



International Co-operative Alliance (ICA)

ICA General Assembly
Meeting Documentation II



“INNOVATION IN CO-OPERATIVE BUSINESS”

14-19 October 2007

ICA General Assembly Meeting Documentation: **Addendum**

- Elections Information
- Governance Progress Report
 - Motion for the suspension of the ICA
GA Standing Orders
 - Statutes of Co-operatives Europe
 - ICA — Co-operatives Europe Memorandum of
Understanding
- Draft Resolutions
 - Climate Change
 - Violence against Children
 - DotCoop

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Additional documentation

The ICA Board in its meeting on 15 September 2007 approved the distribution of additional documents for consideration by the General Assembly.

A motion to suspend the Standing Orders of the ICA General Assembly is being proposed in order for the GA to consider ICA Rules changes.

In addition, members have submitted three draft resolutions, whose texts are included here.

Information from the Elections Committee

The Elections Committee confirms the nominations of the following as candidates for election at the General Assembly in Singapore, namely

ICA Board

- Mr S. K. Jakhar
Chair, Indian Farmers Fertiliser Co-operative (IFFCO)

ICA Audit & Control Committee

- Mr M.G.S. Silva
General Secretary, National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka
- Mr Toshifumi Yamashita
President, Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union (JCCU)

The Committee expresses its disappointment at the lack of women nominees and, in addition, wishes to point out that in future it will not allow candidates to be nominated who do not observe the subscription formula for membership of ICA.

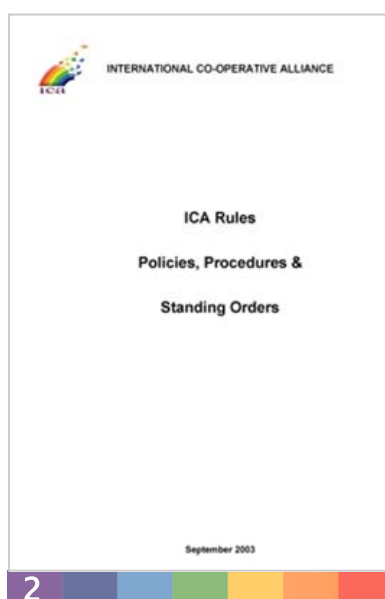
ICA Policies, Procedures and Standing Orders: Excerpt

IV. Standing Orders for General Assembly : Suspension of Standing Orders

23. No motion to suspend a Standing Order for any purpose shall be accepted unless notice in writing is given to the Director-General by not less than 10 representatives, stating the reason for the motion.

The motion to suspend Standing Orders shall be put to the vote after it has been moved and formally seconded, and not more than one speech made in opposition.

To suspend Standing Orders the motion must be approved by a three-fourth majority. If defeated, no second motion for the same purpose shall be permitted.





Motion: Suspension of the ICA General Assembly Standing Orders

Submitted by:

1. Confederazione delle Cooperative Italiane (Italy)
2. Conseil Canadien de la Coopération (Canada)
3. Co-operative Bank (Kenya)
4. Co-operatives UK (United Kingdom)
5. Federation of Norwegian Agricultural Co-operatives (Norway)
6. Federation of Tenants, Savings and Building Societies – HSB Riksförbund (Sweden)
7. Groupement National de la Coopération (France)
8. Lega Nazionale delle Cooperative e Mutue (Italy)
9. National Auditing Union of Workers' Co-operatives (Poland)
10. National Co-operative Business Association (USA)

In accordance with article 23 of the ICA Standing Orders, the ten members above request the suspension of the Standing Orders of the General Assembly to enable the presentation of amendments to the ICA Rules to the ICA General Assembly 2007, waiving the need for the circulation of documentation to members two months before the date of the Assembly (article VI para 7 of the Standing Orders).

The motion is put to the Assembly to enable the recognition of Co-operatives Europe as a separate legal entity operating as the ICA European region.

Amendment : ICA Rules and Standing Orders

Draft of a new article of the ICA Rules as a new article 17a after the existing article 17.

Article 17a – Entities of the ICA Regions with distinct legal personality

- a) The Regional Assemblies of ICA can set up organisations with a distinct legal personality on the following conditions:
 1. Their Statutes must be approved by the General Assembly of ICA;
 2. An agreement regulating the relations between the ICA and the concerned regional entity must be signed by it and by the Board of ICA and approved by the General Assembly of ICA.
- b) In case of discrepancies between the Statutes of the concerned regional entity previously approved by the General Assembly of ICA and the articles 16,17,20,21 and 27 of the ICA Rules, the Statutes of the concerned regional entity will apply.

The members of the concerned regional entity will remain or can become members of the ICA according to Section II of the ICA Rules.



Approval of the Statutes of Cooperatives Europe



Cooperatives Europe asbl, the European region of the ICA, is the association uniting the actions of ICA Europe and the CCACE. The Coordinating Committee of the European Co-operative business sectors and the national co-operative apex organisations—to contribute at the European level to the defence and promotion of co-operatives.

A co-operative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspiration through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise. Co-operatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy equality, equity and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, co-operative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

The integration process was initiated by the two organisations to use the combined strengths of each to enhance the visibility and impact of the co-operative movement particularly when relating to the institutions of the European Union.

They first, in 2005, set up a common platform. In order to enhance the promotion of the co-operative values and strengthen its effectiveness and its representation at European and EU level, the ICA and its European members together with the members of CCACE decided to ask the General Assembly of Cooperatives Europe asbl (as incorporated on 7 March 2006 under the Belgian law of 27 June 1921) to amend the statute to formally merge the roles and activities of ICA Europe and the CCACE. The ICA will establish “Cooperatives Europe” as the European region of the ICA and as such it will be the European representative voice of the co-operative model of enterprise in Europe. As the European region of the ICA, “Cooperatives Europe will operate in the framework of the Rules and statutes of the ICA, taking account the needs and specificities of the European region. The General Assembly of Cooperatives Europe, will be the European Regional Assembly of the ICA.

The Statutes of
Cooperatives Europe asbl
will be distributed
in Singapore.



Agreement between ICA & Cooperatives Europe

The **INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE**, an international non-governmental organisation, registered as an association governed by the Swiss Civil Code, articles 60 - 79, with its headquarters at 15, route des Morillons, 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland, acting and represented by Messrs. Ivano Barberini, President, and Iain Macdonald, Director-General, duly authorised for these purposes as declared;

hereafter called "ICA"

AND

COOPERATIVES EUROPE asbl, a nonprofit making organisation, registered under Belgian law, with its headquarters at 32, Square Ambriorix, Bte 2, BE-1000, Brussels, Belgium, acting and represented by Dame Pauline Green and Mr. Etienne Pflimlin, co-presidents, and Rainer Schlüter, director duly authorised for these purposes as declared;

hereafter called "COOPERATIVES EUROPE"

hereafter collectively called the "PARTIES".

GIVEN THAT the ICA is a non-governmental association uniting, representing and serving co-operatives throughout the world;

GIVEN THAT the members of the regional assembly Europe of the ICA and the members of the Coordinating Committee of European Co-operative Associations and European sectoral co-operative organisations have merged into an organisation with a distinct legal personality, namely COOPERATIVES EUROPE, in order to use their joint resources with a view to strengthening the profile and scope of the co-operative movement, in particular in its relations with European institutions;

GIVEN THAT CO-OPERATIVES EUROPE and the ICA agree that COOPERATIVES EUROPE is the European region of the ICA;

THE PARTIES AGREE ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. ARTICLE 1 - RECOGNITION OF COOPERATIVES EUROPE

1.1 COOPERATIVES EUROPE constitutes the European region of the ICA. To that end, the ICA will take the measures necessary to propose to the General Assembly of its members in 2007 that its statutes be amended to allow such recognition.

1.2 COOPERATIVES EUROPE as indicated in its statutes subscribes to the ICA declaration on the co-operative identity and to the objectives, global policies, procedures, statutes and rules of the ICA.

2. ARTICLE 2 - DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

2.1 COOPERATIVES EUROPE enjoys, in the governance structure of the ICA, the same rights, privileges and duties as any other region of the ICA. The president of COOPERATIVES EUROPE, or whichever of the co-presidents is designated by COOPERATIVES EUROPE, will be an ex-officio member of the ICA board and Vice-president for the region.

2.2 COOPERATIVES EUROPE recognises that the ICA statutes can change over time. COOPERATIVES

Agreement between ICA & Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

EUROPE agrees, taking into account the European specificity to adapt its statutes in accordance with such changes.

2.3 COOPERATIVES EUROPE will submit to the ICA board any proposed modifications of its statutes before they are adopted.

3. ARTICLE 3 – NOTE ON RELATIONSHIP AND USE OF THE LOGO

3.1 COOPERATIVES EUROPE, as the European Region of ICA, will use the ICA's logo on its documents, publications, Internet site and promotional material.

3.2 The ICA promotes its relationship with COOPERATIVES EUROPE and will, where appropriate, use the latter's logo on its documents, publications, Internet site and promotional material.

4. ARTICLE 4 – MEMBERS AND COLLECTION OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

4.1 All the European members of the ICA are automatically members of COOPERATIVES EUROPE.

4.2 COOPERATIVES EUROPE recognises the relevance and importance of all European co-operatives eventually being members of the ICA either in their own right or through associations,

federations or other organisations themselves members of the ICA. COOPERATIVES EUROPE encourages its members which are not so already to become members of the ICA.

4.3 The admission and exclusion of a category A member by COOPERATIVES EUROPE must have the approval of the ICA board before becoming effective.

4.4 The admission or exclusion of a European member by the ICA should not occur without the opinion of the board of COOPERATIVES EUROPE.

4.5 Category A subscriptions to COOPERATIVES EUROPE will be established according to the subscription formulas of the ICA and paid to a bank account managed by the ICA. The level of category A membership fees allocated to COOPERATIVES EUROPE will be as decided by the ICA Board in the global multi annual budget plan, after consultation with the board of COOPERATIVES EUROPE and other Regional Councils.

5. ARTICLE 5 – ASSETS

5.1 RESERVES .In accordance with the proposal on internal debt adopted by the ICA Board in Trento on the 8th December 2006, 75% of the reserves attributed to ICA Europe, as stated in the accounts at 31/12/2006, will be transferred to a COOPERATIVES EUROPE bank account in Brussels but stay part of the ICA global reserves. As such they will be consolidated annually with the global ICA reserves. These reserves can be used by COOPERATIVES EUROPE as Bank guarantee or as cash flow. Any other intended use of these funds needs the agreement of the ICA Board.

5.2 Physical assets: The physical assets in the offices of COOPERATIVES EUROPE which are in the accounts of the ICA will be sold for a symbolic euro to COOPERATIVES EUROPE asbl.

ARTICLE 6 – ACTION PLANS

6.1 COOPERATIVES EUROPE informs the ICA of its action plans and their progress. The Director-



Agreement between ICA & Cooperatives Europe *(continued)*

General of the ICA is invited to attend the meetings of COOPERATIVES EUROPE as stated in its statutes.

6.2 The director of COOPERATIVES EUROPE has the same rights and duties as those of the directors of the other regions of the ICA

6.3 COOPERATIVES EUROPE provides the ICA with the same financial and administrative information as the other regions.

7. ARTICLE 7 – TERM

7.1 This procedural protocol is for an indeterminate term. The parties after one year will evaluate this protocol and adapt as necessary. Each PARTY will be able to end it after a twelve (12)- month written notice of cancellation. Before sending such a notice, the Parties will do their utmost to resolve the differences or conflicts behind the issue of a notice of cancellation.

8. ARTICLE 8 – DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION

8.1 Notwithstanding the date of signing of this protocol, the PARTIES agree that it will come into effect as of 1st January 2007.

The PARTIES have signed:

FOR: ICA

Mr. Ivano Barberini, President

Mr. Iain Macdonald, Director General

FOR: COOPERATIVES EUROPE

Dame Pauline Green, Co-President

Mr. Etienne Pflimlin, Co-President

Mr. Rainer Schlüter, Director



Draft Resolution: Climate Change: Our Co-operative Commitment

Submitted by the Co-operative Group Ltd and Co-operatives UK Limited United Kingdom)

The ICA General Assembly,

IS AWARE that combating catastrophic climate change is a matter of pressing urgency,

REMINDS co-operatives everywhere of their responsibility and opportunity to take a leading position in taking action to combat climate change and to reduce its harmful impacts.

CALLS on the ICA and its members to focus on the issue of climate change, which poses a serious threat to peoples throughout the world.

DECLARES that the united and co-ordinated action of ICA members, which collectively equate to the tenth largest economy in the world, will make a significant and appropriate contribution to the cause of reducing future climate change impacts.

COMMITTS, as a part of the international co-operative movement and members of the International Co-operative Alliance, co-operatives to:

1. measure and reduce (pro rata) the greenhouse gas emissions that arise as a result of our activities.
2. communicate with, inform and motivate members towards a lower carbon lifestyle.
3. use political influence and that of co-operative members to encourage our Government to play a constructive part in the Kyoto negotiations now taking place, one that recognises the need for global emissions to reduce significantly and quickly.

Draft Resolution: Protecting our Children against Violence

Submitted by the National Co-operative Union of Turkey

The ICA General Assembly,

RECOGNISES that there has been a substantial increase in the number of crimes committed by children and adolescents in the last few years all over the world,

IS AWARE that the negative effect of science fiction movies and computer games which contain elements of violence as well as bloody fight shows staged under the title of sports events is an established fact accepted by all the specialists,

APPRECIATES that some toys we give our children affect their development in a negative way and that when family problems and children driven out to the streets are introduced to the picture, violence turns into a world wide culture,

ACKNOWLEDGES that it is becoming urgent that governments should take more social responsibility to solve this problem and that, as co-operatives are also responsible for the development of a sense of peace, love and brotherhood in societies in which they exist, as well as economic development, they should also work together with governments,

FURTHER RECOGNISES the pioneering role of the International Co-operative Alliance in this field will also be considered to be a reflection of the respect to the co-operative values.

CALLS FOR the setting up of a working group to discuss this problem in detail, produce concrete project proposals and to establish contact with the United Nations and European Union in order to strengthen this struggle and achieve better results.





Draft Resolution: Dotcoop

Submitted by the Co-operatives UK and the National Co-operative Business Association (USA)

The ICA General Assembly,

CONGRATULATES DotCooperation LLC on the extension of its agreement to continue as the Sponsor of the .coop TLD,

NOTES that with the Midcounties Co-operative (UK) serving as the registry operator, the .coop registry is owned and operated 100% by co-operatives,

RECOGNISES the contribution that .coop has made to promoting co-operatives and co-operative identity to peoples around the world since its introduction in 2002,

ASSERTS the importance of co-operatives using .coop as a unifying identity to promote co-operatives and the Co-operative Principles on the Internet – the fastest growing information medium in the world – in order to build awareness of the benefits to people throughout the world of the values of co-operative businesses and organisations,

NOTES the growing involvement of the ICA, particularly its Europe and Americas regions, in promoting the use of .coop by member co-operatives,

CALLS ON all ICA member co-operatives and co-operative organisations, as well as their members and eligible subsidiaries to:

- register their .coop domain names
- actively use their .coop domain names for their web sites
- actively use their .coop domain names for their primary email addresses
- actively use their .coop domain names on all promotional media
- actively promote the use of .coop domain names for all eligible co-operatives in the region or country and
- actively promote the use of .coop as a way to identify co-operatives on the Internet, and

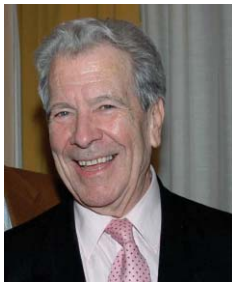
URGES all leading co-operatives and co-operative organisations to support and invest in dotCoop in order to:

- ensure a truly multi-national co-operative ownership of .coop as was always intended
- reduce the cost of future registrations to encourage more and wider use of .coop and
- raise the profile of co-operatives and co-operation throughout the world.

Rochdale Pioneer Award



Mrs. Esther Gicheru, the Co-operative College, Kenya, Prof. Ungku A. Aziz, National Co-operative Organisation of Malaysia and Mr. Francisco Ceballo Herrero, Union of Consumer and User-owned Co-operatives of Spain



Awardees 2001— 2005

The first laureate of the Rochdale Pioneers Award was Dr. Verghese Kurien (India) who received the Award at the ICA General Assembly in Seoul 2001.

At the 2003 General Assembly in Oslo the award was shared between Francisco Luis Jiménez Arcila (Colombia) and Lloyd Wilkinson (United Kingdom).

In 2005, it was jointly awarded to Hans Dahlberg (Sweden), Ian MacPherson (Canada) and Yehudah Paz (Israel).

