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Director General ICA

Presentation to
the Second Review Meeting of ICA/ILO
Memorandum of Understanding
Geneva, 15 February 2006



What is the ICA

“the ICA is an independent non-governmental organisation which **unites**, **represents** and **serves** co-operatives worldwide”



A little about us.....

- One of the largest and oldest NGOs in the world, established 1895
- Our members include 220 national and international organisations in all sectors of activity from 90 countries, representing over 800 million individuals worldwide
- Hold consultative status with the United Nations and its agencies



Our Structure

- Combined global and regional (decentralized) structure, with offices covering:
 - *Head Office: Geneva, Switzerland*
 - *Asia-Pacific: New Delhi, India*
 - *Americas: San José, Costa Rica*
 - *Africa, Nairobi, Kenya*
 - *Europe: Brussels, Belgium*

- Sectoral organisations and thematic committees
- Governed by an elected Board



ICA: Global Sectoral Organisations

- **Agriculture** (ICAO)
- **Fisheries** (ICFO)
- **Banking** (ICBA)
- **Consumer** (CCW)
- **Health** (IHCO)
- **Housing** (ICA Housing)
- **Insurance** (ICMIF)
- **Tourism** (TICA)
- **Workers** (CICOPA)



ICA Thematic Committees

- Research
- Gender
- Human Resource Development
- Communications

Both the sectoral organisations and the thematic committees may also have regional groupings



2006 President and Vice Presidents



ICA President
Ivano Barberini



AFRICA

Stanley Muchiri



EUROPE

Pauline Green



ASIA - PACIFIC

Mu Li



AMERICAS

Carlos Palacino



General Assembly

- Held every 2 years; Cartagena, Colombia 2005
- Includes delegates from members, sectoral organisations, thematic committees and observers, normally over 1000 participants
- Elects Board approves rules and sets overall policy direction
- Next Assembly: Singapore, 2007



ICA Agenda for 2006

- Communication
- Development
- Regionalisation and Governance
- Global 300
- International Standing
- Networking



Communication

- Website
- Publications
- Corporate Image



www.ica.coop

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International Co-operative Alliance

ICA is an independent, non-governmental association which unites, represents and serves co-operatives worldwide. Founded in 1895, ICA has 223 member organisations from 89 countries active in all sectors of the economy. Together these co-operatives represent more than 800 million individuals worldwide.



Vacancy Notice: Membership Data Systems Officer at ICA's Head Office in Geneva (10/01/06) More.....

ICA-ILO Joint Statement on the Occasion of United Nations International Day of Poverty Eradication, 17 October 2005 (pdf)

ICA General Assembly 2005, Cartagena (Colombia) Election Results, Rochdale Award winners,

ICA Regional Offices

[Africa](#) -- [Americas](#) -- [Asia & the Pacific](#) -- [Europe](#)

Register a .coop internet domain name



What is a co-operative?

... an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise...

**"Self-help, not "charity"
Empowerment not "aid"**

"Co-operatives do not go away and turn their back to the people's needs. On the contrary - they contribute to build-up and develop local economies."

Enterprises with a soul...

**"Co-operatives:
An option for the disadvantaged in the era of globalisation"**

"Founded on the principles of private initiative, entrepreneurship and self-employment, underpinned by the values of

start

Internet 15:06



Development

- Co-operating out of Poverty
- Capacity building
- Partner relations
- Tsunami reconstruction



Global Co-operative Campaign against Poverty



The campaign is intended to raise the profile of co-ops and their role and contribution to the fight against poverty.



Regionalisation and Governance

- Legal Structure
- Budgeting responsibilities
- Relationships with regions and sectors
- Training for elected members
- Decentralisation
- Code of Best Practice
- Role of elected bodies



Global 300

- Raise profile of co-operative enterprise as a major employer
- Provide a better statistical base
- Understand the needs of co-operative businesses
- Create a forum of top co-operative business leaders



How to proceed?

- Project approach:
 - Genesis in idea of global CEO's forum
 - Synthesis with need to link other statistics projects
- Three parts:
 - Global ranking list (Forbes global 2000)
 - Survey of CEO's (PWC's global CEO survey)
 - Forum of CEO's (Davos)
- Where are we in this process?
 - Completed development phase of mapping exercise
 - Currently validating global ranking list



International Standing

- UN Relations
- COPAC
- International Accounting Standards
- Global Economic and Social Forum
- International Agri-Food Network
- Regional Multilateral Organisations e.g. EU
- DotCoop



International Standing ILO – ICA Memorandum of Understanding 2003

A Common Co-operative Agenda for
ILO/ICA Joint Action
**Promoting Decent Work and
Reducing Poverty
through Co-operative Enterprise**





Networking

- ICA Database
- Membership Administration
- Legislative Support
- Support to Sectors
- Regional and General Assemblies



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