



International Co-operative Alliance



Dear Fellow Co-operators,

As you are aware, the United Nations decision to declare 2012 as the International Year of Co-operatives has generated huge enthusiasm across our co-operative family, and been instrumental in the drive for a common campaign to raise the visibility and profile of our model of business. It has also provided a common logo and slogan which has allowed us to unite with the clear aim of showing the world the scale, scope and reach of our co-operative movement into every village, town and city across the world.

When I had the privilege to address the General Assembly of the United Nations at the launch of the Year on October 31st 2011, I told them that 'working together co-operatives will make this International Year a powerful restatement of the co-operative ideal, and we will.

To mark this unique event, and help spread our co-operative message, the International Co-operatives Alliance will publish ***Co-operative Enterprises Build a Better World*** with the support of Focus Publishing. This important book will be international in scope and will demonstrate the advantages of our unique member-owned co-operative model throughout North and South America, Europe, Africa and Asia. It will receive widespread international distribution by the ICA and I will be proud to distribute it as I meet government members and their administrations. It will, of course, also give you a vehicle with which to communicate our case directly with national governments and business leaders.

This commemorative book will serve as the lasting reminder of our year-long celebration of the International Year of Co-operatives across the globe - it is the maiden, international publication of this nature, and the first time the global co-operative movement has come together in this kind of project to demonstrate both its unity and diversity.

I hope you will join me in supporting this publication as a lasting testament to our strengths, successes and desire to build a better world.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Dame Pauline Green
President
International Co-operative Alliance