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# The ICA Board Meeting in Kampala, Uganda (1997)

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April, 1997

(Source: ICA News, Issue No.2/1997)

The ICA Board Meeting in Kampala, Uganda

The ICA Board Meeting in Kampala, Uganda, on April 18-19, was not only the first such meeting to be held in East Africa but also led to decisions which will have a major impact on the forthcoming General Assembly in September.

ICA President Graham Melmoth, obliged to miss the meeting while leading a successful defense against a takeover attempt of the Co-operative Wholesale Society in the U.K., informed the Board in writing that his heavy domestic commitments had "sadly led me to the conclusion that I ought not to stand again for the Presidency in September".

The Board therefore decided to establish an Elections Committee consisting of the four regional nominees for Vice-President (Lars Hillbom, Roberto Rodrigues, Bernard Wolimbwa, and Yang Deshou) and the incumbent members who have decided not to seek re-election (Raija Itkonen, Ota Karen, Hasle Nielsen, and Graham Melmoth). The Committee will be responsible for reviewing potential candidates and making a recommendation to the Board, so that the Board can subsequently make a recommendation to the GA in September. The Elections Committee will also encourage candidates for the Board, with particular efforts to encourage the nomination of women, and will supervise the election procedure in Geneva.

The Board completed its review of the recommendations made by the Special Board Committee on Rules and Finance, composed of Graham Melmoth, Raija Itkonen, Yehudah Paz, and Etienne Pflimlin. The Board decided to recommend to the General Assembly a number of rule changes, including an increase in the size of the Board from 16 to 20 members; an increase in the maximum national representation at the General Assembly from 20 to 25; the introduction of a new category of associate member;  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right$ Board members if deemed necessary. After reviewing possible amendments to the subscription formula, the Committee proposed not to make any major changes, with the exception of amending the formula for housing co-ops, to which the Board agreed. The Board approved the ICA's 1996 financial statements, which show a small surplus, and the 1997 budget, which also projects a small surplus. In addition, the Board approved membership applications from 12 organisations. It reviewed policy papers and approved recommendations on three of the ICA's priority areas of activity communications, development and membership services.

#### ICA Meetings (1997)

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April, 1997

(Source: ICA News, Issue No.2/1997)

ICA Meetings
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ICA General Assembly News

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Some 500 representatives and observers are expected to participate in the ICA's biennial General Assembly, which will be held in Geneva on September 15-16, 1997, after a four-year absence from the ICA's home city. It was in Geneva in 1993 that the current Board was elected, and a feature of this year's meeting will be elections for a new Board, including President, and Audit and Control Committee.

Member organisations wishing to nominate a candidate for election to the Presidency or to the ICA Board should submit the name to the ICA Director before 15 June 1997. Candidates for President should include a brief statement about their vision for the ICA, in addition to the biographical details expected of all nominees.

As promised when the ICA Rules underwent a major revision at the Tokyo Congress in 1992, they have been subjected to a further review during the last two years to see if any modifications are needed on the basis of recent experience. The proposal being presented to the General Assembly by the Board concludes that the new regional structure is generally functioning well and requires no major change. Continued efforts, however, are needed to strengthen relations between ICA and the Specialised Bodies, and a number of changes are proposed. A new category of associate member is proposed in order to enable organisations not able to assume full membership to participate in ICA's global and regional activities. With a larger Board and General Assembly membership (see previous report), it is hoped that the representation of regions, sectors, and women will be improved.

A special half-day session on 16 September will focus on the global dimension of co-operatives - how they have an opportunity to influence important international issues, and how they can better collaborate with other allies in the civil society (including farmers' associations, trade unions, and mutuals).

Eleven of the ICA's 15 Specialised Bodies will hold meetings in conjunction with the General Assembly. In the case of the agriculture and women's groups, issue-oriented conferences will be held in addition to their statutory meetings. Other meetings include the ICA's European Council, a joint Seminar on Networking and Distance Learning organised by the HRD and Communications Committees and a new "Business Opportunity" luncheon in conjunction with the launching of a new sub-committee on Communications and Trade.

Member organisations have already received registration and hotel information. Documentation for the G A, printed in the next two editions of the ICA Review, will be sent to registered participants at the end of June. Further information is available from the ICA Secretariat on request.

#### **Overcoming Distance (1997)**

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April, 1997
(Source: ICA News, Issue No.2/1997)

Overcoming Distance \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

A Seminar on the potential of Electronic Networking for overcoming distance and the possibilities of using distance learning for Co-operative Education, Human Resource Development and Communications will be held at the ILO in Geneva on 17 September. Aspects covered will include interactive and distance learning, networking, using the Internet for research and lobbying and mobilising people via the Internet. For further information and registration contact Jan-Eirik Imbsen at the ICA, Fax: (+41 22) 798 41 22: e-mail development@coop.org. The Seminar will be supported by the ILO COOPNET Programme.

If you are interested in receiving copies of the other language versions please drop a line to the ICA Secretariat. Either fax, e-mail or send a letter to the Communications Department at the address on the front page.

The ICA Review of International Co-operation is available in English and Spanish. For the Spanish version please also contact the ICA Secretariat for details of how to subscribe.

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#### **European Council Meets in Italy (1997)**

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April, 1997

(Source: ICA News, Issue No.2/1997)

This spring's European Council meeting was hosted by the ICA's Italian member organisations in Rome on 21 March 1997. Among the items discussed were gender issues, which constitute an integral part of all European programmes. With the goal of encouraging a higher level of participation by European women co-operators in ICA activities and governing bodies, the Council decided to evaluate and analyse the answers to the ICA President's Gender Policy letter, as well as review the Rules for the European Region from a gender perspective. In light of the ever-increasing impact of the European Union's enlargement on co-operatives, it was decided to organise a seminar dealing with this topic in November 1997. The invitation of the Czech co-operative movement to host the seminar was accepted.

Another item addressed was how to best represent European co-operatives, in order to avoid overlapping activities and to ensure smooth co-ordination with parallel institutions. To further discuss this issue, a Working Group was set up under the chairmanship of Calixte Parpais, of Credit Mutuel, France.

Council members agreed that the next Regional Assembly for Europe would be held 15 and 16 October 1998 in Paris.

The European Council will meet on 13 September 1997, prior to the ICA General Assembly in Geneva.

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## **ICACC** Meets in Copenhagen (1997)

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April, 1997

(Source: ICA News, Issue No.2/1997)

The Executive of the ICACC met in Copenhagen on 1 May to discuss future plans which include: a joint seminar with the ILO and the ICA HRD Committee to be held in Geneva in conjunction with the 1997 General Assembly; a seminar on Co-operatives and Lobbying to be held in 1998; and a workshop for journalists from East, Central and Southern Africa, to be held in the region in 1998, possibly in collaboration with the ILO.

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## **Research Committee News (1997)**

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April, 1997

(Source: ICA News, Issue No.2/1997)

This year's ICA International Research Conference will be held at the University Residential Centre in Bertinoro near Bologna, Italy, on October 3-5, 1997 . The conference title is "The Co-operative Advantage in a Civil Economy".

The 1998 Research Conference has been tentatively scheduled to take place in Cork, Ireland from 13-17 May 1998. The Committee also plans to hold a conference jointly with the ICA Global Women's Committee sometime later in 1998 on 'Women, Entrepreneurship and Co-operatives".

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#### **ICA Meetings: Housing Seminar (1997)**

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April, 1997

(Source: ICA News, Issue No.2/1997)

: ICA Meetings :

Housing Seminar

Less than ten months after the UN-HABITAT-II Conference in Istanbul, ICA Housing organised a conference to be held during the Uganda Board Meeting, April 18 and 19. One of the goals of the conference was to present successful examples of co-operative housing and self-help schemes and to encourage the government of Uganda to prepare the necessary conditions for the foundation of new housing co-operatives.

The preconditions for economic growth and improved nutrition in the rural areas are good. There is intensive agriculture, fertile land, and in rural areas the Ugandan people are working hard to improve their standard of living. The ICA President for this region of Africa, Mr. Bernard Wolimba, who is also the Chairman of the Uganda Co-operative Alliance, did an excellent job preparing the housing seminar, which drew more than one hundred participants.

At the conference, the success of housing co-operatives in Kenya and Zimbabwe were shown as examples to help Uganda establish their own. Organisations of developmental assistance, such as NBBL and DESWOS, also presented examples of their successful work in South Africa.

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#### World Overview (1997)

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April, 1997

(Source: ICA News, Issue No.2/1997)

World Overview \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

BELGIUM: Happy 50th, CIRIEC!

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The 50th anniversary of CIRIEC, the International Centre of Research and Information on the Public and Co-operative Economy, will be celebrated 26 September 1997 in Brussels. A scientific colloquium addressing "The Public, Social and Co-operative Economy and the General Interest. Which Roles in the XXIst Century?" will be presented. Those interested in attending should contact CIRIEC at (+32 4) 366 27 46 or by e-mail at ciriec@ulg.ac.be. Their web site can also be viewed at http://www.ulg.ac.be/ciriec/ciriec.htm.

CANADA: Second Annual Youth Unity Conference

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Following the success of its Youth Unity Conference held in August 1996, the Co-operators Group will hold a second such conference this year. The conference aims to provide a forum for young adults, aged 18 to 21, to explore, express and listen to diverse views on Canadian unity. An evaluation of the last conference showed that 90 per cent of the attendees found the event "exceeding their expectations."

(Source: ICMIF NetWork, no. 20, February 1997)

New Newsletter for Co-op Connections

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In the fall of 1996, the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) published its first issue of the Linkages Bulletin, a newsletter for the Co-op Connections Programme. The target audience of the bulletin is co-operatives and credit unions, both in Canada and overseas, involved in the Linkages Programme, as well as Canadian developmental education co-ordinators and CCA staff. The purpose of the Co-op Connections Programme is to link co-operatives and credit unions in Canada with those in countries where CCA is actively involved. Co-ops with similar challenges and services agree on a linkage, or a "co-op connection," for three years. During this period, they are able to participate in activities such as internships and exchanges, designed to benefit both partners. For further information, or to be added to the Linkages mailing list, please contact Laurie Tennian at (+1 613) 238-6711 or by e-mail at laurie@coopcca.com.

New Canadian Co-op Act

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On 21 March 1997 Industry Minister John Manley and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Minister, Ralph Goodale, introduced the Canada Co-operatives Act, designed to modernize laws governing federally incorporated, non-financial Canadian co-operatives. This Act strengthens and clarifies the corporate governance rules relating to co-operatives and gives them access to different sources of capital. As well, it provides benefits to small and large co-operatives by simplifying incorporation and providing clear standards for directors' liability. The co-operative sector, through the Canadian Co-operative Association, in collaboration with the Conseil canadien de la cooperation, played a key role in drafting the legislation. Industry Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada used this draft to conduct a series of consultations and fine-tune the legislation.

(Source: Government of Canada News Release)

Desjardins: Economic Success and Social Responsibility

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The 1996 annual report of the Mouvement des Caisses Desjardins shows that the Quebec-based financial co-operative movement increased its assets to 83 billion Canadian dollars and increased its operating surplus by 8.5 percent to 473 million Canadian dollars last year. The movement is the largest private employer in the province of Quebec. It is also the Canadian leader in direct payment, with over 28,000 point-of-sale terminals. The movement also published its annual "Socio-economic and Cooperative Audit Report", showing that it returned 89 million dollars to the communities it serves through a combination of patronage refunds (66 million dollars), gifts, sponsorships, and scholarships. 57 percent of the local caisses collaborate with other caisses, and 32 percent have links with other kinds of co-operatives in their communities.

(Source: 1996 Annual Report: Review of Operations)

CZECH REPUBLIC : Housing Seminar in Prague

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Last November over 40 participants met in Prague for a United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN-ECE) workshop for central and eastern European countries, organised by the Federal Union of German Housing Associations, an affiliation of housing co-operatives in collaboration with the Co-operative Section of CECODHAS (European Liaison Committee for Social Housing). The objective of the workshop was to offer information to those countries in transition, where co-operative structures have to be adapted to the needs of a market economy; and also to draw attention to the fact that privatisation of state-owned housing can be transformed into new housing co-operatives. During the workshop, the Czech, Slovakian, Polish and Hungarian movements showed how successfully housing co-ops can carry on their work once legal preconditions are met. Nevertheless, problems such as increases in real estate and energy need to be solved. Saving schemes and favourable terms of credit can help to overcome some obstacles, but subsidies are also necessary for the lower income sections of society.

A follow-up of the workshop in Prague will be organised in Warsaw. The first draft of a new handbook for the foundation of new housing co-operatives was presented by GdW in Prague and will be finished for publication in Warsaw.

GREECE: Ambelakia, the Co-op's Birthplace

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A small village in the mountains of Greece, Ambelakia is historically recognised as the home of the first co-operative. Formed in 1795, the co-op exported naturally dyed colourful cotton yarn all over Europe.

Dimitra, the Institute of Information, Training and Development, and the Cultural Association of Ambelakia are working together on a comprehensive rural regeneration project to secure and enhance the historic and economic prosperity of Ambelakia.

A multi-lingual interactive touch screen CD-ROM on the historical, architectural and economic development of Ambelakia, as well as a Visitors' Centre where the CD-ROM can be viewed, are being planned.

The project is partially funded by the RAPHAEL programme (The European Community Action in Support of Culture), which works for the preservation and increased awareness of cultural heritage. However, the programme is still in need of funding. Please contact the head office at (+30 41) 554 027 or be-mail at dimitra@hol.gr for more information.

#### UK : CWS Foils Attempted Takeover

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In April an attempted take-over of the Co-operative Wholesale Society by Galileo, a company headed by 31 year-old old entrepreneur, Andrew Regan, was foiled thanks to the swift response of CWS officials. After a lengthy battle a last-minute injunction forced Galileo to abandon the launch of their hostile \$1.6 billion bid.

WS Chief Executive, Graham Melmoth, said that the attempted bid failed mainly because CWS were able to prove that it was based on stolen documents. The CWS, which hired a team of private detectives to trace how information was being leaked, is now taking legal action against one of its executives, Allan Green, who allegedly handed confidential documents to Galileo.

According to the Manchester Guardian Weekly of 27 April, Galileo disclosed that it had been about to publish its long-awaited strategy for unlocking the multi-billion pound value of the CWS. It had intended to make formal proposals for the conversion of the CWS into a limited company, so that Galileo could then make an offer for the mutual society.

The court order obtained by the CWS forbade Mr Regan, Mr Green, Galileo or its parent company, Lanica, from using confidential CWS information. It also required them to disclose all the information they had and what they had used it for, and to return all papers to the CWS.

On April 22, a spokesman for Mr Regan said he would stand down as a director of Galileo as soon as the company was able to go public with its plans. It was seen in some quarters as the first sign of a crack between Mr Regan and his financial backers, led by Hambros Merchant Bank. Later Hambros made an unreserved apology to CWS over its conduct in the affair and is understood to have paid substantial damages.

Apologies have also been sent by lawyers Travers, Smith, Braithwaite who acted as legal advisers to Galileo and Larnica. Galileo have subsequently gone into voluntary liquidation.

The situation of CWS in Britain is clearly something that co-operators world-wide must face up to. According to Gary B. Hansen of Utah State University, the Wall Street Journal recently published an article stating mutual insurance companies in the US are considering converting to stockholder companies in order to raise more capital for acquisitions, etc. If this path is followed, warns Hansen, it will mean that the policy holders will soon find themselves at the mercy of shareholders who are interested only in profits and dividends and not about the interests of the member-policy holders. These enterprises will no longer be functioning as co-operatives or espousing co-operative values, he cautioned.

(Sources: Manchester Guardian Weekly and Co-operative News cooperative-business listserver)

Co-op Party Celebrates Landslide

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The Co-operative Party in the UK celebrated a landslide victory in the general election on 1 May which saw all 26 Labour/Co-operative candidates victorious. They now form the biggest-ever group of Co-op backed members of parliament. The wins came in England, Scotland and Wales, and included seats in traditional Conservative strongholds. Majorities for Co-op Party candidates ranged from 23,931 to 3,636. Dr. Peter Clarke, National Secretary of the Co-operative Party said that the sitting MPs are joined by a new bunch of MPs who have come up through the Co-operative Party and understand the agenda. He said these new MPs would work with long-standing members to promote co-operative ideals. For the first time candidates had been clearly labelled as joint Labour/ Co-op Party candidates, and the high press coverage that Andrew Regan's bid had given the movement had established the Co-op and its ideals firmly in the voter's mind according to Mr. Clark. The Galileo bid had shaken up the Movement, he said, and now it was time for reform. Larnica has put the movement firmly in the media spotlight and we need to keep ourselves there, he stressed.

UNITED STATES : Lawsuit Against the AT&T Family FCU

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On 24 February 1997 the US Supreme Court announced that it will hear arguments regarding a lawsuit against the AT&T Family Federal Credit Union (FCU), brought by bankers challenging its field of membership. The Court will review the decision made by the US Court of Appeals on 29 July 1996, ruling that the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) had acted beyond its scope of authority with the approval of membership expansions for the AT&T Family FCU to include multiple-employer groups. Bankers argue that the NCUA has been improperly interpreting the Credit Union Act since 1982 by allowing credit unions to include groups of employees with different employers. NCUA believes that the act allows these groupings, and that such groupings in a credit union provide strength through diversity. There is no court date as of yet, but a final decision by the Supreme Court is likely to be handed down by the end of 1997 or early in 1998.

(Source: NCBA Cooperative Business Journal, vol. 11, no. 2.)

Co-operative Development Forum

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The 1997 Co-operative Development Forum, sponsored by the Co-operative League of the USA (CLUSA) Institute for Co-operative Development, will be held 13 to 15 June in St. Paul, Minnesota. The Forum will be held in conjunction with the annual conference of the National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils (NARC&DCs), which runs 14 to 18 June. The theme will be "The Co-operative Model, a Tool for Community Economic Development." The programme will focus on six major issues: co-operative approaches to community economic development: moderate income communities; co-operative approaches to community economic development: persistent poverty communities; meeting the needs of the growing elderly population; consumers and small businesses in the marketplace; technical resources; and financial resources.

Registration information for the 1997 Co-operative Development Forum and the NARC&DC annual conference is available from John Gauci, CLUSA Institute Executive Director, by telephone at (+1 202) 638-6222, by fax at 638-1374 or by e-mail at jgauci@ncba.org.

(Source: NCBA News Release)

The 1997 Co-operative Conference

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The Value of Co-operation, the theme for the Co-operative Conference, was amply demonstrated April 23-24 as the

National Co-operative Business Association (NCBA), in conjunction with the National Co-operative Bank (NCB), and the Co-operative Development Foundation, held its annual meeting and conference in Washington, D.C. The conference programme focused on the benefits of working together through co-operation and featured the annual meetings of each organisation as well as special joint programming concerning educational sessions on co-operative development, mergers and crisis communications. NCBA President and CEO Russ Notar called the joint conference an "historic event"

At the NCBA annual meeting, delegates approved the 1997 Statement of Policy and various bylaw amendments. NCBA Chair, Tom Lyon, CEO of Co-operative Resources International, told the delegates "through the efforts of your diverse and engaged board and a well qualified staff, NCBA is, within its limited resources, well positioned to advance the organisation's mission - to develop, advance and protect co-operative enterprise."

As in previous years, the Future Co-op Leaders Programme was part of the Co-operative Conference. The programme is designed to build leadership in US co-operatives by encouraging up-and-coming co-operators to attend the NCBA Co-operative Conference where they can meet and learn from other co-op leaders. Special activities were planned for the 18 future co-op leaders who were selected for this scholarship programme. The programme is funded, in part, by NCBA's Honored Cooperator Awards programme.

(Source: NCBA News Release, 28 April 1997)

ZAMBIA: Zambian Co-ops to get new Lease of Life

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The co-operative movement in Zambia which has been on the verge of collapse since the liberalisation of agricultural marketing in the country in 1992 may get a new lease of life if current government initiatives to revive the co-operative sector are implemented. After a miserable performance of the private sector in agricultural financing and marketing, the Ministry of Agriculture Food and Fisheries is contemplating reactivating co-operatives by amending the Co-operatives Societies Act of 1970 and reviving the Co-operative Bank which was closed in 1995.

Government has since asked the co-operative movement to take stock of its performance since liberalisation, identify its weaknesses and strength and come up with proposals for the way forward.

Agriculture Food and Fisheries Minister, Edith Nawakwi told Parliament recently that government had stopped giving agricultural loans to individual farmers and was currently holding consultations on how to create an appropriate financing mechanism for farmers groups and co-operatives. Under this mechanism, deserving farmers' groups and co-operatives would be targeted for a wide range of financial services including capital investment support. During the last three years, the government had done away with co-operative institutions like the Credit Union and Savings Association (CUSA) and the Zambia Co-operative Federation's Finance Services in providing seasonal credit to about 600,000 small scale farmers who are mostly members of co-operatives. In March this year, Lima Bank which was a government owned agricultural financing company was closed due to liquidity problems while government bemoaned the loss of K26 billion, the equivalent of US \$20 Million owed to it by Cavmont Merchant Bank and SGS - the two private institutions appointed by government to coordinate credit at the expense of

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CO-OP PEOPLE \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

On 24 February 1997, Dr. Ivan Prikryl was elected President of the Co-operative Association of the Czech Republic. His previous post was as the President of the Union of Czech and Moravian Housing Co-operatives.

All 26 of Co-operative Party candidates were successful in the recent UK general elections. Before the election on 1 May, there were 15 Co-operative Party MPs in Britain. There are also 4 Co-operative Peers in the House of Lords, and 6 Co-operative Party Members of the European Parliament. The following are new MPs: Dave Lepper (Brighton Pavilion); Doug Naysmith (Bristol North West); Phil Hope (Corby); Andy Love (Edmonton); Tony McWalter (Hemel Hempstead); Jim Dobbin (Heywood & Middleton); David Taylor (Leicestershire North West); Louise Ellman (Liverpool Riverside); Andy Reed (Loughborough); Linda Gilroy (Plymouth Sutton); David Drew (Stroud). The following were re-elected: Angela Smith (Basildon); Jon Owen Jones (Cardiff Central); Alun Michael (Cardiff South & Penarth); George Foulkes (Carrick, Cumnock & Doon Valley); John McFall (Dumbarton); Alan Keen (Feltham & Heston); Ian Davidson (Glasgow Pollock); Tommy McAvo (Glasgow Rutherglen); Barry Sheerman (Huddersfield); Mike Gapes (Ilford South); Don Touhig \(Islwyn); Lewis Moonie (Kirkcaldy); Gordon McMaster (Paisley South); Ken Purchase (Wolverhampton North East); Dennis Turner (Wolverhampton South East).

NCBA elected board members and officers to lead the membership association in the coming year. Rod Nilsestuen, Ralph Paige, and Gonze Lee Twitty were elected to three-year terms the NCBA board of directors. Andy Ferguson was elected to represent individual members on the NCBA board. The following officers were re-elected: chair, Thomas Lyon; 1st vice chair, David Miller; 2nd vice chair, Pete Crear; Secretary, Herb Levy; and treasurer, Dr. Ann Hoyt. Four others elected to join these officers on the Executive are Ralph Paige, Joe Leiber, Jeff Stroburg, and James Van Houten. Board members also elected Harvey Sigelbaum, Gail Sokoloff and Michael Treadwell to serve on the board. John C. Fisher was elected to fill the two-year unexpired term of C. William Swank.

In December 1997, Gabriella Sozanski was appointed Secretary of the ICA's European Council.

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Corrigendum: it was Enzo Pezzini from CECOP, on the front page of the last ICA News, making the intervention on the founding meeting of IHCO.

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#### ICA Calendar (1997)

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- 5 7 June 1997 Global Women's Committee St. Petersburg, Russia
- 13 14 June 1997 ICA Housing Board Vienna, Austria
- 11-13 September 1997 Global Women's Committee, Geneva, Switzerland
- 13 September 1997 European Council Geneva, Switzerland
- 13 14 September 1997 Health Committee Meetings Geneva, Switzerland
- 14 September 1997 ICA Board Meeting Geneva, Switzerland
- 14 September 1997 Consumer Committee (ICCO) Geneva, Switzerland
- 14 September 1997 ICACC Executive Committee Geneva, Switzerland
- 15 16 September 1997 ICA General Assembly Geneva, Switzerland
- 15-16 September 1997 Audit & Control Committee Geneva, Switzerland
- 17 September 1997- ILO/ICA HRD/ICACC Joint Seminar on Distance Learning and Networking Geneva, Switzerland
- 17 September 1997 CICOPA Meetings Geneva, Switzerland
- 17 September 1997 ICA Fisheries Committee Meetings Geneva, Switzerland
- 17 September 1997 Housing Committee (ICHO) Geneva, Switzerland
- 17 September 1997 Banking Committee (ICBA) Geneva, Switzerland
- 18 September 1997 Agricultural Committee (ICAO) Geneva, Switzerland
- 18 September 1997 HRD Committee Meetings

Geneva, Switzerland

19 September 1997 - ICAO Study Tour Geneva, Switzerland

3-5 October 1997 - ICA Research Conference Bertinoro, Italy