

## **ICA-AP NEWSLETTER**

News from members, ICA-AP activities, ICA-EU Partnership update & more!

## 13th ICA-AP Regional Assembly, Tehran, Iran



### Dear Members,

The 13<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly and 10<sup>th</sup> Co-operative Forum, will be held in Tehran, Iran from November 26 to 30. All information related to the Assembly is available at <a href="www.regionalassembly.coop">www.regionalassembly.coop</a>. The deadline to register for the Regional Assembly has been extended. For any queries regarding the Regional Assembly, Co-operative Forum or with respect to the website, please write to <a href="mailto:regionalassembly@icaap.coop">regionalassembly@icaap.coop</a>. We look forward to seeing you in Iran!

## **NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS**

## JWCU joined the North-East Asian Multi-stakeholder Forum on Sustainable Development Goals

This article was submitted by Mr. Osamu Nakano. Mr. Nakano is the Director of International Relations at Japan Workers' Co-operative Union (JWCU), a position he has held since July 2017. He concurrently serves as a board member of JWCU. He also serves as a staff member of the Japan Co-operative Alliance (JCA), a new organization aim at organizing all co-operatives in Japan, and as a visiting researcher at Tokyo University.



The Japanese civil society delegation at the Forum. Picture credit: JWCU

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) organized the North-East Asian Multi-stakeholder Forum on Sustainable Development Goals from September 5-6 2018 at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The forum provided an opportunity to bring together stakeholders from the Governments of East and North-East Asia (China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, and Russian Federation), academia, international community and civil society, and provided them with an opportunity to: (1) share experiences and key challenges and opportunities for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for selected SDGs; and (2) to provide sub-regional inputs and perspectives for regional and global forums in 2019, notably, the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) and the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). The selected goals for review were quality education (Goal 4), decent work and economic growth (Goal 8), reduced inequalities (Goal 10), climate action (Goal 13), and peace and justice (Goal 16) as well as the means of implementation and partnership (Goal 17); and the overall theme was "Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality". The Japan Workers' Co-operative Union (JWCU), a member of ICA-AP, participated in the forum as a member of the delegation team of the Japanese civil society, consisting of major NGOs in Japan such as the Japan Civil Society Network on SDGs (SDGs Japan).

The first day of the Forum begun by an opening remark made by Mr. Zandanshatar G., the Chief Cabinet Secretary of the Mongolia government. He said, "We are keen to share experiences, so that we can learn from each other's achievements and challenges in implementing the Global Goals, support each other in the SDGs progress and foster mutual cooperation on the Regional Roadmap to the SDGs."

The keynote speech was delivered by Mr. Jeffrey Sachs via a video message. Mr. Sachs, a professor at the Columbia University in the United States as well as the special advisor to the UN secretary-general on the SDGs, argued the six transformation challenges of sustainable development as follows: (1) education, gender and inequality, (2) health and wellbeing, (3) clean energy and industry, (4) sustainable food and land use, (5) smart cities and transport, and (6) digital technologies and egovernance. The next session dealt with the progress in the implementation of the 2030 agenda, and highlighted the key challenges and opportunities for the implementation at the north-east Asian region and some countries including Japan and Republic of Korea. Then the participants were divided into six groups by the selected goals (goal 4, 8, 10, 13, 16 and 17), and respectively discussed the key challenges in their countries and fields. Osamu Nakano, a board member of JWCU and its international relations officer, joined the session on the goal 8, and argued how crucial co-operatives were in the creation of "decent work" and employment throughout the world.

On the second day, the progress of the implementation of the SDGs in Mongolia was discussed, and the participants from the knowledge institutions in several countries (China, Japan, Mongolia and Republic of Korea) reported their projects on the SDGs. At the end of the two-day forum, then, civil society organizations from five countries (China, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea and Russia) issued "the Civil Society Organization Statement" to urge all governments in the north-east Asian region to be actively engaged in the SDGs in close cooperation with civil society organizations. JWCU also signed it. After the forum, moreover, the delegation team of the Japanese civil society had a meeting with major NGOs in Mongolia. JWCU also participated in the meeting, and discussed the critical question of "how to develop the partnership among NGOs/NPOs, co-operatives, labor unions and other civil society organizations toward the implementation of the SDGs?". Mr. Nakano said, "This forum was a very good opportunity to share the ongoing circumstances surrounding the SDGs in the north-east Asian region as well as the key challenges among various stakeholders. Indeed, I learned a lot in the forum. At the same time, I was a bit surprised that only JWCU participated in the forum from the cooperative sector of this region. Indeed, there are so many co-operatives in the north-east Asian region, and we have already contributed to the implementation of the SDGs in many ways. So we should be further engaged actively in the discussion among various stakeholders over the SDGs by joining international forums like these."

## Co-operative Business NZ Supports Pacific Island Aid and Sustainable Development

This article has been written by Mr. Craig Presland, CEO, Co-operative Business New Zealand (CBNZ) which is a member of ICA-AP. The article was originally published on CBNZ's website and has been re-produced here with their permission.

It was a surprise to read Heather Du Plessis-Allan's ill-considered comments earlier this week that the Pacific region may "not matter" along with her reference to "leeching". While New Zealand (NZ) does indeed allocate millions of dollars every year in the Pacific, in my view this is money well spent as we seek to improve conditions and stability in the region. Having a settled and prosperous Pacific region must be in NZ's best interests internationally.

#### WHAT DO WE SPEND?

New Zealand will spend about \$1.1 billion in aid to our Pacific neighbours over the next three years. This is reasonably evenly split between 13 Pacific nations, while another \$257 million has been assigned to a regional fund between now and the end of 2021. In 2018-19 our government has planned to spend \$339m: to put this into perspective, our total fiscal budget for the same period is \$86.7b, so our Pacific aid budget will account for 0.4% of this in the year.

## **ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL LINKS**

Rather than "leeching" from the NZ government, our country has benefitted significantly from Pacific labour since the 1970's, this resource often meeting our more physically demanding and lowly paid jobs. This year over 10,000 Pacific workers will arrive on our shores employed in seasonal jobs, such as fruit picking. Our 2013 census reported that 7.4% of our population identified as being Pacific. In addition, while our Pacific neighbours have relatively small economies, collectively their sum is considerable as New Zealand currently exports over \$1.5b pa worth of products and services to the region, this amounting to around 13 times more than we import from these countries.

## **AID PROGRAMMES**

The aid New Zealand gives to Pacific nations is spent on a wide range of programmes aimed at improving education, health, economic development, good governance and climate change preparedness programmes. A \$9.5m programme in the Cook Islands, for example, is designed to improve numeracy, literacy and so greatly enhance the job prospects of secondary school students. A \$3.0m scheme in Samoa helps small businesses by providing access to credit and business advice and training.

Relative to New Zealand, all Pacific nations have a much lower per capita GDP. According to the World Bank, Samoa has per capita GDP of about \$6,600, about one-tenth of the New Zealand figure of \$65,000 while most other Pacific nations are even worse off.

## STRATEGIC GOALS

New Zealand's aid helps to improve living standards for people in the Pacific Islands. However, a key reason for spending this money in the Pacific has nothing to do with immediate economic or cultural benefits to New Zealand nor its humanitarian impact. Foreign Affairs Minister Winston Peters laid out New Zealand's reasons for being involved in the Pacific when he spoke to the Lowy Institute earlier this year, highlighting the national security challenges that he saw in the region.

"The modern world opens trans-boundary security challenges, including gangs; criminal deportations; drug production and distribution; cyber and financial crime; and aviation and border security. New Zealand's national security is directly affected by the Pacific's stability," he said. "We seek to assist Pacific Island countries to achieve sustainable economic growth and improved financial management as the primary engines of lifting living standards and funding vital government services".

#### **CO-OPERATIVES CAN HELP**

And this is where the co-operative business model can help.

These are member-owned (as opposed to investor-owned) organisations that are democratically run, with open membership, self-supporting and here for the long term. Financial benefits are provided to members on the basis of the volume of product supplied, or the amount of business transacted, in a given year. These commercially-driven organisations collaborate effectively and give back to local communities along the way. Profits are returned to Members each year by way of dividend and therefore retained locally. Co-op (and mutual) businesses are all about endurance and long term survival which must be good for any country, large or small. Without doubt, this business model is the most closely aligned towards supporting the UN in achieving the 17 <a href="Sustainable Development Goals">Sustainable Development Goals</a> by 2030.

## **MELANESIA**

Looking at the leading Pacific nations in Melanesia, for example, most have maintained if not grown their co-operative presence within their respective economies in recent years:

- Fiji, gained independence in 1970, population 900,000, estimated 400 active co-operatives, over 2.0% pa. growth over the past 10 years
- o PNG, (1975), population 8.1 million, over 6,000 active co-operatives, over 3.2% pa growth over past 10 years
- Solomon Islands, (1978), population 600,000, estimated 130 active co-operatives, declined by over two thirds since independence
- Vanuatu, (1980), population 270,000, estimated 350 active co-operatives, 1.3% growth pa over past 10 years
- Kiribati, has not gained independence, population 115,000, estimated 276 active cooperatives (only 15 co-ops back in 1975).

The vast majority of co-ops across these five nations are very small and include the following industries: arts and crafts, coffee, fisheries, beef rice, copra oil and food retailers. So while there has been growth in numbers, barring the Solomon Islands, there is a real need for support in the following areas if there is going to be a step change made in the right direction:

- Advocacy for the co-op business model
- More support from respective governments
- o Business skills including best practice governance, planning, cash flow management
- Support for start-ups including writing constitutions, co-op structures and ownership models, raising capital

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

NZ is best served to continue to support the Pacific Islands not only for its own trade opportunities and required seasonal labour here in NZ, but also to help ensure its own international security and intelligence.

The co-operative business model can help the Pacific nations economies grow stronger through member ownership, profits returned to members (suppliers, staff or customers) each year, and profits retained locally. Co-op principles lead to business endurance and true sustainability economically, environmentally and socially which can only be good for all Pacific nation economies.

Pacific nations need business management skills and while some NZ aid programmes are targeting this area, much more needs to be done. Industry organisations such as Co-operative Business NZ can help here but, like the Pacific Island nations themselves, we need the funding to do this.

# The Abu Dhabi Department of Community Development (ADDCD) meets with ICA-AP member in Singapore

This article originally featured in our member SNCF's newsletter titled Co-operator. It has been reproduced here with their permission.

A delegation of five senior officials from the Abu Dhabi Department of Community Development (ADDCD), United Arab Emirates (UAE) visited the Singapore National Co-operative Federation Ltd. (SNCF) on August 17 2018 as part of their study visit to Singapore. The delegation was led by ADDCD Chairman Dr Mugheer Al Khaili. Established in February 2018, ADDCD is responsible for the development of social, cultural and religious cohesion among all segments of the Abu Dhabi society, including both Emiratis as well as the more than 200 other nationalities living in Abu Dhabi. Hence, ADDCD was keen to learn from Singapore's experience in community-building and social cohesion and in particular the role played by the co-operative movement.



The SNCF & ADDCD Delegation at the SNCF office.

The meeting was a lively affair with sharing from Ms Dolly Goh, CEO, SNCF on the role of SNCF in promoting and developing the co-operatives and how Singapore's co-operative movement helps foster a spirit and social cohesion. The visit ended with the exchange of tokens of appreciation.

## ICA-EU PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM ON CO-OPERATIVES IN DEVELOPMENT: PEOPLE CENTRED BUSINESSES IN ACTION





In March 2016, the ICA and the European Union signed a Framework Partnership Agreement (Europe Aid/150-053/C/ACT/Multi) to implement a multi-year and multi-country development programme aimed at benefitting and advancing co-operatives worldwide. The Partnership is officially titled "Co-operatives in Development: People Centred Businesses in Action", translated into the social media hashtag #Coops4Dev (co-operatives for development). The Partnership has 8 Result Areas and 33 Activity Streams for delivery by 5 units, one housed in each regional office and one at the coordination level in Brussels. The AP unit has identified three strategic development priorities namely, participation of Co-operatives in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Youth Inclusion in Co-operatives, and Exploring Work and Ownership Structures in Co-operatives. The ICA-AP implements the programme in collaboration with Alliance members and in partnerships with other stakeholders such as governments, international development agencies, private sector and NGOs in the region. You may read more about the Partnership here.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> International Forum on Co-operative Law held in Athens, Greece

The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Forum on Co-operative Law was organized at Athens by Ius Cooperativum, with the support of the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) and of two local co-organizers: the Hellenic Open University (Athens) and the Peoples' University on Social and Solidarity Economy (Thessaloniki). The Forum followed the one organized in 2016 at Montevideo, Uruguay. Under the overall theme of "Co-operative Law and Co-operative Principles", which is to point to the relevance of the internationally recognized co-operative principles for co-operative law, the forum focused on the place of the co-operative principles in co-operative law, the research and education in the field of co-operative law, and on an exchange of views on co-operatives by lawyers and economists. Detailed program of the forum is available on the website of IUS Cooperativum.



Video message from Ms. Simel Esim (Co-operatives Unit, International Labour Organization) in the Opening Ceremony

The opening session was chaired by Dr. Kassavetis Demosthenis from the forum organizing committee who acknowledged the support and assistance provided by all the co-organisers and welcomed the national and international participants. Prof. Kardasis Vasilis, Dean of the Hellenic Open University talked

about the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) in Greece acting as a viable economic alternative and as a means to support vulnerable social groups, hit by the recession. Mr. Bruno Roelants, Director General, International Co-operative Alliance elaborated on how all types of co-operatives around the world have been guided by a set of identity-shaping principles ever since the foundation of the ICA in 1895, laid out in the 1995 Alliance Statement on the Co-operative Identity. The fact that such a set of principles exists sets co-operatives apart from other types of enterprises. He briefly discussed why and how legislators are bound by these principles, and for which legal and political reasons legislators ought to translate these principles into law. Prof. Hagen Henrÿ of University of Helsinki noted that it would be important for co-operative lawyers, researchers and practitioners to reflect on 2002 International Labour Organization (ILO) Recommendation No. 193 concerning the promotion of co-operatives (ILO R. 193). Ms. Simel Esim from the Co-operatives Unit, ILO shared some observations based on recent research and practice from the ILO on laws, policies and programmes around co-operatives and other social and solidarity economy entities with regard to state capacities, policy coherence, participation and sustainability.



Roundtable between economists and lawyers on: "What can we/what must we learn from each other"?

The event was attended by around 55 participants from more than 10 countries. Over the duration of 3 days in the forum, the attendees discussed various issues relating to the legal relevance of the cooperative principles for co-operative law, legal framework of the social economy, legal requirements for specific types of co-operatives by sector and governance structure, the harmonization and unification of co-operative law at national, regional and international level, co-operative law and human rights, educational programs and tools for the research and study of co-operative law.



Ms. Arielle Romeanteau from Co-operatives Europe presenting on Legal Framework Analyses and the ICA-EU Partnership

The ICA Asia and Pacific office was represented by its Research Officer, Mr. Mohit Dave for the discussion on tools for the research and study of co-operative law. He contributed to the paper on Legal Framework Analyses and the ICA-EU Partnership: Acknowledging the specificity of the co-operative model and ensuring a level playing field for people-centered businesses. This paper presents the research currently being conducted to examine and analyze the legal frameworks that impact co-operatives in different countries across all ICA regions and falls within the scope of the knowledge-building activities undertaken within the partnership for international development signed in 2016 between the European Commission and the ICA. The paper outlined the contextual background and knowledge gaps, key objectives and methodological features of this ongoing research, which aims to provide harmonized data on co-operative law and its provisions, including a critical analysis of existing provisions that impede or promote co-operatives. The presentation can be accessed here.



Mr. Mohit Dave from ICA Asia and Pacific presenting the regional perspectives on legal frameworks study

The forum helped underscore the relevance of co-operative law to the legal framework of the social economy, policies on research and education in the field of co-operative law and the need for unification of co-operative law at various levels. The governments in the region need to take co-operatives into account by carrying out consultations with the sector when developing economic policies and regulations, creating legal frameworks and undertaking administrative practices on social and economic issues. In terms of next steps, ICA Asia and Pacific office will work closely with the ICA members, forum participants and stakeholders in the region for the proposed pilot study on legal framework analyses in October 2018, before the full-scale implementation scheduled until August 2020. Presentations and photos from the forum will be made available by the organizers in the coming weeks.

## Second International Forum on Development of Co-operatives in Central Asia

The ICA-AP in its implementation of the ICA-EU Partnership on Co-operatives in Development identified Central Asia and Pacific Islands as two sub-regions that needed a special focus in establishing and strengthening national co-operative federations, and fostering partnerships for development of co-operatives with international & national development actors. ICA currently represents the Cooperative Union of Kyrgyzstan (CUK), and the Union of Consumer co-operatives in Kazakhstan in Central Asia. The Second International Forum on Development of Co-operatives (Bishkek Forum) was organized on in collaboration with CUK and Consumer Co-operatives Worldwide (CCW) on September 11 and 12, 2018 at the Orion Hotel in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic on the theme Promoting Enabling Environment and Advancing Co-operative Knowledge and invited participation from legal experts, government representatives, leaders and managers of co-operatives from the Kyrgyz Republic, National Association of Dhakan Farmers, Tajikistan, National Union of Turkish Co-operatives, Univeristy of Helsinki, Finland, All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives, China, Korean Federation of Community Credit Co-operatives, National Agricultural Co-operative Federation from South Korea, National Co-operative Union of India and Indian Farmers Fertilizer Co-operative, among various international development actors such as the European Union Delegation to the Kyrgyz Republic, Food & Agricultural Organization, International Labour Organization, GIZ and more.

The 1st Bishkek Forum organized concluded with a call to improve the policy and legal environment for co-operatives in the Kyrgyz Republic, taking into account the ICA co-operative principles and values; create comprehensive co-operative development strategy to strengthen the scale and scope of co-operative business; create facilities to train co-operative board members, managers, and government officials in-charge of registration and co-operative development; provide access to credit and finance as member capital has not been sufficient to run the co-operative business; focus on youth and gender development; and encourage the co-operative movement to work with the government and other civil society organizations to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The set of conclusions from the 1<sup>st</sup> forum helped ascertain the objectives of the Second Bishkek Forum, that to facilitate a consultative platform for governments, co-operatives and experts to Identify challenges and suggest revisions in the existing national legislation on co-operatives to promote growth & development of community led business & industry, Enhance linkages among co-operative federations across central Asia and beyond, with the aim to strengthen capacity of co-operative institutions and Human Resource Development, Develop consumer co-operatives & their networks by linking producers and consumer co-operatives to promote sustainable consumption and production.



The Panel during the Opening Ceremony of the Forum.

Kyrgyz Republic's First Vice Prime Minister H.E. Mr. Kubatbek Boronov, graced the opening ceremony along with heads of parliamentary committees on agriculture and budget and finance opined that Necessary conditions for favorable law and policy for co-operatives must be created for a stronger co-operative movement in Central Asia. In his address the Vice Prime Minister mentioned that since 2010, the law on co-operatives was being researched and revised to suit the needs and conditions of the Kyrgyz economy. He further added that every region in the country would have at least one co-operative pilot project and that, subsidies & support from the state like easy loans would be positively considered. The aspect of professionalization of co-operatives and increasing knowledge on co-operatives was identified as a key result area during the opening session. The opening ceremony was also graced by the presence of Dr. U.S. Awathi, Managing director, IFFCO who delivered the Forum's keynote address, and Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadav, President of NCUI who highlighted the importance of India-Kyrgyz relationship and that co-operatives must also be included in this narrative of friendship among the two countries, and that a national policy and legal framework in line with the ICA principles would hold the co-operative movements in Central Asia in good stead.

Mr. Peter Stefanov, Chairperson CCW along with Mr. Peter Hunt, Managing Director, Mutuo and Mr. Todor Ivanov, PhD, Secretary General of CCW informed that globally, consumer co-operatives were second in size (and volume), and that they contribute alot to the national and global economies. 26 national consumer co-operatives, 74 % Million members and 600 Billion USD per year is the composition of the CCW – one of the partners of this second forum. He further echoed sentiments of the other dignitaries that Co-operatives were indeed reliable partners of the government and appropriate legislative frameworks were needed to foster robust co-operative movements, and promoting principle 5 – education & training therein. Mr. Kinlay Dorjee of the FAO expressed delight on the success of the 1st Bishkek forum and encouraged all participants to actively join the discussions as the theme and the target areas affected the rights and livelihoods of small farmers who face challenges like access to market & sale, credit etc. Ms. Nazik Beishenaly of the CUK moderated the opening ceremony while informing, along with CUK associates on the status and scope of co-operative development in the Kyrgyz Republic.

The key note address of the Forum was delivered by Dr. Awasthi, MD, IFFCO who educated the house on the formation and functions of IFFCO with the help of co-operatives in the US in the 1960s, and the national legal environment supporting the same. He was particularly interested in exploring cooperation among Indian & Kyrgyz co-operatives, that resulted in the signing of a cooperation MoU between CUK, NCUI and IFFCO to develop co-operatives and education & training thereof, in Kyrgyz Republic. As a start, 5 pilot co-operatives will be identified and supported by Indian co-operatives. Mr. Balu Iyer, RD of the ICA in Asia and Pacific informed everyone on the work of the ICA and its interest in working with all stakeholders involved. He further mentioned that CUK and stakeholders from Kyrgyz republic were provided with learning opportunities in India, Sri Lanka as well ICA's training project in association with the Japanese ministry on agriculture and farms. His underlying message was the need to create an eco-system for linking production and consumer co-operatives as well as Capacity building to promote the professionalization of co-operatives.

Six experts including Prof. Hagen Henry and Prof. Huseyin Polat delivered their presentation during the 1<sup>st</sup> session themed on enabling legal environment that was moderated by Dr. Todor Ivanov of the CCW. The main point underscored by speakers was the urgent need to align the co-operative principles with co-operative law and policy, while taking into account the principles of the ILO R. 193 on Promotion of Co-operatives.

Seven Speakers including representatives of the CUK, ICAO, Mutuo and ACFSMC delivered presentations on developing linkages between agriculture and consumer co-operatives. The session was chaired by the Prof. Hagen Henry. A range of information from e-commerce to community stores for small farmers and efforts towards advocacy for consumer co-operatives were discussed.

A session on co-operative Principle 5 (Education, Training and Information) and a panel discussion on Partnership among international agencies towards implementation of the SDGs through the co-operative model, that continues to gain relevance in the 21<sup>st</sup> century development narrative, were organized on day 2. The session on education was moderated by Prof. Polat who reiterated the importance (and the process) of the ILO 193 that is applicable to the Kyrgyz Republic, while the panel concluded with the high-level representatives from GIZ, ILO, FAO, UNIDO and the head of cooperation of the EU Delegation to the Kyrgyz Republic, asserting their faith in the co-operative enterprise model in addressing rights, livelihood, environmental concerns and the prosperity of the planet. Besides the MoU with Indian co-operatives, Kyrgyz co-operatives have also been offered opportunities of cooperation and collaboration with TIKA (the Turkish Government's development arm) and the KFCCC, South Korea. The program, available presentations can be accessed here and photographs can be found here.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Breaking the glass ceiling: Dr. Nandini Azad gets elected to the Board of the International Raiffeisen Union (IRU)



Dr. Nandini Azad being felicitated after her election.

Dr. Nandini Azad, current Vice-Chairperson of the ICA-AP Committee on Women has been elected to the Board of the world's oldest cooperative union, the International Raiffeisen Union (IRU). This is a significant feat as this makes her the first woman to be elected to the IRU board in 50 years! Since 2016, Dr. Azad was a special invitee to the Raiffeisen Board on gender diversity. IRU is a worldwide association of national cooperative organizations. IRU has 52 members in 33 countries all over the world including France, Germany, Netherlands, Austria, India, Kenya, Turkey, Korea etc.

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## November 2018

• 13th ICA-AP Regional Assembly and 10th Co-operative Forum, Tehran, Iran; November 26-30. Theme: Co-operatives Help Economies Become More Resilient and Sustainable. More information at <a href="http://www.regionalassembly.coop/tehran2018/">http://www.regionalassembly.coop/tehran2018/</a>

## December 2018

- Workshop on Data Collection and Monitoring by the ICA-AP Committee on Women, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, December 7, 2018
- Young Development Professional's Meet, New Delhi, Dates (tbd)