

**NOTES OF THE  
CEOs' ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
September 23, 2009**

**1. Call to Order**

A meeting of the CEOs Advisory Committee of the Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions was held in Emerald Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand on September 23, 2009. The meeting convened at 9:00 A.M. with the hosts CEOs Anan Chatruracheewin and Dabchai Jaisusuk co-chairing the meeting.

***CEOs/General Managers:***

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Ratan F. Costa           | Cooperative Credit Union League of Bangladesh Ltd. (CCULB)                          |
| 2. Abat Elias S.E.          | Credit Union Coordination of Indonesia (CUCO)                                       |
| 3. Raj Bhakther Solomon     | Development Promotion Group   |
| 4. Kuber Niroula            | Nepal Federation of Savings and Credit Cooperative Unions, Ltd. (NEFSCUN)           |
| 5. Kamla Guinness Purmessur | Vacoas Popular Multi-purpose Cooperative (VPMPC)                                    |
| 6. Sylvia Paraguya          | National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO)                                     |
| 7. Ekaterina Ovchinnikova   | Interregional Association of Credit Unions of the Far East and Zabaikalye (IACUFEZ) |
| 8. Ko, Yen-Hui              | Credit Union League of the Republic of China (CULROC)                               |
| 9. Dabchai Jaisusuk         | Credit Union League of Thailand, Ltd. (CULT)  |
| 10. Anan Chatruracheewin    | Federation of Savings and Credit Cooperatives of Thailand, Ltd. (FSCT)              |
| 11. L.B. Dasanayake         | Federation of Thrift and Credit Cooperative Societies Ltd. (FTCCS)                  |

***ACCU Staff:***

- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 12. Ranjith Hettiarachchi | Chief Executive Officer |
| 13. Elenita V. San Roque  | Manager Member Services |

***Others Present:***

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 14. Vladimir V. Mamaev | Interregional Association of Credit Unions of the Far East and Zabaikalye (IACUFEZ) |
| 15. Mr. Rin Po         | President – FLIFLY  |
| 16. Lin, Ching-Chieh   | International Affairs Staff – CULROC  |
| 17. Derek Cameron      | Program Officer, Asia & Microfinance, Canadian Co-operative Association             |

## **2. Opening Program**

ACCU Chief Executive Officer, Ranjith Hettiarachchi thanked the CEOs for consistently demonstrating their team spirit in the last 38 years. He explained that ACCU structure recognizes the importance of the CEOs of member organizations by creating the CEOs' Advisory Committee that provides feedback and recommendations on the services of ACCU.

Anan Chatruracheewin and Dabchai Jaisusuk both expressed gratefulness for the opportunity to serve the member delegates of ACCU. Both indicated that their teams were doing their best to ensure the success of the forum and meetings.

## **3. Selection of the Chairman**

The CEO of ACCU explained that the host country traditionally chairs the CEOs Advisory Committee Meeting. Thus, he declared that the host CEOs, Anan Chatruracheewin of FSCT and Dabchai Jaisusuk of CULT are co-chairing the meeting.

## **4. Approval of the Agenda**

The Chair presented the Agenda of the meeting. The General Manager of CCULB Ratan Costa suggested including update on the membership of Workers' Cooperative Credit Societies (WCCS) or KKP in Malaysia and Microfinance for Credit Unions in Asia (MIFCUA).

The General Manager of FSCT suggested including the update of the WOCCU relationship and CEOs of member organizations who were not present in the meeting.

ACCU CEO Ranjith Hettiarachchi indicated that the update on WCCS, MIFCUA, WOCCU and CEOs not in attendance would be provided under Agenda – Approval of the Minutes of Meeting as matters arising from the minutes.

**Motion:** Moved by the General Manager of CCULB Ratan Costa and seconded by the CEO of NATCCO Sylvia Paraguya to approve the Agenda.

**Motion Carried.**

## **5. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting**

First, the Chair presented the minutes of the CEO meeting on September 23, 2008 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The Chair Anan Chatruracheewin suggested adding the title of Derek Cameron of CCA as Program Officer for Asia and Microfinance.

**Motion:** Moved by the General Manager of FTCCS L.B. Dasanayake and seconded by the CEO of NEFSCUN Kuber Niroula to approve the Minutes of the CEOs meeting on September 23, 2008 in Dhaka, Bangladesh as corrected.

**Motion Carried.**

**Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

**Updates:**

**Microfinance Fund for Credit Unions in Asia (MIFCUA):** The policy of the Fund was presented for comments to the CEOs Workshop last May 2009 prior to the ACCU Board meeting. The Board in its meeting on May 19, 2009 approved the policy. As pledged at the September 2008 CEOs Advisory Committee meeting in Dhaka, NATCCO contributed US\$ 10,000 to the Fund. Pledges from APRACA and Vacoas Popular MPC are still not received. There is a need to mobilize fund to start the operation of the Fund.

**WOCCU Relationship:** ACCU is no longer a member of WOCCU starting 2009. The Board followed the decision of the September 2007 General Meeting in Bali, Indonesia to offer a flat rate of US\$ 25,000 for the Full Membership of ACCU. WOCCU Board turned down the offer. The dues to members are collected in the same formula, which includes dues component for WOCCU. He indicated that the Board is open for the opportunity to return to WOCCU membership. ACCU maintains the WOCCU dues component collected from members in separate account.

**Workers' Cooperative Credit Societies Ltd., Malaysia or KKP:** WCCS is no longer a member of ACCU. The CEO informed the change in the leadership and management of KKP starting 2009. Volunteers managing KKP's more than 400 areas have created ineffective operations as reflected on high delinquency rate. The new Board curtailed some of the costs of operations and thus withdrew the membership from ACCU. The CEO explained that KKP remained in the regular membership category, though it is a primary credit union, due to the respect for its pioneering role in ACCU. A national federation of credit cooperatives does not exist in Malaysia. All the types of cooperatives are affiliated to one body called ANGKASA. The CEO reported that ACCU plans to lobby with the Cooperative Commission and ANGKASA to establish a separate federation for credit cooperatives in Malaysia.

**Updates on the CEOs absent at the Meeting:**

- Phal Pisey of the Cambodian Community Savings Federation cancelled her participation due to the Cambodian government's travel advisory to Thailand on Swine Flu.
- Cresented C. Paez of NATCCO has assumed a seat at the Philippine House of Representatives. He replaced by Sylvia Paraguya.
- Credit Union League of Hong Kong has not appointed a CEO, only Senior Manager. CEO Ranjith Hettiarachchi shared that CULHK's Board sent a letter indicating that they are dissatisfied with the election procedure of not disclosing the number of votes for the Board candidates. ICA practiced the same election procedure according to the General Manager of FSCT.
- Jong-jun Park of NACUFOK has informed of his inability to attend due to commitments in Korea.
- David J. Pajaron, Jr. of PFCCO cancelled his participation one day before the workshop. He found out his passport was expired.
- Do Manh Hung of the Central People's Credit Fund informed of his inability due to prior commitments in Vietnam.

## **6. Feedback on the Business Plan of 2008 to 2009**

The Chair presented the Progress Report of the Business Plan of 2008 to 2009. In addition to the report, the CEOs highlighted the following achievements:

- CEO Ranjith Hettiarachchi explained that ACCU considers the CEOs of member organizations as very important resource. He said that Ratan Costa of CCULB is now taking additional responsibility in the promotion of credit unions in Pakistan while Anan Chatrupracheewin of FSCT in Myanmar. He suggested that L.B. Dasanayake of FTCCS and Kuber Niroula of NEFSCUN could support the credit union development of Maldives and Bhutan respectively.
- Anan Chatrupracheewin reported that FSCT is now involved in the development of Governance Framework for cooperatives in Thailand. FSCT will present the framework ACCU develops at the Working Committee.
- Ko, Yen-Hui indicated that CULROC develops standards similar to ACCESS. Thus, CULROC will adopt their tool instead of adopting ACCESS.
- Dabchai Jaisusuk announced that CULT in collaboration with ACCU would organize training cum exposure on Enterprise Development on February 2010.

## **7. New Projects/Development Issues**

### **7.1 Reaching out 1 Million poor people through CUMI**

ACCU CEO explained that the credit unions are challenged to demonstrate its significant contribution to poverty alleviation. The project with Cordaid has a target to reach 1 million poor people by 2012 through the Credit Union Microfinance Innovations (CUMI). The CEOs have committed the following outreach:

Country	Outreach
Credit Union Central of Indonesia	150,000
Development Promotion Group	25,000
The Cooperative Credit Union League of Bangladesh	100,000
National Confederation of Cooperatives	300,000
Nepal Federation of Savings and Credit Unions	100,000
Federation of Thrift & Credit Cooperative Societies	80,000
Total	755,000
Plus: Present Outreach	300,000
Total	1,055,000

### **7.2 Stabilization Fund**

The General Manager of CUCO and CCULB confirmed their interest in introducing Stabilization Fund in their respective credit union movement. The CEO indicated that the introduction of Stabilization Fund for CUCO and CCULB would be incorporated in the 2010 to 2011 Work Plan.

### **7.3 CEOs Exposure to Canada**

CEO Ranjith Hettiarachchi reported that the 2<sup>nd</sup> CEOs Exposure to Canada will be organized in November 2009. The program is sponsored by the Canadian Co-operative Association under the current project on Credit Union Strengthening in Asia. The following CEOs are joining the exposure;

- Kuber Niroula – NEFSCUN
- Sylvia Paraguya – NATCCO
- Dabchai Jaisusuk – CULT
- Ranjith Hettiarachchi – ACCU

### **7.4 Governance Framework for Credit Unions**

The CEO informed that ACCU has developed the Governance Framework for Credit Unions as Credit Union Business Solution No. 14. ACCU is getting feedback on the contents of the framework from the HRD workshop organized in conjunction with the 2009 Forum. Tentatively, the Framework will be introduced to member organizations through a Train the Trainers Training in March 2010.

### **7.5 Role of CEOs in ACCU Governance**

The CEOs recognized that it is unethical for them to involve in the election of ACCU Board of Directors. ACCU CEO Ranjith Hettiarachchi informed that the Governance Framework for Credit Unions has a provision with respect to the involvement of credit union staff in internal politics under the provision on Code of Business Ethics. Adopting the framework would prevent such expectations of the Delegates from their respective CEOs.

The CEOs suggested that the Delegates standing for election in ACCU should submit Bio Data and photo. This could minimize introductions of Delegates by the CEOs to other Delegates, which may be construed as campaigning.

## **8. Other Matters**

### **Taiwan Flood:**

The CEO of CULROC Ko, Yen-Hui appealed for support on the rehabilitation program for credit unions affected by the flood in Taiwan. He reported the following effects to the credit unions:

- 11 members died
- 4 members missing
- 154 houses of members destroyed
- 7 credit union office destroyed

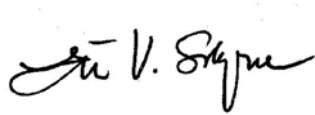
ACCU CEO Ranjith Hettiarachchi indicated that credit unions around Asia could better demonstrate their solidarity in times of need. He said ACCU would circulate an announcement with a brief account of the calamity and its impact to credit unions and members. The donation can be sent directly to CULROC.

## **9. Adjournment**

The CEO of DPG Bhakter Solomon expressed desire to host the March 2010 CEOs workshop in Chennai, India. The CEOs unanimously accepted the invitation of Bhakter Solomon.

ACCU CEO Ranjith Hettiarachchi thanked the CEOs for their cooperation and usual support. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 hours.

Prepared by:



Elenita V. San Roque  
Manager Member Services/  
Recording Secretary