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Message from the Chairman

Dear Cooperators

It is delighted for me to express my gratitude to you for your commitment to the development of world fisheries and cooperative movement across the world.

Since my inauguration in 2015, I have spared no effort in strengthening the education and training for our members as it is believed that the sharing the expertise and experience among the members will be key to making fishermen's living standard across the world elevated.



Specifically, I have tried to expand the opportunities for ICFO Scholarship Program and The Korean Fisheries Cooperatives' Business Knowledge Sharing Program, etc.

In a spirit of cooperation, The ICFO and Central Union of Fishery Cooperatives (SUR-KOOP) jointly hosted the 8th World Fisheries Cooperative Day. By gathering in one place, it is convinced that this celebration will be a milestone in ways to reinforce the ICFO member's solidarity.

With its growth, having 21 members from 19 countries, ICFO is now the representative organization of the world fisheries cooperatives in the name and reality, and a center to unite people of the world fisheries.

Under the changing circumstance affecting the fisheries environment, fisheries cooperatives across the world should join forces under the leadership of the ICFO to overcome challenges we face and make continuous contribution to the advancement of humanity.

Your active participation is anticipated and I hope that all of the ICFO members closely put together to build better fisheries environment across the world.

I wish all of you and your family a healthy, happy and prosperous future.

Yours Sincerely

Kim Im-kweon
ICFO Chairman

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The 8th World Fisheries Cooperative Day



The host and venue for the 8th World Fisheries Cooperative Day were decided at the 2017 ICFO General Assembly on 14 November in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The ICFO and Central Union of Fishery Cooperatives (SUR-KOOP) jointly hosted the 8th World Fisheries Cooperative Day on 3 July 2018 in Istanbul, Turkey. The main purpose of this celebration is to highlight the ambition and values of fishermen and to strengthen the status of the fisheries in the global arena.

120 delegates from 10 countries attended the celebration. Mr. Ali Osman Bal, a member of Guzelce Fisheries Cooperative in Turkey, was the “World Fisheries Cooperator Prize” recipient.

The 8th World Fisheries Cooperative Day



In addition, the ICFO and SUR-KOOP organized an international seminar to promote fisheries cooperatives and the fishing industry around the world by sharing expertise and experiences among ICFO members. During the seminar, Prof. Saadet KARAKULAK of Istanbul University, delivered a lecture on "State of Turkish Fisheries." and Prof. Huriye Goncuolu of Aegean University, delivered a lecture on "Fishery Cooperatives in Turkey."

The delegates visited local fisheries cooperative in Istanbul on 4 July 2018. While in there, they were given a chance to learn how Turkish fisheries cooperatives manage their business and exchange expertise as cooperators involved in the field of fisheries.

ICFO Scholarship Program



The ICFO and Pukyong National University concluded a memorandum of understanding on cooperation for nurturing talent in the fisheries field, with the ICFO Chairman, President of Pukyong National University (PKNU), and other related participants in attendance on 24 January 2014, at Pukyong National University, Busan Korea.

Last year, the ICFO Chairman and PKNU agreed to increase the number of recipients from two to four to expand the educational opportunity.

Seven college graduates from five countries, Turkey, Indonesia, Nepal, Palestine and Sri Lanka, who majored in fisheries or fisheries-related fields applied for the scholarship. The ICFO and Pukyong National University made their decision after a careful evaluation of such factors as the undergraduate majors of applicants,

English fluency, and grades in college.

This year's scholarship program went to Tilan Chamara Duminda and Arachchige Piyathissa from Sri Lanka, Miftah Khoirul Fahmi from Indonesia, and Kucukdogerli Rifat Sukru from Turkey. They arrived in Korea on 29 August 2018 and have begun their master's course, which will span the period from September 2018 to August 2020.

The fisheries scholarship program of the ICFO is very beneficial since it is designed to promote the sustainable development of world fisheries and to nurture talent in the field of fisheries of developing countries. The Program is expected to provide the two awardees with fisheries education as well as opportunities to experience the Korean fisheries cooperative movement to take the lead in advancing global fisheries.

ICFO Scholarship Program

The ICFO is making great efforts to foster talent in the fisheries fields especially in underdeveloped countries.

The ICFO and Pukyong National University concluded a memorandum of understanding on cooperation for nurturing talent in the field of fisheries, on 24 January 2014 at Pukyong National University, Busan, Korea.

The two organizations signed the MOU, mutually recognizing the need to build up human resource in the fisheries sectors in

developing countries for the sustainable development of fisheries and a vigorous cooperative movement around the world.

Pukyong National University launched a two year graduate course for four students from developing countries, who had completed university education in fisheries or fisheries-related fields. The ICFO plans to select four university graduates annually with the support from Pukyong National University. The tuition fee is fully funded by Pukyong National University. The ICFO offers scholarship benefits such as airfare and boarding expenses including daily expenses.

KSP Program for fishermen and government officials from Nepal and the Philippines



In human history, fisheries has been bound up with human lives as a main source of animal protein for mankind and create employment as a primary industry.

At the moment, however, due to fisheries resource depletion, it has led fishermen to fishing more competitively, which may have resulted in illegal fishing and damage to fishing areas across the world.

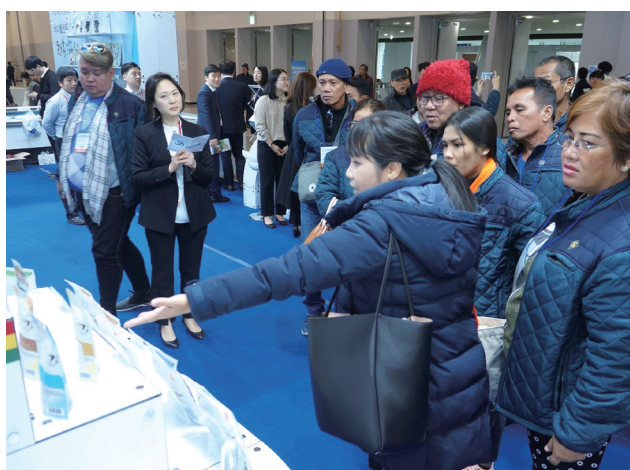
However, fisheries in the future will become growth engines, as many experts anticipate a brighter future for the industry. In order to realize this, the fishing industry must share its expertise and experiences among fisheries cooperatives worldwide. Accordingly, the ICFO invited government officials and fishermen from Nepal and the Philippines to Korea from 10 September to 15 September and from 30 October to 3 November 2018.

During their stay in Korea, they had the opportunity to visit various fisheries facilities, such as the fish processing center of the KNFC, the FRP shipyard, aquaculture farms, fishery equipment company, Korean coast guard agency and a member cooperative of the KNFC to learn about the Korean fishing industry and the major business functions the KNFC has performed.

KSP Program for fishermen and government officials from Nepal and the Philippines

While in Korea, Nepalese delegation was given a chance to share opinions with various experts engaged in inland fishery. Based on the discussion, it is believed that the government officials will consider how to apply what they learned in Korea to Nepalese fisheries when establishing policy.

It is also expected that the visit to Korea will become a breakthrough in sparking development of the fishing industry in Nepal and the Philippines, spreading the cooperative movement nationwide and paving the way to transform the current outdated system for sustainable fisheries. All this will ultimately lead to the income growth of fishermen.



The Fisheries Cooperative Movement Around the World

The ICFO updated “The Fisheries Cooperative Movement Around the World” in December 2018. It systematically detailed ICFO activities, including a brief history, achievements, etc. since its establishment in 1966, when the then ICA Agricultural Committee held its 7th meeting in Vienna, Austria. It was the first booklet of this kind in its history. The ICFO Secretariat is convinced that it will help raise awareness of cooperatives in the world.



2018 ICFO Annual Meetings



2018 ICFO annual meeting (Executive Members Meeting and General Meeting) was carried out in writing December 2018.

The Executive Members Meeting's Agenda and General Meeting's Agenda were combined as one meeting because the agendas of two meeting are identical.

Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Bao (Vietnam Cooperative Alliance) and Mr. T. Prasad Rao Dora (National Federation of Fishermen's Co-operatives. Ltd) were re-elected as the ICFO Vice-Chairman. The ICFO members unanimously approved Mr. Yoon Kyong-shik (KNFC's team manager) appointed as the ICFO Secretary General.

Somali Union Cooperatives Movement (UDHIS), an



umbrella organization for all cooperatives in Somali was approved as the new ICFO member.

It is settled that 2019 ICFO Annual meetings will be held in Rwanda in 2019 where ICA General Assembly will be held.