

DRAFT

The HANOI APCMC RESOLUTION ON

Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships in Realizing the SDGs

Adopted by Participants of the 10th Asia Pacific Co-operative Ministers' Conference
20 April 2017 at the Melia Hotel, Hanoi (Vietnam)

A. PREAMBLE

The International Co-operative Identity Statement¹ reflects the significance of people in the co-operative enterprise model, and through the 'concern for community' principle², the element of 'sustainable development' and therefore, confers on the International Co-operative Alliance as its custodian, the responsibility of building meaningful partnerships and alliances with all relevant stakeholders in achieving together the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

Whereas, co-operatives have been recognized by the United Nations in particular and the international community in general as vehicles for transformation of the world and implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and

Whereas, co-operatives represent more than 2.5 million enterprises and 1.5 billion members and represent more than 250-272 million jobs and play a key role as creators of quality employment

Whereas, co-operative movements, governments, international development actors and UN agencies have recognized the contribution of co-operatives in achieving a socially just, economically equitable and culturally inclusive society while realizing the importance of measuring & monitoring the related efforts, and

Whereas the International Co-operative Alliance continues to pledge its contribution in achieving the SDGs by way of concrete actions of its members, and in close partnership with its stakeholders, as well as within the context of its 'Blueprint for a Co-operative Decade',

Participants of the 10th Asia Pacific Co-operative Ministers' Conference (APCMC) in their statements and deliberations during April 18 – 20, 2017 at the Melia Hotel, Hanoi, Vietnam,

Recall the Declaration of the International Summit of Co-operatives 2016 (Summit) and the Resolution of the 9th Asia Pacific Co-operative Forum 2016, that encourage effective partnerships among governments, the private sector and civil society to ensure sustainable development, that set the goal of enhancing the number of co-operative enterprises worldwide to 4 million and number of co-operators to 2 billion, and

¹ Identity Statement – Definition, Values and Principles of Co-operatives adopted in 1995 at the Centennial Congress of the ICA, Manchester

² Principle 7

Recognize the capacity of co-operatives to act affirmatively on social, environmental and economic issues of the 21st century, and the relevance of SDG 17 (Partnership for the Goals) **as well as** SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Stronger Institutions),

Reaffirm the International Co-operative Alliance as custodian of the International Co-operative Identity Statement with its definition, values and principles, as adopted by the ICA Congress in 1995, and the Guidance Notes of the Co-operative Principles of 2015,

Review the five areas of work for co-operatives namely, Food security, Economic growth, employment and decent work, Access to healthcare and social services, Poverty and financial inclusion and, Climate change and sustainable development, as identified by co-operatives at the Summit in 2016, while taking note of the direct contribution of co-operatives in the achievement of Goal 1 (No poverty), Goal 2 (No Hunger), Goal 3 (Good health), Goal 4 (Quality education), Goal 10 (Reduced inequalities) Goal 8 (Good jobs and economic growth) and Goal 10 (Reduced inequalities) , and the potential of co-operatives in addressing challenges related to Goal 13 (Climate action), Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation), Goal 7 (Renewable energy), Goal 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and Goal 12 (Responsible consumption) of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and,

Taking due account of the democratic character of co-operatives and the recommendations 193 (concerning the Promotion of Co-operatives) and 204 (concerning the Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy) of the International Labour Organization,

B. RESOLUTION

Urge governments of Member States of the United Nations, to integrate co-operatives in their respective development agendas and national policies by adopting the following HANOI APCMC RESOLUTION:

Article 1

Ensure an enabling environment for the establishment and functioning of voluntary, autonomous and independent co-operatives by adopting favourable and harmonized legal frameworks based on a uniform understanding of the Identity Statement.

Article 2

Strategically position the co-operative enterprise model to benefit persons from marginalized sections of the society including migrants, refugees and *differently-abled* persons to inclusively generate decent, formal and full employment for members of the society at large, and enhancing open participation & voluntarism while promoting real & effective membership.

Article 3

Align development strategies with national and local co-operative networks by identifying needs and opportunities that can be addressed and co-operative solutions that can be jointly implemented, and actively promote education and training to stakeholders in attainment of the SDGs.

Article 4

Foster Public-Private Partnership with Government and Co-operatives as partners in making new and innovative approaches in areas of health, education, green economy, businesses and care for aged with emphasis on women and youth. The partnership between co-operatives and governments has to be based on a autonomy and self-governance of cooperatives, by co-operative members, and the nature of the co-operatives as a part of internationally movement.

Article 5

Rebuild community based co-operatives to resolve the challenge of equitable representation of all genders in general and women in particular, to help the world transition into a cohesive society.

Article 6

Actively collaborate with national co-operative movements, as members of the ICA, to promote the use of information technology initiatives to improve governance, encourage transparency and support modernization and expansion of the socio-economic activities of co-operatives.

Article 7

Uphold and support cooperation among co-operatives, and among other enterprises based on cooperative values and principles, to foster a robust and resilient civil society movement in the pursuit of the SDGs,

C. STRATEGIC FOLLOW UP

Call on all Participants to act on the following STRATEGIC FOLLOW UP ACTIONS to effectively implement the targets envisioned under the HANOI APCMC RESOLUTION on Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships in Realizing the SDGs, in a measurable and time-bound manner, namely:

ACTION STEP 1: To develop concrete action plans and follow-up activities

1.1. Participants will devise **concrete action plans** in addressing the targets of the HANOI APCMC RESOLUTION by August 2017, and utilize coopsfor2030.coop platform as instrument; **To organise an initial stakeholders council** in order to monitor the progress of the aforementioned action steps, the organization of stakeholder's council compose of one representative each of the sub region (ASEAN, SAARC, GCC and The Pacific) and one from an International organization/ specialised agency is deemed necessary and important.

1.2. consultation with partners in co-operative development under the framework of COPAC membership, CICOPA, the European Union and various governments that are associated with ICA, to seek concrete follow up and implementation of the HANOI APCMC RESOLUTION and establish its report prior to or during the ICA General Assembly in Malaysia in November 2017 .

1.3. More specifically, governments and cooperative movement/organization will promote participation of co-operatives in the UN Global Business Compact to adopt/implement/report on themes such as Gender equality policies, decent work practices, youth employment and skills rates etc., prior to or during the ICA General Assembly in Malaysia in November 2017.

1.3. The consult so constituted under 1.1. will monitor and track all action plans received from participants of this 10th APCMC in Hanoi and report on progress made during the Regional Consultations prior to 11th APCMC, and at the 11th APCMC Proper in 2021.

ACTION STEP 2: To devise instruments on Care & Social Economy

Collaboration will be encourage with relevant stakeholders in organizing regional dialogue on provision of care services through cooperatives in the region and bring in global experiences in this regard to immediately strategize to address the demographic issues of child care, ageing, disability, migration, employment of women and co-operative entrepreneurship among youth through gender integration in cooperatives at least 33% women in all levels particularly in decision making of the board of directors.

ACTION STEP 3: To Undertake Research-based Programs relevant to the Implementation of the Multi-Stakeholders Partnerships in Realizing the SDGs.

Programs shall be devised for partners and stakeholders in anticipation of future of work challenges such as economic crisis, demographic changes, new innovative and business model, changes in technology and its application, impact of climate change, renewables, new co-operative approaches, food sovereignty, healthcare for migrants and refugees and, co-operative engagements nationally/regionally/globally towards revitalizing the co-operative model in the regional perspective, in the context of women-empowered and youth-led autonomous co-operatives, all of which will be carefully undertaken based on research and evidence. Training, collection of sex disaggregated data will be a priority during the period. A fifth Critical Study will also be considered to complement this action program.

Action Step 4: To pursue Sub-regional groupings of nations for co-operative development

In order to better understand and serve the national co-operative movements in various geographical areas such as ASEAN, SAARC and the Pacific Regions, consultations and harmonious collaborations will be carried out within the respective sub-regions and also among sub-regions as deemed necessary, results of which will be reported by ICA AP no later than December 31, 2018. Areas like implementation of co-operative policies and strategies, and exploring the potential of regional and sub-regional legislative frameworks shall also be worked on.

CONCLUSION

This HANOI APCMC RESOLUTION, which is action-oriented and results-based ought to be construed as more than a DECLARATION, which contents of the latter are usually more form than action;

Notwithstanding, Participants reserve the right to utilize this HANOI APCMC RESOLUTION - minus the segment of the STRATEGIC FOLLOW UP ACTIONS - as a legitimate DECLARATION as they deem fit.

The Regional Director of the ICA Asia and Pacific and the President of the Vietnam Co-operative Alliance are designated guardian of this RESOLUTION, who will circulate it to all relevant stakeholders. The depositories will accept calls of reservations to the RESOLUTION until 2 July 2017 after which the RESOLUTION-CUM-DECLARATION will be deemed to have been unanimously adopted.

THE DRAFTING TEAM: Robby Tulus/Nandini Azad/Suresh Pradhan/Santosh Kumar/Heira Hardiyanti/Nguyet Minh. With contribution from CICOPA, ILO, JA ZENCHU, NRECA