



## ICA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Geneva, Switzerland

### The Co-operatives and Peace

Resolution adopted on 20 November 2009

#### The ICA at its General Assembly in Geneva on 20 November 2009,

**RECALLING** that global peace is the shared goal of all mankind, but peace on earth is a goal as yet unachieved,

**AWARE** that violence and hatred threaten peace between groups and communities no less than between nations and states,

**REAFFIRMING** that understanding, trust, confidence and joint endeavour are fundamental to the peaceful resolution of conflicts,

**REMINING** that enduring peace can only be realistically achieved when conflict resolution is linked to sustainable human development, so that peace brings people a better life today and a greater hope for tomorrow,

**RECALLING** that the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) has been committed to the advancement of peace since its birth in 1895,

**EMPHASISING** that co-operative thought is rooted in the search for a more peaceful world and co-operative values further that search,

**NOTING** that the ICA and its member co-operatives have successfully engaged and linked together people divided by social, economic, cultural, political and religious differences through projects and organisations devoted to the common good,

**REAFFIRMING** that the co-operative model, through its emphasis on inclusion and democratic process, has proved to be an effective way in which tensions can be reduced within communities, in nations and across regions,

**CONSIDERING** that co-operatives and co-operative organisations can effectively create and support people-to-people initiatives which are central to achieving peace,

**FURTHER CONSIDERING** that co-operatives and co-operative organisations can serve as effective agents in linking sustainable human development and conflict resolution,

**REAFFIRMS** its longstanding and ongoing commitment to the furtherance of peace everywhere in the world and its readiness to contribute actively to its achievement,

**CALLS** on the peacemaking institutions – international agencies, governments and civil society bodies – to recognise ICA and the co-operative movement as effective partners at the table of the peacemakers,

**ENCOURAGES** co-operatives around the world to further develop their peace-building activities and to make better known their work in promoting peace and social inclusion.