INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE BANKING ASSOCIATION

ICBA Report for presentation during ICA Board meeting on 16-10-2022

Let me at the outset, extend my congratulations to the newly elected President and other Board of Directors of ICA including those sectoral representatives who have been on the Board for the first time, since 20-06-2022.Let me also extend my heartfelt thanks to the ICA Board under the Presidentship of Mr Ariel Guarco who took a very well considered policy decision to revive International Cooperative Banking Association (ICBA) during October 2019, exactly three years back.

Keeping into consideration the overall objectives of ICBA, the work plan has been developed within the framework of ICA Strategic Plan 2020-2030. The reconstituted ICBA has to work hard to face and address meaningfully, the implications/constraints emerged out due the COVID-19 pandemic. The reconstituted ICBA completed three eventful years exactly by 14 October 2022. It may be worthwhile to peruse some of the important activities /achievements of ICBA during 2022.

- 1.Membership Appreciation/Outreach
- 2.Contribution to Research
- 3. Support to ICA with regular Financial Support/Contributions/Coordination
- 4. Dissemination of ICA Strategic Plan 2020-2030
- 5. Formulation of Work plans based on ICA strategic Plans with an emphasis on Cooperative Ethics, Values & Principles.

ICBA put efforts to mobilise membership support and the membership rose to 54 as on date.

ICBA initiated measures to establish cordial & close relations with very important global Associations viz; World Council of Credit Unions(WOCCU) in 2020, Coordination with The World Bank in June 2020 & with EACB in 2021 to impress upon the need to jointly organize events for CFIs, ICBA and EACB executed MOU to pursue the interests of CFIs. ICBA contributed in building database on Indian Cooperative Banks & to publish World Cooperative Monitor (WCM).

ICBA efforts have been successfully resulted in organising a Webinar on "how Financial Cooperatives contribute to sustainable development" based on the findings of the baseline research on 18 November 2021 by ICBA in close association with KCO and KU Leuven Programme. Subsequently, ICBA organised webinar on "ICBA Members Today: How Do They Contribute and Report on Sustainable Development?" on two occasions on 30 November 2021.

The following important ICBA events have also been held on 30 November 2021 in Hybrid format, both virtual and Physical, in Seoul, South Korea. Release and Presentation of the following 3 ICBA Publications to Mr Ariel Guarco, President, ICA:

- 1.Sustainable Development Goals & Objectives: Contribution of Cooperative Banks
- 2.Report of Country Papers on 'Regulation and Sustainability of Cooperative Banks'

3.A research study on "Regulation and Sustainability of Cooperative Banks-A Cross country Report"

ICBA Board meeting and ICBA General Meeting have been organised on 30 November 2021. The meetings were addressed by the Chief Guest, Mr Ariel Guarco, President, ICA who delivered an excellent Key Note address. ICBA Statute has been appropriately perused by Board and General Assembly of ICBA.

During the last 3 Years ICBA did conduct 5 Board Meetings (4 physical) Kigali, Srilanka, India, Seoul and Virtual) & One General meeting online and one Hybrid General Meeting)

In my capacity as ICBA President, I have been invited to present a Paper on Regulation and Sustainability of Cooperative Banks-A Cross country Study Report" in the 13th Africa Ministerial Cooperative Congress organised by International Conference for Cooperative Housing (ICCH).

Finally, ICBA will be celebrating Centennial Event on 17-19 November 2022 in Brussels, Belgium. Mr Ariel Guarco, President ,ICA will be inaugurating the ICBA centennial event on 18-11-2022. Pl accept my invitation to you all and help to make the event more meaningful.

Bhima Subrahmanyam President, ICBA

• Prepared by Bhima Subrahmanyam, President, ICBA