

**Youth Network Assembly 2019  
Official Meeting Documentation  
13 October 2019  
Kigali, Rwanda**

## Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
Agenda	2
General Information	2
Voting Procedures	3
Youth Network Action Plan Update	3
Approval of the Minutes	5
Executive Committee Elections	7
Next Assembly of the Youth Network	9

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## Agenda

Time	Agenda Item
14:00	<b>Pick up voting materials</b>
14:30	<b>ASSEMBLY</b>
	Opening of the Assembly and Welcome from the Chairperson
	Youth Network Action Plan Update
	Approval of the draft minutes from Buenos Aires, Argentina
	Explanation of the election procedures, presentation of the Election Committee, & nomination of the vote counters
	Presentation of the candidates
	Election of Members-at-Large
	Count and results of the Election
	Youth Network Constitution & Formation of a Thematic Committee
	Next meeting date & venue
15:30	<b>WORKSHOP</b>
	Analysis from the mapping project and case studies / best practices
	Projects to replicate best practices
	How can we bring youth into the ICA?
16:30	<b>Break</b>
17:00	Youth resolution to the ICA General Assembly to take place 17 October 2019 in Kigali
18:30	<b>Closing</b>

## General Information

The Assembly and Workshop will take place on 13 October 2019 at the Kigali Convention Centre (<http://www.kigalicc.com/>) in room Mezzanine. This Assembly will take place in conjunction with the Global Conference on “Cooperatives for Development”. For more information, visit [www.kigali2019.coop](http://www.kigali2019.coop).

The meeting will be conducted in English. Should interpretation be required, please bring your interpreter with you.

The Assembly will be organised in accordance with the Youth Network Constitution. Please note we will not be distributing copies of any of the documentation. Please bring these with you to the meeting.

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## Voting Procedures

The only persons allowed to vote are members who have submitted a duly filled **nomination form** signed by a **member organisation** of the ICA. Members will be those persons up to 35 years inclusive and associated to organizations belonging to the ICA. Individuals will need to submit a form to the Youth Network secretariat.

Should a member not be able to attend the meeting, they can submit a proxy in writing to the Youth Network secretariat (**hacquard@ica.coop**). For a current list of members who you could give a proxy to, please ask the secretariat. A sample proxy letter is provided below:

### Proxy Letter

I hereby authorize <individual name> in <country> to represent me and vote on my behalf at the Youth Network Assembly to be held on 13 October 2018 in Kigali, Rwanda.

(include your signature, full name, contact email, and country)

All other individuals who attend the Assembly are observers.

Members who wish to vote should pick up their voting materials at 11h00. Members will not be able to pick up their materials after Assembly has started. When picking up the voting materials, members will be asked to sign that they picked up their materials.

All votes will be by show of voting card, except for the election for the Executive Committee. Members will receive ballots to allow you to elect the nomination. The vote will be secretly counted by counters nominated by the members present. There will be one observer nominated by the ICA.

Following the count, the results will be announced during the meeting. The observer will collect the ballots. The ballots remain in the possession of the observer until counted. Each ballot will be counted twice, by different individuals.

Results will be tallied on a summary sheet and signed by each of the individuals present at the count. The summary sheet will be preserved by the global office until the next election. The ballots will be destroyed following the election. During the counting of votes, candidates and members are not entitled to be present nor to be advised of the number of votes cast for a specific candidate. The observer will announce the results of the election.

## Youth Network Action Plan Update

### Contributions & General Remarks

First of all, it is important for us to recognize the diversity of the different cooperative forms amongst youth. We identify 3 main forms whose definition and repertoire of actions must be spread in the ICA, or many opportunities could be missed:

1. **Youth cooperatives:** they are built and run by and for young people. This movement is economically weak and would probably have difficulty in structuring itself in a sector at a global level but deserves special attention from all the structures of the ICA. In fact, this type of cooperative is particularly relevant to education programs and campuses, and has the advantage of easily spreading a cooperative culture by straddling entrepreneurship and education. This type of cooperative encounters common problems that are very enriching for the cooperative movement in general, such as the continuous renewal of management, the relationship of governance between employees and beneficiaries, and the discourse about cooperation with young people. They are rich and powerful but also emerging, the ICA would

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have everything to gain by working on a plan of support and growth of these cooperatives with sectors (consumers, producers ...) and regions.

- We believe that ICA should encourage the emergence of a federation dedicated to supporting these cooperatives. For example, by relying on the ICYC and making it a partner of its strategic orientation (EU partnerships, relationships with the C20 ...)
2. **Cooperatives created by young people or "start-up cooperatives"** who are young because the leaders are but who have no vocation to remain so. Often of modest size, to integrate them in meetings of the ICA and to allow them to express themselves (via the youth network, etc ...) requires a link with the initiatives on the ground and to be able to mobilize these leaders during thematic meetings on the major issues of the period (ex. strategic discussion, climate change, Artificial Intelligence ...)
    - We believe that the ICA must support the programs of promotion of "turnkey" cooperative entrepreneurship like Coopstarter and ensure the diffusion and the appropriation of the tools by the members.
  3. **Empowerment programs for young people**, set up by the movements or large cooperatives. These young cooperators are in the process of learning within a movement or large cooperatives - they are young managers or young leaders. It is extremely important to connect them to each other and to allow them to exchange best practices to promote and empower youth.
    - Based on the mapping done in 2018, publish a book of replicable good practices that we wish to see distributed to ICA members.

To these three elements we could add the question of cooperatives made up of youth under the age of 18, school cooperatives and pre-cooperatives, but they are more in the interest of education than of cooperative youth in our opinion. Some may nevertheless enter the 3rd category or sometimes into the first category.

Once these three categories are known and recognized, it is necessary to be able to follow their progress. To do this, we propose that part of the Youth Network's resources be used to maintain and update a map of these different youth cooperatives (especially categories 1 and 3). This means giving visibility to the mapping project, putting a permanent form online to register and human resources to process the answers.

But this knowledge must go hand in hand with an acquaintance that continues from meeting to meeting (shared with those of the ICA and / or not). But also with an official recognition that supports the diffusion of good practices recognizing the role and the autonomy of youth networks. We are talking here about autonomy and not independence, that is to say, the ability to innovate, contribute and produce within the frameworks put in place by the ICA.

### **The condition of this autonomy requires a reform of the functioning of the ICA including:**

- Self-determination of regional networks in the choice of their representatives (which may be different from one region to another)
- A place in regional boards for youth network representative(s)
- Support for regional and global mandates by the ICA (global and regional) in order to make these positions an opportunity for inclusion and not a "bonus" for the richest members able to finance the participation of young people.

- Authorization to use electronic voting systematically for the operation of the ICA youth network (elections, by-elections, important decisions ...)
- Recognition (i.e. establishment of a complete process: upstream debate, presentation, debate and ratification) by the ICA Board of the youth action plan proposed every 4 years by the new youth Representative(s) on the board of the ICA.
- Adoption of a youth budget line whose use is framed by the youth action plan over 4 years.
- Adoption of a budget line ensuring a youth committee meeting at least once a year (at the ICA General Assembly for example).
- Provision of a full-time person on a global scale to support the implementation of the youth action plan.

### Calendar of Actions

August 2019 – October 2019	Preparation for the Kigali GA: elections, statutory reform, action plan
October 2019 Assembly in Kigali	Organization of a network MA, Workshop on actions, meeting of the youth committee
November 2019 – September 2020	Production of the book of good practices for the inclusion of young people in cooperatives: publication objective for Seoul 2020
February 2020	Global Youth Forum and launching the replication program
February 2020 - December 2021	Replication program
January to June 2020	Update of the cartography
December 2020	Seoul Congress: presentation of the work on youth inclusion, progress on replication, call for a new GYF.
October 2021	AG in Brazil: review of the youth action plan, election of a youth representative, preparation of a new 2021/2024 action plan, evaluation of the Kigali statutory reforms

### Approval of the Minutes

The approval of the minutes will be conducted by show of voting card. The Chair will give the opportunity for members to express their vote in favour, against or to abstain.

## Youth Network Assembly 2018 Draft Minutes 25 October 2018 Buenos Aires, Argentina

### Opening of the Assembly and Welcome from the Chairperson

Sébastien Chaillou thanked all of the participants for attending this important meeting. He explained that our goal this year is to prepare for the Youth Forum next year. This will be the first ever global cooperative youth event. The goal of the forum is to connect youth to the ICA. Following the Youth Forum, there will be a large General Assembly in Kigali, Rwanda. We hope

that all youth on the Executive Committee will come as it will be important for youth to have input into the ICA Strategic Plan and Congress which will be held in 2020.

A quorum of 53 percent was reached. The Youth Network has a total of 79 eligible voters and 42 votes were distributed. 5 voters were present and the remaining 37 votes were given by proxy.

### Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved with one addition, to add the ratification of the new President of the Americas Regional Youth Committee as the Vice President for the Americas region.

Agenda Item	Time
Opening of the Assembly and Welcome from the Chairperson	12h15
Approval of the draft minutes from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	
Explanation of the election and presentation of the Election Committee	
Election to fill vacant seats on the Executive Committee	
Count and results of the Election	
Assembly Adjourned	12h45

### Approval of the draft minutes from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The draft minutes from the Youth Network Assembly held on 14 November 2017 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, were approved unanimously with no amendments.

### Executive Committee Elections

Angélica Soberanes Garcia was elected by the ICA Americas Regional Youth Committee as their President on 24 October 2018 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The President of the regional youth committees become Vice Presidents of the Executive Committees. She made a short presentation to introduce herself, explaining that she is the Communications Coordinator for Cooperativa La Cruz Azul SCL. She is from the Chiapas region of Mexico and speaks English and French fluently. She studied communications in University and would like to create a communications cooperative.

Ms Soberanes was unanimously ratified as the Vice President for the Americas region.

There were two open seats on the Executive Committee, one for a member at-large in the Africa Region and one for a member at-large in the Asia-Pacific region. The Executive Committee is elected every four years, so these candidates will fill the seats until the full election at the next Youth Network Assembly in 2019.

All of the candidates were able to make a two-minute presentation, and for those not present, their presentations were made by those who were present. There was one video shown by a candidate, Hussein Ibrahim who was not present. The only candidate present was Ryan Miquiabas Huesca from the Philippines. It is not necessary for a nominee to be present in order to win the election.

The observer for the elections was Maria Eugenia Pérez Zea from Colombia. She is an ICA Board Member and Chair of ICA's Gender Equality Committee.

The results of the election were as follows:

### Member at-large in Africa

Votes	Name	Nominating organisation	Country
9	Albert Akwasi Boakye	Ghana Co-operative Council	Ghana

33	Koffi Kobenan Maurice	Fédération des Unions des Sociétés Coopératives des Producteurs de la Filière Coton de Côte d'Ivoire (FPC-CI Coop CA)	Côte d'Ivoire
0	Hussein Ibrahim	Somali Union Co-operative Movement (UDHIS)	Somalia

Mr Koffi Kobenan Maurice won the election for Africa.

### Member at-large in Asia-Pacific

Votes	Name	Nominating organisation	Country
1	Alireza Banaeifar	Iran Chamber of Cooperatives (ICC)	Iran
41	Ryan Miquiabas Huesca	Aurora Integrated Multipurpose Cooperative (AIMCooP)	Philippines

Mr Ryan Miquiabas Huesca won the election for Asia-Pacific.

Chaillou congratulated the candidates and explained that we now have a full Executive Committee for the first time. We will schedule a first online meeting before the end of the year.

### Next Assembly of the Youth Network

The next meeting of the global Youth Network will be during the Global Youth Forum - Cooperative Entrepreneurship to take place in Summer 2019 in Sri Lanka. The election for the members-at-large will take place at that time because their term expires in 2019. It was decided to have the election during the Forum because more youth will be present.

The global Youth Network will also organize an Assembly during ICA's General Assembly and Global Conference on development to take place in September or October 2019. This will be an opportunity to work deeper on the resolution presented during the Global Youth Forum.

Chaillou thanked everyone for their participation and adjourned the meeting on time.

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## Executive Committee Elections

The Executive Committee has four seats for members at large who are nominated by ICA members, but no more than one member at large from each region. The Executive Committee members at large are elected every four years, so the candidates will fill the seats until the full election at the Youth Network Assembly in 2023.

It is not necessary for a nominee to be present in order to win the election.

The following are the eligible candidates for **Africa**:



### Koffi Kobenan Maurice

**Nominated by:** Fédération des Unions des Sociétés Coopératives des Producteurs de la Filière Coton de Côte d'Ivoire (FPC-CI Coop CA)

**Country:** Côte d'Ivoire

**Date of birth:** 1 October 1990

**About:** Mr. KOFFI is Agroeconomist, Graduate of the School of Agronomy of INPHB in Yamoussoukro; graduated in Management and Technology of Modern Agriculture in Israel. He was a research assistant on the project "post-harvest loss, causes and solutions" sponsored by FAO and led by the School of Agronomy in



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Yamousoukro. Mr. KOFFI was operating manager at an agropastoral farm in 2016 before joining the FPC-CI where he is Technical Assistant of the General Director, in charge of projects, agricultural and socio-economic issues. He also represents his boss in agricultural technical meetings and has participated in various international trainings organised by ICA members. Since 2018, he has been a member-at-large on the Youth Network Executive Committee.

The following are the eligible candidates for **Americas**:



### **Tatiana Pardo Peñuela**

**Nominated by:** Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia

**Country:** Colombia

**Date of birth:** May 10 1994

**About:** In my continuous training process I have characterized myself as being an honest, responsible, creative and loyal person; Faithful to the values and principles instilled by my family and teachers, aimed at fulfilling the activities to develop in a proactive, organized, planned, measurable and scalable way, a fact that contributes extensively at the personal level in solving problems within organizations. My commitment is to contribute to the sustainable development of organizations, adding value that contributes to society.

The following are the eligible candidates for **Asia-Pacific**:



### **Alireza Banaeifar**

**Nominated by:** Iran Chamber of Cooperatives (ICC)

**Country:** Iran, Islamic Republic of

**Date of birth:** 17 July 1987

**About:** I am Alireza Banaeifar, MBA Graduate, and currently working as the International Affairs Manager of Iran Chamber of Cooperatives (ICC) since 2016. I finished my master's degree in Business Administration at Istanbul University in Turkey. During my term at ICC, I have succeeded in organizing business delegations to/from other countries, holding committee meetings in different areas of activity with the presence of foreign ambassadors in Iran and their commercial attaché. I have also been an active and passionate member of ICYC in Asia-Pacific and have participated in different committee meetings, online meetings and workshops. I am currently executive manager and head of organizing team for hosting the 13th ICA-Asia Pacific regional assembly in Tehran, taking place in November 2018.



### **Cecile Jay MASANEGRA**

**Nominated by:** Aurora Integrated Multipurpose Cooperative (AIMCooP)

**Country:** Philippines

**Date of birth:** 7 June 1991 (28 years old)

**About:** Mr. Masanegra joined AIMCooP in 2011 and is now Area Manager. He is a leader in leading youth in development, innovation and involvement. This is his 2nd year as Point Person of AIMCooP to the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC). These partnership programs with the government are for members of AIMCooP promoting youth to enter entrepreneurship and agriculture. He has a Master in Business Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Major in Human Resources & Guidance Counseling.

The following are the eligible candidates for **Europe**:

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## **Todor IVANOV**

**Nominated by:** Central Co-operative Union (CCU)

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Date of birth:** 1 March 1986 (33 years old)

**About:** Secretary General of Euro Coop – the European Community of Consumer Co-operatives, simultaneously Secretary General of Consumer Co-operatives Worldwide (CCW) since January 2014. Leads the Secretariat's advocacy and representation activities in front of the EU institutions and European level stakeholders (Euro Coop) and within the ICA and with global stakeholders (CCW); as well as continuously looking to create conditions for meaningful intermember collaboration for both organizations' national members, as well as synergies between the two organisations themselves. Ivanov started his career in Central Cooperative Union – Bulgaria, where he worked as a Senior Expert in the International Affairs Department and later as Director of the Co-operative Policy Department. Holds a PhD in Organisation and Management of Consumer Co-operatives.



## **Andrea Sangiorgi**

**Nominated by:** Confederazione Cooperative Italiane (CONFCOOPERATIVE)

**Country:** Italy

**Date of birth:** 14 July 1988

**About:** I am Andrea I am 31 years old and first of all let me say that I really wished I could be there with you. In these days, I am attending the Italian general meeting and one important event on innovation and cooperatives. As you may know, I have been working in a cooperative, Solco, a social consortium, for 12 years. I am the IT manager as well as the coordinator for training and innovation initiatives within my consortium.

I am actively engaged in the representative groups of the Italian cooperative world, at different levels, both local and national. I really believe we can make the difference, as young cooperators, leveraging our knowledge and courage. I am still working on the ICC (international cooperative citizenship) project, which, without the support of the youth network, would be very difficult to concretize. I am also member of another non-profit international youth organization, called Round Table international, because I believe that today the most important thing to improve our professional life and to make the difference with our work is to be more connected. This means, more relationships, especially face-to-face relationships, and why not, new friends.

## **Next Assembly of the Youth Network**

The next Assembly of the global Youth Network will be in conjunction with the ICA General Assembly 2021.