



Vice Prime Minister Fernando La Sama de Araujo (middle) and Minister of Commerce, Industry and Environment Abel de C. Ximennes with ACCU CEO at the opening of the conference.

## CU Federation Takes Lead Role in Timor Leste Coop Development

On a seminar organized by the federation on November 17, ACCU CEO Ranjith Hettiarachchi shared the basic tools for credit union development to 30 credit union leaders and students learning cooperatives. The CEO indicated that ACCU is willing to support the federation on the deployment of the tools to its members. Almost 50% of the 120 cooperatives registered in Timor Leste are credit unions.

Chairman Mr.Elizario Ferreira of the Federação Cooperativa Crédito Hanai Malu (National Federation Credit Union Hanai Malu) is elected as Chairman of the National Confederation of Cooperatives in Timor Leste at the general meeting held on the capital Dili on November 11.

## East Timor: International Conference Opens Opportunities for Coop Development

The Asian credit union movement was represented by ACCU CEO Ranjith Hettiarachchi who presented proposal on the development of credit union sector in East Timor at the International Seminar on Cooperatives on the theme “Co-operatives Build a Better World” on November 18 to 19 in Dili.



Currently, there are 120 primary co-operatives and 3 federations with approximately 25,000 individual members. “This situation demonstrates the awareness of local communities, especially in the rural areas about the importance of co-operatives as an economic instrument to help people improve their living conditions,” according to Vice Prime Minister Fernando La Sama de Araujo who opened the conference.

The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Environment of the Democratic Republic of East Timor organized the first ever cooperative conference attended by 200 delegates from different sectors in Timor Leste and international supporters from Australia, Brazil, Indonesia, Japan, Madagascar, Portugal, Thailand, and Sudan. The Ministry recognizes that cooperative is an instrument for the promotion of the welfare of the people.





## Management Report, November 2013



**CARD-MRI Board of Trustees:** ACCU welcomed the Board of Trustees of CARD-MRI, an affiliate member of ACCU in the Philippines on November 21 on their study visit to Thailand. Though an MFI, CARD-MRI applies the member-owned principle. U-Life, CULT, Soon Klang Thewa CU and St. Peter CU welcomed the group.



**CULROC EXPOSURE PROGRAM:** Nine credit union professionals from Mongolia, Philippines, Thailand and Singapore attended the credit union exposure program on November 4 to 8 hosted by the Credit Union League of the Republic of China (CULROC-Taiwan). Coordinated by ACCU with its members, the program was an exchange of best practices and challenges of host and participating countries. Sanya CU, Haisin CU and Sifan CU welcomed the group. The group discussed poverty alleviation programs at Chi Nan University and Feng Chia University. CULROC hosts the annual exposure program in Taiwan for maximum 10 leaders and professionals from ACCU members.



**STRENGTHENING MEMBERSHIP TIES:** The Board of Directors and senior management of the SANASA Federation (Federation of Thrift & Credit Cooperative Societies - FTCCS), a regular member of ACCU visited ACCU on November 29 aimed at strengthening relations of the federation with its regional organization. ACCU and SANASA have implemented various development programs in Sri Lanka such as the Credit Union Microfinance Innovation, Professionalization, AgriFinance, women empowerment and youth marketing. ACCU offers partnership to deploy the credit union business solutions to credit unions. The group also visited the Federation of Savings and Credit Cooperatives of Thailand Ltd. on December 3.

## ACCU Participates ICA-AP's HRD Seminar in Colombo



ACCU experience in building the human capital of credit unions in Asia was shared at the Regional Seminar on "Success Stories as a Tool for Cooperative Education and Training" and 25th Meeting of the ICA-AP Committee on HRD for Asia and the Pacific at Renuka Hotel, Colombo (Sri Lanka) on 26 and 27 November. Attended by more than 100 coop leaders, the seminar was focused on the concepts, definition and functions of HRD.

## After Haiyan: Rebuild Credit Unions - Help people regain hope...

In response to support the rebuilding of credit unions affected by the typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, ACCU has mobilized a total of USD 14,245.44 from members and individuals.

Since the Philippine government, international and local relief organizations are carrying out massive relief efforts, ACCU and its members in the Philippines will focus its support to restart the normal operation of credit unions. This may include rehabilitation of office, acquisition of computers and office furniture. Approximately 50 coops and credit unions are affected by the typhoon. For centuries, credit unions have demonstrated its exceptional role in rebuilding communities and lives of people in difficult times. Thus, ACCU members will put its efforts to ensure the affected coops stand on its feet again to serve people.

ACCU thank the following members and individuals for their contribution:

- First Choice Credit Union – Australia
- Maritime Mining Power Credit Union - Australia
- Lantang Tipo Credit Union – Indonesia
- The Cooperative Bank of Vietnam
- Credit Union League of Thailand
- Credit Union League of the Republic of China
- Interregional Association of Credit Unions of the Far East and Zabaikalye – Russia
- Mr. Dorji Dhradhul - Director, Department of Agricultural Marketing & Co-operatives - Bhutan

Your contribution is most welcome to:

Account name: Asian Confederation of Credit Unions



Bank: Bangkok Bank Public Co. Ltd.  
 Bank Address: Klongchan Branch, No. 52, Seri Thai Road, Bangkok, Bangkok, Thailand 10240  
 Account Number: 156 4 30210-5  
 Swift Code: BKKBTBHK



Dear Fellow Regulators,

*It's my pleasure to invite you to the 7th Asian Credit Union/Cooperative Regulators Conference. Let us do our part to take the co-operative way of doing business to a new level - the heart of the 2020 Challenge."*

- Dr. Emmanuel Santiaguel, President - ACCRA



# Regulatory reform



## 7TH CREDIT UNION REGULATORS/ADMINISTRATORS CONFERENCE Blueprint for Strengthened (Enabling) Regulatory Framework for Credit Unions in Asia

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

ACCU envisions a sustainable cooperative credit union system in Asia. One of the critical success factors is an enabling regulatory environment to ensure well managed and sound credit unions.

From 2003 to 2012, six regulators conferences were organized by ACCU. In 2009, the regulators adopted a forum structure called the ASIAN CREDIT UNION and COOPERATIVES REGULATORS ALLIANCE (ACCRA) that serves as venue for dialogue, collaboration and exchange of regulation and supervision best practice, share

information and technology and pledge to actively participate and involve in all its undertakings in its yearly gathering.

The 7th conference aims to enable Asian credit unions to serve a wider base of members through the delivery of need based and affordable financial services that improve lives of people. Building an enabling regulatory environment for cooperative credit unions would prepare them as viable financial players in the advent of the Asian Economic Community by 2015, protect members' interest, maintain financial stability, and promote coops as the new way of doing business in Asia.

**MARCH 6 TO 10, 2014  
BANGKOK, THAILAND**

Organized by ACCRA, with the support of the Asian Confederation of Credit Unions, the conference is open for Cooperative Regulators in Asia.

For more information, please contact:

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