

THE BALI RESOLUTION  
*on the*  
“Role of Co-operatives in Sustainable Development”

The 8<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Co-operative Forum, representative of the ICA in the Asia and Pacific and the co-operative movements therein; having met during the 11<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly of the ICA Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP) from 16 – 19 September, 2014 at Bali, Indonesia, while

- Recognizing the relevance of Sustainable Development Goals and the importance of positioning co-operatives in the Post-2015 Global Development Agenda,
- reaffirming the International Co-operative Identity Statement and its promotion in theory and practice at all levels of co-operative education and training systems,
- realising the significance of the ICA Blueprint for a Co-operative Decade and its themes as indicators in the development of co-operatives in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, and in achieving sustainable development while articulating the concern of co-operatives for the community,
- noting the contribution of co-operative enterprises in ethical and value based business practices and the role of the global co-operative movement in promotion of Sustainable Development Goals.
- appreciating the inherent ability of co-operative enterprises in mainstreaming women, youth and marginalised sections of the society and, in creating equal opportunity for all and,
- conscious of inadequate enabling legal, policy and regulatory environment for co-operatives and the resultant constraints in realisation of the complete potential of people-based economic enterprises in Asia Pacific region,

hereby resolve with the spirit of co-operation to,

1. commit to assess and measure the contribution of co-operatives while increasing the body of co-operative research and knowledge by efficient data collection and management, to enable dissemination of information on co-operatives and sustain sovereign support of national governments and other stakeholders,
2. invest in technology, education and training for members, staff, management and board to increase participation, service and competitiveness of co-operative enterprises in realizing their inherent sustainable nature,
3. initiate activities at national and local level, focusing on achieving inclusive and democratic sustainable development through increased member participation with greater focus on women, youth and other marginalized persons, while addressing their socio, economic, cultural and environmental needs and aspirations,
4. call upon national governments, inter-governmental agencies and other stakeholders to recognize co-operatives as representative of a significant section of the population, and to work in co-operation with the national, regional and global co-operative movements in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by pledging support, integrating resources and

implementing joint strategies in developing co-operatives in sectors vital for sustainable development such as clean energy, marine/ocean resources etc. ,

5. urge national co-operative movements to call on their governments to revise co-operative laws and policies in conformity with internationally recognized definition, meaning and scope of co-operative enterprises, to participate in the global co-operative movement as a significant institutional partner and,
6. work closely with the Alliance (ICA) to identify responses of co-operatives to each of the Sustainable Development Goals to be adopted by the international community, and create an enabling atmosphere for co-operatives to play a larger role in realising the goals so adopted.