

## ICA

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

## ICA Releases

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

## Co-op Superhighway

- [Home](#)

## Issue 4 - May 2000



### Highlights of the ICA Board Meeting in Tel Aviv

The ICA Board met in Tel Aviv on April 10-12, preceded by meetings of its two new committees on Finance and Development.

Among the decisions made were the following:

- Approval of the Terms of Reference of the ICA's new Legislative Commission, and the holding of a Global Legislative Conference in Prague on 29 September to 1 October, 2000.
- Approval in principle of the establishment of an ICA Youth Network, with specific action proposals to be presented to the next meeting. Stefania Marcone will serve as liaison between the Board and Head Office as this new project develops.
- Approval of the report of the Finance Committee, which had reviewed the ICA's draft audited financial statement for 1999 and had recommended a number of changes. ICA's overall surplus of operational activity for 1999 will be around 2,000 Swiss francs. The anticipated deficit in the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, and the unanticipated operational deficit in the Regional Office for the Americas will be accumulated in the offices' respective regional funds. The ICA's budget for 2000, which had been approved by the Finance Committee in January, was officially approved by the Board.
- Approval of the report of the Development Committee, which had reviewed reports on present and planned project activities, the development strategies of the five Regional Offices, and new initiatives in management training from the HRD Committee, ICMIF, and the Regional Office for the Americas.
- Approval of Terms of Reference for the Board Members' liaison role with the Specialised Bodies, and the designation of several new assignments: Lars Hillbom with Consumer Co-operative International, Valentin Ermakov with the International Health Co-operative Organisation, Ousseynou Dieng with the International Co-operative Fisheries Organisation, and Elba Echevarria with the Global Women's Committee.
- Approval of new Rules which had been submitted by two Specialised Organisations--CCI (consumer) and TICA (tourism).
- Approval of a new "[ICA Strategy for Promoting Gender Equality](#)", a copy of which will be sent by the President to member organisations and featured in the next issue of the ICA's newsletter Alliance.
- Acceptance into membership of 15 new organisations, including ones from 7 new countries (South Africa, Ghana, The Gambia, Australia, the Netherlands, Croatia, and Yugoslavia).
- Approval of the dates of October 13-20 for the 2001 General Assembly and related meetings in Seoul, South Korea.

In addition, the Board received special reports from the Specialised Organisations for banking and agriculture, and reviewed a detailed report from the Director-General on the status of initiatives in each of ICA's 7 priority areas: membership, international standing, links with Specialised Bodies, information and communications, development, new initiatives, and institutional maintenance.

The Director-General also informed the Board of new collaboration being undertaken at the management level by ICA and ICMIF, at the request of their two presidents, which will be further reported to the two boards later in the year. In addition, he informed the Board that the deed for the sale of Bonow House in New Delhi had been signed and will be registered as soon as official Income Tax clearance is finalised, probably in May, after which the Regional Office will move to new premises in New Delhi.

The next meeting of the ICA Board will be in Bratislava, Slovakia, on October 6-7, 2000, following the European Regional Assembly.

[Bruce Thordarson](#)

## Content

### ICA International

- [ICA Board Adopts Gender Strategy](#)
- [Constructive development meetings in Israel](#)
- [Communications Changes at the ICA](#)
- [ICA President Addresses the UN Commission on Sustainable Development](#)

### ICA and Co-operatives in the Regions

- Europe: [Assistance to Co-operatives in Central and Eastern Europe Remains Top Priority for ICA Europe](#)  
[Italian Solidarity with Mozambique: Coop Consumatori Nordest Launches a Solidarity Campaign Towards the Mozambique's Co-operative Movement](#)
- Africa: [DG Visits Southern Africa](#)
- The Americas: [New Investment Fund Established in Argentina](#)  
[Insurance Co-operative Highlights Car Seat Safety](#)
- Asia-Pacific: [ICA-ROAP Regional Workshop on Data Bank](#)  
[ICA Regional HRD Committee Meeting, followed by the first IT Seminar for Co-ops](#)  
[Board of Asia-Pacific Health Co-operative Organization meets in Kerala, India](#)  
[Fourteenth ICA-Japan Management Training Course Concludes](#)

### Co-op Event

- [Invitation to the Second ICAO/NACF Workshop](#)

Last updated: May 4, 2000



---

15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland

Tel: (+41) 022 929 88 88 Fax: (+41) 022 798 41 22

E-mail: [ica@coop.org](mailto:ica@coop.org)



---

[Copyright © 2000 International Co-operative Alliance](#)

**ICA**

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

**ICA Releases**

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

**Co-op Superhighway**

- [Home](#)

## ICA Boards Adopts Gender Strategy

The ICA Board approved the ICA Gender Strategy for Promoting Gender Equality (link to text) at its meeting in Tel Aviv (Israel). Members endorsed the need for the ICA to focus increased attention to gender equality so as to be able to make progress both at the ICA institutional level as well as member organization level. They committed to specific action to show commitment from top leadership, build capacity to address gender issues, improve gender balance, allocate resources and most importantly monitor and evaluate progress.

Some immediate steps were taken. The ICA President will personally write to the chief executives of each ICA member to not only provide them with a copy of the Strategy but also outline what specific activities are planned for the ICA. For example, the ICA Board approved the allocation of funds in the 2001 budget for gender training of Board members as well as all ICA staff members and tentatively agreed to hold its training session at its Spring 2001 meeting. It further mandated the Finance Committee of the ICA Board to review the ICA budget to assess what proportion of financial resources are allocated to activities to promote gender equality and ensure that sufficient resources be allocated. The Board also decided that electoral committees should review the need for co-options to improve gender balance, although they stressed the need for members to keep gender balance in mind when proposing and voting candidates to elected positions. In order to monitor progress, it approved the ICA Global Women's Committee initiative to "map" women at the ICA and also called on the ICA Director-General to submit a detailed annual report on progress and asked that the following be included: gender disaggregate statistics on meeting participation, elected positions with the ICA structure as well as a report on the specific activities undertaken both at the head and regional office levels. The Board also mandated the regions to establish regional strategies to promote gender equality.

In the discussion of the strategy, the Board also proposed that the ICA Global Women's Committee consider changing its name to the ICA Gender Committee or Equal Opportunity Committee to reflect its main mission - that of creating equal opportunities and promoting gender equality. Some members also suggested that opening membership to men might be considered to tackle the issue from both perspectives.

[MariaElena Chavez](#)

[Content](#)

[Next](#)<sup>n</sup>

Last updated: May 4, 2000





## ICA

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

## ICA Releases

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

## Co-op Superhighway

- [Home](#)

## Constructive development meetings in Israel

The semi annual Regional Directors' gave us the opportunity to discuss the global direction of the development programme, to adjust strategies and agree on new joint initiatives. One of the issues discussed was how to improve communication with members, close contact being a prerequisite if we want to be able to provide adequate and relevant services to our members. A task force was also set up to look into how we can improve our service delivery by electronic means.

Another important event was the meeting of the Development Advisory Committee. The Committee was established to provide advice to the ICA Board on development issues, and its members are representatives of partner organisations and some co-operative experts in fields like co-operative legislation and management.

In addition to the reports on ICA's development activities submitted by the Regional Directors and Head Office, the thematic part of the meeting dealt with product development. Three presentations demonstrated the scope of innovation within our movement. Ronald Alvarez, Regional Director for the Americas, presented a CD rom on social audit which measures to what extent co-operatives have been able to internalise the co-operative identity statement in their operation. This material will be translated and adapted for use in other regions. Zahid Qureshi, ICMIF Senior Vice President, demonstrated ICMIF's excellent simulation programme on insurance operations. We will also look into the possibility of adapting this material to other sectors. Finally, Yehudah Paz, ICA Board member and Chairman of the Global HRD Committee, introduced plans to look into the possibility to set up a global virtual co-operative training centre. The HRD Committee has been mandated by the ICA Board to look into this, and with the help of the ILO Coop Branch, a feasibility study will now be launched. The Committee will submit the result of its findings to the ICA General Assembly at its next meeting in Seoul next year.

One of the members of the Advisory Committee, Karl-Johan Fogelström, Managing Director of ICA's long standing development partner the SCC, also gave a presentation on poverty alleviation. The presentation generated great interest among the participants.

The third development meeting was the meeting of the Development Committee of the ICA Board, a committee that was established only last year. The establishment of this committee is a clear indication of the interest, importance and commitment given by the ICA Board to co-operative development. During the meeting, the members were able to meet with and listen to representatives of the Advisory Committee. The meeting was very constructive, and the members will meet again in conjunction with the African Regional Assembly in Benin in August.

One important outcome of the meeting in Israel was the decision to enter into a closer collaboration with the ICMIF, primarily in the areas of communication

and development. Discussions have already started with a view to determining convergences and areas of potential synergy.

[Jan Eirik Imbsen](#)

[Back](#)<sup>g</sup>

[Content](#)

[Next](#)<sup>n</sup>

Last updated: May 4, 2000



---

15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel: (+41) 022 929 88 88 Fax: (+41) 022 798 41 22  
E-mail: [ica@coop.org](mailto:ica@coop.org)



---

[Copyright © 2000 International Co-operative Alliance](#)

## ICA

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

## ICA Releases

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

## Co-op Superhighway

- [Home](#)

## Communications Changes at the ICA

A number of management changes have been made at the ICA Head Office in order to improve the functioning of its information and communications activities.

First, communications is no longer regarded as a separate department, but is now spread across all of ICA's core functions. A Communications Task Force, chaired by the Director-General, has been established in order to coordinate these activities.

In recognition of the importance of information technology for ICA and its members, Fanja Rasolomanana has been appointed to the new position of Manager of Information Technology, reporting to the Director-General.

The physical preparation of ICA publications will be done outside of Geneva for cost reasons, although ICA will retain full responsibility for their content. The Review of International Co-operation will be printed in New Delhi (in collaboration with the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific) and the new bulletin Alliance will be produced in Manchester (in collaboration with ICMIF), following the successful production of both publications in this way earlier in the year.

ICA and ICMIF, the specialised organisation for co-operative and mutual insurance, have decided to work together in specific areas where there are opportunities for increased impact and financial benefit. Communications and development have been identified as the areas where this collaboration should begin at the management level. Zahid Qureshi of ICMIF has been designated by both organisations as the focal point/coordinator of this collaboration, working closely with the two chief executives, who in turn will take any policy matters to their respective Boards.

The positions of Director of Communications (Mary Treacy) and Communications Officer (Amelia Morgado) have been terminated, effective the last week of April.

Finally, at the request of the Director-General, the Chairman of the ICA Communications Committee, Poul Dines, has agreed that his committee will undertake an annual review of the ICA's communications programme in order to provide advice to the management and board of ICA in this rapidly-changing area.

[Bruce Thordarson](#)

[Back](#) [Content](#) [Next](#)



15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel: (+41) 022 929 88 88 Fax: (+41) 022 798 41 22  
E-mail: [ica@coop.org](mailto:ica@coop.org)



---

Copyright © 2000 International Co-operative Alliance

## ICA

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

## ICA Releases

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

## Co-op Superhighway

- [Home](#)

## ICA President Addresses the UN Commission on Sustainable Development

Roberto Rodrigues presented a statement on behalf of the business sector at the recent United Nations Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development. Speaking on the topic on "Knowledge for a sustainable food system", he noted that closer cooperation and coordination among farmers, scientists, workers, government, consumers and industry would be key to ensuring that food continued to be produced and distributed in a safe, economic and sustainable way and that it responded to consumer concerns and demand. Partnership was key was ensuring that knowledge and information were available to those active in agriculture. He underlined that agri-food sector companies and co-operative organizations made a valuable contribution to agricultural education providing training and practical experience on many aspects of farm input supply, food manufacture, processing and marketing. Industry could do its part, he said, but it was also important to continue to support the activities undertaken by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and other international organizations in their extension and outreach programmes, to optimize the contribution of all sectors to achieving sustainable agricultural development. He closed by mentioning examples of initiatives undertaken in partnership with other stakeholders.

ICA delegates to the session included: members of the International Co-operative Agricultural Organization: Mr. Hasle-Holger Nielsen (Denmark); Mr. Shil Kwan Lee (Korea) Mr. Mohamed Idris (Egypt) and representatives of the IFFCO (India).

[MariaElena Chavez](#)

[Back](#) [Content](#) [Next](#)

Last updated: May 4, 2000



15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel: (+41) 022 929 88 88 Fax: (+41) 022 798 41 22  
E-mail: [ica@coop.org](mailto:ica@coop.org)



Copyright © 2000 International Co-operative Alliance

## ICA

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

## ICA Releases

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

## Co-op Superhighway

- [Home](#)

## Assistance to Co-operatives in Central and Eastern Europe Remains Top Priority for ICA Europe

This was decided at the last meeting of the European Council held in Sofia. As identified by member organisations in Central and Eastern Europe, assistance is particularly needed in training managers with a view to prepare them for complying with European standards. In order to respond better to requests coming from members in all development related issues, a Development Task Force has been set up. This is a specific feature of the Regional Office for Europe which relies very much on the advice of this group in implementing its development strategy. The Task Force is composed of representatives from both, Central and Eastern European and Western European co-operative organisations.

In year 2000 the main development activities will include the following:

- Organisation of the third European Development Workshop in conjunction with the Regional Assembly in Bratislava, on 3 October, focussing on the promotion of economic collaboration,
- Improvement of management training through help in project writing and identifying funding sources;
- Holding of a seminar on lobbying techniques for top managers in national co-operative organisations of the countries who will join the European Union in the next few years,
- Assistance in improving legislation with the help of the legislative experts' group set up recently by ICA Europe.

[Gabriella Sozanski](#)

[Back](#) [Content](#) [Next](#)

Last updated: May 4, 2000



15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel: (+41) 022 929 88 88 Fax: (+41) 022 798 41 22  
E-mail: [ica@coop.org](mailto:ica@coop.org)



Copyright © 2000 International Co-operative Alliance

## ICA

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

## ICA Releases

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

## Co-op Superhighway

- [Home](#)

### Italian Solidarity with Mozambique: Coop Consumatori Nordest Launches a Solidarity Campaign Towards the Mozambique's Co-operative Movement.

The floods of the last months that provoked huge damages and thousands of victims, put Mozambique into a dramatic situation. To recovery this African Country needs international aid and more financial resources are required not only for the emergency but especially for the reconstruction, to re-build the destroyed infrastructures and to restore economic activities".

Coop Consumatori NordEst, one of the largest consumer co-operatives adhering to Legacoop, promoted an initiative for the Mozambique people: on 18th April (i.e. during the Easter week) 5% of the sales of all supermarkets and hypermarkets of this co-operative, has been set aside for financing two projects of co-operation to development realised with the support of three Italian non-governmental organisations working in Mozambique.

COOP's members and consumers have been informed of this initiative through newspapers and information booklets distributed in the COOP shops in order to sensitise them about the goals and stimulate their active participation.

The first project, devoted to support agricultural co-operatives sector in Maputo suburbs, will be implemented in three years in collaboration with the General Union of Mozambique Co-operatives and to Mozambique Agricultural Trade Unions. The target population of this project will be 5,000 families (about 30.000 people) . The main activities covered by this project will be: supplying the farmers who have lost- their harvest with seeds and farm tools; the reconstruction of community services (storage warehouse, cattle-breeding centres, irrigation wells); the institution of a fund for rural micro-credit, the re-opening of health and social services.

The second project intends to provide aid in the health, education and water supply sectors in Maputo Region. The issue to provide population with drinkable water is one of the priority objectives for the future of the Country. The project envisages to bring back into use wells in small rural villages, water reservoirs and the rebuilding of water systems in smaller towns.

Supporting these projects, Coop Nordest renews its traditional commitment for needy people, linking, once again, its trading activity with solidarity. This initiative aims at consolidating the "friendship and co-operation bridge" between the consumers of the North and the population of the South of the world.

[Stefania Marcone](#)

## ICA

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

## ICA Releases

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

## Co-op Superhighway

- [Home](#)

## DG Visits Southern Africa

The ICA Director-General, Bruce Thordarson, visited Botswana and South Africa, from the 20 to 25 March, 2000.

While in Botswana the DG paid a courtesy call on the Minister of Agriculture who is responsible for co-operative development. In his meetings with the Government Officials he thanked the Botswana Government for the support that it has given to the movement over the years.

He, in addition, met with the Executive Committee of the ICA Member, Botswana Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Union ( BAMCU). The DG also visited cooperatives near the capital, Gaborone. The DG was informed that a new cooperative federation called Botswana Cooperative Association (BOCA) had been registered and will become operational soon.

Botswana re-affirmed its desire to develop a strong private sector cooperative movement. This message was driven home during a courtesy call on the Executive Director of the Botswana Chamber of Commerce. The Department of Cooperatives requested ICA to provide technical assistance in the finalisation of the cooperative policy and legislation currently being processed.

The ICA Board Member and the Chairman of the Executive Committee for East, Central and Southern Africa, James Olesitse, accompanied the Director-General during his visit to Botswana.

On 23 March the DG opened a National Financial Co-operative Seminar under the auspices of the National Cooperative Association of South Africa which was held in Peitermaritzburg in Kwazulu Natal. Service providers of financial services in the cooperative movement such as the Savings and Credit Cooperative League of South Africa (SACCOL) made presentations on their operations. He also held discussions with the Board of the National Cooperative Association of South Africa (NCASA) which has since become a member of ICA.

The following day, in Pretoria, the Director-General had meetings with Government Officials, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Agricultural Business Chamber, the National African Farmers Union, DGRV ( German Cooperative Federation ) and NCASA Executive Director. In all these meetings the DG was briefed on cooperative development in South Africa. Amongst the most outstanding issues is the review of the old apartheid cooperative legislation.

The Director-General was accompanied on his mission by the Regional Director, Vincent Lubasi.

[Vincent Lubasi](#)

Last updated: May 4, 2000



---

15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland

Tel: (+41) 022 929 88 88 Fax: (+41) 022 798 41 22

E-mail: [ica@coop.org](mailto:ica@coop.org)



---

[Copyright © 2000 International Co-operative Alliance](#)

## ICA

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

## ICA Releases

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

## Co-op Superhighway

- [Home](#)

## New Investment Fund Established in Argentina

The ICA's Project Office in Buenos Aires (POBA) has established an investment fund to provide risk capital for co-operative projects designed to create or maintain employment.

The Fund's participants are a combination of local governments (Instituto Provincial de Accion Cooperativa de la Provincia de Buenos Aires), international agencies (Société d'investissement Européenne--SOFICATRA), and Argentinian co-operatives (worker, service, and financial).

According to POBA Director Cristina Simone, the success of the new venture will depend on the efficiency with which the Fund's technical team evaluates potential projects. "And when we talk about evaluation", she says, "we don't refer only to income flows, activity plans, or market knowledge. We have an integral vision which, in addition to these aspects, includes an analysis of the project's human resources and its training needs, both in terms of business activity and underlying principles and values."

[Cristina Simone](#)

[Back](#) [Content](#) [Next](#)

Last updated: May 4, 2000



15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel: (+41) 022 929 88 88 Fax: (+41) 022 798 41 22  
E-mail: [ica@coop.org](mailto:ica@coop.org)



Copyright © 2000 International Co-operative Alliance

## ICA

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

## ICA Releases

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

## Co-op Superhighway

- [Home](#)

## Insurance Co-operative Highlights Car Seat Safety

The Co-operators, one of Canada's largest insurance groups, has made a major commitment to a new national car seat safety programme.

During this year, The Co-operators will:

- raise awareness of the current low rate of proper child restraint
- offer quality child seat inspection clinics
- hold a minimum of four clinics per participating district
- ensure that it has a distinct programme identity that is widely publicised
- and work with concerned community partners to build on existing initiatives

For further information, visit The Co-operators' web site at [www.cooperators.ca](http://www.cooperators.ca)

[Patricia Vaucher Sullivan](#)

[Back](#) [Content](#) [Next](#)

Last updated: May 4, 2000



15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel: (+41) 022 929 88 88 Fax: (+41) 022 798 41 22  
E-mail: [ica@coop.org](mailto:ica@coop.org)



Copyright © 2000 International Co-operative Alliance

## ICA

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

## ICA Releases

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

## Co-op Superhighway

- [Home](#)

## ICA-ROAP Regional Workshop on Data Bank

At the ICA Regional Directors meeting held in Tel Aviv on 7th April 2000, the issue of a credible data bank was discussed in earnest. There was consensus that we need to seriously pursue the development of a solid data bank if we want to remain competitive in the marketplace. However, all of us also came to realize the high cost involved in developing such a data bank. Reliable data and information, with regular updates, must first be developed at the ICA membership level. When members can share reliable data and information on a regular basis, then these data, consolidated by the ICA, will become a powerful source of information and knowledge that will enhance ICA's strength and credibility.

It is for this very reason that the ICA, in collaboration with the National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) and the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA), held a Regional Workshop on Co-operative Data Bank in Gurgaon (New Delhi) during 3-7 April, 2000, attended by senior management executives from ICA members in Asia. The objective of the workshop was to discuss and agree on the modalities of collection, processing and dissemination of data on co-operatives in the Region. The meeting also discussed and adopted a sample questionnaire for the collection of data, prepared by the ICA Regional Office. Resource people were drawn from the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), National Informatics Centre (NIC) and National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI), who are pioneers in developing solid co-operative data banks in India. During the workshop, a session was conducted by a well-known E-professional, Prof. S.K. Majumdar, who explained about the finer points on e-commerce and how the electronic trade could revolutionize the way the world, hence co-operatives, do business. Every one felt that the conduct of this workshop was a timely one, and that it was of strategic importance for co-operative development in this Region. It was also felt that follow-up workshops should be held in each and every country in this region, to evaluate the work done and to draw up further strategies.

Of critical importance is the commitment of all delegates to work on database in their respective organizations, using the sample database prepared by the ICA Regional Office. They also requested that this sample be supplied to all member organizations, so that the same pattern of collecting, processing and disseminating data can be adopted. All agreed that it is importance that all data collected should be compatible, to allow for easy electronic exchange of data between the ICA and members, as well as between members to members.

The Workshop was a demonstration of good teamwork facilitation by Messrs. B.D. Sharma, P. Nair and Mohammad S. Haq at ICA ROAP, also F. Rasolomanana from the Head Office.

[Robby Tulus](#)

Last updated: May 4, 2000



---

15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland

Tel: (+41) 022 929 88 88 Fax: (+41) 022 798 41 22

E-mail: [ica@coop.org](mailto:ica@coop.org)



---

[Copyright © 2000 International Co-operative Alliance](#)

## ICA

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

## ICA Releases

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

## Co-op Superhighway

- [Home](#)

## ICA Regional HRD Committee Meeting, followed by the first IT Seminar for Co-ops.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICA Committee on HRD and Research for Asia and the Pacific was held at the CLT Training Centre in Bangkok on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2000. Eighteen participants from seven countries and three international organizations attended the meeting. The meeting reviewed the activities that Committee members are undertaking in the area of human resource development involving co-operatives in their respective countries. The meeting was presided over by Royal Professor Ungku A. Aziz, Chairperson of the Committee. The matter of reviving the ILO MATCOM training materials was discussed during the meeting.

A number of co-op training institutions in Asia used or are still using the MATCOM materials in their training, and it was felt that revisions and further adaptations of the materials are left to each institution to decide, according to the prevailing circumstances in each country and institution. Such an initiative will be most welcomed and encouraged by both the ILO and the ICA.

Subsequent to the HRD Committee Meeting, a seminar on Information Technology was also conducted on 25<sup>th</sup> February. 35 participants attended the seminar. The objectives of the seminar were: (a) appreciation of the value of information technology and its uses in cooperative education and training; (b) decision on next steps to take towards networking among cooperative training institutions in Asia and the Pacific.

Resource persons were drawn from the Asian Institute of Technology, UNDP and CISCO Systems. The Committee agreed to meet again on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2000 in Singapore, in conjunction with the 1st Asia-Pacific Co-operative Forum and the 4th Regional Assembly for Asia and the Pacific. Romy Villamin, Director for South East Asia, coordinated both events.

[Robby Tulus](#)

[Back](#) [Content](#) [Next](#)

Last updated: May 4, 2000



15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland

Tel: (+41) 022 929 88 88 Fax: (+41) 022 798 41 22

E-mail: [ica@coop.org](mailto:ica@coop.org)



Copyright © 2000 International Co-operative Alliance

## ICA

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

## ICA Releases

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

## Co-op Superhighway

- [Home](#)

## Board of Asia-Pacific Health Co-operative Organization meets in Kerala, India

The board of Asia-Pacific Health Co-operative Organization (APHCO) met at the Co-operative Hospital, Thalassery, Kerala (southern India) during 27-28 March, 2000. Dr. Shoji Kato, Chairperson of APHCO, presided over the meeting. 12 delegates, both members and observers, attended the Meeting. The meeting opened with a welcome address by E. Narayanan, President of Tellicherry Co-operative Hospital. Dr. Kato, the Chair of APHCO that he attended an International Conference of NGOs on Public Health in Seoul, Korea. He mentioned that health co-operatives are forced to compete with the private enterprises and are facing financial difficulties and various other obstacles. In order to survive the health co-operatives should improve the equality of services provided by them. Dr. Kato also reported that the Health Co-operative Association of Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union held a joint seminar with the Health Co-operatives in Korea. Dr. Kato further mentioned that in order for APHCO to be recognized as a regional committee of International Health Co-operative Organization (IHCO), each member organization must have official relationship with the International Co-operative Alliance. Hence he suggested that each member organization of APHCO organize a federation and apply for membership of IHCO and/or ICA. Alternatively, the member organizations can associate themselves with existing ICA member organizations in their respective countries. Dr. Kato also requested members to send news about health co-operative activities in their respective organizations to the APHCO Secretariat in New Delhi through e-mail.

[Robby Tulus](#)

[Back](#) [Content](#) [Next](#)

Last updated: May 4, 2000



15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel: (+41) 022 929 88 88 Fax: (+41) 022 798 41 22  
E-mail: [ica@coop.org](mailto:ica@coop.org)



Copyright © 2000 International Co-operative Alliance

## ICA

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

## ICA Releases

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper](#)
- [Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

## Co-op Superhighway

- [Home](#)

## Fourteenth ICA-Japan Management Training Course Concludes

The 14<sup>th</sup> ICA-Japan Managing Training Course for Agricultural Co-operatives comes to a close on 21 April, 2000 at Institute for the Development of Agricultural Co-operation in Asia (IDACA), Tokyo, Japan. 15 participants from China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam were given extensive training in the management of agricultural co-operatives. The training sessions were conducted in India, Thailand and Japan with field visits in these countries. With the conclusion of the 14<sup>th</sup> course, a total of 210 managers of agricultural co-operatives in the region have been trained so far.

[Robby Tulus](#)

[Back](#) [Content](#) [Next](#)

Last updated: May 4, 2000



15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel: (+41) 022 929 88 88 Fax: (+41) 022 798 41 22  
E-mail: [ica@coop.org](mailto:ica@coop.org)



Copyright © 2000 International Co-operative Alliance

## ICA

- [ICA home](#)
- [ICA Calendar](#)
- [ICA Members](#)
- [ICA Europe](#)
- [ICA Americas](#)
- [ICA Asia-Pacific](#)

## ICA Releases

- [E-news Issue 3 - April 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 2 - March 2000](#)
- [E-news Issue 1 - February 2000](#)
- [ICA Newspaper Review](#)
- [Press releases](#)
- [Other Publications](#)

## Co-op Superhighway

- [Home](#)

## Invitation to the Second ICAO/NACF Workshop

The International Co-operative Agricultural Organisation, in collaboration with the National Agricultural Co-operative Federation of Korea, will hold its second ICAO/NACF workshop in Seoul from 28 August to 3 September, 2000.

ICAO members are invited to nominate one or two participants. NACF will cover the local cost for accommodation and meals.

Topics for discussion include the role of co-operatives in the development of regional areas, the present situation and prospect of Korean agriculture, agricultural marketing and processing, and mutual credit business.

Further information is available from the ICAO Secretary-General, LEE Shil-Kwan, c/o NACF:  
fax: +82.2.397.5290 e-mail: [sklee@nacf.co.kr](mailto:sklee@nacf.co.kr)

[Jo Si-Hyung](#)

[Back](#)

[Content](#)

Last updated: May 4, 2000



15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel: (+41) 022 929 88 88 Fax: (+41) 022 798 41 22  
E-mail: [ica@coop.org](mailto:ica@coop.org)



Copyright © 2000 International Co-operative Alliance