes. In the past, although well organised, content was mainly limited to whatever interventions the members had submitted on a chosen subject for a General Assembly or Congress. Since the first Global Forum in Seoul in 1998, ICA’s global meetings have adopted a different approach that of inviting speakers to present co-operative ‘Best Practice’. Speakers have been grouped in three

“clusters” – food, finance and services – thus enabling member to easily identify those topics that are of the specific interest. The result is a higher appreciation of the quality of the meetings.

6. The Rochdale Pioneers Prize

This year for the first time, the Rochdale Pioneers Prize will be awarded. It was with great satisfaction that we recognised the brilliant work of the Indian cooperator, Dr. Verghese Kurien, and his important contribution towards improving the lives of millions of people.

7. ICA Financial situation

The draft final accounts for the year 2000 were presented showing a loss of almost CHF 1.2 million wiping out virtually all ICA's reserves. The losses come from the payments to Mr. Bruce Thordarson and Ms. Mary Treacy, totalling CHF 485.000; deficits in the Regional Office of the Americas, CHF 392,905; for the Regional Office of Asia and the Pacific, CHF 144,066; Regional Office for Eastern, Central and Southern Africa, CHF 29,058 and the Regional Office for West Africa, CHF 60,969.

The secretariat has worked hard to re-plan and re-budget. Close monitoring and control has been exercised. At the Finance Committee meeting in September this year the projected result for the year 2001 indicated a small surplus that means the blood-letting seems to be stopped. The Director General, Karl Fogelstrom, will present a more detailed report.

8. Awards

During 2000 and 2001, Mr. Rodrigues received the following awards:

- ✦ For the last two years, he has been elected Brazil's top rural leader by the financial newspaper Gazeta Mercantil.
- ✦ He was awarded with Paulista Medal of Scientific and Technological Merit, granted by São Paulo State Government, on 2 June 2001.
- ✦ He received the Certificate of Honour of Merit from the Polish Confederation of Co-operatives.
- ✦ He was awarded with OCB Trophy “Co-operative Identity of the New Millennium”, on the occasion of Rio Cooperative 2000.



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17 September 2001

TO: Registered Participants to the ICA General Assembly
"Co-operation and Peace in the Era of Globalization"

FROM: Karl J. Fogelström
Director-General

REF: General Assembly Information (Attached)

- * Introduction to the candidates for the Board and Audit & Control Committee
- * Information on voting procedures
- * Practical information
- * Draft Minutes of the ICA General Assembly 1999 (Québec, Canada)

In light of the recent tragic events, we wish to confirm to each of you that the **ICA meetings in Seoul will take place as planned**. We have consulted with the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London to determine if there was a security risk in holding a large non-governmental meeting in Korea in October. The Institute sees no reason for cancelling or postponing any meeting held by a non-governmental organisation. Furthermore, the Republic of Korea is not in any way a target for international or religious terrorism; but Korea, like most other countries, has increased its overall security in the aftermath of these events.

It is based on the above that ICA has decided to maintain the date of the General Assembly in Seoul. We hope that you will be able to join us.

May I take this opportunity to also remind all participants to send their passport number in advance to the host organisation in order to be able to enter the opening ceremony. Please send this either by e-mail (nacfico@nuri.net) or by fax (+ 82 2 3975290). As the Korean President will address the opening of the General Assembly, security for that session will be strict. Those persons who do not send their passport details will not be able to enter the hall.

We look forward to seeing you in Seoul.

ICA message in support of innocent victims in US tragedy

On behalf of the world co-operative movement, the ICA sends its most heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims of the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington. We were shocked by the news and concerned for the safety of our members, their employees and families in the New York and Washington areas. There is no cause that can justify this senseless violence on innocent victims. The ICA joins the United States and nations around the world in denouncing all acts of terror and reiterates the need for the peoples of the world to find peaceful solutions in respect of humanity."



ICA General Assembly, Seoul (Korea) Voting / Elections – Note on Procedure

Member organisations should note the following:

1. **Voting cards** and **Ballot papers** (based on the voting entitlement of each member organisation calculated according to the ICA Rules) will be available in Seoul and should be collected by an accredited Representative of your organisation from the ICA Desk on the morning of the General Assembly, 17 October 2001.
2. Member organisations, which have entrusted their votes to another member organisation from the same country, must provide written authority to enable documents to be issued to the appropriate representative.
3. Ballot papers for the election of the **Board** and for the **Audit & Control Committee** should be marked with an **X** for not more than 15 candidates in the case of the Board, and not more than 5 candidates in the case of the Audit & Control Committee. Any ballots exceeding this number of votes will be declared invalid.
4. Voting for the new Board and Audit & Control Committee will take place after the introduction of candidates, in accordance with the General Assembly Agenda when member organisations will be asked to deposit their completed Ballot papers in the Ballot Box.
5. The result of the election will be announced as soon as the count has been completed.
6. **Voting cards** will be utilised in the event of there being a call for a vote on an agenda item, as declared by the President.

September 2001



ICA General Assembly, Seoul (Korea) Information on Candidates for Election

President – Board - Audit and Control Committee

(Name of Candidate, Nominating Organisation, Country)

Candidate for ICA President



Mr Ivano BARBERINI, Legacoop, Italy

Mr Barberini is President of Legacoop and has over 40 years experience in the co-operative movement. He began his co-operative career in the consumer co-operative sector and since 1996 has held the position of President of Legacoop, a multisectoral organisation which represents over 10,000 co-operatives with more than 5 million member. Mr Barberini has also been very active in working with European and international movements promoting Co-operative Values and Principles, collaboration among co-operatives and has also been involved in solidarity actions for developing countries and emergency aid.

Candidates for ICA Vice-Presidents (listed by their regional affiliation)



AFRICA : Mr Ousseynou Dieng, Director, Union National de Coopérative du Sénégal, Senegal ☐

Mr Dieng was elected by the Regional Assembly for Africa as the ICA Vice-President for Africa. He is currently Director of the National Co-operative Union of Senegal. Mr Dieng has worked in various sectors of activity including agriculture, fisheries, housing, industrial and artisanal co-operatives. Mr Dieng has actively promoted the participation and integration of women and youth in the movement, the development of trade and commercial activities of co-operatives as well as education and training in how to implement the Co-operative Principles and Values in co-operatives.



AMERICAS : Mr Miguel Cardozo, Cooperativa Nacional de Ahorro y Crédito (COFAC), Uruguay ☐

Mr Cardozo was elected by the Regional Assembly for the Americas as the ICA Americas President for a second term. He has been a leader of the co-operative movement of Uruguay since 1977. He was a founding member of the Savings and Credit Co-operative CACDU and President of COFAC (Federation of Savings and Credit Co-operatives) from 1984 to 1993. Mr. Cardozo was President of CUDECOOP (Confederation of the Co-operatives of Uruguay) from 1988 to 1996 and Honorary President of CUDECOOP since 1997. He is a member of the Executive Committee of ICBA and Chairperson of the ICBA Regional Committee for the Americas.



ASIA/PACIFIC: Mr Mu Li, All China Supply and Marketing Co-operatives (ACFSMC), China ☐

Mr Mu Li has been Vice-President for the Asia/Pacific region since 1999. He is also holds the position of Vice-President of the All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives.



EUROPE: Mr Lars Hillbom, Kooperativa Förbundet (KF), Sweden ☐

Mr Hillbom was first elected ICA Vice-President for the European Region in 1995 and was recently re-elected as the President of ICA Europe. Board member of several ICA specialised organisations, he is also Chairman for the ICA European Council. Mr Hillbom is currently Senior Vice-President and Head of the Swedish Co-operative Union's International Relations Department and has held this post since 1987.

☐ *Indicates present members of the ICA Board*

Candidates for the ICA Board (listed in order of the country of their organisation)



1. Mr Americo UTUMI, Organisation of Co-operative of Brazil (OCB)

Mr Utumi has most recently worked as the ICA President's chief advisor and is member of the Consultative Committee of Sao Paulo State Organisation of Co-operatives (OCESP). He began his co-operative career in 1952 in a farmers' co-operative and has held a variety of positions in the Brazilian co-operative movement including Vice-President of OCB, President of OCESP (for four mandates), Director-General of OCB and President of CAC Rural Credit Co-operative. Mr Utumi has been member of the Board of the Organisation of Co-operatives of the Americas (OCA) as well as Executive Secretary of the International Co-operative Agricultural Organisation, an ICA specialised organisation. He has also held governmental posts such as Secretary of Supply for the City of Sao Paulo, and advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture of Sao Paulo State and to the Institute of Cooperatives and Associations.



2. Mr Glen TULLY, Conseil Canadien de la Coopération (CCC) / Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA), Canada

Mr Tully is the President of the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) which is the anglophone co-operative apex organisation in Canada representing over 3000 co-operatives. He has also served on the Audit Committee, the Resolution Committee and a Committee to review CCA's byelaws. Mr Tully represents Federated Co-operatives Limited which provides central wholesaling, manufacturing, marketing and administrative services to its member retail co-operatives in Western Canada. Its annual turnover is CDN 3 billion. Mr. Tully farms in Marquette, Manitoba. He has also worked as a manager of a credit union.



3. Mr Ivan PRIKRYL, Co-operative Association of the Czech Republic □

Mr Prikryl is currently President of the Board of the Co-operative Association and President of the Union of Czech and Moravian Housing Co-operatives. He has been an active member of the ICA Board (1997-2001) especially with regard to co-operative legislation, and a member of the Executive Committee of ICA Housing. Since 1979 he has been in charge of legal matters for housing co-operative in Litomerice. In 1990 he was elected Vice-President and shortly after as President of the Union of Czech and Moravian Housing Co-operatives. He was re-elected in 1999.



4. Mr Jean-Claude DETILLEUX, Groupement National de la Coopération (GNC), France

Mr Detilleux has held the position of President of the Groupement National de la Coopération (GNC) since 1998. GNC brings together 15 national sectoral organisations in France. His principal occupation is President and Director-General of Crédit Coopératif, one of the five co-operative banks of France which has 175 branches and 2400 staff and a balance of 8.5 billion Euros. The membership of the Crédit Coopératif is constituted by non-profit organisations (associations, trade unions, mutuals, etc) as well as small and medium-size enterprises. Mr Detilleux's experience in the co-operative movement thus spans not only the finance and banking but also the wider non-financial co-operative movement.



5. Mr George KATAMADZE, Georgian Consumer Co-operatives Central Union “Tsekavshiri”, Georgia

Mr Katamadze was elected as Chairperson of the Board of the Georgian Consumer Co-operatives Central Union “Tsekavshiri” in 1996 and was recently re-elected for a second term (2001-2006). He has over 25 years experience in the co-operative movement. He is also the Chairperson of the Board of the Black Sea Region and Balkan Co-operative Union (1999-to date). Since 1989, Mr Katamadze has held the presidency of a business association and is a Board member of the Association, “Marketing Research Centre”. He is deputy Chairperson of the Georgian Citizen’s Union and in during 1999-2001 was Chairperson of the Co-operative Council of the Commonwealth of Independent States, “Mezhcoopsovet”.



6. Mr Jens HEISER, GdW Bundesverband deutscher Wohnungsunternehmen (Federation of German Housing Co-operatives and Associations), Germany □

Mr. Heiser is currently the Chairperson of the Council of GdW and President of ICA Housing, an ICA specialised organisation. He has served on the ICA Board since 1993. Mr Heiser has held a number of elected positions in the German co-operative movement since 1973 when he served as a Board member in a housing co-operative. In 1976 he was elected to the supervisory board of a federation of housing co-operatives and in 1984 became a delegate to the GdW. He was elected as Chair of the Working Group of Housing Associations in Hamburg in 1988 and in 1990 was elected as President and member of the Supervisory Board of GdW.



7. Dr Sawai Singh SISODIA, National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI), India

Dr Sisodia is currently the President of NCUI and has been in the co-operative movement for over 50 years. Prior to his election as NCUI President, he was President of the National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks & Credit Societies. He serves as a Board member to prominent national co-operative federations in India and is the promoter of numerous co-operatives. Dr Sisodia has also been active in government as a member of parliament for 13 years, Minister of State for Finance of the Government of India, Cabinet Minister in provincial government, Chairperson of Public Sector, Food Corporation of India and is presently Chairperson of the Provincial Financial Commission. At the international level, Dr Sisodia is a Board member of the International Raiffeisen Union (IRU). He is also Chairperson of the India-China Society and founder of a number of academic institutions. He is senior advocate of the Supreme Court of India.



8. Dr Yehudah PAZ, Central Union of Co-operative Societies, Israel □

Dr Paz has served the ICA as a member of the Board since 1993, as chairman of the Global Human Resource Development Committee since 1995 and as a member of the Standing Committee of the Asia-Pacific region. He is Chairperson of the Department of International Relations of the Central Union of Co-operative Societies in Israel and academic Director of the Co-operative College. Dr Paz is also a member of Kibbutz Kissufim (since 1951), of the secretariat of the United Kibbutz Movement and of the Presidium of the Israeli Co-operative Council. Dr Paz is chairperson of the Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Development (NISPED) - Negev College and senior consultant to the Peres Peace Center.



9. Ms Stefania MARCONE, AGCI / Confcooperative / Legacoop, Italy □

Ms Marcone is Director of the International Relations Office of Legacoop and has been an active member of the Board during 1997-2001 where she was particularly involved in gender and youth activities in the international co-operative movement. Ms Marcone joined Legacoop in 1987 and served in the International Department. Prior to this she was President of a cooperative society active in the service sector. Ms Marcone also worked with the Italian National Bank in the external relations department.



10. Mr Mutsutami HARADA, Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives (JA-ZENCHU), Japan

Mr Harada has been President of JA-Zenchu since 1996 having been re-elected to a second term of office in 1999. He is also currently President of the Hiroshima Prefectural Union of Agricultural Co-operatives (since 1982) and President of the Hiroshima City Primary Agricultural Co-operatives (since 1991).



11. Mr Hosea KIPLAGAT, The Co-operative Bank of Kenya, Kenya

Mr Kiplagat is currently Chairperson of the Co-operative Bank of Kenya. He began his co-operative career in agriculture and was a co-operative leader in Baringo. He was elected in the early 1980s as a director in the Co-operative Bank where he later served as Vice-Chair. He was elected Chairperson in 1993 and has been instrumental in the expansion of the Bank and the co-operative movement in general, by spearheading member education and promotion initiatives. After the 1998 bomb blast, Mr. Kiplagat led the successful recovery and relocation of the Bank's headquarters.



12. Dae-Kun CHUNG, National Agricultural Co-operative Federation (NACF), Korea

Mr Chung has served as Chairman of NACF since 1999. His election was confirmed in 2000 following the incorporation of two national agricultural co-operatives. He is also currently the Chairperson of the Organising Committee for the ICA General Assembly in Seoul. Mr Chung served as President of the Samrangjin Agricultural Co-operative in Korea for 24 years having been elected for eight consecutive terms. In 1998 he served as Standing Auditor of NACF for a two-year period.



13. Mr Talaq SAQR AL-HAIM, Union of Consumer Co-operative Societies, Kuwait

Mr Al-Haim is currently Chairperson of the Union of Consumer Co-operative Societies. He is also Vice-President of the ICA Office for North Africa and the Arab World, member of the Board of Directors of the Arab Co-operative Union and Vice-Chair for the National Co-operative Projects Committee. Mr Al-Haim is the General Service Supervisor at the Hawally Educational Area of the Ministry of Education.



14. Ms. Rahaiah BAHERAN, ANGKASA, Malaysia □

Ms Baheran is currently a member of the ICA Board, the Executive Committee of the ICA Gender Equality Committee and Chairperson of the ICA Regional Women's Committee for Asia & the Pacific. She is the Vice-President of ANGKASA and Chairperson of ANGKASA's Education and Women Development Committee. Ms Baheran has over 40 years experience in the co-operative movement and today is the Director of various co-operatives in Malaysia. She is a member of the Women's Advisory Council of Malaysia, Director of the Agricultural Bank of Malaysia and has served two terms as a Senator in the Malaysian Parliament.



15. Mr Guillermo ALVAREZ CUEVAS, Confederación Nacional de Cooperativas de Actividades Diversas de la Republic Mexicana (CNC), Mexico

Mr Alvarez Cuevas is currently Honorary President of CNC and Director-General of the co-operative society "La Cruz Azul". He has held a number of positions within "La Cruz Azul" including Director of Marketing and Finance, as well as Chairperson of the Administrative Council and of the Control Committee. Mr Alvarez Cuevas is also Director of the Sports Club of the co-operative society and is the management representative with the co-operative.



16. Mr Steinar DVERGSDAL, Federation of Norwegian Agricultural Co-operatives, Norway

Mr Dvergsdal is President of the Federation of Norwegian Agricultural Co-operatives, member of the Board of Directors of the national consumer co-operative organisation, Coop Norway (1995-2001), President of the Norwegian Agricultural Purchasing and Marketing Co-operation since 1995 and leader of the Organising Committee of the 2003 ICA General Assembly in Norway. Mr Dvergsdal is a farmer with more than 25 years active participation in the local, regional and national co-operative movement in agriculture, consumer and other co-operatives including the Norwegian Standing Committee on Co-operative Affairs.



17. Mr Janusz PASZKOWSKI, National Auditing Union of Workers' Co-operatives (NAUWC), Poland

Mr Paszowski has served as Chairperson of the Supervisory Council of the NAUWC since 2000, an organisation he assisted in founding. He has also been a member of the leadership of the National Co-operative Council that associates almost 20,000 members since 1995. Mr Paszowski has been connected with the co-operative movement since the beginning of his professional life. He has also been associated with the workers' and housing co-operative movement. In the 1970s and 1980s he was involved in founding housing co-operatives in Krakow and has led large medical and textile co-operatives.



18. Ms Elba ECHEVARRIA DIAZ, Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito de Arcibo (COOPACA), Puerto Rico □

Ms Echeverria Diaz is currently member of the Board and Treasurer of COOPACA. With over 30 years experience working as an educator in the capacity of Director of the Co-operative Education Department, she has also served as a professor and the Director of the Co-operative Institute, a manager as well as Chairperson of the Board of Directors of several credit unions including a federation of credit unions. Ms Echevarria Diaz has been Chairperson of ALCECOOP, a member of the ICA Americas Council and a member of the ICA Board. She is member of the ICA Gender Equality Committee, Chairperson of the ICA Americas Human Resource Development Committee and Vice-Chairperson of the ICA Global HRD Committee.



19. Mr Valentin ERMAKOV, Centrosojuz, Russia □

Mr Ermakov serves as Chairperson of the Board of Centrosojuz. He has served as a member of the ICA Board for the last decade. Mr Ermakov also serves as first President of the Association of Co-operative Organisations of Russia. Mr Ermakov has been working in the consumer co-operative movement since 1948 and has been a leader of the movement for the last 20 years. His achievements include the adoption of three consumer co-operative laws, specific programmes to stabilise and promote the co-operative movement, the advancement of women and youth in co-operatives and the establishment of a newspaper, "Russian Co-operation". Mr Ermakov has been rewarded with governmental awards including the presidential order for "Services to the Motherland".



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Mr Samarasingue has served as President of NCC, the apex co-operative institution in Sri Lanka since 1989. He also holds the Chair of the Sri Lanka Co-operative Insurance Company and is Vice-Chair of APHCO, and President of the National Hospital Co-operative Societies Federation. He holds Board positions in the Co-operative Marketing Federation, Consumer Federation, Co-operative Rural Banks Federation, and Gampaha District Co-operative Council. He was host and chief organizer of the 4th ICA Ministerial Conference and the SAARC Co-operative Forum held in Colombo. Mr

Samarasingue has participated in ICA regional committee meetings on agriculture, consumer, and has participated in the ICA since 1989.



21. Ms Pauline GREEN, Co-operative Union, United Kingdom

Pauline Green was appointed Chief Executive and General Secretary of the UK Co-operative Union in January 2000. She has been involved in the co-operative movement at local, national and international levels for many years and was recently member of the Co-operative Commission nominated by the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Tony Blair. She is also President of the Worker Co-op Federation in Britain. Pauline Green was elected to the European Parliament in 1989 as a Co-op sponsored member, and was a leader of the European Parliament's largest group, the Socialist/Social Democrat Group between 1994 and 1999, during which time she was heavily involved at senior levels of policy making in the European Union and its member governments.



22. Mr David MILLER, Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company, United States □

David Miller is completing his second term as an ICA Board member. He is a Director of Nationwide, and Chairman of Scottsdale Insurance Company, a Nationwide subsidiary. He has served on the Nationwide Board of Directors since 1985. He is partner in M&M Enterprises, a real estate development firm. Mr Miller is a Director and past Chairperson of the National Co-operative Business Association (NCBA). He was President of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, a Director of the American Farm Bureau Federation and Director of Landmark Inc., a regional farm supply co-operative.

Candidates for the Audit & Control Committee (listed in order of the country of their organisation)



1. Mr Wilhelm KALTENBORN, Gesamtverband Deutscher Konsumgenossenschaften (GDK), Germany □□

Mr Kaltenborn serves as one of the two presidents of GDK, the All German Union of Consumer Co-operatives which was founded in 2000. He has also served since 1993 as the Chief Executive Officer of Konsumverband, the central association of consumer co-operatives of East Germany. Mr Kaltenborn has participated in ICA activities since 1993 and has been member of the ICA Audit and Control Committee since 1994 (as a representative of Konsumverband).



2. Mr Pál BARTUS, Co-op Hungary, Hungary □□

Mr Bartus has been President of Co-op Hungary since 1992 and since 1995 also President of Co-op Hungary Ltd. He is also a member of the ICA European Council and has served on the ICA Audit and Control Committee for two terms. He began his career in the co-operative movement in 1967 as a Trade Director and later as President of a consumer co-operative society in Jászberény, one of the most successful co-operatives in Hungary. He was elected in 1990 as Vice-President of Co-op Hungary. Mr Bartus also participated in Intercoop/Intergroup.



3. Mr Shigenorir TAKEMOTO, Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union (JCCU), Japan □□

Mr Takemoto has served as the President of JCCU since 1993 and is the Vice-Chairperson of the Japan Joint Committee of Co-operatives. He has a long experience in the co-operative movement dating back to 1954 when he became Managing Director of the Doshisha University Consumer Co-operative. He joined Co-op Kobe in 1957 and in 1982 was appointed as Managing Director. In 1989 Mr Takemoto was elected as President of Co-op Kobe. He was served as a Board member of JCCU in 1991 and in 1993 was elected Chairperson of the Board of Co-op Kobe. Mr Takemoto presently also serves as an advisor to Co-op Kobe. He has been a member of a number of governmental councils.



4. Mr Jakub JANIAK, National Auditing Union of Workers' Co-operatives (NAUWC), Poland

Mr Janiak has held the position of Deputy President of the NAUWC since 1995 and is also currently a member of the Board of Directors of CECOP. In 1991 he was elected as President of the Board of NAUWC. He has been connected with the audit and control of co-operatives and the State for most of his professional life and is a well-known expert in co-operative audit.



5. Mr Herath Mudiyansele Rohana Bandara HERATH, National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka (NCC), Sri Lanka

Mr Herath is currently the Chairperson of the Co-operative Rural Banks Federation of Sri Lanka. He also has held a variety of governmental positions since 1982 including Assistant Commissioner for Agriculture. From 1995 to date he has held the position of Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Co-operative Development.



6. Ms Gun-Britt MARTENSSON, HSB Riksförbund, Sweden ☐☐

Ms Martensson was appointed Chairperson and President of HSB in 1997. She is a member of the Board of ICA Housing as well as of CEDOHAS, the European Union organisation for housing where she serves as the Vice-President of the Co-operative Section. Ms. Martensson has been active in national and local politics holding positions such a Mayor of her hometown, Board member of the Social Democratic Party and has participated in a number of governmental committees on elderly care, labour market questions, local democracy as well as in the Commission entrusted to investigate police work with regard to the murder of the Prime Minister, Olaf Palme. She has participated in the European Union as a member of the Committee of Regions of the EU and in 1999 was appointed Vice-Chair of the national committee preparing the 7th European Conference on Social Economy.

Last update: 17 September 2001



ICA General Assembly, Seoul (Korea) Information on Candidates for Election

President – Board - Audit and Control Committee

(Name of Candidate, Nominating Organisation, Country)

Candidate for ICA President



Mr Ivano BARBERINI, Legacoop, Italy

Mr Barberini is President of Legacoop and has over 40 years experience in the co-operative movement. He began his co-operative career in the consumer co-operative sector and since 1996 has held the position of President of Legacoop, a multisectoral organisation which represents over 10,000 co-operatives with more than 5 million member. Mr Barberini has also been very active in working with European and international movements promoting Co-operative Values and Principles, collaboration among co-operatives and has also been involved in solidarity actions for developing countries and emergency aid.

Candidates for ICA Vice-Presidents (listed by their regional affiliation)



AFRICA : Mr Ousseynou Dieng, Director, Union National de Coopérative du Sénégal, Senegal □

Mr Dieng was elected by the Regional Assembly for Africa as the ICA Vice-President for Africa. He is currently Director of the National Co-operative Union of Senegal. Mr Dieng has worked in various sectors of activity including agriculture, fisheries, housing, industrial and artisanal co-operatives. Mr Dieng has actively promoted the participation and integration of women and youth in the movement, the development of trade and commercial activities of co-operatives as well as education and training in how to implement the Co-operative Principles and Values in co-operatives.



AMERICAS : Mr Miguel Cardozo, Cooperativa Nacional de Ahorro y Crédito (COFAC), Uruguay □

Mr Cardozo was elected by the Regional Assembly for the Americas as the ICA Americas President for a second term. He has been a leader of the co-operative movement of Uruguay since 1977. He was a founding member of the Savings and Credit Co-operative CACDU and President of COFAC (Federation of Savings and Credit Co-operatives) from 1984 to 1993. Mr. Cardozo was President of CUDECOOP (Confederation of the Co-operatives of Uruguay) from 1988 to 1996 and Honorary President of CUDECOOP since 1997. He is a member of the Executive Committee of ICBA and Chairperson of the ICBA Regional Committee for the Americas.



ASIA/PACIFIC: Mr Mu Li, All China Supply and Marketing Co-operatives (ACFSMC), China □

Mr Mu Li has been Vice-President for the Asia/Pacific region since 1999. He is also holds the position of Vice-President of the All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives.



EUROPE: Mr Lars Hillbom, Kooperativa Förbundet (KF), Sweden □

Mr Hillbom was first elected ICA Vice-President for the European Region in 1995 and was recently re-elected as the President of ICA Europe. Board member of several ICA specialised organisations, he is also Chairman for the ICA European Council. Mr Hillbom is currently Senior Vice-President and Head of the Swedish Co-operative Union's International Relations Department and has held this post since 1987.

□ *Indicates present members of the ICA Board*

Candidates for the ICA Board (listed in order of the country of their organisation)



1. Mr Americo UTUMI, Organisation of Co-operative of Brazil (OCB)

Mr Utumi has most recently worked as the ICA President's chief advisor and is member of the Consultative Committee of Sao Paulo State Organisation of Co-operatives (OCESP). He began his co-operative career in 1952 in a farmers' co-operative and has held a variety of positions in the Brazilian co-operative movement including Vice-President of OCB, President of OCESP (for four mandates), Director-General of OCB and President of CAC Rural Credit Co-operative. Mr Utumi has been member of the Board of the Organisation of Co-operatives of the Americas (OCA) as well as Executive Secretary of the International Co-operative Agricultural Organisation, an ICA specialised organisation. He has also held governmental posts such as Secretary of Supply for the City of Sao Paulo, and advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture of Sao Paulo State and to the Institute of Cooperatives and Associations.



2. Mr Glen TULLY, Conseil Canadien de la Coopération (CCC) / Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA), Canada

Mr Tully is the President of the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) which is the anglophone co-operative apex organisation in Canada representing over 3000 co-operatives. He has also served on the Audit Committee, the Resolution Committee and a Committee to review CCA's byelaws. Mr Tully represents Federated Co-operatives Limited which provides central wholesaling, manufacturing, marketing and administrative services to its member retail co-operatives in Western Canada. Its annual turnover is CDN 3 billion. Mr. Tully farms in Marquette, Manitoba. He has also worked as a manager of a credit union.



3. Mr Ivan PRIKRYL, Co-operative Association of the Czech Republic □

Mr Prikryl is currently President of the Board of the Co-operative Association and President of the Union of Czech and Moravian Housing Co-operatives. He has been an active member of the ICA Board (1997-2001) especially with regard to co-operative legislation, and a member of the Executive Committee of ICA Housing. Since 1979 he has been in charge of legal matters for housing co-operative in Litomerice. In 1990 he was elected Vice-President and shortly after as President of the Union of Czech and Moravian Housing Co-operatives. He was re-elected in 1999.



4. Mr Jean-Claude DETILLEUX, Groupement National de la Coopération (GNC), France

Mr Detilleux has held the position of President of the Groupement National de la Coopération (GNC) since 1998. GNC brings together 15 national sectoral organisations in France. His principal occupation is President and Director-General of Crédit Coopératif, one of the five co-operative banks of France which has 175 branches and 2400 staff and a balance of 8.5 billion Euros. The membership of the Crédit Coopératif is constituted by non-profit organisations (associations, trade unions, mutuals, etc) as well as small and medium-size enterprises. Mr Detilleux's experience in the co-operative movement thus spans not only the finance and banking but also the wider non-financial co-operative movement.



5. Mr George KATAMADZE, Georgian Consumer Co-operatives Central Union “Tsekavshiri”, Georgia

Mr Katamadze was elected as Chairperson of the Board of the Georgian Consumer Co-operatives Central Union “Tsekavshiri” in 1996 and was recently re-elected for a second term (2001-2006). He has over 25 years experience in the co-operative movement. He is also the Chairperson of the Board of the Black Sea Region and Balkan Co-operative Union (1999-to date). Since 1989, Mr Katamadze has held the presidency of a business association and is a Board member of the Association, “Marketing Research Centre”. He is deputy Chairperson of the Georgian Citizen’s Union and in during 1999-2001 was Chairperson of the Co-operative Council of the Commonwealth of Independent States, “Mezhcoopsovet”.



6. Mr Jens HEISER, GdW Bundesverband deutscher Wohnungsunternehmen (Federation of German Housing Co-operatives and Associations), Germany □

Mr. Heiser is currently the Chairperson of the Council of GdW and President of ICA Housing, an ICA specialised organisation. He has served on the ICA Board since 1993. Mr Heiser has held a number of elected positions in the German co-operative movement since 1973 when he served as a Board member in a housing co-operative. In 1976 he was elected to the supervisory board of a federation of housing co-operatives and in 1984 became a delegate to the GdW. He was elected as Chair of the Working Group of Housing Associations in Hamburg in 1988 and in 1990 was elected as President and member of the Supervisory Board of GdW.



7. Dr Sawai Singh SISODIA, National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI), India

Dr Sisodia is currently the President of NCUI and has been in the co-operative movement for over 50 years. Prior to his election as NCUI President, he was President of the National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks & Credit Societies. He serves as a Board member to prominent national co-operative federations in India and is the promoter of numerous co-operatives. Dr Sisodia has also been active in government as a member of parliament for 13 years, Minister of State for Finance of the Government of India, Cabinet Minister in provincial government, Chairperson of Public Sector, Food Corporation of India and is presently Chairperson of the Provincial Financial Commission. At the international level, Dr Sisodia is a Board member of the International Raiffeisen Union (IRU). He is also Chairperson of the India-China Society and founder of a number of academic institutions. He is senior advocate of the Supreme Court of India.



8. Dr Yehudah PAZ, Central Union of Co-operative Societies, Israel □

Dr Paz has served the ICA as a member of the Board since 1993, as chairman of the Global Human Resource Development Committee since 1995 and as a member of the Standing Committee of the Asia-Pacific region. He is Chairperson of the Department of International Relations of the Central Union of Co-operative Societies in Israel and academic Director of the Co-operative College. Dr Paz is also a member of Kibbutz Kissufim (since 1951), of the secretariat of the United Kibbutz Movement and of the Presidium of the Israeli Co-operative Council. Dr Paz is chairperson of the Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Development (NISPED) - Negev College and senior consultant to the Peres Peace Center.



9. Ms Stefania MARCONE, AGCI / Confcooperative / Legacoop, Italy □

Ms Marcone is Director of the International Relations Office of Legacoop and has been an active member of the Board during 1997-2001 where she was particularly involved in gender and youth activities in the international co-operative movement. Ms Marcone joined Legacoop in 1987 and served in the International Department. Prior to this she was President of a cooperative society active in the service sector. Ms Marcone also worked with the Italian National Bank in the external relations department.



10. Mr Mutsutami HARADA, Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives (JA-ZENCHU), Japan

Mr Harada has been President of JA-Zenchu since 1996 having been re-elected to a second term of office in 1999. He is also currently President of the Hiroshima Prefectural Union of Agricultural Co-operatives (since 1982) and President of the Hiroshima City Primary Agricultural Co-operatives (since 1991).



11. Mr Hosea KIPLAGAT, The Co-operative Bank of Kenya, Kenya

Mr Kiplagat is currently Chairperson of the Co-operative Bank of Kenya. He began his co-operative career in agriculture and was a co-operative leader in Baringo. He was elected in the early 1980s as a director in the Co-operative Bank where he later served as Vice-Chair. He was elected Chairperson in 1993 and has been instrumental in the expansion of the Bank and the co-operative movement in general, by spearheading member education and promotion initiatives. After the 1998 bomb blast, Mr. Kiplagat led the successful recovery and relocation of the Bank's headquarters.



12. Dae-Kun CHUNG, National Agricultural Co-operative Federation (NACF), Korea

Mr Chung has served as Chairman of NACF since 1999. His election was confirmed in 2000 following the incorporation of two national agricultural co-operatives. He is also currently the Chairperson of the Organising Committee for the ICA General Assembly in Seoul. Mr Chung served as President of the Samrangjin Agricultural Co-operative in Korea for 24 years having been elected for eight consecutive terms. In 1998 he served as Standing Auditor of NACF for a two-year period.



13. Mr Talaq SAQR AL-HAIM, Union of Consumer Co-operative Societies, Kuwait

Mr Al-Haim is currently Chairperson of the Union of Consumer Co-operative Societies. He is also Vice-President of the ICA Office for North Africa and the Arab World, member of the Board of Directors of the Arab Co-operative Union and Vice-Chair for the National Co-operative Projects Committee. Mr Al-Haim is the General Service Supervisor at the Hawally Educational Area of the Ministry of Education.



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Ms Baheran is currently a member of the ICA Board, the Executive Committee of the ICA Gender Equality Committee and Chairperson of the ICA Regional Women's Committee for Asia & the Pacific. She is the Vice-President of ANGKASA and Chairperson of ANGKASA's Education and Women Development Committee. Ms Baheran has over 40 years experience in the co-operative movement and today is the Director of various co-operatives in Malaysia. She is a member of the Women's Advisory Council of Malaysia, Director of the Agricultural Bank of Malaysia and has served two terms as a Senator in the Malaysian Parliament.



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Last update: 17 September 2001



ICA General Assembly, Seoul (Korea)

Information to Participants

Firstly, we would like to welcome you to this beautiful country and the fantastic city of Seoul with its friendly people. Our hosts have made superb arrangements and we in the ICA are sure that you will find the General Assembly programme useful and interesting!

Below you will find information that will facilitate your arrival and stay in Seoul. Please check the ICA General Assembly web site www.icasoul.org for more information as well as for an updated programme.

+ **Airport**

You will arrive at the Incheon International Airport, a large, new airport. You will leave the customs area by one of four exits. At each exit you will find staff from our host organisation, National Agricultural Co-operative Federation (NACF), that will provide information to you on airport transport and other practical matters. Staff will be posted as of the afternoon of 11 October. **Look for the ICA signs and English-speaking NACF staff as you leave the customs area.** They will provide you with printed information and show you which of the airport buses, or taxis you should take. (**Note:** the airport is located 50-60 km from the city centre.) The cost of the bus transfer is approximately 10,000 Won (USD 8.00).

+ **Hotel**

When you arrive at your hotel you will receive a printed brochure in which you will find information about transport to the COEX Convention Center where all ICA meetings will be held. NACF staff will also be available to assist you as of 13 October.

Free of charge shuttle buses will leave occasionally from hotels to COEX on October 12-13 and **more frequently between 14 and 17 October.** In addition, COEX is easily accessible by underground (train/metro). The closest station to COEX is the "Samseong" station stop. Underground service is fast, safe and inexpensive.

+ **ICA Registration Desk**

The ICA Registration Desk will be open in the COEX Convention Center on the 3rd floor, near the "Convention Hall" **as of 13 October.** It will be open between 08:00 and 18:00. Please register as early as possible to avoid queues. If you are attending an ICA specialised body meeting, please go to the ICA Registration Desk during a break and register for the General Assembly. The ICA Registration Desk is located on the same floor as the meetings of the specialised bodies. Look for the signs indicating the way.

+ **Welcome Reception - Cocktail**

A number of ICA specialised bodies meetings will be held between 13 and 15 October. **The General Assembly itself however will begin on 15 October with a Welcome Reception starting at 18.00 in the Harmony Ballroom in the Hotel COEX Inter-Continental.** Shuttle buses will leave according to schedule from your hotel. **Please note that only registered participants wearing their badges will be able to attend the reception.** Please register as early as possible and before the afternoon of 15 October. There is a direct indoor connection from the ICA Registration Desk to the hotel.

+ **Opening – Security etc.**

The Opening Ceremony of the General Assembly will start on 16 October at 09:30. Due to several high-level speakers, security will be very strict. Please make sure that you allow yourself sufficient time for all the security checks. Please also note that all participants are required to send their passport details to the host prior to arrival in Seoul. **Latecomers and those who did not send in the requested passport numbers in advance** will not be permitted to enter the hall and will view the ceremony on video from a separate room.



ICA General Assembly, Seoul (Korea)

Resolutions Adopted 17 October 2001

1

ICA Financial Stability

Submitted by the ICA Board

The ICA General Assembly,

DECLARES that ICA is indispensable for the co-operatives in the world as an advocate, promoter and defender of the co-operative identity, as the global representative for the co-operatives in international fora, as a promoter of co-operative development in developing countries and in countries in transition, and as the focal point in the vast network of co-operatives representing various sectors in the whole world.

NOTES that ICA has experienced a very difficult year 2000 and that all ICA member organisations, through the ICA Annual Report 2000, have received information about the financial result for the year 2000 and the main sources for the deficit.

NOTES that during this ICA General Assembly 2001 the representatives have received information about the reasons for the deficit and information about the measures taken and planned to be taken by the ICA Board and the Secretariat to rectify the situation.

NOTES that the projection of the financial result for 2001 indicates that ICA is achieving balance between revenues and expenditures, but that ICA's liquidity situation, as a result of the deficits, has developed in a negative direction requiring urgent action.

RECOGNISING that the ICA Board has decided to create a Task Force to be appointed without delay by the new Board among the ICA Board members to work together with the Director-General ICA to restructure, reform and improve the efficiency of the work of ICA in its entirety, to review its financial, organisational and subscription frameworks and relationships between the central and regional offices and report by 1 December 2001.

RECOGNISING that the ICA Board has decided that ICA shall reduce its expenditures by 10% in 2002.

ASKS, to approve the following measures in order to restore ICA's financial stability:

1. a 10% increase of the annual subscription fee, including the minimum as well maximum level subscription, for the year 2002 and onwards;
2. that ICA member organisations pay the increased subscription fee in advance upon receipt of invoice by end of October/early November 2001, and not later than 31 December 2001. In extraordinary cases the payment can be made in two instalments of 30% immediately, with the balance, 70%, paid by 31 December 2001;
3. that immediate firm action to be taken to recover as much as possible of the CHF 400,000 in unpaid subscriptions; or that memberships be terminated in accordance with Article 7A of the ICA Rules;
4. that lists be published before each year's Regional/General Assembly of organisations not meeting their obligations;
5. that Board members whose organisations do not meet their obligations in full are automatically excluded from Board meetings / activities.

2**Food Safety***Submitted by the Japanese Consumer Co-operative Union JCCU*

The ICA General Assembly,

NOTES that one of the outcomes of the globalising economy is the harmonisation of national food safety standards by international bodies inter alia the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission,

COMMENDS the ICA for taking initiatives to protect consumer rights and safeguard consumer health by its participation in international bodies dealing with food safety issues,

RECOGNISES the need to push governments and international standards organisations in formulating the international standard to secure food safety,

CALLS ON its member organisations to strengthen the business efforts to provide safe and reliable food and the international co-operation among them,

ASKS that member organisations urge governments and international standards organisations to enhance public trust in food by inter alia:

1. establishing updated legislation and social system for securing food safety to safeguard the public health and intensify the international co-operation concerning food safety;
2. promoting active participation of consumer representatives in policy-making and ensure the transparency of decisions; and intensify such measures in standard setting organizations; and
3. conducting the extensive pre-market evaluation and environmental assessment when introducing Genetically Modified foods, require clear and explicit labelling of GM foods and establish the social system for ensuring IP handling and traceability in the distribution process as a prerequisite for labelling.

PLEDGES to establish consumer rights in food safety and safeguard consumer health, by intensifying efforts to:

1. take initiatives so that consumer health becomes a priority in food standard setting organizations;
2. strengthen the international exchange of information and consultation among co-operatives on the various topics concerning food safety.

3**The Co-operative Advantage***Submitted by the ICA Board*

This General Assembly, meeting in Seoul in October 2001,

NOTES the timely focus on attention given to membership of co-operatives by the presentation at the Quebec Congress in 1999, and

RECOGNISING the opportunities that exist in today's world for the application of Co-operative Principles and the organisational form in helping solve the problems of poverty, health, unemployment and other social ills,

URGES member organisations to give renewed attention to the way in which they can promote the "co-operative advantage" in their communities based on practical examples being followed by other co-operatives, and

REQUESTS that the importance of membership be acknowledged, and consequently be a feature of all development activities.

4

Democracy and Peace*Submitted by the ICA Board*

The ICA General Assembly,

NOTING that the greatest threats to democracy and peace are cultural and religious conflicts, social exclusion and concentration of wealth,

RECOGNISING that co-operatives from all sectors and in countries around the world are generating jobs and, thus combating social and ethnic exclusion; as well as bringing together individuals who are individually weak into enterprises through which and through their strength are capable to face the wealth concentration,

REAFFIRMING that for these reasons, co-operatives are the perfect allies of governments to defend democracy and peace,

CALLS ON members to reaffirm their commitment to democracy and peace, to give greater visibility to the role of co-operatives in defending democracy and peace in a global economy and to include the phrase, “Co-operatives: Democracy and Peace” on their letterhead, envelopes and other official papers,

5

Co-operative Policy and Legislation*Submitted by the ICA Board*

The ICA General Assembly,

NOTES the importance of appropriate national and local co-operative policies and legislation for the establishment and development of co-operatives,

RECOGNISES the significant efforts of the ICA in working with international bodies to promote better understanding of co-operatives and ensuring that policy and legislation does not hinder co-operatives' ability to serve their membership,

COMMENDS the International Labour Office (ILO) and the United Nations (UN) for their efforts in putting forward policy statements and documents that will assist governments to better understand the role and of co-operatives and the government – co-operative relationship,

FURTHER COMMENDS the ICA for its support to co-operative legislative issues and endorses the Guidelines for Co-operative Legislation,

COMMITTS ICA on behalf of and with the active participation of member organisations to continue its work with the ILO and UN in the formulation, finalisation and implementation of policy instruments on co-operatives including the revision of ILO Recommendation 127. This should be done through a specific working group, representative of ICA member organisations and specialised bodies.

CALLS ON each ICA member organisation to take contact with their government to ensure that they aware of the initiatives taken by the ILO and UN with regard to co-operatives and that they support the following:

1. The definition of a co-operative as: ‘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’.
2. The recognition of the Co-operative Values and Principles with special emphasis on the fact that co-operatives are autonomous, self-help organisations controlled by their members.

3. Governmental policies should create enabling environments to enable the growth of co-operatives taking into consideration the special character of the co-operative model of enterprise, its goals and contributions to the economic and social development of local communities and countries.
4. Governments should in collaboration with co-operative organisations identify and remove obstacles that persist and do not allow co-operatives to compete on a real equal footing with other forms of enterprise.

6

.coop*Submitted by the ICA Board*

The ICA General Assembly,

WELCOMES the introduction on a new top-level Internet domain name that is restricted for the use of co-operatives,

EXPRESSES its appreciation to the National Co-operative Business Association (NCBA) of the United States for the significant efforts taken to obtain .coop for the use and benefit of the world co-operative movement,

RECOGNISES the effective partnership between ICA and NCBA in the start-up phases of .coop,

WELCOMES a continued active and leading role of the ICA in partnership with NCBA in the development and governance of .coop and its Digital Divide Fund,

CALLS ON all co-operatives within the ICA membership and their associated members to register domain names under .coop to promote their co-operative identity and take advantage of the opportunities that .coop will provide to co-operatives to improve their business efficiency, to have access to products developed specifically for the co-operative market, and to support the creation of a Digital Divide Fund for co-operatives to assist co-operatives in their technological growth.

7

The Rio Co-operative Declaration*Submitted by the ICA Board*

The ICA General Assembly,

AWARE of the support mobilised by ICA members for the Rio Co-operative Declaration of December 2000 which underlines the commitment of co-operatives to contribute to creating a more just, transparent and democratic society in which peace, social justice and respect for the environment reign,

REAFFIRMS ICA's commitment to rally the support of millions of members of co-operatives in the quest for peace, solidarity, equity, justice, equality, environmental protection and sustainable development.

AGREES that the Declaration be formally transmitted to the United Nations to convey to the world community the commitment of the co-operative movement to contribute to a more equitable social, political and economic world order, inspired by the co-operative principles and values.

THE RIO DECLARATION

The International Co-operative Alliance, meeting at RIOCOOP 2000, (3-7 December 2000), under the banner of 'Co-operative identity for the new millennium', noted

Whilst being aware of:

- The situation in which millions of human beings live who are afflicted by poverty, by a lack of employment, lack of adequate housing and by inadequate social welfare systems due to the concentration of wealth, and social exclusion;
- The growing violence due to arms transfers that worsens social conditions as stressed by the International Code of Conduct, initiated by the Commission of Nobel Peace Laureates.
- The serious degradation of the environment that limits the possibility of life for the present generation and for those not yet born, and that threatens the planet that is our only home; and
- The absence of solidarity that characterises this era with the proliferation of anti- social attitudes and conduct with impunity, and that generates public and private corruption, actors which pose an imminent danger to democratic society.

Declared:

1. Its willingness and capacity to contribute for a more just, transparent and democratic society as testified by the daily activities carried out by co-operatives all over the world;
2. Its interest in exhorting governments, political parties, organisations of civil society, and all people who love peace to join forces to fight for the reduction of weapons and the elimination of violence, and to struggle for social justice. We reaffirm at the same time, our disposition as a world organisation to work to generate more employment and decent shelter and to reduce social exclusion;
3. Its willingness to build a society in harmony with nature;
4. Its desire that the co-operative organisation shall continue to contribute to a more equitable social, political and economic world order, inspired by the co-operative principles and values, thereby giving effective support to democratic society; and that,
5. The International Co-operative Alliance assumes the commitment to rally the support of millions of members of co-operatives in the quest for peace, solidarity, equity, justice, equality, environmental protection and sustainable development.