

Soft-Launch Event for the 2025 UN International Year of Cooperatives

Tuesday, July 9th; 10:00 am – 12:00 pm (EST)

Conference Room 11, United Nations Headquarters, New York

Concept Note

Background

In November 2023, the UN General Assembly adopted resolution [A/RES/78/175](#) on cooperatives in social development, **proclaiming 2025 as the International Year of Cooperatives (IYC)**. This resolution encourages all Member States, the United Nations, and other relevant stakeholders to leverage the International Year of Cooperatives to promote cooperatives and highlight their contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and broader social and economic development.

To kick off the celebrations, the UN Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC), in collaboration with the Permanent Mission of Mongolia to the United Nations, will host a soft-launch event for the 2025 IYC. This event will take place during the UN High-Level Political Forum at the **UN Headquarters in New York on July 9, 2024, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm (EST)**. It will coincide with the 2024 UN International Day of Cooperatives (IDC), celebrated under the theme "*Cooperatives Build a Better Future for All.*"

Objectives

This hybrid event aims to set the stage for the 2025 IYC, which will be **officially launched** during the **ICA Global Cooperative Conference, scheduled for November 26-29, 2024, in New Delhi, India**. The event will serve as a platform to deepen the theme of IYC, unveil the logo and media package, and the UN resolutions outlining the modalities for the IYC launch.

Additionally, it will encourage the formation of national and international committees to support the cooperative movement in implementing the 2025 IYC objectives and initiatives.

Draft Program:

Time (EST) | Activity

10:00 – 10:30 | Guests Arrival: Conference Room 11

10:30 – 11:00 | Opening Session

Opening Addresses by:

- Mr. John Wilmoth, UNDESA Director
- Dr. Ariel Guarco, ICA President
- H.E. Mr. Enkhbold Vorshilov, Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the UN.
- Other Ambassadors (TBC)

11:00 – 11:15 | Keynote Speech

- H.E. Mr. Dennis Francis, UN GA President (tbc)

11:20 – 11:35 | 2025 International Year of Cooperatives - UN

- Presentation of the UN resolution outlining the modality for the launch of 2025 IYC
- Deepening on IYC theme
- Unveiling of the IYC logo and communication materials (tbc)
- IYC roadmap of events

11:35 – 11:50 | Building Momentum Towards the Launch of IYC 2025

ICA Global Conference (India) - the official launch of the IYC

- Mr. Jeroen Douglas, ICA Director General
- Representative from Indian Cooperative Movement

11:50 – 12:00 | Closing Session

- Ms. Wenyan Yang, COPAC Chair
- Call to action and next steps.