

Governance Working Group Report

Gun-Britt Mårtensson



Governance Working Group Report

GWG Membership

- Gun-Britt-Mårtensson, ICA Board, (Convenor)
- Mervyn Wilson Co-operative College, UK
- Mauro Gori, Legacoop, Italy
- Anne Reynolds, NCBA, USA
- Dante Cracogna, Intercoop, Argentina
- Joseph Mukasa, Ugandan Co-operative Alliance
- Toshifumi Yamashita, JCCU, Japan
- Hans Dahlberg, ICMIF
- Bruno Roelants, CICOPA
- Garry Cronan, ICA (Co-ordinator)

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Progress since the General Assembly Cartagena 2005

- Regular meetings of the GWG through | tele-conferences and electronic means
- Focus on:
 - Strategic issues
 - Procedural issues
 - Structural issues

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Strategic Issues

- Strategic Planning processes underway – commencing with a planning workshop with the Global Board facilitated by the GWG in Stockholm September 2006
- Operational planning within the global framework by senior staff followed by consultation with Regions and Sectors
- Board reporting is now starting to reflect the strategic priorities
- There is now a need to share these processes with the Regions and Sectors

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Procedural

- Draft Code of Governance incorporating a code of conduct for the Global Board prepared and presented for consideration by the Board
- Draft Standing Orders for the Global Board prepared and presented for consideration by the Board

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Training

- Board Skills Audit completed 2007 and recommendations considered by the Board
- Agreement on an induction programme for new Board members
- Agreement on training and continuous professional development for Board members to commence in 2008

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Structural

- Key issues concerning structural relations between the global, regional and sectoral components of the ICA, together with membership eligibility and dues are being addressed by the Restructuring Working Group
- which was established in 2006 on the initiative of the GWG.

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Accomplishments

- Out of 44 recommendations, 36 are either accomplished or well under way

Outstanding issues

- Clarification of the legal position of Board members
- Addressing some of the barriers to participation in the Board
- Exploring modern cost effective methods of holding global Board meetings

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Going forward

- Whilst many of these governance improvements are being implemented they now need to become a coherent integrated process
- The governance processes need to become firmly embedded into the operations and culture of the ICA
- The governance processes now in place need to be subject to continuous review and improvement



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What has been achieved

- The GWG are pleased to have been a catalyst for change