



**FINAL AGENDA
ICA General Assembly
Sectoral and Thematic Seminars**

***Creating an Enabling Environment for Cooperatives
through Legislation, Regulation and Policy Reform***

**Moon Palace Golf and Spa Resort
Universal Center Room, Upper Level
Cancun, Mexico
Wednesday, November 16, 2011
2:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

Description:

The 2012 United Nations International Year of Cooperatives brings a unique opportunity for national cooperative movements and UN member states to focus on their reciprocal relationship through cooperative law, regulation, and policy – all which have a direct impact on cooperative development. This session will focus on initiatives around the world to create a more enabling legal, regulatory and policy environment for cooperatives to fully realize their potential, featuring perspectives of experts and practitioners from the cooperative movement as well as government officials in cooperative regulatory and legislator roles.

The session will begin with an introduction to cooperative law, emphasizing its relevance and impact on cooperative development, as well as key issues and needed actions for reform. Second, a cooperative regulator and legislator will share their efforts to bring about change and improvements within their respective regulatory and legislative areas of government. Third will feature the CLARITY Project, a grassroots-oriented approach for cooperative legal and regulatory reform by national cooperative movements through understanding, analyzing and evaluating their law, then developing proposals for change and advocating for reform. Fourth will feature a Model Cooperative Law initiative as well as a unique program involving national legislators in a Cooperative Parliamentarian Network in Latin America. Presentations will focus on practical applications and resources available to national co-operative movements, including case studies, publications, model laws, guidelines and other information.

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| 2:00 – 2:10 p.m. | Inauguration |
| 2:10 - 2:45 p.m. | A Panorama of Cooperative Law Around the World
Dr. Dante Cracogna, Senior Professor
School of Law, University of Buenos Aires
Member, ICA Legislative Working Group
Buenos Aires, Argentina |
| 2:45 – 3:30 p.m. | Perspectives on Cooperative Legislative and Regulatory Trends and Reform |



Hon. Joseph W.N. Nyagah, EGH, MP
Chairman, Africa Cooperative Interministerial Committee
Minister for Cooperative Development and Marketing, Kenya
Nairobi, Kenya

Sen. Jorge Andrés Ocejo Moreno
Chamber of Senators, General Congress of the United States of Mexico
Mexico City, D.F. Mexico

3:30 – 4:15 p.m.

A Grassroots-Based Approach to Cooperative Legal and Regulatory Reform: The Cooperative Legal and Regulation Initiative (CLARITY)

Dr. Barbara Czachorska-Jones, Director of Operations, Policy and Innovation
CHF International
Silver Springs, Maryland USA

Mr. Edward Potter, Executive Director
International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation/
Regional Association for The Americas
McLean, Virginia USA

4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Approaches for Cooperative Legislation Reform: Cooperative Model Law and Cooperative Parliamentarian Network

Dr. Dante Cracogna, Senior Professor
School of Law, University of Buenos Aires
Member, ICA Legislative Working Group
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Sr. Manuel Mariño
Regional Director
ICA Americas
San José, Costa Rica

Sen. Luis Rubeo
Secretary of the Consultative Council of the Latin American Parliament
Former National Senator, National Congress of Argentina
Buenos Aires, Argentina

5:00 p.m.

Summary/Wrap Up