



# The Fisheries Cooperative Movement Around the World

2018



**International Co-operative  
Fisheries Organisation (ICFO)**  
A Sector of the International  
Co-operative Alliance





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## Preface

It is indispensable for fishermen to have cooperatives in order to improve their living standard and rights based on cooperatives' values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy and equality. The world has turned to cooperatives as an alternative global economic system after recognizing the limits of the market economy, which had previously been regarded as the ideal economic system, after it experienced a financial crisis originating from the United States and the European Union.

The International Cooperative Fisheries Organisation (ICFO) is one of the sectoral organizations of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA). With more than one billion members, it is playing a central role in integrating world fisheries cooperatives by being involved in cooperative activities with member organizations, and by providing lots of benefits.

ICFO has also devoted all its energies in accordance with the ICA principles of cooperation among the cooperatives by providing fisheries cooperatives in the developing countries with training opportunities to share knowledge of Korean fisheries cooperatives as education and training is the only way to revitalize the fishing industry.

In addition, the ICFO has been taking steps to help world fisheries cooperatives collaborate and prosper together by providing continuous support for IT devices and fisheries equipment for fisheries cooperatives of developing nations (who are conducting their work in challenging circumstances), recruiting new members and publishing documents for fisheries information sharing in order to muster the capacity of the organization.

Meanwhile, the world fishing industry continues to face the unprecedented crises such as a dramatic depletion in fisheries resources, an increase in maritime pollution, global warming due to industrialization, and recklessly collecting sand from the sea.

Sea is a treasury of fishery resources shared by countries and citizens around the world and all mankind on this planet. It is believed that reinforced cooperation between member organizations under the leadership of ICFO according to the principle of cooperatives that realizes the value of coexistence and sharing can turn the current crisis into opportunity.

I would like to ask you to pay more attention and participate in development of the world fishing industries and the ICFO.

December 2018  
Chairman, Kim Im-kwon  
International Cooperative Fisheries Organisation



# Introduction to the ICFO

## 1) Objective

The ICA is the world's largest non-governmental cooperative union with more than 1 billion members representing cooperatives and the worldwide cooperative movement. The ICA defines a cooperative as an autonomous association of persons voluntarily united to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise.

The ICFO, one of the ICA's eight sectoral organizations, was established in 1976. The ICFO contributes to improving the living standards of fishermen, developing fisheries cooperatives within each of the ICFO member countries through research and study of the various problems concerning fisheries cooperative organizations, and promoting better mutual understanding and economic cooperation among fisheries cooperatives.

## 2) Activities

The ICFO is engaged in the following activities with a view to attaining its objectives, as stipulated in the following Articles:

-  To organize seminars and conferences on specific subjects for the advancement of the mutual interests of the member organizations;
-  To promote fisheries cooperative movements in developing countries through activities such as guidance and assistance for the establishment of fisheries cooperatives, as well as the training of future leaders;
-  To study problems concerning fisheries cooperatives within member countries and ensure the publication of the study results;
-  To promote the exchange of information and human resources and to further the economic relations among fisheries cooperatives around the world, for the purposes of encouraging cooperation among the cooperative organizations;
-  To gather and provide information on fisheries and fisheries cooperatives;
-  To carry out other activities related to the preceding items.



### 3) ICFO Board Members



**Mr. Kim Im-kweon**  
Chairman

*Mr. Kim Im-kweon, who took office as the chairman of the Korean National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives on March 15, 2015, was inaugurated as the chairman of the ICFO. Fishery runs in his family for generations and he understands well the current issues of fishing villages and fishing industries as he established and runs a large purse seine fishery company and turned the company into a top enterprise when he was young. He took the initiative to enhance the competitiveness of Korean fishery products, serving as the president of the large purse seine fishery cooperative since 2006 and was awarded the Silver Tower Order of Industrial Service Merit as his effort for the development of the fishing industries was recognized. Also, he has been harmonizing fishery-related industries by serving as the president of the Korean Federation of Fisheries Industries, which comprises 1.4 million members of the Korean fishing industries.*



**Mr. Ramazan ÖZKAYA**  
Vice Chairman

*Mr. Ramazan ÖZKAYA was born in the Milas district of Muğla Province in West Turkey. He started active fishing when he was 16 years old in Güllük, a nearby fishing village in Milas. He became a member of the Fishery Cooperative in 1977. He became the General Manager of the Güllük Fishery Cooperative in 1983, and the following year, became Chairman of the Executive Council of the same cooperative. He has served as the Chairman of the Central Union of Fishery Cooperatives since 2005, which is the largest organized power of fishing in Turkey. In addition, he has been the Vice Chairman of the National Cooperatives Union of Turkey since 2012.*



**Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Bao**  
Vice Chairman

*Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Bao was born in 1963, he holds a Dr. Degree of Economics and he used to be in different positions from 1986 to 2013: Head of Planning Department of the Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (AGRIBANK) of Thai Binh province; Vice Director and then Director of Monetary Policies Department, State Bank of Vietnam; Chairman of the Board, AGRIBANK of Vietnam. From 2014 up to September 2017, he used to be Deputy Head of the Central Economic Committee of Vietnam. He has been elected as the President of VCA at the 4th Executive Committee Meeting of VCA, session IV in the term of 2016 - 2020. With the responsibility of his position, he realize that cooperatives are confirmed to be one and only organization to implement the SDGs and UN toward the trends of globalization and integration. As a role of leader of the organization to represent the legitimate rights and benefits of cooperatives in Vietnam, VCA is opening and ready to cooperate with all the members of the Alliance globally and regionly, contributing to the prosperity of the international cooperative movement.*



# Introduction to the ICFO



**Mr. T. Prasad Rao Dora**  
Vice Chairman

*Mr. T. Prasad Rao Dora is the President of National Federation of Fishers Cooperatives Ltd. (FISHCOPFED), India, since the year 2016. He also holds the position of being the President of Odisha Fisheries Cooperative Corporation Ltd. (FISHFED), a very active provincial federation in eastern part of India. Shri Dora has been a leader of national prominence in the field of Indian Fishery Cooperatives. He is in the Board of many Cooperative Federations in the country, and also associated with various social institutions.*



**Mr. Saroj Kumar Sharma**  
Executive Member

*Mr. Saroj Kumar Sharma was born in 1973. in Mahottari district of Nepal, which is extreme rural area of country. He comes from farmer's family. His father is chairman of Nepal farmer's federation of Mahottari district and over 20 years he dedicated on cooperative movement as a managerial role. He has a Bachelor of Engineering from Malviya Regional Engineering College of Rajsthan University, Rajsthan, India. Since 2011, he has been member of Birat fisheries cooperative Ltd, Nepal and President of Nepal Central Fishery Co-operative Union Ltd. (NCFCU) since 2012 and executive member of ICFO. Currently, he has been working as a Co-chairperson of National Cooperative Development Board (NCDB), Nepal since 2009 appointed by the Government of Nepal. NCDB is a high level organization which is statutory body under Ministry of Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation. He was convener of committee of "National Cooperative Policy 2012" of Nepal and also convener of the reviewing of existing "Cooperative Act", as well as he is convener of Twenty years long term Strategic plan of Cooperatives. He has participated in numerous meetings and seminars of ICA and ICFO all over the world.*



**Mr. Wibisono Wiyono**  
Auditor

*Mr. Wibisono Wiyono was born on 25 October 1955 in Indonesia. In 1981, after completing his studies at Bogor Agricultural University, he joined the National Federation of Indonesian Fishermen's Cooperative Societies, IKPI. In 1983, Mr. Wiyono was elected Secretary of the IKPI and, since 1997, he has been the President of the IKPI. His attention to fisheries and the welfare of fishermen has been the main reason for his participation in many organizations, such as the Indonesian Cooperative Council, the Indonesian Fishery Society, the Foundation for Cooperative Education and other organizations related to fisheries and cooperatives. Mr. Wiyono was also appointed as a Commissioner of Bank BUKOPIN, which was founded by cooperatives. Presently, he is a Commissioner of a state-owned fisheries company. He has attended many meetings, seminars, conferences, and classes regarding fisheries and cooperatives in Indonesia and abroad. He has been an active participant in the ICFO since 1995 and is now the auditor of the ICFO.*



# A Brief History of the ICFO

## 1) Birth of the Fisheries Sub-Committee

The ICFO dates back to 1966 when the then ICA Agricultural Committee held its 7th meeting in Vienna, Austria. At the meeting, it was decided that a sub-committee on fisheries should be established. Mr. Pierre Lacoure, President of Confederation de la Cooperation de la Mutualite et du Credit Maritimes (CCMCM), France, was elected as the first Chairman of the Fisheries Sub-Committee of the ICA Agricultural Committee.

With regard to the development of activities in the fisheries cooperative sector, it must be noted that the "First Open World Conference on Cooperative Fisheries (FOWCCF), (Premiere Conference Mondialesur les Cooperatives de Peche)" was held from 29 September to 4 October 1975 at KEIDANREN KAIKAN in Tokyo, Japan. It was jointly sponsored by the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan and the ICA, and was attended by 395 participants from 35 countries. Mr. Pierre Lacoure chaired the Conference.

As a result of the presentation of various papers and the discussions that followed, the Conference urged the International Cooperative Alliance to coordinate technical and financial assistance with developing countries.

### **The following suggestions were made**

Technical assistance for the development of fisheries cooperatives in developing countries should be made available in fields such as education, training and extension of services, technical expertise for modernizing fishing fleets and equipment, modernization of management, etc.

Governments of developed countries should provide assistance in the fields of protection for both inland and marine fisheries resources, etc; and for this purpose, the creation of a fund should be considered.

The possibility of starting an Information Center to disseminate information on fisheries development should be started and the activities of the Fisheries Sub-Committee should be organized to undertake this task.

Concluding the Conference, the Chair (Mr. Pierre Lacoure) informed the delegates that the suggestions made at the Conference would be discussed at the Fisheries Sub-Committee meeting to be held immediately after the Conference, with a view to formulating a program of action for the future development of fisheries.

The above suggestions proposed at the FOWCCF form the basis of the present day activities of the International Cooperative Fisheries Organisation of the Internal Cooperative Alliance.



# A Brief History of the ICFO

## 2) Birth of the Fisheries Committee

On 26 September 1976 in Paris, France, the Fisheries Sub-Committee Meeting of the ICA Agricultural Committee was held. At this Sub-Committee meeting a resolution was adopted to the effect that the Fisheries Sub-Committee should become an independent committee, separate from the Agricultural Committee. Mr. Jirozaemon Saito, a board member and director, of the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations of Japan, was elected as the Chairman of the Fisheries Sub-Committee, to succeed Mr. Pierre Lacoure. Together with the resolution, the draft "ICA Fisheries Committee Constitution and Activities" was also approved.

With this resolution in mind, Mr. Jirozaemon Saito, representing the Fisheries Sub-Committee, took part in the Executive Meeting of the ICA Agricultural Committee, held from 21st to 22nd February 1977 in London, United Kingdom. He submitted the Fisheries Sub-Committee's resolution, together with the draft "ICA Fisheries Committee Constitution and Activities," and they were both unanimously approved.

Thereafter, the same application was submitted to the ICA Executive Committee at a meeting held in Reykjavik from 10th to 11th March 1977, and it was also approved at this ICA Executive Committee meeting.

These approvals were reported, together with the "ICA Fisheries Committee Constitution and Activities," to the ICA Central Committee meeting held in Hamburg, West Germany from 22nd to 24th October 1977 and the resolution to become an independent committee was officially approved by the ICA membership.

The ICA Fisheries Committee Constitution (ICFO Rules) provided that "The Committee shall elect a Chairman, four Vice-Chairmen and three Executive Members (board members) from amongst its member organizations. The term of office is four years from ICA Congress to ICA Congress."

Mr. Jirozaemon Saito became the first Chairman of the ICA Fisheries Committee.





### 3) Direction of Activities of the ICA Fisheries Committee

On 18 October 1977 an ICA Fisheries Committee meeting was held in Hamburg, West Germany. At this meeting, Chairman Saito submitted a proposal concerning the future activities of the ICA Fisheries Committee. Among others, the most important were education and training activities.

He stated, "There have been to date several occasions to hold seminars on fisheries cooperatives sponsored by our member organizations, with some assistance from the FAO. Unfortunately, however, such seminars have been sporadic. Therefore, I would like to propose that such seminars, training courses and/or workshops, etc. concerning the management of fisheries cooperatives, etc. should be organized periodically, at least once a year, as activities of the ICA Fisheries Committee. The education and training activities should be made one of the key activities of the ICA Fisheries Committee and should be organized by developed countries member organizations for developing countries member organizations. This should be promoted on a regional basis, namely, by dividing the world into three regions, that is, (1) Europe and Africa, (2) Asia, Oceania and the Middle East, and (3) North America and South America." This proposal was approved.

The proposal by Chairman Saito set the direction of the ICA Fisheries Committee's activities. The activities of the ICA Fisheries Committee included:

#### **Organization of meetings**

Executive Members meetings and General Member meetings

#### **Education and Training**

Organizing seminars, workshops, symposia, etc.

#### **Information Exchange**

Issuing Fisheries Bulletins, exchange visits, etc.

#### **Studies**

Studies on selected subjects, such as Common Fisheries Policy of Europe, fisheries resource management, government assistance in the fisheries sector (including fuel oil subsidies, etc.), member organization structures and business activities, etc.

#### **Cooperation**

Cooperation with UN agencies, such as FAO, ILO and other inter-governmental organizations, in addition to international non-governmental organizations, etc.

To date, the activities of the International Cooperative Fisheries Organisation (ICFO), formerly the ICA Fisheries Committee, have followed the above framework.



# A Brief History of the ICFO

## 4) Re-naming the ICA Fisheries Committee to the International Cooperative Fisheries Organisation (ICFO)

The ICA held a Central Committee meeting from 27 to 30 October 1992 in Tokyo, Japan. At this meeting, a restructuring of the ICA was proposed and agreed to. Thenceforth, the hitherto "ICA Auxiliary Committees," including the ICA Fisheries Committee, were renamed as specialized organizations of the ICA. The ICA Fisheries Committee was renamed to the International Cooperative Fisheries Organisation (ICFO).

## 5) Former Chairmen of the Fisheries Sub-Committee, the ICA Fisheries Committee and the International Cooperative Fisheries Organisation (ICFO)

### Chairmen of the Fisheries Sub-Committee

Mr. Pierre Lacoure, France



30 Aug 1966 ~ 24 Sept 1976

Mr. Jirozaemon Saito, Japan



25 Sept 1976 ~ 23 Oct 1977

### Chairmen of the ICA Fisheries Committee (renamed to ICFO after 1992)

Mr. Jirozaemon Saito, Japan



24 Oct 1977 ~ 21 Oct 1992

Mr. Shoji Uemura, Japan



22 Oct 1992 ~ 15 Oct 2007

Mr. Ikuhiro Hattoni, Japan



16 Oct 2007 ~ 15 Nov 2009

Mr. Lee Jong-Koo, Korea



16 Nov 2009 ~ present



## 6) Secretariat

The changes of the Secretariat in chronological order starting from the Fisheries Sub-Committee of the ICA Agricultural Committee, the ICA Fisheries Committee, and to the International Cooperative Fisheries Organisation (ICFO) were as follows:

### The Fisheries Sub-Committee of the ICA Agricultural Committee

Year	Secretariat
1966 ~ 1976	Confederation de la Cooperation de la Mutualite et du Credit Maritime (CCMCM) (Paris)

### The ICA Fisheries Committee

Year	Secretariat
1977 ~ 1982	<b>ICA Headquarters (London)</b> Mr. Branko Zlataric (Yugoslavia) served as Secretary from February 1978 to September 1980. Mr. Kiyokazu Nakagawa, seconded from ZENGYOREN, Japan, served as Secretary from October 1980 to January 1983.
	<b>Note</b> The ICA Headquarters moved from London to Geneva on 12 October 1982.
1983 ~ 1986	<b>ICA Headquarters (Geneva) and ZENGYOREN (Tokyo)</b> The ICA Headquarters (Geneva) and ZENGYOREN (Tokyo) served as "Joint Secretariats." Mr. Nakagawa continued to act as the main Secretary.
1987 ~ 2009	<b>ZENGYOREN (Tokyo)</b> Mr. Masaaki Sato served as Secretary from 1 April 1987 to 15 November 2009.
2009 ~	<b>Korea National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives (Seoul)</b> Mr. Yoon Kyong-shik of the KNFC, since July 2018.



# Accomplishments of the ICFO

## 1) 1976~2008 (The Secretariat was operated by JF ZENGYOREN)

The government of Japan had continuously supported the promotion of the world fisheries cooperative sector through financial contributions to the ICFO.

The ICFO has performed various activities through the financial support of the Japanese government, as follows:

### ● Seminar on Fisheries Cooperatives of South East Asian Countries (1979~1998)

The Fishery Agency of the Japanese government began contributing funds to the ICFO to organize the "Seminar on Fisheries Cooperatives for South East Asian Countries."

Participants were invited to Japan to study various aspects of fisheries cooperatives. On average, about 10 participants from 6~7 South East Asian countries per year were invited. The participants combined the information gained and their experiences for furthering the development of fisheries cooperatives in their respective home countries. These seminars were a follow-up action implemented by the ICFO with the support of the Japanese government in response to the conclusions reached among participants at the "First Open World Conference on Cooperative Fisheries (FOWCCF)," referenced earlier. The seminars were held from JFY<sup>1)</sup> 1979 to JFY 1998.

### ● Training Project for Leaders of World Fisheries Cooperatives (1987~2005)

The International Cooperation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japanese government began contributing funds in 1987 to ICA Geneva for "Training Projects for Leaders of World Fisheries Cooperatives." This project continued for 19 years from JFY 1987 to JFY 2005.

The ICFO (ICA Fisheries Committee) organized seminars for the leadership development of fisheries cooperatives by using these funds. The seminar had been held in one to two countries per Japanese fiscal year (JFY) over the 19 years, 32 seminars in 18 countries.

### Training Project for Leaders of World Fisheries Cooperatives

Year	Country & Venue	Host Organization
1987	Sri Lanka, Kandy	Sri Lanka National Fed. of Fishermen's Coop. Societies Ltd.
	Malaysia, Petaling Jaya	ANGKASA (National Co-operative Organization of Malaysia)
1988	India, Lacknow	Fishcopfed (National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Ltd.)
	Thailand, Pataya	CLT (The Co-operative League of Thailand)
1989	Indonesia, Bogor	IKPI (National Fed. of Indonesian Fishermen's Coop. Societies)
	Philippines, Bagio	CUP (The Co-operative Union of the Philippines)
1990	Colombia, Cartagena	ANPAC (National Association of Artisanal Fishermen of Colombia)
	Bangladesh, Dhaka	BJSU (Bangladesh National Cooperative Union)

<sup>1)</sup>JFY means Japanese Fiscal Year which is 1 April to 31 March.



Year	Country & Venue	Host Organization
1991	Hungary, Balaton Czechoslovakia, Ceske Budejovice	National Federation of Fish Producers Rybarske Sdruzeni (State Fisheries Association)
1992	Vietnam, Hanoi Fiji, Suva	Vietnam Co-operative Union Fiji Co-operative Union
1993	Malaysia, Kuala Terenganu India, New Delhi	ANGKASA (National Cooperative Organization of Malaysia) Fishcopfed (National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Ltd.)
1994	Chile, Valparaiso Costa Rica	CONAPACH(Consejo Nacional de los Pescadores Artesanales de Chile)
1995	India, Panaji, Goa Vietnam, NhaTrang	Fishcopfed (National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Ltd.) VCA (Vietnam Co-operative Alliance)
1996	Hungary, Budapest Indonesia, Cirebon	National Federation of Fish Producers IKPI (National Fed. of Indonesian Fishermen's Coop. Societies)
1997	Philippines, Cavite Thailand, Bangkok	CUP (The Co-operative Union of the Philippines) CLT (The Co-operative League of Thailand)
1998	Brazil, Sao Paulo	OCB (Organization of Co-operatives of Brazil)
1999	Yangon, Myanmar Nuku'alofa, Tonga	CCS (Central Co-operative Society) TCF (Tonga Co-operative Federation)
2000	Qingdao and Beijing, China	CFA (China Fisheries Association)
2001	Hanoi, Vietnam Bangkok, Thailand	VCA (Vietnam Cooperative Alliance) CLT (The Co-operative League of Thailand)
2002	Yantai, China	CFA (China Fisheries Association)
2003	Jakarta, Indonesia	IKPI (National Fed. of Indonesian Fishermen's Coop. Societies)
2004	Bangkok, Thailand	CLT (The Co-operative League of Thailand)
2005	Negombo Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka National Fed. of Fishermen's Coop. Societies Ltd.

🌐 Training Project for the Promotion of Community-Based Fisheries Resource Management by Small-Scale Fishers in Asia (2006~2009)

The project was comprised of 3 phases, as follows:

- Phase 1: Dispatch experts to a selected Asian country
- Phase 2: Fisheries resource management study visit to Japan
- Phase 3: Seminar for the Promotion of Community-Based Fishery Resource Management by Small-Scale Fishers in the selected country



# Accomplishments of the ICFO

The purpose of the training project was to promote, in the selected country, communitybased fisheries resource management by small-scale fishers engaged in coastal fisheries. Fisheries cooperatives are the main players, together with member fishermen. The rationale for this project was to strengthen their activities and to contribute to ensuring sustainable production, the creation of employment opportunities and poverty alleviation.

The project was implemented in 4 countries: the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia. Each phase of the project was published in 12 total reports.

## Training Project for the Promotion of Community-Based Fishery Resource Management by Coastal Small-Scale Fishers in Asia

Year		Place	Participants	Outcome
2006 Philippines	Phase I	Manila & Puerto Princesa, Palawan	3 experts dispatched	Phase One Report
	Phase II	Tokyo & Okinawa Prefecture,	11 participants + 1 advisor	Phase Two Report
	Phase III	Puerto Princesa, Palawan	49 participants + 5 advisors & observers	Phase Three Report The "Palawan Declaration"
2007 Thailand	Phase I	Bangkok, Samutsakorn, Phuket and Rayong Provinces, etc.	3 experts dispatched	Phase One Report
	Phase II	Tokyo & Hokkaido, Japan	11 participants + 1 advisor	Phase Two Report
	Phase III	Bangkok, Thailand	31 participants + 12 advisors and speakers + 16 staff of CLT	Phase Three Report The "Bangkok Resolution"
2008 Vietnam	Phase I	Hanoi, Nghe An Province, Ha Tinh Province, and Ba Ria Vung Tau Province, etc.	2 experts dispatched	Phase One Report
	Phase II	Tokyo & Kagawa Prefecture	7 participants + 3 advisors	Phase Two Report
	Phase III	Nha Trang, Vietnam	82 participants + 6 advisors	Phase Three Report The "Nha Trang Resolution"
2009 Indonesia	Phase I	Jakarta, Bandung, Surabaya, Brondong, Tulung Agung, Tenggalek, Denpasar, etc.	2 experts dispatched	Phase One Report
	Phase II	Tokyo & Aomori Prefecture	6 participants + 2 advisors	Phase Two Report
	Phase III	Jakarta, Indonesia	60 participants	Phase Three Report The "Jakarta Declaration"



## 2) Since 2009 (The Secretariat has been operated by the KNFC)

### International Symposium(year 2010)

The ICFO and the KNFC jointly hosted an international symposium with the theme, “A New Decade, The Role of Cooperatives for the Sustainable Development of Fisheries” on 16 June 2010 in Seoul, Korea.

The symposium was held at Lotte Hotel in Seoul, Korea, with prominent figures in fisheries and cooperatives around the world in attendance from the United States, Japan, China, Indonesia, Iceland, India, the United Kingdom and Canada.

About 320 Korean participants and 14 foreign delegates attended the symposium; including the Vice-Minister of the Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Mr. Ikuhiro HATTORI; the President of Zengyoren, Mr. Naim ASARI; Mr. Roger SPEAR, a keynote speaker from England; and other persons concerned. The Prime Minister of Korea supported the symposium with a video message.

The ICFO hosted the symposium to seek ways to deal with obstacles in fisheries in the coming decade with the experts and cooperators and to strengthen the roles of fisheries cooperatives. Pending issues in fisheries, such as green growth, were also discussed by examining the cases of Korea and Japan.

The symposium began with a keynote speech by Mr. Roger Spear. In the morning session, presentations on the Roles of Fishing Communities for Fisheries Management were made. In the afternoon session, representatives of ICFO member organizations presented “The Accomplishments and Future Tasks of Fisheries Cooperatives.” A panel discussion followed.

The symposium carried the important theme of examining the accomplishments of fisheries cooperatives and seeking directions for the sustainable development of fisheries in the future.

Notably, ICFO representatives and other participants unanimously adopted the “Seoul Declaration,” which included the “World Fisheries Cooperative Day” at the symposium. It served to build momentum to recognize the roles and responsibilities of cooperatives.



# Accomplishments of the ICFO

## *The Seoul Declaration on the Role of Cooperatives for the Sustainable Development of Fisheries*

We the representatives of members of ICA International Cooperative Fisheries Organisation and the symposium speakers, recognize the roles and duties of cooperatives,

Proclaim in order to seek the role of cooperatives for the sustainable development of fisheries in the 21st century as follows:

We cooperators take lead in protecting autonomously fishing grounds, the livelihood of fishermen, and fishery resources;

We cooperators recognize that marine environmental protection is the foothold to sustainable fisheries, and actively take part in nurturing fishery resource ecology and procuring fish habitats;

We cooperators support fishing activities and improve living conditions for member fishermen, and make effort in expansion of fisherwomen's safe and active participation in fishing activities;

We cooperators suggest the establishment of "World Fisheries Cooperative Day", to promulgate the importance of fisheries and the necessity of cooperatives; and

We cooperators actively develop the relationships with international cooperative entities, contributing to the prosperity of mankind and world peace, which are basic cooperative spirits.

2010. 6. 16  
Seoul, Korea



### International Symposium (year 2013)

The ICFO and KNFC held the 3rd KNFC International Fisheries Symposium under the theme of 'To Make Fisheries an Industry for the Future for Fisheries Renaissance' on 28 August 2013 in Seoul, Korea. The symposium served as a venue for exchanging converged views of fisheries and humanities, inviting various opinions to shed light on values of fisheries from diverse standpoints.



Esteemed speakers including the world-renowned anthropologist, Professor Brian Fagan from California University, and fisheries experts from international organizations such as FAO and OECD made presentations on a variety of topics on fisheries to around 320 participants from fisheries-related industries, academic societies and government agencies including the Minister of Oceans and Fisheries of Korea.

Especially, the symposium invited more than 70 students majoring in fisheries-related fields and shared a new vision and paradigm with the would-be fisheries leaders.

Meanwhile, Professor Brian Fagan, the keynote speaker of the symposium emphasized the importance of sustainability of fisheries. "If fisheries is not sustainable, the future of 2.6 billion people obtaining protein from the sea and 10% of the world population engaging in the fishing industry is not so bright," the professor said during his speech.

The symposium attracted attention for providing an academic opportunity to study the value of fisheries in history and discuss a new vision of fisheries from a perspective of the humanities.

The 3rd KNFC International Fisheries Symposium selected the topic for keynote speech as 'Fisheries and Humanity' to highlight the value of fisheries in a new aspect. Moreover, a variety of topics were discussed in the symposium such as Global Food Crisis and Fisheries' Contribution, Getting Certified - Fisheries and Chain of Custody, Changing Seafood Consumption Patterns in China and Future of Fisheries: Role of innovation and green growth.



# Accomplishments of the ICFO

## World Fisheries Cooperative Day

The ICFO held an international symposium with the theme “The Role of Cooperatives for the Sustainable Development of Fisheries” in 2010 and adopted the “Seoul Declaration.” The Declaration called for the establishment of a “World Fisheries Cooperative Day.” As a follow-up, participants of the ICFO General Assembly meeting held on 2 September 2010 in Beijing, China, formally established “World Fisheries Cooperative Day.”

Hereby, the 1st anniversary of the World Fisheries Cooperative Day was held by the ICFO and the Korea National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives (KNFC) on 16 June 2011 in Seoul, Korea. The event was an opportunity to share expertise and experiences among fisheries cooperatives to overcome common crises of the world fishing industry and to develop a sustainable future.



There were 258 participants from many countries, including the ICA Director-General, ICFO representatives, the Minister of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, National Assembly members, government officials, experts of the cooperative movement and presidents of Korean fisheries cooperatives, etc.

The Korean Prime Minister stated in his video message that strengthening international cooperation among the world's fisheries cooperatives is very timely because there has been an acute shortage of food recently and fisheries are getting increasing attention as a life-sustaining industry for humankind. He also pledged the active support of the Korean government with appropriate policies for the development of fisheries and cooperation with the fishermen of the world.

In addition, the ICFO established the “World Fisheries Cooperator Prize” to encourage fisheries cooperators worldwide who have devoted themselves to the development of fisheries cooperatives and adopted “The Fisheries Cooperators’ Pledge to the Fishermen of the World.”



The 2nd World Fisheries Cooperative Day was commemorated with an international seminar by the ICFO and the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) in Da Nang, Vietnam. The seminar was held to review the experiences of ICFO members in developing fisheries cooperatives and the fishing industry in their respective countries.

190 people from 12 countries, including the Deputy Prime Minister of Vietnam, participated in the seminar and shared their expertise and experiences with other ICFO members.

The 3rd World Fisheries Cooperative Day was held in Surabaya, Indonesia with more than 700 participants including Mr. Sharif Hasan, the minister of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises of Indonesia and Dame Pauline Green, the president of International Co-operative Alliance. The event was an opportunity to shed new light on the significance of fisheries and fisheries cooperatives in an international arena.

The 4th World Fisheries Cooperative Day was held at the Korean National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives. The ICFO and the KNFC organized this ceremony to promote the ideology and value of the world fisheries cooperatives and redefine the international status of the fishing industries. Over 200 people, including ICA and ICFO officials, Korean National Assembly members, Council of Korean cooperatives members, etc., participated in the ceremony. Charles Gould, ICA Director-General, delivered a message, saying that appreciate the leadership the KNFC has shown during the process of the ICFO's policy making and implementation for development of the world fishing industries and hope that the KNFC will stand at the center of efforts to present a blueprint for future development of the world fisheries cooperatives and fishing industries." At this ceremony, "The Outcome of KNFC's Knowledge Sharing program and Direction of ODA of Fishing Industries" was presented and a photo exhibition of the performance of the ICFO and a publication exhibition were held.

World fisheries cooperators pledged solidarity and cooperation at the 5th World Fisheries Cooperative Day, jointly organized by the Korean National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives (KNFC) and the ICFO.

At this ceremony, the Chairman of ICFO, Kim Im-kweon asked the participants to be involved in cooperative movements with a sense of duty, delivering a message of "let us bring hope and happiness to people through sustainable fisheries." Charles Gould, Director-General of the ICA, who visited Korea to attend the ceremony, gave a keynote



# Accomplishments of the ICFO

speech on increasing the value of cooperatives and a new path of fisheries cooperatives. He stressed again the meaning of World Fisheries Cooperative Day, saying, “the unstable food supply issue cannot be solved without the contribution of fisheries, therefore, the role of world fisheries cooperatives is very critical to protect fishing grounds, the livelihood of fishermen, and fishery resources. We need to draw more attention to the importance of fisheries and the need of cooperatives.”

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.



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.”



By gathering in one place, the ICFO is convinced that these annual events will pave the way for discussions on ways to protect fishermen's rights and increase their living standard.

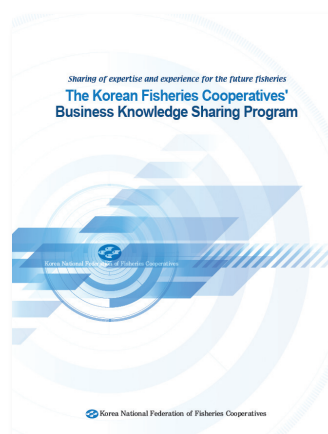
### **Korean Fisheries Cooperatives' Business Knowledge Sharing Program**

The ICFO has emphasized that ICFO members should cooperate and share their expertise and experiences to overcome the common crises facing the fishing industry and to contribute to the development of mankind through fisheries at the 1st Annual World Fisheries Cooperative Day, held at a time of rapid changes in the fisheries environment.

Toward this goal, the KNFC published a book, "The Korean Fisheries Cooperatives' Business Knowledge Sharing Program" to encourage voluntary cooperation among cooperatives around the world and to establish a good precedent in this movement. It contains the experiences of the KNFC's core business, which have contributed greatly to the development of the Korean fishing industry, and of the KNFC itself, such as consignment sales, the supply of tax-exempt oil and the fisheries financial funds system.

The ICFO is committed to expediting the sharing of expertise and experiences of its members and becoming essential foundation for the development of the worldwide fishing industry and cooperatives.

Mr. Charles Gould, ICA Director-General, has stated that this book will be a tremendous resource for fisheries everywhere and he would like to assist in making it available to interested fisheries cooperatives and apex organizations.





# Accomplishments of the ICFO

## The Fisheries Cooperators' Pledge to the Fishermen of the World

The ICFO adopted the Fisheries Cooperators' Pledge to the Fishermen of the World, a guiding principle on how to actively protect fishermen's rights and raise their incomes at the 1st World Fisheries Cooperative Day.

These guidelines seek to publicize the importance of global fisheries as a human food resource and the necessity of fisheries cooperatives worldwide; to encourage fishermen and build active fishing communities; to take further initiatives to create green growth in the industry by actively sharing our collective experiences and expertise; to earn the respect of the community of fishermen through service and by supporting their pursuit of happiness; and to contribute to the prosperity of humankind and world peace in collaboration with the International Cooperative Fisheries Organisation.







## *The Fisheries Cooperators' Pledge to the Fishermen of the World*

On this First World Fisheries Cooperative Day, to improve the quality of fishermen's lives and to build a brighter future for fisheries worldwide We, the Fisheries Cooperators Worldwide pledge:

First, to take the lead in protecting the global fisheries as a human food resource, in publicizing the importance of the fisheries for the next generation, and in introducing the necessity of fisheries cooperatives worldwide;

Second, to encourage fishermen worldwide and strive to build active fishing communities, in order to realize sustainable fisheries businesses;  
Third, to strive to increase the value of the future fisheries and take further initiatives to create green growth in the industry, by actively sharing our collective experiences and expertise;

Fourth, in a cooperative spirit, to strive to earn the respect of the community of fishermen through service and by supporting their pursuit of happiness; and

Last, to contribute to the prosperity of humankind and world peace, the fundamental ideals of cooperatives, in collaboration with International Cooperative Fisheries Organisation and other related international organizations.

16 June 2011

Fisheries Cooperators Worldwide



# Accomplishments of the ICFO

## Donation of Computers and Fishing Equipment to Fisheries Cooperatives

The ICFO has donated computers and fishing equipment to fisheries cooperatives in developing countries to promote cooperative development with them and to increase the competitiveness of the fishing industry.

Because the world economy is changing rapidly, it is essential to exchange information and to cooperate with other fishermen and fisheries cooperatives around the world. To this end, the ICFO has been contributing computers and printers to fisheries cooperatives in the developing countries since 2010.

It has also donated fishing equipment, such as fishing nets, small boats, etc., to its members. Although they have abundant fisheries resources in their seas, some have difficulty harvesting those resources due to the lack of equipment.

The ICFO is convinced that these donations realize the cooperative principle of Cooperation among Cooperatives.

(Unit: USD)

Year	Organization	Items	Value
2010	Cooperative Union of the Philippines	Computers & Printers	4,920
	Vietnam Cooperative Alliance	Computers & Printers	4,943
	Bangladesh National Cooperative Union	Computers	5,000
	Sri Lanka National Fish Federation Cooperative Society Ltd.	Computers	5,000
2011	National Federation of Indonesian Fishermen's Cooperative Societies	Fishing equipment	14,000
	Cooperative League of Thailand	Computers & Printers	5,324
	National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Ltd. India	Computers & Printers	4,800
	Vietnam Cooperative Alliance	Fishing equipment	19,953
2012	National Fishermen's Association of Malaysia	Computers & Printers	10,500
	Central Cooperative Society Ltd. Myanmar	Computers & Printers	10,674
2014	Central Union of Fisheries Cooperatives	Computer&Printers	5,000
	The Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd	Computer&Printers	5,000
	Nepal Central Fishery Cooperative Union Ltd	Computer	5,000
2015	Economic&Social Development Center of Palestine	Computer&Printers	7,000
	Maldives Fisherman Association	Computer&Printers	7,000
Total	Total		114,114



## Education and Training: The Korean Fisheries Cooperatives' Business Knowledge Sharing Education



On 18 October 1977, an ICA Fisheries Committee meeting was held in Hamburg, West Germany. Mr. Saito, ICFO Chairman, proposed that education and training should be the most important activities, with the belief that they are the best ways to increase fishermen's incomes and overcome the crises facing the fishing industry. Since then, education and training have become one of the primary activities of ICA Fisheries.

JF ZENGYOREN which operated the ICFO Secretariat, provided various programs, including the Seminar on Fisheries Cooperatives of South East Asian Countries, Training Project for Leaders of World Fisheries Cooperatives, and Training Project for the Promotion of Community-Based Fishery Resource Management by Small-Scale Fishers in Asia.

The KNFC, currently operating the ICFO Secretariat, has decided to share the experiences of Korean fisheries cooperatives for the development of fisheries cooperatives in developing nations. Korea, an OECD Development Assistance Committee member, is focused on sharing its experiences of economic development to maximize its assistance. Korea has developed from one of the poorest countries in the world to the 10th largest economy within a relatively short period.

In line with this, the ICFO has invited fishermen from developing countries to Korea for the knowledge sharing education; 12 fishermen from the Cooperative Union of the



# Accomplishments of the ICFO

Philippines in 2011, 13 fishermen from the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance in 2012 and 12 fishermen from National Federation of Indonesian Fishermen's Cooperative Societies in 2013, 13 fishermen from National Federation of Fishermen's Co-operatives Ltd of India in 2014, 8 fishermen and government official from Myanmar in 2015, 11 fishermen and government official from Sri Lanka in 2016, and 20 fishermen and government official from the Philippine in 2017.

This year, 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.

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.





## ICFO Fosters Fisheries Talent in Developing Countries

The International Co-operative Fisheries Organisation is making great endeavors to foster talents in the fisheries fields especially in the underdeveloped countries. The ICFO and Pukyong National University concluded a memorandum of understanding on cooperation for nurturing talents in the field of fisheries on 24th January 2014 at Pukyong National University, Busan, Korea.



Pukyong National University has launched a 2-year graduate course for 2 students from developing countries, who had completed university education in fisheries or fisheries related fields. The ICFO has offered scholarship benefits such as airfare and boarding expenses including daily expenses.

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.



# Accomplishments of the ICFO

## ICFO Website and other Publication

Since its establishment in 1976, the ICFO has worked on various activities such as ICFO annual meetings, counter-plans to WTO open market policies and seminars for the development of underdeveloped countries' fisheries, etc. The ICFO created its official website (www.icfo.coop) in 2010 to publicize these accomplishments.



Through the homepage, the ICFO will strengthen its public relations activities by providing information such as news and data on fisheries and cooperatives, various statistical data, etc. to member organizations and cooperatives around the world. Particularly, due to the limits of distance, active exchange among the member organizations has been insufficient. However, it is hoped that the website will promote information

exchange among the member organizations.

The ICFO has also published a brochure to introduce the purpose, activities, and member list of the ICFO. A brief history of the ICFO, including its founding, list of former presidents, and accomplishments, was published for the 1st Annual World Fisheries Cooperative Day, held on 16 June 2011.

In addition, it has published the ICFO Newsletter to explain its annual activities and, the Fisheries Cooperative Movement in Korea which contains the half-century history of fisheries cooperatives of Korea, a chair country of the ICFO, from birth to crisis, to growth, is being utilized as a dossier to share the experiences of fishing industries and fisheries cooperatives with member organizations.





### **The ICA Rochdale Pioneer Prize**

The ICFO established the World Fisheries Cooperative Day, the first of its kind among the eight ICA sectoral organizations. In addition, the KNFC specifically issued "The Korean Fisheries Cooperatives' Business knowledge Sharing Program" to share the experiences of its core business with the ICFO's members. In recognition of these efforts and accomplishments, the ICA awarded the ICA Rochdale Pioneer Prize to the former Chairman, Mr. Lee Jong-koo, at the ICA General Assembly in Cancun, Mexico, in November 2011.



# Accomplishments of the ICFO

## List of ICFO Members

Country	Organization
Bangladesh	Bangladesh National Cooperative Union
Canada	Newfoundland-Labrador Federation of Co-operatives
France	Caisse Centrale de Credit Cooperatif
	Confederation de la Cooperation de la Mutualite et du Credit Maritimes
Hungary	Hungarian Fish Farmers Association
India	National Federation of Fishermen's Co-operatives Ltd.
Indonesia	National Federation of Indonesian Fishermen's Cooperative Societies
Italy	National Association of Fisheries Co-operatives
	Fedcoopescas(Federazione Nazionale Cooperative delle Pesca)
Japan	National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations
Korea	National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives
Maldives	Maldives Fisherman Association
Mauritius	The Mauritius Co-Operative Union Ltd
Myanmar	Central Co-operative Society Limited
Nepal	Nepal Central Fishery Cooperative Union Ltd
Nigeria	The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation Staff Cooperative Multipurpose Society Ltd
Palestine	Economic&Social Development Center of Palestine
Tanzania	Tanzania Federation of Co-operatives Ltd.
Thailand	The Co-operative League of Thailand
Turkey	Central Union of Fisheries Cooperatives
Vietnam	Vietnam Co-operatives Alliance