

QUESTIONS SOLG – CICOPA

- 1) Would you, in principle, be in favour of examining the possibility of having 4 sectoral representatives on the board of the International Co-operative Alliance (rather than the current 2) with a rotation among the 8 sectoral organizations, possibly grouped in pairs of two such as agriculture-fisheries, consumer-housing, bank-insurance, industry-service/health, the intent being to match the current 4 regional representatives of Africa, Asia-Pacific, America, and Europe?**

The Alliance is the expression of its regions and sectors and achieves its operating objectives as long as these carry them out.

In order to allow, regions and sectors to participate both in the definition of global policies and their implementation, they should receive more institutional support, first of all by increasing the number of Board sectoral representatives from 2 to 4.

This would allow the Board to be constantly prepared to elaborate strategies fully integrating the global dimension with the regional and sectoral dimensions. On the other hand, it would allow a closer link between strategy and execution.

Indeed, at the execution level, there should be a close operative relation through our proposed Executive Committee, constituted by the Alliance's president, the four vice-presidents (regions), the four sectoral representatives, the youth representative and the gender representative to be included) through online and face-to-face meetings, making substantial progress in using ICT.

- 2) Would you be in favour of organizing a one-day session between the SOLG and the board in 2016? The agenda would include an opportunity for an in-depth strategic discussion on the sectoral organizations' contribution to the International Co-operative Alliance's mission and its work.**

Yes, I think it is necessary to implement combined sessions between the SOLG and the Alliance's Board, where specific topics could be discussed strategically. Likewise, we should be able to involve representatives from each Sectoral Organization in Executive Activities together with vice-presidents and regional directors so that they not only participate in strategic planning and implementation in their particular areas but also contribute to the Alliance's policies planning and execution at global level, knowing that sectors, as well as regions, are the ones in direct touch with cooperators and grass-roots cooperatives, and ultimately know better their problems, needs and

concerns and can diagnose different situations with a high level of accuracy and propose real solutions.

We think that's only possible through a Presidency and a General Direction that share their responsibilities with this executive group. Once this proves to be effective, it could become institutionalized in the Alliance's internal norms.

3) Do you agree that further efforts should be deployed to gradually improve the financing of the sectoral organizations in order to enable them to better contribute to the International Co-operative Alliance's mission?

The International Cooperative Alliance should increase its revenues to strengthen the regions and sectors, which make it fully operational.

I thus propose to raise from 10% to 20% the membership fee redistribution in two years, 5% annually. Redistribution to regions would be increased from 45% to 50% in two years, 2.5% annually. The resulting redistribution at the end of the second year would be: 30% for the Alliance, 50% for regions and 20% for sectors. This will be attained through an increase in members, rearranging structural costs, new revenues generated through projects and innovative sources of income.

Nevertheless, sectors and regions should assume responsibilities in the implementation of programs encouraging sustainable development, which could be funded by multilateral organisms and States, in a strategic alliance framed within the 17 Sustainable Development Goals recently approved by the UN, to be coordinated by the proposed Executive Committee.