



**International Co-operative Alliance**  
**Alliance Coopérative Internationale**  
**Allianza Cooperative International**



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Mr. Dorji Dhradhul  
Director  
Department of Agricultural Marketing and Cooperatives (DAMC)  
Department of Agricultural Marketing and Cooperatives  
Ministry of Agriculture and Forests  
Thimphu,  
Bhutan

28 June 2013

Dear Mr. Dorji Dhradhul,

It is my pleasure to welcome the Department of Agricultural Marketing and Cooperatives (DAMC) into membership in the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA). The Membership Committee of the ICA Board agreed to admit your organisation as an Associate Member of the ICA.

**Value of Membership**

Below are the services that the ICA provides to its members based on our three member values – the ICA as a Forum for Inter-cooperation, Co-operative Knowledge, and the Global voice of the co-operative movement.

**Forum for Inter-cooperation**

- Develop business relationships and partnerships with ICA members
- ICA Expo and trade fairs
- Access to the ICA network
- Connection to the global development network

**Co-operative Knowledge**

- Gain access to ICA as a resource for co-operative expertise, in particular co-operative statistics, information and intelligence
- Participate in capacity building/training programmes
- Exchange of information and technical documents
- Receive and access information on co-operatives including regular publications
- Access member only resources including the ICA Membership Directory, member only information releases, and global co-operative statistics as requested.

**Global Voice**

- ICA defines and promotes the co-operative difference with media and policy-makers
- ICA represents the co-operative movement in multilateral organisations including the United Nations system, the International Accounting Standards Board, the European Union, and others
- Defence for the co-operative movement with national governments at the request of members
- Participate in the governance of the ICA

### **Participating in the ICA**

Participation in Sectoral Organisations and Thematic Committees is open to all ICA members. Please contact them if you are interested: <http://ica.coop/en/ica-sectoral-organisations> and <http://ica.coop/en/ica-thematic-committees>.

In order to ensure that you receive ICA information and publications, we would appreciate if you would fill in the attached form. It is important that you provide us with postal address information as well as your contact e-mail addresses. This will ensure that printed and electronic information is sent to you and your colleagues as indicated on the form.

We would also appreciate it if you could send us a high-resolution copy of your logo so that we can announce your membership in the ICA Digest.

We would like to encourage you to send us regular information on your organisation and its activities. This will enable us to share information among members through all channels of communications, not least in ICA publications. Please also remember to add the ICA on your mailing list to receive copies of your regular publications as well as any reports on the activities of the co-operative movement in your country, including any national policy developments affecting co-operatives.

In this regard, an important activity of the ICA is the collection of co-operative statistical information. ICA members are asked to provide basic statistical information on a yearly basis. This enables us to better represent the co-operative movement as well as provide information to members about the scope of our movement.

You may wish to view the ICA Statutes, which can be downloaded at <http://ica.coop/en/basics/ica-rules-by-laws>. Please note that membership entails a number of rights and obligations which are outlined in the ICA Statutes.

### **Activating Your Membership**

Your membership will be activated upon receipt of your first ICA subscription dues.

We hope that you will be an active ICA member, sharing information and expertise and actively participating in all ICA activities.

Allow me, on behalf of the ICA Board, to welcome you into the world family of co-operatives. We look forward to a close working relationship.

With co-operative greetings,



Charles Gould  
Director-General, ICA

Cc: ICA Asia-Pacific