



2012
International
Year of

Cooperatives



Co-operative Enterprises Build a Better World

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Invitation from ICA President Dame Pauline Green

ICA Launch of the International Year of Co-operatives,
General Assembly and related meetings

14-18 November 2011, Cancun, Mexico



It is with pleasure that I invite you to participate in the ICA launch of the IYC, General Assembly and related meetings to be held in Cancun, Mexico 14-18 November 2011.

Since the United Nations declared that 2012 will be the International Year of Co-operatives, our global movement has a “once-in-a-generation” opportunity to take a massive step forward, and lead the growth of our movement in all parts of the globe.

To do that, we need to massively increase the knowledge and visibility of the size and sustainability of our model of business, and of its reach into every community across the world.

We need to demonstrate that the values and principles that have inspired our movement for nearly 200 years are even more relevant today, and that we collectively are a movement of creativity, innovation and flair that is producing solutions to the problems of today’s world.

If we can together raise our global profile by using 2012 to create common global messages and a common global presence, we will maximise our influence on key decision-makers and, with their active support and help, we will grow more and new co-operative businesses across the world in the coming decades.

I can think of no better place for the ICA to launch the International Year of Co-operatives than in Mexico. The co-operative movement in Mexico, as around the world, is reviving as people see it offers a safer, better, and more sustainable choice to the traditional capitalist models now under scrutiny as a result of the financial crisis.

We hope that you will join us in Cancun for this exciting launch of the International Year of Co-operatives and to be inspired by the conferences and workshops which will take place during the week.

Sincerely,

Dame Pauline Green
ICA President



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Welcome from ICA Americas President



On behalf of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) for the Americas, we would like to invite you, along with other co-operatives and organisations throughout the world to participate in the ICA General Assembly in Cancun, Mexico from 14 to 18 November 2011. During the week, we will also have the ICA Launch of 2012 as the International Year of Co-operatives (IYC)

We have prepared a first class academic programme with important conferences, workshops, plenaries and seminars - organized by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), ICA Sectoral organisations, partners, ICA Thematic Committees, ICA Americas, and ICA Members in Mexico:

- Federación de Cajas Populares Alianza,
- Federación Nacional de Cooperativas Financieras (UNISAP),
- Caja Popular Mexicana (CPM), and
- Confederación Nacional de Cooperativas de Actividades Diversas (CNC).

The event will be held in one of the main tourist destinations in Mexico - Cancun, Quintana Roo - where the Mayan culture grew and today is recognized globally and with pride.

The venue of this magnificent event will be the Moon Palace Hotel and Resort, with capacity to accommodate 5,000 people, conference facilities to ensure a successful event and wonderful conditions for gathering participants in the same place.

We know for sure that this will be a successful event, allowing for further integration and impact of the global co-operative movement.

Mexico will be waiting for you with arms wide open. Please receive my best regards.

Mr. Ramón Imperial Zúñiga
President of ACI Americas

Welcome from the Co-operative Movement in Mexico

For the first time in the history of the ICA, Mexico has been selected as the host of the ICA General Assembly which is held every 2 years.

We are honored to host this prestigious event in Cancun, Mexico which is an internationally recognised destination.

This is a special event because it will be the ICA launch of the International Year of Cooperatives (IYC), declared by the United Nations.

We expect around 2,000 participants for this event from 100 countries. The participants will be co-operative leaders, multi-national and government dignitaries, special guests, co-operative thinkers from universities and colleges, potential clients and suppliers.

The participants will gather together to discuss, brainstorm, and talk about how co-operative enterprises build a better world.



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Programme Flow

The theme of the conference is the:

“International Year of Co-operatives 2012: Co-operative Enterprises Build a Better World”.

Monday 14 November will begin a series of statutory meetings held by various ICA bodies and will carry over until Tuesday afternoon. The ICA Board Thematic Committees will meet on Sunday afternoon, 13 November.

The conference will begin Wednesday afternoon with a series of workshops followed by the Opening Ceremony, Welcome Reception and a show. The Closing Plenary will take place on Friday just before lunch. The closing Gala Dinner and Dance will take place on Friday evening.

During the conference, a number of key topics will be discussed, including:

- Celebrating the ICA launch of the International Year of Co-operatives
- Raising the public awareness of co-operatives
- Communicating co-operative values in branding and marketing
- Marketing your co-operative on the web and in social media
- Getting the attention of the media and telling your story
- Co-operative legislation in developing countries
- The Global 300
- A series of workshops and educational sessions covering the theme of the conference from different perspectives which will be hosted by various ICA sectoral organisations and thematic committees, and
- Other exciting topics.

Friday afternoon, the ICA General Assembly will convene to conduct the statutory business of the ICA including:

- Elections of global Board members to fill any vacancies
- Approval of amended statutes for a number of ICA regions
- Amendments to the ICA Statutes and Bye-Laws, and
- Approval of a number of resolutions.



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Preliminary Programme

	Date / Schedule	9 hr.	10 hr.	11 hr.	12 hr.	13 hr.	14 hr.	15 hr.	16 hr.	17 hr.	18 hr.	19 hr.	20 hr.	21 hr.	22 hr.	22 hr.	23 hr.
Tours & Staff Meetings	12 Nov. Saturday	Organised Tours to the Mayan Riviera and Yucatán Península															
	13 Nov. Sunday																
Statutory Meetings	14 Nov. Monday	ICA Board Meeting				ICA Board Meeting				ICA Board and special guests transfer to Dinner		ICA Board and special guests Dinner					
	15 Nov. Tuesday	Regional Board Meetings				Sectoral Committee Board Meetings				Networking Event		New Members Reception					
Statutory Meetings & Educational Sessions	16 Nov. Wednesday	Sectoral and Thematic Committee General Assemblies				Sectoral and Thematic Seminars				Opening Ceremony & Launch of the IYC		Welcome Reception and Show					
Conference	17 Nov. Thursday	Conference Opening		Networking Activity		Sectoral and Thematic Plenaries, Workshops and Conferences				Networking Receptions							
Conference & General Assembly	18 Nov. Friday	General Conference		Closing Plenary		ICA General Assembly								Gala Dinner and Dance			
Tours	19 Nov. Saturday	Organised Tours to the Mayan Riviera and Yucatan Peninsula															
	20 Nov. Sunday																
Closed meeting		The cost of and how to book an organized tour is available on the conference website: www.ica2011.coop															
Open meeting																	

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Registration Zone 3

Information on registration is also available online at www.ica2011.coop or by email at icacancun2011@congressmexico.com. All registration will be done using the online registration system. Please note that you may need to get a visa to travel to Mexico. Information on the countries who need visas and how to request a visa letter from the hosts is available on the website.

Category	Payment deadline	Zone 3
Representative	Before 31 August 2011	\$ 750.00
	Between 01 September and 31 October 2011	\$ 800.00
	After 31 October 2011 Onsite registration only	\$ 850.00
Participant (Associate members and Observers)	Before 31 August 2011	\$ 900.00
	Between 01 September and 31 October 2011	\$ 950.00
	After 31 October 2011 Onsite registration only	\$ 1,000.00
Accompanying person	Before 31 August 2011	\$ 150.00
	Between 01 September and 31 October 2011	\$ 200.00
	After 31 October 2011 Onsite registration only	\$ 225.00

Registration costs are quoted in U.S. dollars (USD)

In order to take advantage of the discounted registration fees, your online registration must be paid before the deadlines. Your registration will be validated by the person responsible for your zone, as listed on the website. Once validated, you will receive an email with your registration confirmation. At that time, you will be able to make the payment online using a credit card or by making a bank transfer. Details will be provided to you by email.



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Destination

Cancun

Cancun as a tourism destination has it all - crystal clear water, fine sandy white beaches, and some of the most prestigious hotel chains in the world. Cancun has excellent restaurants offering delicious Mexican and international fare, fun nightlife and a rich archaeological heritage like the nearby ancient Mayan cities such as the new world wonder Chichen Itza. Cancun is the gateway to the Mexican Caribbean and to Mundo Maya, with an infinite variety of attractions and adventure, cultural and nature-oriented activities.

Cancun has theme parks, archaeological sites, water and extreme sports, and, of course, shopping - offering competitive prices and renowned international brands.

Venue

Moon Palace Hotel Resort and SPA



The Moon Palace is one of the Palace Resorts Hotel's most exclusive all inclusive hotels located on the tranquil shores south of Cancun. At the Moon Palace, you will enjoy a truly secluded paradise. It is expansive yet intimate; isolated yet minutes from civilization. Here you can experience the splendor of the sights and sounds of nature which is unmatched anywhere in Cancun. The resort is nestled between a pristine white sand beach and the breathtaking beauty of 55 acres of tropical foliage and features 2,031 elegantly appointed guest rooms all with private balcony overlooking the spectacular Caribbean Sea.

Your all inclusive package includes all meals, snacks and unlimited beverages. We feature a variety of restaurants offering both a la carte and buffet dining with Mexican, Oriental and Italian specialties. In addition, there are a variety of indoor and outdoor bars and lounges for you to enjoy. Guests may use all the services and amenities at the hotel including the fitness center which features treadmills, hiking machines, rowing machines and body building equipment. We have an impressive daily social activities programme to keep you busy and evening entertainment includes scheduled theme parties and a fabulous nightclub featuring a state-of-the-art Bose sound system.

As a guest of any of the Palace Resorts, your all-inclusive privileges include the amenities and services at all of the Palace Resorts Hotels.

International participants	Single Room - USD 280.00	Double Room - USD 300.00
Rate includes:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Room type in the occupancy selected (single or double) Meals and beverages in the hotel Tips and taxes Internet access Night shows provided by the hotel 		



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