

ICBA Report at Brussels

2022-2023 ICBA REPORT TO ICA BOARD (Up to June 2023) on 27-06-2023

Let me at the outset, record and reveal my highest appreciation to the President, ICA and other Board of Directors of ICA for giving me an opportunity to present the accomplishments of ICBA in the recent past.

ICA Board, at its meeting held in **Matera on 28 March 2018**, approved the Governance Committee's recommendation to **reorganize** the then **inactive** ICBA, as soon as possible in 2019. Having verified that the last ICBA General Assembly elections recorded were in 2011, the Governance Committee determined that the ICBA convene a General Assembly in October in Kigali with a call for candidates for the ICBA Presidency and Board. That is how ICBA has been **Revived, Reorganized & Reconstituted in October 2019**.

Keeping into consideration the overall objectives of ICBA, the work plan has been always developed within the framework of ICA Strategic Plan 2020-2030. The reconstituted ICBA is completing its first term of 4 eventful years in next 3 months. 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.
- 6) ICBA centenary Celebrations in Brussels on 17-19 November 2022.
- 7) Support to ICA Global office
- 8) Support through sponsor the 10TH TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE AFRICA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE (TCAMCCO) held on 22-24 May 2023
- 9) Event of ICA-Africa Regional Office on May 2023.
- 10) Support through sponsor the ICA-CCR event to be held on 10-14 July 2023 in Leuven, Belgium.

ICBA put efforts to mobilise membership support and the membership rose to 55 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. WOCCU continues to be in contact with me.

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) .The Financial sector division in The World Bank is in contact with ICBA.

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 nearly 4 years, ICBA did conduct 7 Board Meetings (6 physical) (Kigali, Sri Lanka, India, Seoul, 2 in Brussels and 1 Virtual) & 2 GA meetings: 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) on 18-10-2022 in Cairo, Egypt.

ICBA Centenary Celebrations (1922-2022)

ICBA celebrated Centennial Event in hybrid form on 17-19 November 2022 in Brussels, Belgium. About 100 delegates registered on site and equal number of delegates have been reportedly registered online. The following is the brief summary of the 3 events. The ICBA event was titled as theme of ***“The People Centeredness of Cooperative Financial Institutions”***.

This three-day event was centered around on:

1. Thought Leaders Symposium on 17-11-2022
2. ICBA centenary Event: Future of Cooperative Financial Institutions: Presentation of Papers on 18-11-2022
3. Study Visits: Innovative Financial Model for Energy Efficiency: Renewable energy Source cooperative, EEKLO BELGIUM on 19-11-2022.

Dr. Ariel Guarco, President, ICA as a Chief Guest inaugurated the ICBA centennial event on 18-11-2022. ICA and ICBA, in fact, entered into an MOU to share the responsibilities in organising the ICBA centennial Events. The detailed proceedings of the 3-day ICBA centennial have been recorded

A copy the full report of Proceedings entitled “Future of Cooperative Financial Institutions-A Review” is to be released today in the hands of Dr. Ariel Guarco, President, ICA. This is also a pictorial presentation.

The Pictorial Report of Proceedings on “Future of Financial Cooperative Institutions-A Review” Is based on the Events organized during ICBA Centenary Year on 17-19 November 2023.

The report is organized into very important sections such as Inauguration by President, welcome by President, ICBA, Congratulatory Messages, highlights of Presentations by resource persons, Panel discussions, Exchange of Views & Interactions among the Experts, Knowledge Sharing, Felicitations in Person etc.

ICBA continued its focus on research and made efforts to bring together nearly 15 renowned leaders in research on CFIs, with the aim to set up a lasting platform for a perennial exchange of ideas and information about CFIs around the world. We will aspire to continue the tradition and invest in making a presence during the ICA Global Research Conference scheduled to be organized in Leuven during 10-14 July 2023. ICBA event, We at ICBA, have the honour of bringing together around 25 speakers who are practitioners and cooperative leaders in the CFI sector, to lead the way and tell us about their national and regional movements. I am sure this tradition too, will continue and ICBA will create ample opportunities starting today, for CFIs around the world to share their knowledge, successes, failures, lessons and recommendations – all aimed at making this international cooperative banking movement resilient through peer-learning and importantly inter-cooperation. ICBA is also very helpful to ICA secretariat, Global office. As President of ICBA, I have conveyed our appreciation to all those who contributed to the success of ICBA centennial Event.

ICBA conducted their ICBA Board meeting Board on 26 June 2023 in Brussels, to review the activities and workout the schedule for next ICBA GA with election as one of the agenda items to ensure full composition of the Board.
