



YOUNG & CO-OPERATING

...a electronic mouthpiece for the ICA Committee on Youth Cooperation for Asia and Pacific

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"QUOTABLE QUOTES"

- "Cooperatives are a reminder to the international community that it is possible to pursue both economic viability and social responsibility".
- Ban Ki-moon United Nations Secretary-General
- "The lowest stage of humanity is experienced when the individual must labour for a small pittance of wages from others".
- Robert Owen, Father of Co-operation
- "Every kind of peaceful cooperation among men is primarily based on mutual trust and only secondarily on institutions such as courts of justice and police".
- Albert Einstein
- "I am not young enough to know everything".
- Oscar Wilde

***UNITED NATIONS PROCLAIMED 2012 AS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF CO-OPERATIVES BASED ON THE ILO RECOMMENDATION 193. [More on Pg.20]

"RECENT NEWS"

- **RELEIF FOR JAPAN:** The ICA President Dame Pauline Green has now handed over USD 540,000 donated by these co-operatives and individual co-operators who have responded in solidarity. The ICA campaign to collect resources for the victims of the earthquake and Tsunami in early 2011 has successfully culminated into what can be regarded as a classic case of International Co-operation and the upholding of the co-operative principle of concern for the community.
- **2nd JULY, 2011:** International Day of Co-operatives was celebrated all around the world on the first Saturday of July. The co-operative movements around the world pursued the cause of jointly celebrating 2nd July as the Co-operative Day with a common theme, Youth- The future of Co-operative enterprise". The theme was welcomed all over especially since August 2010- August 2011 was declared as the International Year of Youth. ICA Asia Pacific celebrated the Day by joining the functions at the Indian Movement at New Delhi. (Pics. on Pg.)
- **ICA GENEVA:** A global artistic competition designed to encourage youth to creatively express their views on co-operative principles has been announced today by the ICA on the United Nations International Day of Co-operatives on July 2. The competition launches at the ICA General Assembly in Cancun, Mexico in November.
- **COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS:** In the wake of important times ahead for the co-operative community, Australia and Singapore have released Commemorative Stamps to mark the International Year of Co-operatives. This will definitely help creating more awareness amongst general public about the year and the co-operative celebrations for next year.
- **NEW MEMBERS :** **Co-operative Investment Guarantee Fund (CIGF) of Iran** has been inducted as an Associate Member. **Central Union for Cooperative Initiative in Israel Ltd** as a Member
- **COOP LAW:** Legislators and Policy makers in Vietnam are having many discussions and debates with the Vietnamese Co-operative movement to amend the Vietnamese co-operative Law. There are almost ten different drafts that have already been discussed and the country plans to give effect to the mutually agreed enactment by next year.

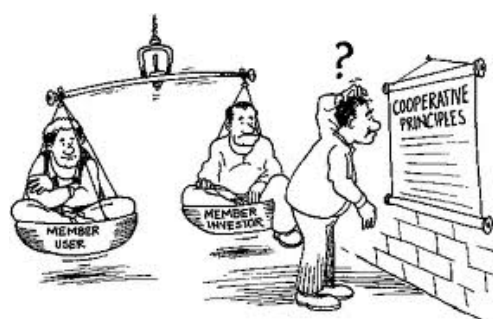
IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

- ICA General Assembly, Launch of IYC 2012: 14-18 November 2011 in Cancun , Mexico.
- ICA-AP Board Meeting: 15 November, Cancun, Mexico.
- Launch of the International year of Co-operatives: November, Cancun, Mexico.
- ICA-AP Co-operative Ministers' Conference: February 2011 in Bangkok, Thailand.



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Statement on the Co-operative Identity

Definition

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.

Values

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.

Principles

The co-operative principles are guidelines by which co-operatives put their values into practice.

1st Principle: Voluntary and Open Membership

Co-operatives are voluntary organisations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

2nd Principle: Democratic Member Control

Co-operatives are democratic organisations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary co-operatives members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote) and co-operatives at other levels are also organised in a democratic manner.

3rd Principle: Member Economic Participation

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their co-operative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the co-operative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing their co-operative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the co-operative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

4th Principle: Autonomy and Independence

Co-operatives are autonomous, self-help organisations controlled by their members. If they enter to agreements with other organisations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their co-operative autonomy.

5th Principle: Education, Training and Information

Co-operatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their co-operatives. They inform the general public - particularly young people and opinion leaders - about the nature and benefits of co-operation.

6th Principle: Co-operation among Co-operatives

Co-operatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the co-operative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

7th Principle: Concern for Community

Co-operatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.

THE CO-OPERATIVE FLAG





INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE DAY

International Co-operative Day is an annual celebration of the co-operative movement observed on the first Saturday in July since 1923 by the International Co-operative Alliance.

On December 16, 1992, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed in resolution 47/90 "the first Saturday of July 1995 to be International Day of Cooperatives, marking the centenary of the establishment of the International Cooperative Alliance". Since 1995 the United Nations' International Day of Co-operatives has been observed jointly alongside International Co-operative Day.

ICA first celebrated International Day in 1923. In 1994, thanks to the lobbying efforts made through the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC) of which the ICA is a member, the United Nations recognised and reaffirmed that co-operatives have an important role to play in economic, social and cultural development and proclaimed an UN International Day of Co-operatives to be celebrated for the first time in 1995, marking the centenary of the establishment of the ICA.

The UN requested all its member governments to join with their co-operative movements to celebrate the day and cherish the work of theco-operators.

The decision of the UN to celebrate an international day with the ICA highlights the complementarities of the goals and objectives of the United Nations and the international co-operative movement. Both the ICA and UN Days are celebrated on the same day - the first Saturday in July every year.



Dr. Chan Ho CHOI, regional Director of ICA Asia Pacific joined celebrations at NCUI, new Delhi, India.

President of Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Mr. Rajapakse facilitating on International Co-operative Day



Taiwan stamps for International Co-operative Day



Opening of Chorley Coop in 1930, England.

Since 1995, the ICA and the United Nations through COPAC jointly set the theme for the celebration of the International Day. It underscores the contribution of the movement to resolving global issues addressed both the Co-operative Movement and the United Nations. The theme is generally selected in the Spring. ICA prepares a message for the Day which is disseminated to all ICA members, international organisations including the United Nations and its agencies, development partners and the press.

This year the theme: "Youth: the future of co-operative enterprise" was universally adopted in the celebrations and all the co-operative movements in the world delved on this matter. The reports that came from the Asia Pacific region sighted the necessity

International Day of Cooperatives 2011



Previous Years' Themes

- **2010:** Addressing Climate Change through Co-operatives
- **2009:** Driving Recovery through Co-operative Enterprise
- **2008:** Confronting Climate Change through Co-operative Enterprise
- **2007:** Co-operative Values and Principles for Corporate Social responsibility
- **2006:** Peace-building through Co-operatives
- **2005:** Microfinance is OUR business! Cooperating out of poverty
- **2004:** Co-operatives for Fair Globalisation: Creating Opportunities for All
- **2003:** Co-operatives Make Development Happen!: The contribution of co-operatives to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals
- **2002:** Society and Co-operatives: Concern for Community
- **2001:** The Co-operative Advantage in the Third Millennium
- **2000:** Co-operatives and Employment Promotion
- **1999:** Public Policy and Co-operative Legislation
- **1998:** Cooperatives and the Globalization of the Economy
- **1997:** The Co-operative Contribution to World Food Security
- **1996:** Co-operative Enterprise: Empowerment for People-centred Sustainable Development
- **1995:** The ICA Centennial and the Next 100 Years of International Co-operation



THESE DATES , THOSE TIMES

A feature that digs out events from history that have taken during the dates that have gone by.

MAY

- 1223:** Mongol armies of Genghis Khan defeat Kievan Rus and Cummans in battle of Kalka.
- 1293:** An earthquake strikes Kamakura in Kanagawa, Japan killing about 30, 000.
- 1453:** Turks capture Constantinople, capital of Byzantine Empire, some historians list date as the end of middle ages.
- 1790:** United States enacts its first Copyright statue, the revolutionary tribunal is suppressed by French Revolution.
- 1947:** Constituent Assembly in India outlaws "untouchability", a social ostracism practiced against people of lower classes.
- 1952:** The women of Greece are given a right to vote.
- 1953:** Edmund Hillary of New Zealand and Tensing Norgay of Nepal become the first to reach the top of Mt. Everest, world's highest mountain.
- 1955:** First ascent of Kunchenjunga (8,586m), the third highest mountain by British Expedition led by Joe Brown and George Band begins.
- 1964:** The Palestine Liberation organisation is formed.
- 1967:** Australians vote in favour of a constitutional referendum granting the government the power to make laws to benefit the indigenous Australians and to count them in the National consensus.
- 1977:** Star Wars is released in theatres inspiring the Jediism religion and geek pride day holiday.
- 1985:** Bangladesh is hit by a tropical cyclone and storm that kills almost 100,000 people.
- 1999:** In Milan, Italy, after 22 years of restoration work, Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece *The Last Supper* is put back on display.

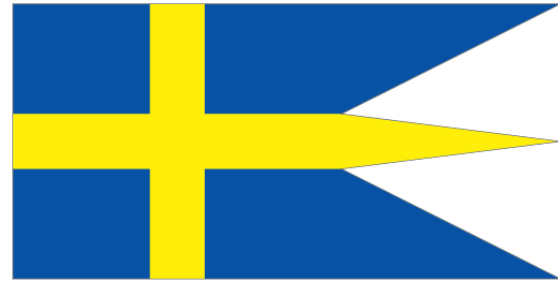


- 2000:** Liberation Day of Lebanon, Israel withdraws its troops after 22 years of occupancy.
- 2006:** The May 2006 Java earthquake devastates Bantul and city of Yogyakarta killing over 6600 people.
- 2009:** Tensions build up in the international community after the testing of Nuclear weapons by the North Korean regime.
- 2010:** BP measures its strategies to curb the oil spill in Mexico.

JUNE

- 781 BC:** The first historic solar eclipse is recorded in China.
- 1783:** A poisonous cloud caused by the eruption of the Laki Volcano in Iceland reaches Havre in France.
- 1815:** Charles Darwin receives a paper from Alfred Russell Wallace that includes near identical conclusions about the evolution theory.
- 1858:** The Battle of Waterloo results in the defeat of Napoleon

- 1862:** The United States and Britain agree to suppress slave trade.
- 1893:** Mahatma Gandhi's first act of civil disobedience.
- 1898:** US Marines land in Cuba during the Spanish American War.
- 1906:** The Flag of Sweden is adopted



- 1934:** Donald Duck makes his debut in *The Wise Little Hen*.
- 1945:** Australian Imperial forces reach Brunei Bay to liberate Brunei.
- 1965:** Vietnam War: The Battle of Dong Xoai begins.
- 1975:** The inaugural Cricket world cup begins
- 1980:** The African National Congress in South Africa publishes a call to fight from their imprisoned leader, Nelson Mandela.
- 1992:** The first World Ocean Day is celebrated coinciding with the earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- 1997:** Before fleeing his strong hold, Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot orders the killing of his defence Chief Son Sen.

JULY

- 1914:** World War I: Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia after Serbia rejects the conditions of an ultimatum sent by Austria on July 23 following the assassination of Prince Archduke Francis Ferdinand.
- 2001:** Ian Thorpe of Australia becomes the first swimmer to win six Gold medals at a single Olympic Championships.



- 2002:** Nine coal miners trapped in the flooded Quecreek Mine in Somerset County, Pennsylvania are rescued after 77 hours
- 2009:** US President Barack Obama consults Saudi King Abdullah on a mission to West Asia to open a chapter on Islam and the West and ease grievances against the US.

AUGUST

- 1498:** Christopher Columbus becomes the first European to visit what is now Venezuela.
- 1800:** The Act of Union 1800 is passed which merges the Kingdom of Great Britain and Kingdom of Ireland to form The United Kingdom.
- 1834:** Slavery is abolished in the British Empire as Slavery Abolition Act, 1833 comes into force.
- 1894:** The first Sino Japanese War erupts between Japan and China over Korea.
- 1914:** Germany declares war on Russia at the opening of World War I. The Swiss Army mobilizes because of the war.
- 1944:** Anne Frank makes the last entry in her diary.
- 1945:** Atomic Bombs are dropped at Hiroshima and Nagasaki
- 1960:** Islamabad declared as the federal capital of the Government of Pakistan.
- 1981:** MTV begins broadcasting in the United States and airs its first video, *Video killed the Radio Star* by the Buggles.





Success Story of the Issue

iCOOP Consumers' Co-operative Group in Korea was established in 1997. Its mission is to spread the spirit of co-operation as a Consumers' Co-op through Solidarity and Co-operation of small scaled Co-ops located in each local province in Korea. At that time, there was no legal ground on the Consumers' Co-operatives (hereafter 'Co-ops') and very little known to public in Korea.



The characteristics of Consumers' Cooperatives in Korea are below :

1. Most Co-ops in Korea were organized after people carried Korean Society to the victory of political democratization. In fact, there used to be a few Co-ops independent from government since the Korea War. However most of them were either one of being interfered or suppressed by the government. The truth was that Co-ops in Korea needed certain period of the political democratization to start its independent activities from government.
2. Most Co-ops have been deeply related to revitalizing Korean Agriculture from the very beginning of Co-ops. Small farm centered Korean agriculture has been in severely difficult situation since Korea opened a few produce to free trade in 1985. In the mean time, a number of people's movements were born in the form of farmers' movement, labors' movement, and women's movement having their own philosophy. Farmers' movement has the goal for preserving environment and ecosystem as well as human being in organic agricultural way, labor's movement for bringing a revolution to Korean society and women's movement for building a society with gender equality. All of these Co-ops have suggested alternative life style and specific ways to sustainable society in urban area thorough Co-ops. This is the history of Korean representative Co-ops, Hansalim, Womenlink Consumer Cooperative, Dure Consumers' Cooperative, iCOOP and so on in Korea.
3. All Co-ops in Korea have been under governmental regulations limiting the legal boundary of businesses of Consumers' Cooperatives to agricultural produce and environment friendly production only not all goods needed for consumers sold by the other distributors in general and this regulation has become the fatal barrier against the development and popularization of Co-ops in Korea.

iCOOP started its business with simply 682 members and 1.5 million US\$ of sales volume in the first year of establishment. But iCOOP has continuously increased its members and sales volume to 42,000 members and 94.2 billion US\$ as of 2007 and this achievement has been completed in a very short time of 10 years. Basically the business of iCOOP is run via direct delivery system to each member's home and also antenna shops in many towns. We pursue to achieve food security with the harmonized development between urban and rural area and to bring out the cooperative civil society with vigorous activities of Co-ops in our daily life. iCOOP puts the important role of community meeting in each town and currently 291 community meetings has been held over the nation. Most members of iCOOP are female mainly in their thirties having their children and they do activities like seasonal food cooking class, day care center for their kids, group study on common subjects, for example, food safety, the theory of Co-operatives including ICA's statement especially about Co-operative identity and the other activities for community they belong to. Also there is one special Co-op consist of 153 young members employed by iCOOP Group and they make an effort to be educated as Co-operators not simply as employees suggesting various lectures and activities as well as managing library for its members.



iCOOP focuses on mainly young people ranging twenties to thirties suggesting them a number of activities and these efforts are based on the belief that giving an inspiration to young people can give them core pride of their important role in Korean society and this pride is connected to the responsibility for the future.

From the Co-operative Learning Centre:

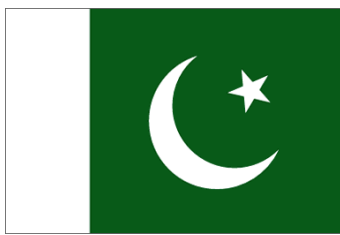
Source: <http://www.learningcentre.coop/resource/icoop-group-and-its-responsibility-future>

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Please Send in success stories that you feel are necessary to be documented at info@icaroap.coop, santosh@icaroap.coop



COUNTRY FEATURED – PAKISTAN



Blood Camp held in SZABIST Institute, Islamabad Campus, 29-30 April 2011

The youth of Pakistan do participate in different events and functions for the development of their society and their community which leads to the development of Pakistan. One of the events was the blood collection for the Thalassaemic patients held on 29th and 30th April 2011, in the premises of SZABIST Institute, Islamabad Campus and it was arranged for the children, those poor children whose parents cannot bear the cost of the transfusion of the blood on daily basis.

What is Thalassaemia?

Thalassaemia is an inherited blood disorder and can be simply stated as the inability of the body to produce adequate amount of Haemoglobin in the red blood cells. The result is severe anaemia.

Children suffering from this blood disorder require a blood transfusion every month of their lives in addition to treatment for iron overload due to the excessive number of transfusions.

Scientists even due to the latest technology, have failed to reproduce the blood content.

In order to support those unfortunate parents, the students of Shaheed Zulfakar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology (SZABIST), Islamabad Campus, in the supervision of Mr. Shabbir A. Halai, arranged a 2 day event for the Blood collection from the individuals, community members, different Government Institutes and Educational Institutions.

The following are the few students that were assigned the responsibility for arranging the event and designate different students for different responsibility:-



Hassan Naqi:

Mr. Hassan Naqi was selected the leader of the project. He was giving the responsibility of planning the whole event and dividing the responsibility among 62 students.



Waqas Faisal:

Mr. Waqas Faisal was nominated as assistant to Mr. Hassan Naqi and was also the Financial Manager of the complete project. All the matters and issues were planned and well handled by Mr. Waqas and his subordinates.



Ahsan Ali Thakur:

Mr. Ahsan Ali Thakur was the Coordinator and Communication Manager of the event. His job was to inform the individuals, communities and different institutions (both Government and Education) about the Blood Camp and to encourage the participants to participate in the event whole heartedly.

This blood camp as discussed above was arranged for those patients or children who were poor and could not afford to have a blood transfusion as required according to their needs'. In this event different organization were involved to assist in the blood collection and provide other medical facility to extract blood from the donors. The organizations that were involved in this event are as follows:

- Armed Force Institute of Transfusion (AFIT)
- Pakistan Thalassaemia Welfare Association
- Karachi Cooperative Housing Society Union Ltd. (K.C.H.S.U. Ltd.)

These organizations were involved in providing the equipment and other medical assistance for the donors like Blood collection bottle, bed and other accessories.

To promote the event different individuals, communities and institutes participated in it. The message was circulated through Planet FM 94 Islamabad (Local Radio Station); Facebook, Netlog, Orkut etc. (Social Networking Websites); Text Messaging; face to face meeting, so on and so forth.

At the end of the event with the help of 63 voluntary students we were able to obtain 318 pints of blood in 2 days. With the hard work, zeal and devotion of these students the target was achieved.





Views of the students and Participants

Some of the view of the students and participants in the blood camp and after the event comments are as follows: -

"If, I had one more day, I could have brought 3 children. I feel that I did my part for more participants' for this event." small part but I am still happy."

Atif Afrid,
Ahmad

Voluntary Student, SZABIST Institute, Islamabad Campus
SZABIST University, Islamabad Campus

"I did my part, and save at least the community. Although, it was a

Ishtiaq

Voluntary Student,

"It was very hard to arrange all this in a very small amount of time but thank camp going to be held?"

God that we were able to achieve our goal,
Participant 1

At least I am glad to help those children out."

Malik Allahyar

Voluntary Student, SZABIST Institute, Islamabad Campus

"When is the next blood

"If my family knew about this event they would for surely have participated for this cause".

Participant 2

At the end of the event with the help of 63 voluntary students we were able to obtain 318 pints of blood in 2 days. With the hard work, zeal and devotion of these students the target was achieved. The students were delighted to achieve the target of 300 pints of blood.



Unconfirmed sources say that this was the largest collection of blood in the history of SZABIST Islamabad campus considering the time limit of 2 days.

The youth of Pakistan on 29th and 30th April 2011 showed that they are helping, maintain and keeping a key role in the development of community and Pakistan.

"The cooperative makes the community and the community makes the city."

Written, Compiled, Edited and Developed by:-

Mr. Ahsan Ali Thakur

Youth Wing,

K.C.H.S. U. Ltd.



A Co-op Advocate's Pledge



By: **Jessa Joy S. Arroyo**

Every day is a journey to take for a co-operator like me.

I may not have the same views with my fellow youth

As with the advocacy they are fighting for

But I continue to strive and stand on the pledge I had made a few years ago.

I pledge that co-op principles will be adhered to.

I pledge that co-op ways will be part of youth's lives.

I pledge to impart every piece of knowledge I have

I pledge to help every co-operator that will lead my way.

Many would not understand what I advocating for

But it is the contentment that could be felt

Every time there is someone in the community who needs my knowledge

The knowledge which would help them gets out of poverty.

Working in a co-operative had given me so much

So much achievement and self-fulfilment

That at the end of the day I can say,

This is my life, this is my happiness, and this is my pledge

COUNTRY FEATURED – THE PHILIPPINES

Next in Line



By: **Jessa Joy S. Arroyo**

Is co-operation in the Philippines will be passed on to the next generation? This is the question that always rings on my mind. How many youths like me would like to spend their time doing voluntary works in a co-operative? On the current statistics given by the Cooperative Development Authority, there were 102 laboratory cooperatives being organized as of December 31, 2008. There were 7,107 islands, out of these were 3 major islands which comprise the Philippines but why there is only a few youths engaged in cooperative development.

How many youths know what a co-operative means? What is its nature and why is it called a special organization with principles and practices being adhered to. As for the record, I am the only student taking a graduate studies in Co-operative Management, and how many undergraduate students would like to pursue a career in co-operativism. Isn't it threatening that there were only a few youths being interested in learning and encompassing the true nature of co-operation.

Reasons being indicated were lack of education, lack of persuasiveness, and lack of opportunities in co-operatives. There were only a small number of youths being interested in taking Co-operatives Management because when they go out on the field, there was only a minority of successful co-operatives that could get them an employment and with a good salary. There were just a few who had this heartfelt gratitude to help and be an advocate of co-operatives.

In the current state of co-operatives in the Country, almost all of the members and employees who served on their own cooperative are on their 30's and up. There were only a few co-operatives which had this initiative to prepare and to train the next in line in the management. Preparing for the future managers and co-operators would be an essential step to ensure that co-operatives would not die and would not be on the state of dilemma. Preparing for the inevitable is what the co-operatives need.

Each of us has its own role in propagating the value of co-operation. Each of us has the responsibility to continue what our ancestors have started. Each of us should be attentive and conscientious on every action pertaining to co-operatives. We should give our full responsibility and care for them to continue their advocacies. Co-operatives are our organization. Co-operatives are the life of the many.



Need for good governance practices in Cooperatives

Cases from Asia Pacific and around.

Successful implementation of co-operative principles and ethical business practices in a Co-operative enterprise is incomplete without a comprehensive governance mechanism. The roles and duties of the elected board and the hired employees of a co-operative foster better growth in case the internal practices of governance are always marked with equity and justice.

Governance issues in Co-operatives encompass many attributes of a healthy society. Good governance starts with ensuring voluntary membership and identifying effective leadership to encourage members to actively participate in the meetings. Thereafter, the management of the co-operative has to be handed to a skilled and responsible unit that ensures fairness to stakeholders and realizes the accountability to members, society and the environment. The elected Board needs to truly voice the co-operatives' views and opinions with the policy makers and the keepers of the law to create a friendly environment for the co-operative sector to operate.

The advent of problems faced by co-operatives is marked with poor internal governance and other issues such as massive growth, inactive members, closed and eccentric management. Such co-operative evils that are a result of improper management and professional imbalance have to be eradicated in order to maintain the vision of co-operators.

The governments of various countries must concur on issues relating to co-operatives and formulate a principle code strictly based upon the already prevalent International co-operative principles. Such uniformity would aid in identifying delinquent managements of a co-operative. It becomes a matter of worry when the combined effort of people is wasted due to inefficient governance of a co-operative enterprise. The current state of national economies is subject to the market regulations that are internationally accepted and the stiff competition that indigenous industries face. In light of this, it is even more relevant to call for able and better governance practices amongst co-operatives to ensure that the coop principles and values are upheld and other tactics to run an enterprise are not favoured.

Good governance of co-operatives entails a wholesome procedure of uplifting the socio-economic condition of the members and providing the enterprise the necessary room to perform. The work of a management or a board is to strike homogeneity amongst its members and harness their capabilities in a responsible manner. A few Instances of recent governance practices are listed for a panoramic view of our region.

IRAN:



- Promotion of co-operatives at the highest societal levels
- Provide co-operatives with infrastructure, financial assistance, and professional management.
- Increase Participation of women for wholesome development
- Make the co-operative principles the 'common thread' that runs throughout the co-op sector.

MONGOLIA



- Value based analysis of co-operatives with help from media, institutions and legal establishments.
- In depth understanding of the legislations by coop managements
- Synchronization of coop reform initiatives to garner more support for the cause Coop community must have an

understanding of other laws that circumvent a coop business.

Circulating and collectively examining the implementation of coop principles in the co-operative enterprises by way of meetings at the grass root level. Active participation of the primary co-operatives with the Apex level organisations.

PHILIPPINES



- Streamlining and documentation to be made available for registering and operating coops
- Fiscal austerity programs to be implemented in internal coop managerial levels
- Updating the professional management with skilled and able governance
- Promote coops with low income groups

UZBEKISTAN



- Active participation of members during policy regulations and development of coop law
- Safety and soundness measures to ensure protection of savings deposits with a productive earning asset structure
- Incentive system to be enforced in regulations and implementation of sanctions against defaulters

MALDIVES



- The management should adhere to the policies outlined in the present law
- The management should be made entirely and individually responsible for the societies and its members
- The accounts should be maintained and approved by the Auditor and Registrar respectively.
- Proper documentation and publishing of accounts should take place annually after the approval of the Audit officer.
- There has to be definite policy about the reserve amount that needs to be handled by the management
- Encourage female participation in coop societies & Firm policy on proxy of members of co-operative societies
- Easy procedure to change the registered address & Financial assistance and ensuring benefits to members

MAURITIUS



- Expose coop members to many best practices around the region
- Guiding the members with definite time based plans
- Ensure trust and integrity in the coop sector
- Prevent corruption and enhance education programs
- Self assessment checklist to be made by cooperatives for



their own purposes and tabled at meetings

VIETNAM



The ministry of planning along with the Vietnam coop alliance has been organising many discussions on the proposed amendments to the Vietnam coop Law of 2003. The most recent draft is aimed at distinctly indentifying the co-op unions as an identity and uniformity in the code for co-operatives. There are changes that the co-operators have proposed and the and the next draft will come out soon. The main underlying theme of the discussions is to identify co-operatives as business models and bargain more autonomy.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE IN COOPS

Recently during an ICA research conference, a paper was presented on the topic 'corporate governance in co-operatives'. This topic met with resistance on the choice of words for the topic however, it did become a case study. Some salient features are as follows.

Transparency and disclosure of information

Integrity

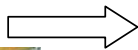
Accountability

Acquiring Governance Knowledge

Skilled employment and strategic alliances on International level

PICTURES ON SOME ACTIVITIES OF SCHOOL COOPERATIVES IN MALAYSIA

STATIONERY SHOP



CO-OPERATIVE BANK



CYBER CAFE



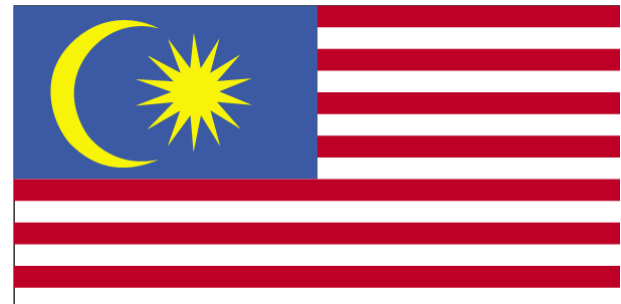
DAY CARE CENTRE



AGRICULTURE & LAUNDRY CENTRE



COUNRTY FEATURED – MALAYSIA



NURTURING THE YOUNG WITH COOPERATIVE VALUES

- Arranged by Ms. Noor Azlinn Zahariman (ANGKASA)

SCHOOL COOPERATIVES

Initiatives to set up school co-operatives in Malaysia started in 1953 through a resolution passed by the First Malaysian Co-operatives Congress, which called on the government to set up co-operatives in schools in the Peninsular Malaysia. But it only came to materialize in 1968 with the establishment of school cooperatives in nine high schools. Under the supervision of the Ministry of Education and given the idea from the first President of ANGKASA, Royal Prof. Ungku A. Aziz; those pilot school cooperatives were first involved in credit and saving activities. With the evolvment and also expansion of business and activities, Malaysian school cooperatives are now involved in various sectors of economy, from consumer activities to agriculture and also services, among others. Total number of school co-ops in Malaysia is 2,135 out of which 1,942 are ANGKASA members (as at July 2011).

School co-operative movement is accepted and recognised as one of the most important co-curriculum in Malaysian school education. School co-operators are given education on the cooperative principles and values as well as various value added courses such as communication skills, administration and management course as well as school cooperative tourism program. With the setting up of school cooperatives, it is hoped that the children will be able to develop thriftiness and independence among them and will be able to encourage cooperation and teamwork among the students.

SCHOOL CO-OPERATIVE TOURISM PROGRAM

To encourage students to know their country better, tourism must become an important activity in school co-operatives. ANGKASA initiated this program with the following objectives:

- To diversify the co-operatives activities
- To encourage tourism among the schools
- To encourage collaboration and co-operation among the school co-ops
- To encourage the school children and the youth to know and love the country
- To promote the development of cooperative tourism locally
- To gain experience in hotel and tourism industry
- To create employment opportunities
- To help the members travel comfortably at an affordable budget

SCHOOL CO-OPERATIVE INTERNATIONAL TOURISM PROGRAM

ANGKASA moves one step ahead in this school co-operative tourism program. With the support from the Ministry of Education Malaysia, ANGKASA collaborates with Hiroshima International Club by organizing the program at international level. The first program was launched on 29 November 2010. A group of forty five Malaysian students departed to Tokyo, Japan to join the 'self-paid' international tourism program. In Tokyo, the students were housed at their respective homestays and learnt Japanese culture during their ten days stay. ANGKASA is planning to send more local students to other countries and at the same time receiving 'student guests' from other countries to Malaysia.



COUNTRY FEATURED – INDIA



Role of Co-operatives in Sustainable Development

Excerpts from Presentation made at ICA/China Training Course on Circular Economy , March 2011: By Mr. Sasi Kumar – Principal, Institute of Coop Management, Kannur, Kerala.

The coops working whether in the credit sector or in the non credit sector are directly or indirectly contributing for the sustainable development of the community. The credit coops by way of mobilizing the local resources and channelizing the resources to the same area are helping the place to develop and grow. Their activities help in increasing the purchasing power of the people. The non credit coops are also facilitating the development of the villages by way of utilization of the local natural physical resources. In addition they provide employment to the people of different areas. The consumer coops are able to stabilize the price of essential commodities. The marketing coops through their procurement and processing mechanisms are able to provide a remunerative and assured price for agricultural produces. The dairy societies generate employment and value addition through their milk production and processing activities. India could become number one in the milk production since 1977 through the activities of dairy coops. Here the role of AMUL (Anand Milk United Limited) needs to be stressed. Sugar cane processing coops enjoy a greater power in the nations 'sugar production. Irrigation coops and farm societies are also playing a significant and proactive role in preventing the menace of global warming. The fertilizer coops such as IFFCO and KRIBHCO are in the energy sector also. As the coops are not doing the business without considering the social responsibility aspect, they are contributing to the sustainable development of the nation to a greater extent.

Efforts of coops in the direction of climate change and energy conservation are briefly given below.

- Cutting green house emission
- Carbon Neutrality – Agriculture and Fishery Coops – stress on green energy production or innovative feed to reduce emission from livestock production.
- Consumer Coops – Carbon Footprints – reduction in stores operation, supplies and education to members
- Housing – Sustainable construction material, eco-buildings
- Coop Banks/Credit Unions – Incentive for energy efficient technology
- Insurance coops – down premiums – more risk coverage
- Energy coops – Sustainable energy through wind, solar and bio-fuels
 - Economic and Social Responsibility
 - Coops assume leadership role with the UN environment program.
- ICA reaffirmed its commitment – sustainable development and contributing substantially to mitigate the effects of climate change
- Community based and people centric organisations, eminently

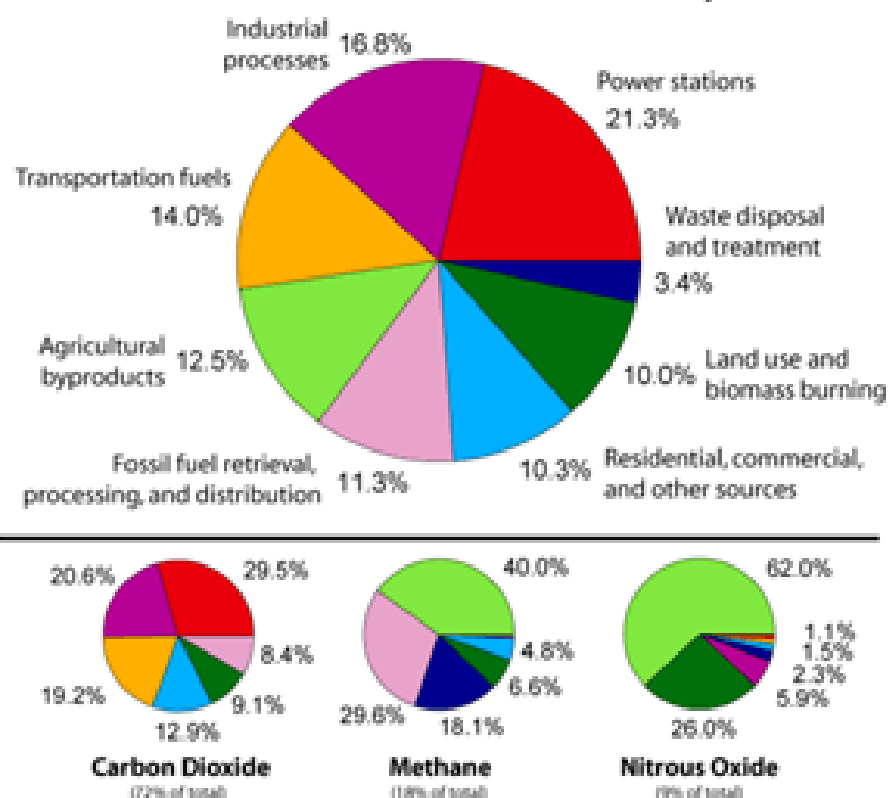
suitable for spreading the message.

- Huge infrastructure of education and training
 - Care for climate – coop principle
- Forestry and Jatropha coops, tree Growers cooperatives

COOP CONNECT MEETING BY NCUI ON CLIMATE CHANGE

- Showcase best practices
 - Global Network
- Carbon, Water, Fodder, inputs and knowledge banks
- NCUI Facilitation: Formulate a strategy that is environmentally, socially, economically and politically sustainable
 - Awareness of Co2
- KRIBHCO, IFFCO recognised for environment protection, energy conservation, tree plantation, bio-gas, vermin compost, IFFCO sold carbon credit worth Rs. 400 million to Spain.
 - Tree Grower coop in Gujarat.
- Recycling of milk pouches, Solar water heater, sugar power co-generation, efficient water treatment, recycling of effluent water, ethanol, production, a forestation, by-product industries
 - Coops – grass root level can collect traditional wisdom disseminate.

Annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Sector



OPINION –


Ms. Tahmineh T. Kashani

Chairperson , ICA Committee for Youth Cooperation

At the moment, the Iranian society suffers unemployment, especially by university graduates who form a great portion of the population. Employment policies are basically made by cooperatives as well as private and public sectors. But due to various factors, the latter two are not able to absorb the unemployed individuals. The public sector is currently forcing a manpower downsizing policy. The private sector due to having limited resources can also not be relied upon. In case of absorbing capitals by the private sector, the individuals are deprived of the advantages of the democratic management of the cooperatives which present their members with equal voting rights. The members, who are able to provide a greater part of the total capital, would enjoy more voting rights and better privileges .Therefore cooperatives' policy could be considered as a solution to unemployment. This thus tends to highlight the advantages of cooperatives & their role in developing youth employment opportunities.


ICA-AP Committee on youth Co-operation meets on Skype

The meeting took place on 28 July 2011 ahead of the Plenary Youth Meeting in Cancun later this year.

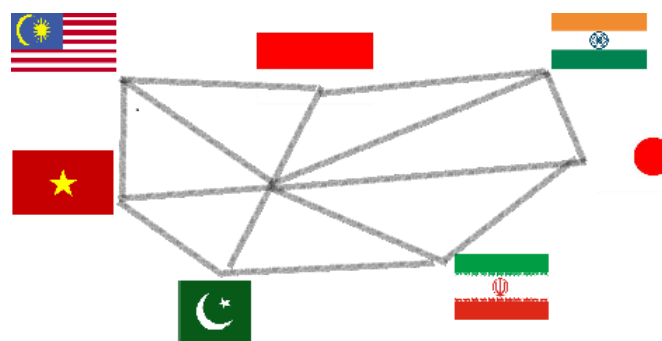
Minutes of the Meeting

The Meeting started at 12:107 after a few initial glitches.

1. The Meeting started with an introduction, that was followed by opening remarks from members. The members were happy to participate in the e-meeting and hoped to add this as a regular feature to Youth meetings.
2. Opening messages were read out by the Chairperson and the Vice Chair. The Chairperson highlighted the necessity to encourage more youth to get employed through co-operatives and that the IYC brings in an unique opportunity to generate awareness about the co-operative movement. She also opined that the Youth Network must be enhanced on a global level. The Vice-Chair stated that experts from the Univ. campus Co-operatives should be invited to participate in the Youth meeting and that that could be a fruitful collaboration.

He further highlighted Mr. Chavez (Global ICA youth Rep.) efforts to establish a strong Youth network. He said that the ICA General Assembly in Cancun this year that accommodates the Youth Planery meeting is a worthy event in the pipeline.

3. The other members present made their submissions by bringing out Youth activity in Pakistan and Malaysia respectively. Mr. Thakur highlighted the youth empowerment drive that the Pakistan co-operative movement has undertaken to give them ideas on the introduction to co-operatives. Ms. Azlinn iterated collaborations that are underway between the Malaysian movement and the ICA, the proceeds of which shall be duly informed.
4. The declaration and the important minutes of the last meeting were read out by the secy. and the members were also informed about the Youth E-Newsletter that is to be released to mark the end of the International Year of Youth.
5. The members raised pertinent questions about the nature of the Youth committee and how it differs from the Univ. campus committee. Thereafter, clarification was sought on the method of submission of entries for the Coop'Art competition that is to be launched in November at the General Assembly.



6. There were initial talks made on the Possible Youth Workshop to be conducted in India as a mandate to meet this year. The members showed their preference towards the month of December to hold the Workshop in India. Though they'd have to get their schedules cleared from their respective organisations. ICA-AP is to undertake the issue with the Indian Movement and have a strategic collaboration to invite the members for a workshop in the Indian State of Kerala with the help of Institutes of Co-operative Management there. The theme and other details will be discussed as soon as the concept paper and tentative agenda is prepared by ICA-AP.
7. Closing comments were made by members in reverse order of Openings. The members showed keen interest in meeting again in the virtual manner. Apart from this, Mr. Thakur, as a part of the campaign in Pakistan requested those present for some literature on the beginning of the co-operative movement in Asia Pacific, that was duly acknowledged by the members.

The meeting was finished at 12:47 PM



Action Plans of the ICA-AP Committee on University Campus Co-operative

In pursuance of the ICA-AP Regional Committee for Youth Co-operation, it is important for the committee to keep an update of the works of the Committee on University Campus Co-operatives so as to involve them in the ICA-AP Youth programs.

As part of the JOGJAKARTA DECLARATION for University/Campus Co-operatives in Higher Education

Drawn from the Declaration and Resolutions of the Workshop, the following Action Plans are endorsed:

1. Undertaking of as many Student Service activities as possible by the University/Campus Co-operatives with an objective of facilitating better access, equity and quality of higher education
2. Networking of University/Campus Co-operatives with the Student Affairs Division and University/School Management in order to create a better campus life
3. Conducting specific activities at the primary co-operative level to attract more Students, Teachers and Staff to become members of the cooperative and to make them actively participate in the activities of the co-operative
4. Initiating actions in all member countries to bring in necessary policy changes towards creating an enabling environment in terms of legislation and institutional support for the growth and development of University/Campus Co-operatives.
5. Taking initiatives to organize activities for promoting, strengthening, democratizing and networking of University/Campus Co-operatives in all member countries as well as in the neighbouring countries.
2. Exploring possibilities of exchange visits, training programs and such other measures of transfer of technology, through bilateral arrangements between two or more member countries;
6. Conducting periodic Workshops/Seminars, Study Visits, Publications and such other promotional activities at the national, sub-regional and regional levels to facilitate the creation of better awareness and strengthening of University/Campus Co-operatives;
3. Developing and launching of an interactive website of the Committee to provide necessary information, guidance and dissemination of knowledge to all those interested in University/Campus Co-operatives
7. Undertaking, through the ICA-AP Committee on University/Campus Co-operatives, promotional activities for establishing new University/Campus Co-operatives in countries where such co-operatives do not currently exist;
4. Initiating specific measures at the regional and international levels for liaison and working with institutions connected to higher education in general and student services in particular, such as the United Nations UNESCO, ILO, APSSA, etc.

Please send us co-operative business ideas that you feel are interesting and have a chance to do good and ethical business.



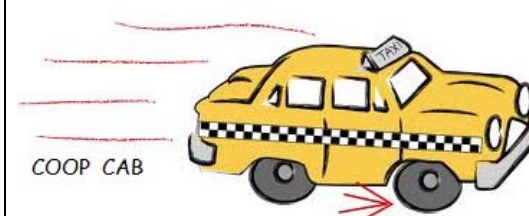
COOP BUSINESS IDEA OF THE ISSUE



Many cities in the world today are aspiring to be world cities. In this ambition, many people get their education and look for jobs and successfully land up at an office to work. Many people go out to the movies and restaurants and are generally becoming more outgoing. And for all of this either they use their cars or motorbikes or they prefer public transport. With the increase in population and erratic climatic conditions, a poor public transport system often spells doom to the outing and the commuters' mood. As an option, there are cab-services available, but are generally very costly when compared to the cost of the public transport. Many a drivers get stuck in the loop of financiers and cab-owners who fleece a high rent from the drivers for the day's job. So it is not exactly 'equal pay for equitable work'. Also, there are a huge number of varied products being produced by co-operatives worldwide. From Milk and cheese to carpets and medicines. So in relation to the facts mentioned, it is proposed that:

There be a cab-rental service wholly and solely managed by people driving the cars and assisted by young professionals that costs less and gives better service to the customer. A bottle of water, A newspaper to start with and the driver be trained in first aid, making him useful for the society in a small way. Apart from this, the service should also include a magazine educating the public about the environmental concerns and possible environmental friendly products that one can use.

Secondly, The service, in the wake of the International Year of Co-operatives can provide a major help to the movement by helping sell the co-operative products. See illustration for a better understanding.



A woman hires a car to go to her house in the evening after a day's hard work. Perhaps she pools it with one of her friends from her office whom she is to drop on the way to her home. Both of them are greeted by the driver and are offered small bottles of water (that is purified using RO technology and not purchased). Thereafter they are offered the day's Newspaper and a Environment Magazine. They notice that the mat on the floor of the car carries a price tag and so do the towel on the seat. They enquire this with the driver and the driver responds that the Coconut growers' co-operative in a distant part of the country has produced the mat out of the fibre and that they could purchase it easily. While saying this, the driver hands them a catalogue of products that has a picture of the product and small description of the place it comes from. So, the women who had to reach home and then go out shopping for daily groceries or make plans to get exquisite garments could easily choose from the catalogue and tick mark the desired products from the Offer-Slip attached to the catalogue.

The driver brings the slip to the co-operative office and procures the products from the co-operatives. The payment for it is on delivery of the goods to their doorstep!!!

So now a woman enjoys the best tea in the world without having to travel to the tea gardens or to spend much money on tea produced by profit making companies. She can also order for herbal medicine for the aged at home!

TACKLING THE ENVIRONMENT STRESS

Case Study from China

The stress on our environment is now Omni present. A number of international agencies are working day in and day out to generate awareness amongst the inhabitants of this planet to save the changes to the environment and create a change in the attitude whereby the ecological balance is maintained. Climate change as an issue has gained unprecedented importance in worldly issues. However, with the advancement of science and technology, it has become rather impossible to practice age-old methods of saving the environment by a large community. In the wake of such a situation, the 1st ICA/China Training Course on "Operation and Management of Circular Economy Projects" was conceptualised and formally inaugurated on 26th November 2010 in the Conference Hall of Xinghelou Hotel by Mr. Li Chunsheng, Vice President, All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives, and President of ICA Regional Board for Asia-Pacific region, Dr. Chan Ho CHOI, Regional Director, ICA-AP and Mr. Guo Qimin, Chief, Division for Development of Circular Economy. The Department of Resource Conservation and Environmental Protection and National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) also addressed the Inaugural Session thereby introducing this concept to the region. Mr. Rong Jun, Director, Cooperative Guidance Department, ACFSMC, Mr. Zhang Wangshu, Deputy Director, International Cooperation Department, ACFSMC have actively co-ordinated the whole program and have successfully completed the 2nd course as well.



The main objectives of the training course were as follows:

- 1) To circulate basic knowledge about the CE, contribution of the cooperative sector to the CE, management and operation of CE projects, etc. to help cooperatives in the Asia and Pacific region to play a practical role in sustainable development and to promote the concept elsewhere in the world;
- 2) To share expertise and know-how accumulated by the ACFMSC in the development of nationwide recycling business network to help cooperatives in the region to foster similar projects and benefit from the emerging CE business sectors; and to elucidate the Japanese and German models of circular economy.
- 3) To establish a platform for interested parties in the region to meet counterparts, foster business partnerships and exchange industrial information, knowledge, expertise and other relevant facets etc.

21 participants from 10 countries – two each from India, Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam and three each from Cambodia & Sri Lanka and one from Mongolia attended the Training Programme. The second course had 17 participants from 9 countries.

The ACFMSC had developed a training curriculum, which included class-room lectures on various aspects of Circular Economy Projects, handled by specially-invited guest lecturers and organised field study visits in and around Beijing and Guongzhou and Qingyuan cities. The field study visits were arranged to Huaqing Recycling Industrial Park were on hand study took place.

The emphasis during the Training Course was on the methods and techniques adopted by various organizations in China in the operation and management of Circular Economy Projects in China and the implementations of the same.

Special topics of interest to the participants like "Circular Economy Policy and Legislative Environment", "China's Recycling Industry", "Industrial Park Development", "Industrialization of Circular Economy", "An Overview of Circular Economy" were presented. The selected participants were expected to undertake their home country assignments (HCAs) prior to the actual commencement of the training course in China. They were expected to prepare a suitable project proposal on Circular Economy and Country Background Paper while still working with their respective organizations in their respective countries under the guidance of the Chief Executive Officers.



The ICA-AP provided the selected participants Guidelines on Project Formulation and Country Background Paper. All the selected participants brought the draft project proposals and Country Background Papers to China, which were presented by them. The training course was designed in such a way that the participants, after returning to their respective countries, are able to help formulate and implement Circular Economy Projects in their respective countries.





INTERVIEW OF THE ISSUE

Mr. Sharma, General Secy., Delhi Co-operative Union, New Delhi, India



Mr. P.M. Sharma, Gen. Sec. Delhi State Co-operative Union at his office

ICA-AP: Good Afternoon Sir! It is an honour to meet you and thank you for sparing us your precious time.

Mr. Sharma: *It is my pleasure*

ICA-AP: Could you please explain your role in the organisation?

Mr. Sharma: *I work as the General Secretary of the Delhi Co-operative Union and 'am supposed to supervise and monitor the programs laid down by the board of directors. I also have to report the progress at least once in three months to the elected board of Directors. I am supposed to co-ordinate with State level unions and government departments regarding co-operative policy. Other day to day activities of my job are looked after by my secretary and I also am the editor of the Co-operative monthly magazine 'Sahkari Patrika' being published in Hindi and English. I also arrange seminar, conferences and symposiums on co-operative matters from time to time.*

ICA-AP: Could you provide information on starting a co-operative here?

Mr. Sharma: *Here in Delhi? As co-operatives are state subjects and different rules apply to different states.*

ICA-AP: Yes. In Delhi.

Mr. Sharma: *Firstly, there is a minimum requirement of 15 members and Rs 1 Lakh share capital. 75% of the founding members should have a background in the area of business activity that the co-operative is to undertake. For instance, in case you wish to start a cultural co-operative, then 75% of the members should have a background in cultural activities for the registration to be legally just. 25% of the members could be resource persons who are required to give guidance or other relevant support for the cause. Thereafter the members have to apply in writing along with the details of the promoters of the proposed co-operative with their proof of residence.*

ICA-AP: Could you elaborate on the role of promoters?

Mr. Sharma: *Promoters are essentially members who actively take part in the registration procedure and assist the co-operative in the initial procedure of registration. They may or may not continue to be members of the co-operative but practice is witness to promoters becoming full-fledged members. Thereafter, a list of the share capital shall also be prepared and the application has to be tendered in the prescribed format according to the Delhi State Co-operative Act. The prescribed format shall include the By-Laws as well. The Registrar's office can assist you in formulating that by handing you a model By-Law. The members are required to hold a meeting and adopt the By-Laws and elect a Managing Committee in which there will be a President, Vice President, Secretary and two treasurers. The strength of the Committee could be up to 21 members.*

Furthermore, The detailing of the financial position of each promoter is also to be prepared and each promoter shall submit an affidavit where he should mention his place of residence and the fact that he is not a member of any other similar society and the same is to be signed by all promoter members and the document be attested by the local Member if the Legislative Assembly or a Gazetted officer.

ICA-AP: So, it is the application form, Copies of By-Laws signed by promoters, copy of resolution prepared by promoters and original affidavit of all promoters including their share contribution.

Mr. Sharma: *Yes! But 4 copies of By-laws and the project report and inquiry report indicating the financial position of members also needs to be submitted to the registrar. Thereafter, the registrar decides upon the case and reverts in 3-6 months. Any appeals regarding the decision can be addressed to the Delhi Co-operative tribunal.*

ICA-AP: So what do the members do while waiting for the association to become a legal body... meaning a co-operative society?

Mr. Sharma: *It is better to start functioning as a Self Help Group and thereafter enjoy the privileges of being a co-operative!*

ICA-AP: That's a good way to go about it. Thank you so much for sharing this Sir.

Mr. Sharma: *My Pleasure.*



CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION

Innovative and exhaustive course for managers and employees of co-operatives



NOTE FROM PROGRAM MANAGER

"The Master of Management - Co-operatives and Credit Unions program is the leading international business degree for co-operative managers. With international faculty, curriculum and students the program courses are delivered online permitting students to study from their homes while continuing to work. Students meet twice face-to-face during the program - at the initial week long orientation in Canada and during a study visit to either the Mondragon co-operative network or the co-operative networks of Northern Italy. We welcome applications year round. The next group of students will begin in August 2012.



We believe that our program will be of great benefit to co-operatives in Asia and are confident that Asian co-operative managers will make a valuable contribution to the learning of others in our program. We look forward to the steady growth of a connected group of graduates around the world who will contribute to the emergence of global co-operation.

Please take a few moments to visit our program related websites: <http://www.mmccu.coop/> ; <http://www.coopaccounting.coop/> ; and <http://www.imagine2012.coop/>

We are pleased to respond to any questions about the program."



Tom Webb (MA) is an Adjunct Professor at Saint Mary's University and the Program Manager of the Master of Management - Co-operatives and Credit Unions program and teaches **MMCC 5550 - Field Research: Study Visits to Exemplars of Excellent Co-operative Business Practice.**

J Tom Webb, Program Manager
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 902 634 4536 - Lunenburg
 902 496 8170 - Saint Mary's
 902 624 9048 - Cottage Office - June-September

www.mmccu.coop



INTERNATIONAL NEWS & TRIVIA

SECOND TERM FOR UN SECRETARY GENERAL

The UN General Assembly on June 21, 2011 voted unanimously to give Mr. Ban Ki-Moon a second term at the UN as the Secretary General.



Mr. Ban Ki-Moon

It came as a recognition of his efforts aimed at strengthening UN's role and visibility in difficult circumstances. The 67 year old South Korean diplomat is widely lauded for launching innovative initiatives, calling constantly for respect of Human rights, the rule of law and other values of the UN Charter.

NEW IMF CHIEF



Ms. Lagarde

French Minister Ms. Christine Lagarde was on June 28, 2011 elected as the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund succeeding Mr. Dominique Strauss-Kahn. She is the first woman to head the IMF

NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO



Mr. Jose Graziano da Silva

Mr. Jose Graziano da Silva of Brazil was elected on June 26, 2011 as the Director General of the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), the UN agency tasked with reducing hunger globally. Mr. Graziano succeeds Mr. Jacques Diouf, who was at the helm of the FAO for 18 years.

NEW NABARD CHAIRMAN

Mr. Prakash Bakshi was appointed on June 2, 2011 as the new Chairman of the National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD). He has been working with NABARD since 1992 and he was a member of the team that designed the Self Help Group – Bank linkage programme.

FIFA PRESIDENT RE-ELECTED



Mr. Sepp Blatter was re-elected as the President of FIFA, the world's football governing body on June 1, 2011. The re-election came after a major bribery scandal left him as the lone contender for the post.

WORLD FOOD PRIZE

The world food prize foundation has announced in Washington, USA, on June 23, 2011 former President of Ghana Mr. John Agyekum Kufuor and former president of Brazil Mr. Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva as the prize winners. This was given to them for their ardent work of implementing poverty alleviation policies in their country.

JAPAN COMES UP WITH WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL SUPER-COMP.



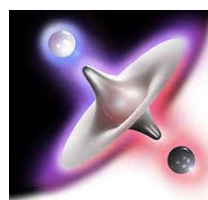
A new Japanese supercomputer has been named the most powerful system in the world. The supercomputer named 'K' is capable of making 8.2 quadrillion calculations per second, which is equivalent to a million laptops working in tandem. K, built by Fujitsu and located at the Riken Advanced Institute for Computational Science in Kobe, Japan represents a giant leap forward in computing speed. The periodic ranking of the world's top 500 computers is determined by running a standard mathematical equation. Scientists confirmed that this time the winning computer was able to make 8.2 quadrillion calculations per second, or 8.2 petaflops/sec.

TRANSGENIC COW THAT CAN GIVE HUMAN-LINK MILK



The National Institute of Agribusinesses, Argentina, announced on June 10, 2011 that it had created the world's first transgenic cow using human genes, which will allow the animal to produce the equivalent of human milk. The cloned cow, named Rosita ISA, is the first bovine born in the world that incorporates human genes that contain proteins present in the milk. The scientists involved in the project said that their goal was to raise the nutritional value of cow's milk by adding two human genes. The human genes are the protein lactoferrin, which provides infants with anti-bacterial and anti-viral protection and lysozyme which is an anti-bacterial agent.

ANTIMATTER STORED FOR RECORD 16 MINUTES



Scientists at CERN, Geneva said on June 5, 2011 that they had trapped and stored anti-hydrogen atoms for a record 16 minutes. Scientists the world over hailed it as a stunning technical feat that promises deeper insights into the mysteries of antimatter. They have reported the trapping of some 300 anti atoms and had used CERN's high energy accelerator to create the anti hydrogen atoms, and then chilled them to near zero temperatures. The aim is to use laser and microwave spectroscopy to compare the immobilized particles with their hydrogen counterparts.



ADDENDUM

R193 Promotion of Cooperatives Recommendation, 2002

Recommendation concerning Promotion of Cooperatives

Recommendation: R193 Place: Geneva Session of the Conference: 90 Date of adoption: 03:06:2002 Subject classification: Cooperatives

Subject: **Employment policy and Promotion**

Status: Up-to-date instrument This Recommendation was adopted after 1985 and is considered up to date.

The General Conference of the International Labour Organization,

Having been convened at Geneva by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, and having met in its 90th Session on 3 June 2002, and

Recognizing the importance of cooperatives in job creation, mobilizing resources, generating investment and their contribution to the economy, and

Recognizing that cooperatives in their various forms promote the fullest participation in the economic and social development of all people, and

Recognizing that globalization has created new and different pressures, problems, challenges and opportunities for cooperatives, and that stronger forms of human solidarity at national and international levels are required to facilitate a more equitable distribution of the benefits of globalization, and Noting the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 86th Session (1998), and Noting the rights and principles embodied in international labour Conventions and Recommendations, in particular the Forced Labour Convention, 1930; the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948; the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949; the Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951; the Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952; the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957; the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958; the Employment Policy Convention, 1964; the Minimum Age Convention, 1973; the Rural Workers' Organisations Convention and Recommendation, 1975; the Human Resources Development Convention and Recommendation, 1975; the Employment Policy (Supplementary Provisions) Recommendation, 1984; the Job Creation in Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Recommendation, 1998; and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999, and

Recalling the principle embodied in the Declaration of Philadelphia that "labour is not a commodity", and

Recalling that the realization of decent work for workers everywhere is a primary objective of the International Labour Organization, and

Having decided upon the adoption of certain proposals with regard to the promotion of cooperatives, which is the fourth item on the agenda of the session, and

Having determined that these proposals shall take the form of a Recommendation;

adopts this twentieth day of June of the year two thousand and two the following Recommendation, which may be cited as the Promotion of Cooperatives Recommendation, 2002.

I. SCOPE, DEFINITION AND OBJECTIVES

1. It is recognized that cooperatives operate in all sectors of the economy. This Recommendation applies to all types and forms of cooperatives.

2. For the purposes of this Recommendation, the term "cooperative" means 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.

3. The promotion and strengthening of the identity of cooperatives should be encouraged on the basis of:

(a) cooperative values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity; as well as ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others; and

(b) cooperative principles as developed by the international cooperative movement and as referred to in the Annex hereto. These principles are: voluntary and open membership; democratic member control; member economic participation; autonomy and independence; education, training and information; cooperation among cooperatives; and concern for community.

4. Measures should be adopted to promote the potential of cooperatives in all countries, irrespective of their level of development, in order to assist them and their membership to:

(a) create and develop income-generating activities and sustainable decent employment;

(b) develop human resource capacities and knowledge of the values, advantages and benefits of the cooperative movement through education and training;

(c) develop their business potential, including entrepreneurial and managerial capacities;

(d) strengthen their competitiveness as well as gain access to markets and to institutional finance;

(e) increase savings and investment;

(f) improve social and economic well-being, taking into account the need to eliminate all forms of discrimination;

(g) contribute to sustainable human development; and

(h) establish and expand a viable and dynamic distinctive sector of the economy, which includes cooperatives, that responds to the social and economic needs of the community.

5. The adoption of special measures should be encouraged to enable cooperatives, as enterprises and organizations inspired by solidarity, to respond to their members' needs and the needs of society, including those of disadvantaged groups in order to achieve their social inclusion.

II. POLICY FRAMEWORK AND ROLE OF GOVERNMENTS

6. A balanced society necessitates the existence of strong public and private sectors, as well as a strong cooperative, mutual and the other social and non-governmental sector. It is in this context that Governments should provide a supportive policy and legal framework consistent with the nature and function of cooperatives and guided by the cooperative values and principles set out in Paragraph 3, which would:

(a) establish an institutional framework with the purpose of allowing for the registration of cooperatives in as rapid, simple, affordable and efficient a manner as possible;

(b) promote policies aimed at allowing the creation of appropriate reserves, part of which at least could be indivisible, and solidarity funds within cooperatives;

(c) provide for the adoption of measures for the oversight of cooperatives, on terms appropriate to their nature and functions, which respect their autonomy, and are in accordance with national law and practice, and which are no less favourable than those applicable to other forms of enterprise and social organization;

(d) facilitate the membership of cooperatives in cooperative structures responding to the needs of cooperative members; and

(e) encourage the development of cooperatives as autonomous and self-managed enterprises, particularly in areas where cooperatives have an important role to play or provide services that are not otherwise provided.



7. (1) The promotion of cooperatives guided by the values and principles set out in Paragraph 3 should be considered as one of the pillars of national and international economic and social development.

(2) Cooperatives should be treated in accordance with national law and practice and on terms no less favourable than those accorded to other forms of enterprise and social organization. Governments should introduce support measures, where appropriate, for the activities of cooperatives that meet specific social and public policy outcomes, such as employment promotion or the development of activities benefiting disadvantaged groups or regions. Such measures could include, among others and in so far as possible, tax benefits, loans, grants, access to public works programmes, and special procurement provisions.

(3) Special consideration should be given to increasing women's participation in the cooperative movement at all levels, particularly at management and leadership levels.

8. (1) National policies should notably:

(a) promote the ILO fundamental labour standards and the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, for all workers in cooperatives without distinction whatsoever;

(b) ensure that cooperatives are not set up for, or used for, non-compliance with labour law or used to establish disguised employment relationships, and combat pseudo cooperatives violating workers' rights, by ensuring that labour legislation is applied in all enterprises;

(c) promote gender equality in cooperatives and in their work;

(d) promote measures to ensure that best labour practices are followed in cooperatives, including access to relevant information;

(e) develop the technical and vocational skills, entrepreneurial and managerial abilities, knowledge of business potential, and general economic and social policy skills, of members, workers and managers, and improve their access to information and communication technologies;

(f) promote education and training in cooperative principles and practices, at all appropriate levels of the national education and training systems, and in the wider society;

(g) promote the adoption of measures that provide for safety and health in the workplace;

(h) provide for training and other forms of assistance to improve the level of productivity and competitiveness of cooperatives and the quality of goods and services they produce;

(i) facilitate access of cooperatives to credit;

(j) facilitate access of cooperatives to markets;

(k) promote the dissemination of information on cooperatives; and

(l) seek to improve national statistics on cooperatives with a view to the formulation and implementation of development policies.

(2) Such policies should:

(a) decentralize to the regional and local levels, where appropriate, the formulation and implementation of policies and regulations regarding cooperatives;

(b) define legal obligations of cooperatives in areas such as registration, financial and social audits, and the obtaining of licences; and

(c) promote best practice on corporate governance in cooperatives.

9. Governments should promote the important role of cooperatives in transforming what are often marginal survival activities (sometimes referred to as the "informal economy") into legally protected work, fully integrated into mainstream economic life.

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC POLICIES FOR THE PROMOTION OF COOPERATIVES

10. (1) Member States should adopt specific legislation and regulations on cooperatives, which are guided by the cooperative values and principles set out in Paragraph 3, and revise such legislation and regulations when appropriate.

(2) Governments should consult cooperative organizations, as well as the employers' and workers' organizations concerned, in the formulation and revision of legislation, policies and regulations applicable to cooperatives.

11. (1) Governments should facilitate access of cooperatives to support services in order to strengthen them, their business viability and their capacity to create employment and income.

(2) These services should include, wherever possible:

(a) human resource development programmes;

(b) research and management consultancy services;

(c) access to finance and investment;

(d) accountancy and audit services;

(e) management information services;

(f) information and public relations services;

(g) consultancy services on technology and innovation;

(h) legal and taxation services;

(i) support services for marketing; and

(j) other support services where appropriate.

(3) Governments should facilitate the establishment of these support services. Cooperatives and their organizations should be encouraged to participate in the organization and management of these services and, wherever feasible and appropriate, to finance them.

(4) Governments should recognize the role of cooperatives and their organizations by developing appropriate instruments aimed at creating and strengthening cooperatives at national and local levels.

12. Governments should, where appropriate, adopt measures to facilitate the access of cooperatives to investment finance and credit. Such measures should notably:

(a) allow loans and other financial facilities to be offered;

(b) simplify administrative procedures, remedy any inadequate level of cooperative assets, and reduce the cost of loan transactions;

(c) facilitate an autonomous system of finance for cooperatives, including savings and credit, banking and insurance cooperatives; and

(d) include special provisions for disadvantaged groups.

13. For the promotion of the cooperative movement, governments should encourage conditions favouring the development of technical, commercial and financial linkages among all forms of cooperatives so as to facilitate an exchange of experience and the sharing of risks and benefits.

IV. ROLE OF EMPLOYERS' AND WORKERS' ORGANIZATIONS AND COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS, AND RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THEM

14. Employers' and workers' organizations, recognizing the significance of cooperatives for the attainment of sustainable development goals, should seek, together with cooperative organizations, ways and means of cooperative promotion.

15. Employers' organizations should consider, where appropriate, the extension of membership to cooperatives wishing to join them and provide appropriate support services on the same terms and conditions applying to other members.

16. Workers' organizations should be encouraged to:

(a) advise and assist workers in cooperatives to join workers' organizations;

(b) assist their members to establish cooperatives, including with the aim of facilitating access to basic goods and services;

(c) participate in committees and working groups at the local, national and international levels that consider economic and social issues having an impact on cooperatives;

(d) assist and participate in the setting up of new cooperatives with a view to the creation or maintenance of employment, including in cases of proposed closures of enterprises;

(e) assist and participate in programmes for cooperatives aimed at improving their productivity;



- (f) promote equality of opportunity in cooperatives;
- (g) promote the exercise of the rights of worker-members of cooperatives; and
- (h) undertake any other activities for the promotion of cooperatives, including education and training.

17. Cooperatives and organizations representing them should be encouraged to:

- (a) establish an active relationship with employers' and workers' organizations and concerned governmental and non-governmental agencies with a view to creating a favourable climate for the development of cooperatives;
- (b) manage their own support services and contribute to their financing;
- (c) provide commercial and financial services to affiliated cooperatives;
- (d) invest in, and further, human resource development of their members, workers and managers;
- (e) further the development of and affiliation with national and international cooperative organizations;
- (f) represent the national cooperative movement at the international level; and
- (g) undertake any other activities for the promotion of cooperatives.

V. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

18. International cooperation should be facilitated through:

- (a) exchanging information on policies and programmes that have proved to be effective in employment creation and income generation for members of cooperatives;
- (b) encouraging and promoting relationships between national and international bodies and institutions involved in the development of cooperatives in order to permit:
 - (i) the exchange of personnel and ideas, of educational and training materials, methodologies and reference materials;
 - (ii) the compilation and utilization of research material and other data on cooperatives and their development;
 - (iii) the establishment of alliances and international partnerships between cooperatives;
 - (iv) the promotion and protection of cooperative values and principles; and
 - (v) the establishment of commercial relations between cooperatives;
- (c) access of cooperatives to national and international data, such as market information, legislation, training methods and techniques, technology and product standards; and
- (d) developing, where it is warranted and possible, and in consultation with cooperatives, employers' and workers' organizations concerned, common regional and international guidelines and legislation to support cooperatives.

VI. FINAL PROVISION

19. The present Recommendation revises and replaces the Co-operatives (Developing Countries) Recommendation, 1966.

ANNEX

EXTRACT FROM THE STATEMENT ON THE COOPERATIVE IDENTITY, ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE IN 1995

The cooperative principles are guidelines by which cooperatives put their values into practice.

Voluntary and open membership

Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

Democratic member control

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote) and cooperatives at other levels are also organized in a democratic manner.

Member economic participation

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative.

Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing their cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

Autonomy and independence

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.

Education, training and information

Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public - particularly young people and opinion leaders - about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

Cooperation among cooperatives

Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

Concern for community

Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.



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