



ICA Press Releases

Kenyan Solidarity Fund

The International Co-operative Alliance and the International Credit Union and Cooperative Movements Raise US\$175,000 for Kenyan Solidarity Fund

Geneva, Switzerland, 14 December, for immediate release -- In a tremendous showing of support for Kenyans devastated by the August 7, 1998 bomb blast, the International Co-operative Alliance and the credit union/cooperative movement raised US\$175,000 in funds and technical assistance to rebuild those organizations that suffered considerable losses. Among those most severely impacted were the Ufundi Savings and Credit Cooperative Organization (SACCO) and the Co-operative Bank of Kenya that together lost 50 lives and millions in property damage.

Contributions from individuals, credit unions and cooperatives came in from all over the world to the following organizations that will make a joint presentation of the funds and project grants in January. (A complete list of contributors is available to members upon request.):

\$65,000 and office equipment	WOCCU's Worldwide Foundation of Credit Unions
\$54,000	International Cooperative Alliance
\$45,000	Cooperative Development Foundation of Canada
\$11,000	Cooperative Development Foundation (US)

Contributions to World Council's Worldwide Foundation will specifically go toward rebuilding the Ufundi SACCO's replacing furniture and equipment, renovating recently rented offices, purchasing supplies and conducting a recovery planning project.

Likewise, the Cooperative Development Foundation of Canada will use contributions to conduct a development project for the Ufundi SACCO. Project scope includes a computer conversion and staff training to help Ufundi effectively utilize a computer system recently donated by the IBM Corporation.

The International Cooperative Alliance and the Cooperative Development Foundation have plans to support the victims and rebuild other cooperative organizations in Kenya. In addition to the ICA's contributors, the British Government pledged up to one million pounds through the British Cooperative Movement.

The International Co-operative Alliance thanks all of its members and the many individuals who have contributed to rebuilding the Kenya Credit Union/Cooperative Movement. The ICA is still accepting Kenya donations made payable to **UBS account 205 202 60 Q, UBS, 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland** with the following reference **Kenyan Bombing Solidarity Fund**

The International Co-operative Alliance is an international non-governmental organisation which unites, represents and serves co-operative worldwide. It has 236 members in 93 countries.

● Detailed list of Contributors

● [ICA list of donations](#)

Last updated: 27 May 2002



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ICA Press Releases

ICA President Visit to West Africa

West Africa (ICA), 3 December 1998, for immediate release--The President of the International Co-operative Alliance, Mr. Roberto Rodrigues undertook an official visit to West Africa from November 10 to 15, 1998. The aim of the visit was to establish contacts and have working sessions in Senegal and Benin.

He was accompanied by Mr. Ousseynou Dieng, an ICA Board member, and Mr. Ada Souleymane Kibora, Regional Director for West Africa.

In Senegal, Mr. Rodrigues was received by :

- The Prime Minister, Mr. Mamadou Lamine Loum,
- The President of the Parliament, Cheikh Abdoul Khadre Cissokho
- The President of the Economic and Social Council, Famara Ibrahima Sagna
- The Minister of State, Minister of Agriculture, Robert Sagna.

In Benin, Mr. Rodrigues was received by :

- His Excellency, the Head of State, Mathieu Kerekou,
- The President of the Parliament, Mr. Bruno Amoussou,
- The Minister of Rural Development, Monsieur Saley Saka ;

In Senegal and Benin, Mr. Rodrigues had working sessions and visited co-operatives movements and UNCAS (Senegal) and FECECAM (Benin) women's committees.

Mr. Rodrigues delivered several messages to the political leaders (authorities) and to the various co-operative movements, which included :

- The importance and the necessity to better integrate African women and youth in the co-operatives. This could be done through co-optation of women and young people in decision-making and control bodies of co-operatives.
- The importance of a dialogue and a partnership between the State and co-operatives within the framework of co-operative policies and legislation, amended and adapted to the new political, economic and social on-going changes in Africa.
- The need for a self-adjustment and professionalism for enterprises and the need for an integration between sectors and the necessity to establish strategic alliances to render co-operatives more competitive on a more and more difficult market and more efficient to meet the demands members who are becoming more and more exacting.

- The training of human resources stand as an absolute emergency with regard to the complexity of the challenges to address.
- The role and the place of co-operatives as job creating institution and the crucible of the defence of weaker people economically speaking. The increasing number of the deprived, the growing poverty and the threat against democracy and other fundamental human values. Co-operatives are at the same time the economic force of the social organisation and the human face of the market economy. For those various reasons, co-operatives contribute to the building of a more equitable world and to safeguard peace.

The ICA president and his delegation were honoured by the various personalities and were given a warm and co-operative welcome from the co-operative movements. It is worth making a special note to the two women's committees, members of UNCAS (Senegal) and FECECAM (Benin), for their dynamism and their accomplishment on the field.

Last updated: 3 December, 1998



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ICA Press Releases

Co-operative Movement Hit Hard by Hurricane Mitch

CENTRAL AMERICA (ICA), 24 November, for immediate release -- Hurricane Mitch, which caused extensive property damage and loss of life in Honduras, Nicaragua, and El Salvador (see [press release of 18 November](#)) also seriously affected the co-operative movements of the three countries. In these countries more than 500,000 persons are members of 250 co-operatives in the agricultural, financial, and housing sectors.

- In Honduras, ICA member organisation FINACCOOP says that 122 co-operative members were killed and more than 2,500 members have been left homeless. ICA member organisation FACACH (co-operative savings and credit federation) reports that more than 25,000 co-operative members have lost all of their productive activity, while 60 percent of the country's total agricultural production has been damaged.
- In Nicaragua, ICA member organisation UNAG (national farmers' union) reports that 38,000 families have been affected by the total or partial loss of their agricultural production, with total losses reaching 83 million U.S. dollars.
- In both countries the national co-operative organisations are requesting short-term assistance for purchases of food, medicine, and clothes, as well as the rebuilding of homes, buildings, and agricultural production. In the long term, they need assistance in coping with the damage to their co-operative structures which have been caused in view of the terrible hardship facing their members, who are unable to repay loans or undertake productive activities.
- The ICA Regional Office for the Americas is discussing with its development partners the initiation of a 3-month project which would identify the priority needs of co-operatives in Honduras and Nicaragua, as well as El Salvador, and develop action plans for short-term assistance and long-term reconstruction.
- Several ICA member organisations in the affected countries have established bank accounts to which contributions can be made. These include:

Co-operatives

Confederacion Hondurena de
Cooperativas
Marco Antonio Alcerro, Presidente
Junta Directiva
fax +(50 4) 221 15 62
e-mail chc@compunet.hn

Bank account

Chase Manhattan Bank
New York
ABA 021000021
A/C Banco Confederado de
America Latina
Cuenta No. 001-1-688405
Para Credito a
FACACH/Honduras

Para Credito final a la cta
no. 01-0197

Cooperativa Sagrada Familia
Lic. Jorge Alberto Duarte, Gerente
General
fax +(50 4) 384 851
e-mail Coopsafa@ david.Intertel.hn

Banco del Ahorro
Hondureno, cuenta no.
2172827

Federacion de Cooperativas de Ahorro y
Credito de Honduras (FACACH)
Carlomagno Amaya B., Gerente General
fax +(50 4) 368 096
e-mail facach@ gbm.hn

Chase Manhattan Bank
New York
ABA 021000021
A/C Banco Confederado de
America Latina
Cuenta no. 001-1-688405
Para Credito a
FACACH/Honduras

Last updated: 23 November, 1998



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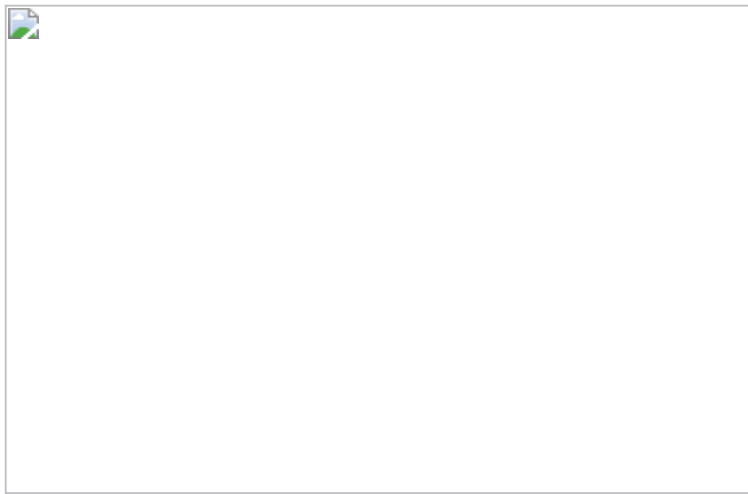
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ICA Press Releases

Co-operative Relief Efforts in Central America

Central America, 16 November 1998, for immediate release Hurrigan Mitch has left behind a trail of devastation in Central America. According to press reports this was an unprecedented disaster which will set back the economic development in the entire region by some 20 - 30 years. Over 11,000 are reported missing in Honduras, 2,400 in Nicaragua, 239 in El Salvador, 194 in Guatemala and at least six people in Southern Mexico and seven in Costa Rica.



ICA Head Office has been trying to contact its members in Honduras and Nicaragua in order to learn their situation and access the assistance needed. However, given the importance of co-operatives in the agricultural sector, which has been particularly damaged, a high priority must be given to rebuilding co-operative infrastructure and capacity in order to meet the great needs of the rural areas.

Due to the damage caused to the infrastructure in both countries, it has been impossible to make contact and are waiting for reports from our colleagues in the region. We will post this on this web site as soon as we receive any further information.

The Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada (CDF) has announced assistance totaling \$9 million to be distributed through the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO), and Canadian embassies in the countries affected as well as Canadian non-governmental partners and local partners.

Assistance will be needed long after the crisis disappears from the news headlines. This is when rebuilding is crucial and when the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) and International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) international development efforts will be most needed. The ICA and its member organisation CCA will assess the development and rebuilding needs of co-operative and credit unions in Central America, after which CDF will direct funds accordingly.

For additional information on this disaster please visit

- [Co-operative movement hit hard by hurricane Mitch](#)
- CCN on -line at <http://WWW.CNN.COM/WORLD/americas/9811/13/mitch.01.ap/>

- BBC World Service at <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/english/world/americas/newsid%5F213000/213502.stm>
- UN Hurricane Mitch Information Centre at <http://www.un.org/mitch>
- For local reports on the hurricane, go to The Caribbean hurricane Page <http://stormcarib.com> and click on Mitch
- Report on the hurricane from the Coopnet al dia, in spanish language at <http://www.oit.or.cr/hp-coop/mitch.html>

ICA will continue to monitor the crisis carefully, and keep its members informed. Co-operators wishing to contribute to this assistance programme should contact the ICA Secretariat in Geneva by sending an e-mail to communications@coop.org.

The Canadian Co-operative Association is a Canadian organisation in membership of ICA, representing credit union and co-operatives in English-speaking Canada. It has 35 member organisations representing more than five million members in Canada.

Established in 1947, the Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada is a national registered charity belonging to co-operatives and credit unions across Canada. It is working in Partnership with the Canadian Co-operative Association to develop credit unions and co-operatives in over 60 projects in 24 countries in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and the Americas.

Last updated: 26 March, 2002



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ICA Press Releases

Generous Response to Nairobi Bomb Appeal

NAIROBI, Kenya (ICA), 9 October, for immediate release -- Co-operatives in the UK have donated more than £40,000 to an international fund set up in the wake of the the US Embassy bombing in Nairobi last August when co-operative buildings in the Kenyan capital were devastated, killing 49 employees and injuring dozens of others.

The Government's Department for International Development has pledged support as well, agreeing to provide up to £1 million of computer and internal communications equipment for the Co-operative Bank of Kenya, whose headquarters building was severely damaged by the terrorist blast.

"These are extremely generous gestures from the Co-operative Movement and the Department for International Development," said Lloyd Wilkinson, Chief Executive & General Secretary of the Co-operative Union, which launched the appeal in the UK on behalf of the International Co-operative Alliance.

"I hope other individuals and society boards will be inspired by the success of the appeal fund so far and add their donations to assist fellow co-operators caught up in the tragedy. The bombing may no longer be front page news but our colleagues in Kenya will have to live with the aftermath of this atrocity for years to come."

The extent of the Government's support for the appeal became known in a letter to Mr Wilkinson from the Labour and Co-operative MP George Foulkes, Minister for International Affairs, who wrote: "I entirely share your concerns about the impact the bombing has had on the Co-operative Movement in Kenya. The devastation in the Co-operative Bank building not only resulted in the deaths of 40 employees, but could have adverse long term effects on the rural people who depend on the financial services provided by the bank."

Mr Foulkes's letter continues: "We have agreed to provide up to £1 million to help re-equip the bank with computer and internal communications equipment. An emergency procurement process is already underway and I expect delivery and installation to be completed within a matter of weeks. I am confident that this will make a significant contribution to the bank's efforts to restore a full service to its many customers."

As well as causing major damage to the headquarters of the Co-operative Bank of Kenya, a member-organisation of the ICA, the terrorist attack completely destroyed the offices of the Ufundi Savings and Credit Co-operative Society located next door to the US Embassy in the centre of Nairobi.

After receiving expressions of concern from co-operatives around the world, the ICA President, Roberto Rodrigues, established the Kenyan Bombing Solidarity Fund for those "wishing to show their solidarity to their fellow co-operators affected by the bombings".

For further information please contact:

Iain Williamson
Chief Information Officer
Co-operative Union Ltd.

Mary Treacy
Communication Director
International Co-operative Alliance
Tel: 41 22 929 88 88 or 41 22 929 88 23

Tel: 0161 832 4300 ext 222;
Home Tel: 01253 730997

Last updated: 27 October, 1998



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ICA Press Releases

ICA Regional Assembly for Europe: The future of co-operation: Threats, Advantages and Opportunities for Co-operatives in Europe

Geneva/Paris, 9 October, for immediate release--The Co-operative Movement in Europe consists of 100 national organisations from 41 countries. It represents 288,000 co-operative enterprises, employing 5 million individuals. Meeting in Paris on 15th and 16th October, 300 co-operative leaders and representatives from these co-operatives will come together to discuss the future of their movement and enterprises.

A few months ago, the international press resounded with accounts of the demutualisation of mutual insurance associations and building societies within the United Kingdom. This debate then reached continental Europe, particularly as a result of campaigns against the status of co-operatives and the interest in appropriating the indivisible assets of those mutual insurance companies and co-operative banks which were not regarded to be ripe for a take-over, notably in Germany and in France.

At the same time, having used the early years of transition to regain credibility and ensure continuity, the co-operative movements in countries applying to join the European Union must now comply with the demands of an open market; a market that does not take account of the uniqueness of co-operatives and the benefits they offer, promoting instead a single dominant model: the joint-stock company.

Recently, the attacks on co-operatives have become more vehement: their legal status is contested, with claims that co-operatives benefit from unfair privileges and larger-than-necessary reserves. For this reason, the co-operative representatives would like to draw attention to a few facts:

The market economy needs a "diversity of the species" and it is paradoxical that one sees all too often that the supporters of an uncompromising liberal capitalism attempt to impose their singular ideas about a single, "correct" economic status. Democracy is duty-bound to defend the right to other expressions of entrepreneurship: a right which has had legal recognition for over 100 years.

Furthermore, the co-operative maintains its place in the market economy because it is fulfilling a need: the need for sustainable development. In practice, whilst joint-stock companies sees profit as the be-all and end-all of economic activity, the co-operative sees one principal objective: to improve, in both economic and social terms, the well-being of its members, who are simultaneously owners and users, owners and employees. This is demonstrated by a voluntary limitation on dividends distributed, which increases the indivisible assets of the co-operative and thus permits investment and development.

It is further demonstrated in local development, by a refusal to relocate to "greener pastures", and in a global approach to problems of employment.

For the co-operative, time is a ally and the accumulation of a proportion of the profits to benefit the members as a whole is essential. This control of time and profit may make it an atypical actor in a society all too often dominated by speculation and short-term gain, but an actor who is trustworthy and solid and whose success is troubling to its competitors. The recent acquisitions made by the co-operative banks, as well as the forthcoming transformation of the French savings banks, fully illustrate the relevance of the co-operative form of organisation.

The competitive advantages of co-operatives (agriculture, banking, service...) are found within the structure of their organisation, and in the commitment of their members to a social and economic vision. Such devotion to the initial ideal, and to their basic values are the best guarantees for the future of co-operatives in Europe.

The ICA is an international non-governmental organisation which unites, represents and serves co-operatives worldwide. It has 236 members in 93 countries.

The ICA International Co-operative Web Site contains information on the International Co-operative Alliance, its aims and activities and information on the co-operative movement in different economic sectors: agriculture, banking, credit, consumer, energy, fisheries, housing, insurance, workers, tourism and health care, and from all continents as well as links to other sites and issues of interest to co-operators.

Le Groupement National de la Co-operation (The National Co-operative Group) consists of 14 national federations or confederations, representing of French co-operation.

Press officers
Michele Tixador-Lebrun, GNC.
Mary Treacy, ICA.

Translated from french

 [Report on the seminar](#)

This page also exist in the following language:



Last updated: 7 December, 1998



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National Co-op Week 98

Celebrate in Cyberspace!

For the second year in a row, Canadian Co-operatives and Credit Unions will use the internet as a gathering place to celebrate national Co-op Week, October 11 -- 17th.

Starting September 28, a co-op week home page will allow interested browsers to learn about upcoming Co-op Week Activities, and to explore a whole range of fascinating information about Co-operatives and Credit Unions in Canada and abroad. Located on the Canadian Co-operative Association's web site at www.coopcca.com, the co-op week home page will feature links to a variety of co-op related web sites around the world. As well there will be a regularly updated calendar of co-op week events, by region, and a collection of co-op quips and quotes.

This virtual celebration is just one of a number of activities and events to mark the week. A first this year is a national co-operative and credit union supplement in the Financial Post. Watch for it Tuesday, October 13. Newspaper supplements are also planned in Saskatchewan, and flag raising ceremonies, banquets, receptions and workshops will take place all across the country.

Co-ops and credit unions helped build this country and they continue to contribute in so many ways,@ said Bill Turner, President of the Canadian Co-operative Association. AWe have a lot to celebrate, a lot to be proud of, and Co-op Week is one time when we can acknowledge the contributions that the co-operative system has made.@

For more information, contact:

John Julian

Director, Communications Unit

Phone: 613.238.6711

Fax: 613.567.0658

E-mail: john@coopcca.com

Co-op Week Homepage: <http://www.coopcca.com/semainecoopweek.htm> CCA's Homepage:
<http://www.coopcca.com>

Last updated: 29 October, 1998



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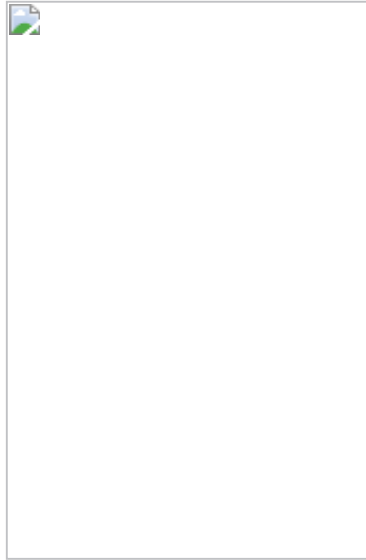


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Credit Union Day Program

International Credit Union Day 1998



Things have certainly changed since the credit union movement began 150 years ago. The theme of this year's International Credit Union Day reminds everyone that credit unions continue to offer members economic opportunity and financial security by sticking to our core cooperative values of fairness, compassion and service.

With roots in the past and an eye to the future, this can be a most exciting year for credit unions. The materials for this program will help you share this important message with your staff and members not only during International Credit Union Week, but throughout the entire year. We look forward to helping you celebrate this 150 year anniversary of credit unions!

For more information, please see <http://www.proadspec.com/cuna/zcuday.html>

To place an order for International Credit Union Day promotional products, please contact CUNA Supply at (800) 356-8010 x 4157

Last updated: 28 September, 1998



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ICA Press Releases

Co-operators Lost in US Embassy Bombing

NAIROBI, Kenya (ICA), 12 August, for immediate release -- Two major explosions targeting US embassies rocked two African capitals early Friday, killing dozens of people and injuring hundreds. Although the explosions targeted US citizens, many nationals of both Kenya and Tanzania were also lost in the blast, and the Co-operative Movement in Kenya was particularly hard-hit.

An explosion in Tanzania left 10 dead and 60 injured. It was less catastrophic than the bomb which went off in Nairobi as the American Embassy in Tanzania is located in a residential area.

The explosion in Nairobi completely destroyed the offices of the Ufundi Savings and Credit Co-operative Society located next door to the Embassy and blew out the windows of the Co-operative Bank, an ICA member-organisation located next door to the Ufundi Co-operative Building.

ICA representatives in Nairobi give us the following statistics as of Monday, August 11, 1998:

Overall Losses: 220 dead, 5500 injured and some people still missing

US Embassy: 12 Americans dead, 24 Kenyans dead and 96 locals missing.

The situation regarding co-op losses, missing persons and injured is as follows:

Coop Bank : 3 staff dead, several injured in the hospitals, 14 missing.

Ufundi Savings and Credit Co-operative: 35 staff dead, 9 staff missing, 5 members dead.

Our representative in Nairobi sends the following report:

In Nairobi the situation was very bad because the Embassy is located in the city centre. As you know the Co-operative Bank is sharing parking with the Embassy. Between the two organisations, there was a four storey building belonging to Ufundi Savings and Credit Co-operative Society. As the terrorists were trying to get to the basement of the Embassy building, which is next to the two co-operative buildings, they were blocked by the co-op security guards, and they exchanged fire, threw a grenade, got as near to the embassy as possible and detonated the bomb.

The Ufundi Credit Union building collapsed to the ground. The glass work in the Bank building flew all over the city, 200 to 250 metres, and caused havoc to people and property. In the collapsed building they are still recovering bodies, and it will take a while before we get the official count.

The co-operative buildings, as well as the embassy building are not to be used for a while. The coop bank has relocated it's offices to some of their city branches. The Managing Director and our other close contacts are all fine. However, Erastus's (Mureithi, the MD) son was injured, as he was visiting his father at the time of the incident. Thankfully, the ICA staff are all OK.

The ICA has received many expressions of concern from co-operatives around the world. The ICA President, Roberto Rodrigues has requested that a special international fund be established for co-operators wishing to show their solidarity to their fellow co-operators affected by the bombings.

Any contributions should be sent in dollars to **UBS account 205 202 60 Q** with the following reference
Kenyan Bombing Solidarity Fund

Last updated: 12 August, 1998



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Explosions damage U.S. embassies in Kenya, Tanzania

August 7, 1998
 Web posted at: 7:26 a.m. EDT (1126 GMT)

NAIROBI, Kenya (CNN) -- A pair of major explosions near U.S. embassies [rocked two African capitals](#) early Friday, killing dozens of people and injuring hundreds.

At least 40 people were confirmed dead in Nairobi, where an explosion ripped through the U.S. embassy and toppled a seven-story building next door in the city's crowded center about 10:30 a.m.

Hospital officials said more than 400 people were injured in the blast and made an urgent appeal for blood donations.

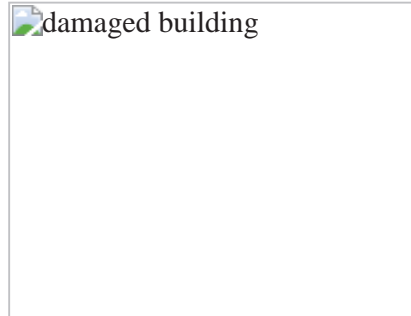
An embassy official, who refused to identify himself, said he believed the blast was caused by a bomb.

"You can see a huge crater behind the building, and a bomb went off at the embassy in Tanzania at the same time," the U.S. official said.

The Associated Press reported that the Tanzanian blast, believed to have been a car bomb, came from the parking lot of the U.S. embassy in Dar es Salaam.

Officials told CNN it killed at least four people. Some reports indicated as many as nine people had been killed and 16 injured in the Tanzanian blast. Witnesses said it caused a large cloud of dust to rise over the capital.

Cranes were being rushed to the site to help lift debris and search for victims.



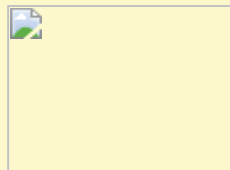
The scene in Nairobi

IMAGE GALLERY

[Scenes from the explosions](#)

RELATED VIDEO

Video from Tanzania, with CNN's Andrea Koppel describing U.S. relations with both countries



Windows Media 28K 56K

RELATED AUDIO

Local journalists report from

U.S. Marines immediately secured the U.S. compound in Dar es Salaam.

Reuters reported that the U.S. embassy in Uganda's capital, Kampala, was cordoned off and that police bomb experts were checking vehicles for bombs. Uganda borders both Tanzania and Kenya.

U.S. ambassador Prudence Bushnell was among those injured in the Kenyan explosion, officials said. Bushnell had

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 352K/26 sec. [AIFF](#) or [WAV](#) sound

Christine Nguku from Nairobi, Kenya
 352K/26 sec. [AIFF](#) or [WAV](#) sound

just given a news conference at the Cooperative Bank. It's not clear if she was injured in the bank building or in the embassy.

The blast caused Nairobi's seven-story Ufundi Cooperative building, next door to the embassy, to collapse.


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go!

Now, what was her number?

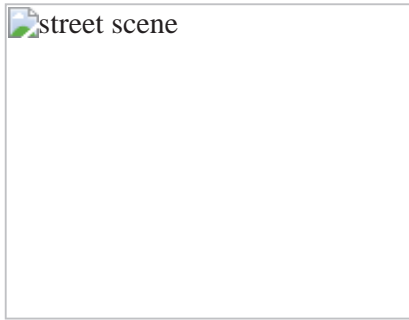


Type in a name



CNN reported that the force of the blast blew off the embassy's bomb-proof doors. The doors were used as stretchers to carry the injured away.

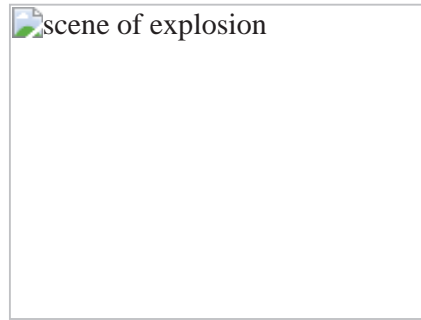
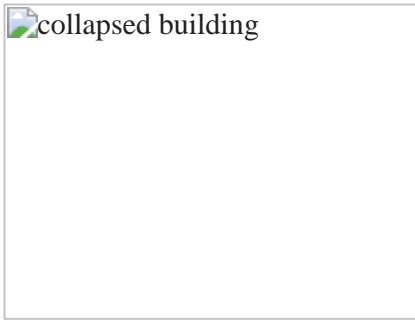
Hundreds of injured were sprawled screaming on the sidewalk with bloody wounds, and at least 54 were taken to hospital emergency rooms in Nairobi.



Two crowded buses and many vehicles were wrecked, witnesses said. The blast started many fires that sent a plume of black smoke into the sky, which was patrolled by police helicopters.

Shattered windows littered many downtown streets.

Ambulances and police rushed to the chaotic scene. Rescuers searched the rubble for survivors.



Armed U.S. Marines patrolled the streets outside both embassies.

A U.S. flag was blown off the embassy in Nairobi and was draped limply on an iron fence.

Correspondent Lara Logan, The [Associated Press](#) and [Reuters](#) contributed to this report.

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Press Release

ICA Board Meets in Japan

Thursday, 06 May, 1998 - For immediate release

Among the decisions made by the ICA Board during its 21 April meeting in Tokyo were:

- * To establish a legislative working group, headed by Dr. Ivan Prikryl of the Czech Republic, which will begin work on developing a legislative data base and will propose follow-up action to the next meeting of the Board;
- * To authorise management to follow-up with members interested in participating in a new working group on "Green Issues and Ethics", and to hold a preliminary meeting in Paris in October;
- * To strongly encourage members to send more women to this year's Regional Assemblies and to next year's Congress/General Assembly;
- * To organise a Youth Forum, and essay contest, in conjunction with next year's Congress/General Assembly in Quebec City;
- * To co-opt Madame B. Padanou, member of the Board of the National Federation of Savings and Credit Co-operatives of Benin, to the ICA Board;
- * To recommend to the 1999 General Assembly that the General Assembly in the Year 2001 be held in Korea;
- * To approve a new ICA Development Policy which will serve as the basis for discussions with development partners and for implementation of regional strategies;
- * To approve membership applications from USIMEC Colombia, Mongolian Association of Private Herders' Co-operatives, and Myanmar Union of Co-operative Syndicates; and to note with regret the decision of Co-op Switzerland to terminate its membership in ICA at the end of this year;
- * To approve the 1997 financial statements, which show a small end-of-year surplus, as well as the 1998 budget and 1999 indicative budget.

The next Board meeting will be held in Paris on 17 October, at which time the Board will focus on the current economic challenges facing co-operatives in all regions and on policy changes which the ICA might introduce in its structures and activities as a result. On 18 October the Board will meet with leaders of the ICA Specialised Bodies in order to continue this discussion about future trends and necessary changes.

To view photos of this Board Meeting please [click here](#) (N.B. will take some time to download)

Last updated: 23 June 1998





Press Release

Former ICA President has passed away

It is with great sadness that we inform our members of the sudden death of Roger KERINEC, former President of the International Co-operative Alliance, who passed away on Wednesday, 1 April, 1998 in his home in the South of France.

Mr. Kerinec, who would have celebrated his 77th birthday next June, was President of the FNCC (French National Federation of Consumer Co-operatives) from 1973 to 1983. The FNCC will be paying homage to Roger Kerinec in the next few days and will inform the ICA when details about his funeral are made public.

Roger Kerinec was well known for the role he played both in his national movement and internationally through the International Co-operative Alliance. He was active in several of the ICA's specialised bodies, a member of the Central Committee for many years and President from 1976 to 1988.

ICA will pass on any messages of condolences to the family of Mr. Kerinec, to whom our sincerest wishes go at this sad time.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE!

The ICA was founded in London in 1895. Its members are national and international co-operative organisations in all sectors of activity including agriculture, banking, energy, industry, insurance, fisheries, housing, tourism and consumer co-operatives. ICA currently has more than 230 member organisations from 96 countries, representing more than 760 million individuals worldwide.

In 1946, the ICA was one of the first non-governmental organisations to be accorded United Nations Consultative Status. Today it is one of the forty-one organisations holding Category 1 Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Last updated: 9 June, 1998



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