

PLEASE CLICK ON THE ABOVE SECTIONS TO ACCESS INFORMATION IN THE ICA WEB SITE



ICA Press Releases

Make the .co-op top level domain name happen. Help make the difference

Geneva, 23 October, for immediate release--On October 23, 2000 (2:00pm GMT), there were 103 comments received by ICANN (the corporation responsible for managing Internet domain names such as .com, .org, .net, etc...) all in support of .co-op suffix.

At present .co-op has received the highest number of comments supporting the initiative. ICFTU's (International Confederation of Free Trade Union) initiative on .union was also very much supported with 62 comments posted. (.web is the suffix that has received the highest number of comments, more than 200. However not all comments were supportive.)

Comments and support were received from co-operatives around the world from all sectors of activities and co-operative friends.

On Sunday October 22, Reuters World Report devoted a section for .co-op while commenting on ICANN's responsibility in assigning new domain name. It said that co-operatives are democratically owned and run businesses, serving 725 million people around the world. It furthermore said that .co-op will protect co-operative businesses from "poachers on the web", and that finally it will give the co-operative business "trade name" a protection that local and regional laws fail to provide effectively.

As from our perspective, .co-op will

- differentiate co-operative businesses from other businesses on internet, nowadays hyped media
- help the co-operative movement establish a unique identity on the internet,
- help co-operatives be recognised as ethical businesses
- help co-operatives build customer trust online
- help spread co-operative values and principles
- contribute to a "digital divide" fund (the .co-op registration fee) supporting Internet and e-commerce projects for co-operatives worldwide

If you have not posted your support yet, we are co-operatively requesting you to be part of this project and do the following:

- Go to this address to register to vote: <http://www.icann.org/mbx/register.html>. They will email you your password
- Then go to this address to vote <http://www.icann.org/mbx/tldapps/>
- Scroll down to the .co-op section, you can view previous postings.
- To make comments, click on the main posting. Then scroll down, there is a box to enter your comments.
- YOU MUST SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS by NOVEMBER 5, 2000
- Please also fax any written comments on your letterhead to NCBA at 1-202-638-1374 so that they may send a pack of support letters in bulk to ICANN, by October 27th

Background information can be found on the ICA home page <http://www.coop.org> . Then click on "Call for support to .co-op TLD" ICA, NCBA, Poptel are happy to provide you further information or explanation on .co-op. Please contact:

- ICA - Geneva (Switzerland): MariaElena Chavez: +41 22 929 88 25 or e-mail chavez@coop.org
- ICA - Geneva (Switzerland): Fanja Rasolomanana: +41.22 929 88 28 or e-mail fanja@coop.org
- NCBA - Washington (U.S.A): Jeannine Kenney: +1.202 383 54 49 or e-mail jkenney@ncba.org
- Poptel - London (U.K): Malcolm Corbett: +44.20 728 469 00 or e-mail malcolm.corbett@poptel.net

Last updated: 23 October 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



[[Copyright Status](#) | [Disclaimer of Endorsement](#) | [Disclaimer of Liability](#) | [Authorized Use Policy](#)]



ICA Press Releases

Obituary

Geneva/New Dehli, March 14, 2000, for immediate release-- G.K.Sharma, ICA Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific from 1987 to 1996, died suddenly in India on 3 March.He was 68.

Before joining the ICA, Mr. Sharma was ILO Regional Adviser from 1978-84, Managing Director of the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED), and head of the Indian Tourism Co-operative Limited.

His years as ICA Regional Director were marked by extensive efforts to improve government policy and legislation affecting co-operatives in the Asia-Pacific region. Four Co-operative Ministerial Conferences were organised during this time. The progress which was made in co-operative legislation as a result of this process is described in the book "Co-operative Laws in Asia and the Pacific," which he authored in 1997.

Last updated: March 14, 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



[[Copyright Status](#) | [Disclaimer of Endorsement](#) | [Disclaimer of Liability](#) | [Authorized Use Policy](#)]



ICA Press Releases

Mr. Alban D'Amours elected for a first term as president of the Mouvement des caisses Desjardins

Geneva/Lévis, March 2, 2000, for immediate release--At a special general meeting held on February 19, the members of the Mouvement Desjardins electoral college, originating from all parts of Québec, Canada, elected **Mr. Alban D'Amours** to the office of President of the Mouvement des caisses Desjardins for a first term of four years. With total assets close to \$76 billion and some 41,000 employees, the Mouvement des caisses Desjardins is the largest financial institution and private employer of the province of Québec in Canada.

Mr. D'Amours will take over from Mr. Claude Béland, who has been President of the Mouvement since January 20, 1987. Although elected President, he will not officially take office until the end of the Mouvement Desjardins General Meeting to take place in Québec City on March 25.

Mr. D'Amours has been a member of the Mouvement Desjardins executive for 12 years. He was appointed Inspector and Auditor General for the Mouvement Desjardins in 1994 after having held the positions of Senior Vice President and Chief Development and Auditing Officer, and Senior Vice President, Planning, Communications and Marketing. Mr. D'Amours is also a member of the Board of Directors of Desjardins' security fund, the Corporation de fonds de sécurité de la Confédération Desjardins.

Before joining the Mouvement Desjardins, Mr. D'Amours worked in the provincial public service from 1981 to 1987 as Deputy Minister of Revenue, and Associate Deputy Minister of Energy.

Previous to that, he had an important career as an academic, including professorships at Minnesota University, and at Université de Sherbrooke, where he participated in founding the Institut de Recherche sur les coopératives de l'Université de Sherbrooke (IRECUS, a research institute on co-operatives), was head of the Department of Economics and director of the *L'Actualité économique* research journal.

The leaders from the business and socio-economic communities were highly pleased with the election of Mr. D'Amours. Very active in the community, he has acted as volunteer officer for various Québec-based organizations and has been president of the Québec Government Commission on Energy, president of the Québec Government Commission on Taxation and the Financing of Public Services and member of the Working Group on the role of the private sector in public health.

Mr. D'Amours has an M.A. in Economics from Université Laval and a Ph.C. in Public Finance, Monetary Theory and Econometrics from Minnesota University.

The Mouvement des caisses Desjardins is a Canadian decentralized cooperative financial group with integrated offerings in the fields of banking, life and health as well as general insurance, trust services, securities brokerage and investment. The Mouvement is currently conducting a thorough review of its business processes and implementing a strategic overhaul of its organizational structure to take up the various challenges faced by the industry and still better satisfy all clientele.

(Source: News Release February 19, 2000 - Confédération des Caisses Populaires et D'Economie Desjardins du Québec)

Last updated: March 2, 2000





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

E-mail: ica@coop.org

[[Copyright Status](#) | [Disclaimer of Endorsement](#) | [Disclaimer of Liability](#) | [Authorized Use Policy](#)]