



ICA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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ICA Human Resource Development Committee

17 November 2009, Geneva, Switzerland

HRD is a central concern of all cooperatives and all cooperators, and is an important component of cooperative success. The ICA HRD Committee invites all General Assembly delegates and observers concerned with this important theme to join with us in a full-day program of events on 17 November, 2009.

The program will consist of three sections:

- A panel presentation and discussion on the role of the ICA HRD Committee in the new ICA framework.
- A business meeting of the HRD Committee (open to all) on future activities.
- A presentation by Mervyn Wilson of the Cooperative College UK on: "Building for the future: cooperation in the governance of schools" followed by a discussion.

Program Schedule

17 November 2009, Tuesday

8.15 - Registration

9.00 – 11.00 Section 1: **Symposium/Panel Discussion**

“What should be the role, the function and the structure of the ICA HRD Committee in the new ICA framework.”

Chair: Dr. Yehudah Paz, Co-chairperson, HRD Committee

Speakers :

Mr. Iain Macdonald, DG - ICA

Prof. Ian McPherson, Chair, CLC

Mr. Mervyn Wilson, Chief Executive and Principal, Cooperative College, UK

Mr. Bhagwati Prasad, Co-Chairperson, HRD Committee

Discussion

11.00 – 11.30 Break

11.30 – 13.00 Section 2: **Business meeting**

- Election of Chairman and of additional Executive Committee members, if

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required.

- Presentation on re-structured GHRD portal (www.hrd.coop)- Mr. Bhagwati Prasad, Co-chairperson , HRD Committee
- Presentation on present status and future strategy of CLC-Mr. McPherson, Head CLC
- Program of activities for the coming period.

13.00 – 14.30 Lunch Break

14.30 – 16.00 Section 3. **Presentation**

“Building for the future-cooperation in the governance of schools.”

Mr. Mervyn Wilson, Chief Executive and Principal, Cooperative College UK

Discussion

16.00 – 16.15 Conclusion

16.30 – 17.30 Executive committee of the ICA HRD Committee(executive committee members only.)

Introductory note:

Section 1. Symposium on “What should be the role, the function and the structure of the ICA HRD Committee in the new ICA framework.”

The General Assembly brings us together from around the world and gives us the opportunity and the responsibility to carefully examine the structure and the work of the ICA HRD Committee.

Such an examination is particularly important now for several reasons:

- ICA has gone through a major re-organization. It is now necessary to determine the role of the thematic committees in general and of the HRD Committee in particular in the new ICA. This has not yet been done and we should start the work now.
- The HRD Committee draws on the great human and institutional resources of cooperatives around the world. Those associated with its work are a devoted and talented group of men and women. But there are also great constraints: institutional, financial and more. As a result the HRD Committee has known both "ups" and "downs" in terms of activity and achievement. We must seek ways of increasing our effectiveness, our relevance and our input.
- One of our major undertakings, the Cooperative Learning Center project has enjoyed much positive evaluation, but the limitations of resource and other problems have limited its realization. We must think together as to how best to move forward.

With these considerations in mind, we will hold a symposium and panel discussion on the above-

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noted theme. We hope that it will serve to guide the work of the HRD Committee in the coming years.

Cooperative leaders and colleagues active in HRD work will introduce the theme, and discussion in which all participants may take part will follow their remarks.

Section 2: Business meeting

The ICA HRD Committee holds a meeting at each GA (and at each regional assembly as well) to discuss current issues and concerns. The agenda detailed here sets these out for this GA. In addition, we will seek to utilize the ideas and approaches generated in the first session to guide and advance our work. All GA participants are invited to this open meeting.

Section 3: Presentation on “*Building for the future-cooperation in the governance of schools.*”

One of the most exciting and important initiatives in the field of education is the work of the Cooperative College UK in the transformation of state schools into multi-stakeholder cooperatives. Mervyn Wilson, who heads the Cooperative College UK and some of his colleagues will tell us about this groundbreaking project. Discussion will follow.

Here is a brief note about this activity by Mervyn Wilson.

Building for the future – cooperation in the curriculum and governance of schools

Education is a founding principle of the cooperative movement and the reiteration of the principles in 1995 was clear on the importance of education of young people. Many cooperatives have found it difficult to get cooperative enterprise taught in the school system and for too long the movement has been invisible in state education. In other parts of the world, movements have developed cooperative enterprise projects firmly embedded within the curriculum. In the UK, an extensive range of curriculum work has been followed by the development of cooperative school, transforming state schools into multi-stakeholder cooperatives. In the last year 30 schools in the UK have completed the legal processes to become cooperative schools, and the UK Cooperative College is now working with over 100 additional schools in the process of converting to cooperative trusts. It estimates that by the end of 2010 over \$2 billion worth of state assets will have been transferred to this new cooperative sector, and new programs of Cooperative Studies made available across them. Learn more about these exciting developments and examples from other countries at this workshop session.