

## EDITORIAL



J-L BANCEL  
CHAIRMAN OF  
THE ICBA ,  
CHAIRMAN OF  
CRÉDIT  
COOPÉRATIF  
(FRANCE).

Dear Members,

2009 began in turmoil for the financial world, and despite their relative stability and long-term focus, financial cooperatives have been at the heart of the crisis.

Yet they're also part of the solution. After the April G20 Summit, financial reform is in progress. We stated our availability to assist the furthering of such a reform in the latest ICBA position paper. Cooperatives have a special take on business, the economy and on banking, and all can benefit from it if they are given the opportunity to develop and, perhaps, help other parts of the economy change.

Because the cooperative model is a solution for both the cooperative *and* non-cooperative sectors in the current crisis, it is our responsibility as cooperatives to promote our model. This is why the principle of cooperation among cooperatives, which is the sixth cooperative principle, is important. Cooperatives should support each other by applying the cooperative preference, in order to sustain the cooperative movement.

Now is the time to prepare the future. For the cooperative world, sustainable development is no new issue. To financial cooperatives, financing it, and powering the green economy, seems natural. In order to prepare the Copenhagen Summit of December 2009, our Geneva ICBA Seminar in November will be dedicated to these themes. In the meantime, research will be conducted on members' activities in financing sustainability, and all contributions should be publicized. That is why we invite you to send us all relevant and synthetic information you may have on your own sustainable policies and action. We have no doubt the result will be impressive.

Yours cooperatively,

Jean-Louis Bancel.  
Chairman of the ICBA,  
Chairman of Crédit Coopératif (France).



### TRIBUTE TO IVANO BARBERINI



It is with great sadness that we learnt of Ivano Barberini's death. ICA President since 2001, Ivano Barberini devoted his life to promoting values and principles of the international co-operative movement. We express our sincerest condolences to his family. Condolence message or tribute to Mr. Barberini can be posted at the Barberini - Condolences page: <http://www.ica.coop/al-ica/>.

## ICBA current activities



### G20 : The Cooperative Perspective

The ICBA published a position paper in March to express cooperative banks' views on the financial system and solutions to the crisis before the G20 Summit in London.

After having consulted our members on its content, the ICBA released a position paper that expressed the importance of the cooperative model to the financial system and the cooperative banking movement's availability to contribute to building solutions for the present and the future. We believe cooperative finance's relative stability in these times of crisis demonstrates that cooperatives should be a part of the world's new financial architecture. Through their long-term focus and their continued involvement in the grassroots economy (SMEs, cooperatives...) and its financial innovations, financial cooperatives have an important message that we would like to deliver.

The paper is available on the ICBA website. ([www.icba.coop](http://www.icba.coop))

### Larosière report

The ICBA released an internal note for its European members in April on the Larosière High Level Group's proposals for the EU and for global financial regulation.

The paper can be obtained by emailing ICBA. It summarizes the report's main points for cooperative leaders.

### Instances ACI

#### ICA Governance Committee

Jean-Louis BANCEL joined the ICA Governance Committee.

#### ICA Mutual Working Group

Jean-Louis BANCEL chair the new ICA's working group on mutual organisations which had to make recommendations to the Board on the membership of mutual organisations.

### [www.icba.coop](http://www.icba.coop)

The new ICBA website is now online. It contains articles, publications, as well as information on international accounting standards, the notion of cooperative group or CSR in the cooperative environment. Find out more on: <http://www.icba.coop/>

### Co-operative economy week

The first « Co-operative economy week » will be held in Barcelona from June the 30<sup>th</sup> until July the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Jean-Louis BANCEL, Chairman of the ICBA and of Crédit Coopératif, will introduce the seminary day devoted to finance, regulation and taxation on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July.



### **Jean-Louis Bancel, new Chairman of the Crédit Coopératif Group**

Jean-Louis Bancel has been elected on May 28<sup>th</sup> 2009 by the Crédit Coopératif Board as the new Chairman of the Group. Deputy Vice-Chairman since January 2005, he succeeds to Jean-Claude Detilleux who was Chairman since 1992.

### **Conferment of Honorary Doctorate on Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan**

Veteran Indian Cooperative Leader and Vice-Chairman of ICBA, Mr. B.S. Vishwanathan, was honoured and conferred Honorary Doctorate Degree D.Litt by the reputed Kuvempu University of Karnataka of India in recognition of his contribution to cooperative development for nearly five decades. The Degree was conferred by His Excellency Governor of Karnataka State and Chancellor of the University in Annual Convocation on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.

### **Mr. Caleffi, DG of Federcasse (Italy), passed away on May 2009**

Mr. Caleffi was DG of Federcasse (the Confcooperative's Association of Credit Cooperative Banks) since January 1997. He held many leading positions in the banking sector both cooperative or not. If the Italian credit cooperative banks have grown in quality over the years so as to be considered healthy banks, attentive to the needs of individuals and local communities, capable of supporting the real economy at a time of crisis, this is also thanks to Mr. Caleffi's professional commitment.

Mr. Azzi, President of Federcasse, said "he was a sensitive friend deeply convinced of working for a project, that one of cooperatives, of great social value".



## Past and upcoming meetings: ICBA + ICA Events

### ICA IAS Workgroup meeting (Cracow, March 26<sup>th</sup>).

The ICA IAS WG meeting took place in Poland and via teleconference on March 26th 2009. It allowed cooperative banking and cooperative movement (EU, USA) representatives to discuss the reform of international and US accounting standards under way. The cooperative movement has expressed its overall support for current tentative decisions made by FASB and IASB which overtly take cooperative concerns into account. We can only hope these orientations will be confirmed as the process moves on.

### ICA Executive meeting (Tokyo, June 2009)

The last ICA Executive meeting worked on the ongoing ICA reform and on diverse issues. In the coming year, the mandates of both ICBA representatives to the ICA Board will be renewed.

### ICBA Annual Seminar

The next ICBA Seminar will take place in November 2009 in Geneva, Switzerland. It will be dedicated to issues related to sustainability. All members are encouraged to submit their contribution to a more sustainable, green economy and finance to the ICBA for publication.

#### Day 1

November, 17th 2009 (10.30 am – 1pm): ICBA Executive Committee  
November, 17th 2009 (1pm – 2.30 pm): ICBA General Assembly lunch  
November, 17th 2009 (2.30 pm – 5.30 pm): ICBA General Assembly

#### Day 2

November, 18th 2009 (10.30 am – 1pm): ICBA Seminar  
November, 18th 2009 (1 pm): ICBA Seminar lunch

#### Day 3/4

November, 19th – 20th 2009: ICA General Assembly  
The schedule will be updated and regularly posted at : <http://aibc.coop/>



## Focus on ICBA: How to join?

### ICBA and ICA membership reform : who's in ?

Under current global membership reform adopted at ICA General Assembly in June 2008 in Rome, all financial / banking ICA members become *de jure* ICBA members.



This is an opportunity for the ICBA to increase its membership basis.

As a result of the new framework, there are **three different membership configurations** :

1. **Banks or banking associations that are members of the ICA** automatically become ICBA members.
2. **Banks or banking associations which are indirect ICA members (through affiliated organizations).**
3. **ICBA members** which are not members of ICA can either decide to have full membership of ICA or can have within the new global ICA membership system an associate membership statute.

As a result, the ICBA is expecting new members and increased impact on both the financial and cooperative worlds.

We would like to welcome all new ICBA members to our global financial cooperative community.

We encourage new members to make a contribution to the advancement of the association.

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