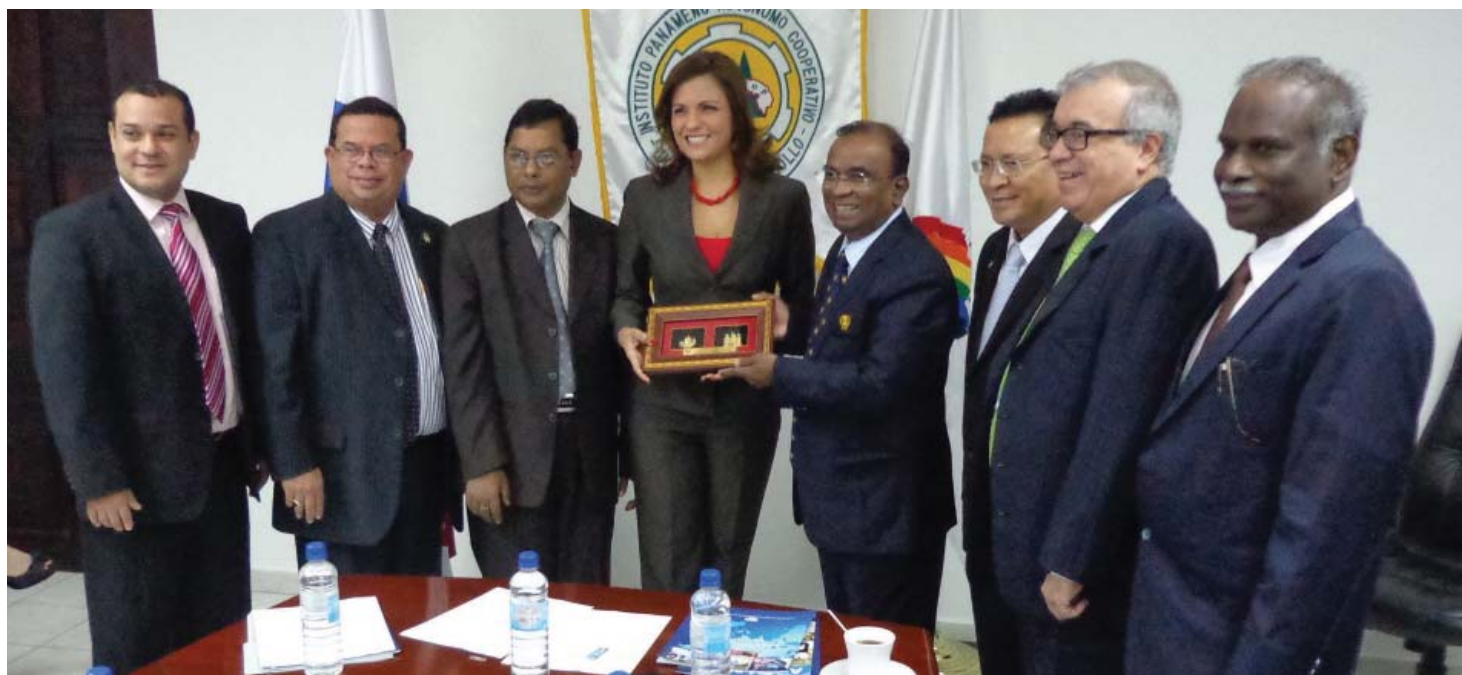


October 2013

Management Report



Highlights of the monthly activities of the ASSOCIATION OF ASIAN CONFEDERATION OF CREDIT UNIONS



CEOs Study Visit to COLAC Generate Exciting Outlook for Asian CU Movement

Four Asian CEOs: ACCU Ranjith Hettiarachchi, Federation of Savings and Credit Cooperatives of Thailand's Anan Chatruracheewin, The Cooperative Credit Union League of Bangladesh' Ratan F. Costa and Development Promotion Group's (India) Bhakter Solomon were hosted by the Confederation of Latin American Credit Unions (COLAC) for the study visit held on October 22 to 27 in Panama. Both the Asian and Latin American delegates shared experiences on the best practices in regulations, cooperative structures, financial and commercial strategies, products and services at different levels, challenges and future development plans.

The CEOs were inspired on the financial intermediation among the members of COLAC. "The study led us to explore once

again the feasibility of the regional financial intermediation system for Asian credit unions. As trade barriers would be diminished or lessened in the advent of the Asian Economic Community by 2015, we are hopeful that the establishment of a regional fund in ACCU is possible," according to Ranjith. "We will support the lobbying with the Thai cooperative regulators to amend the cooperative law allowing the registration of a regional body for credit unions in Thailand," said Anan Chatruracheewin. Thailand is playing an active role in the AEC, added Anan. According to Ranjith the study visit was timely as ACCU is chartering the Blueprint for the Growth and Development of Credit Unions in Asia.

Founded on August 28, 1970, COLAC is the counterpart of ACCU in Latin America.

It has 26 member organizations from 18 countries. During the exposure, the four CEOs visited eight cooperative organizations including the regulatory body, the federation of savings and credit cooperatives in Panama, primary credit unions, and insurance cooperative.

ACCU will in turn welcome the COLAC delegation in Thailand tentatively in January 2014. 2013. The first exchange study visit is sponsored by Proxfin, the international network of thirty community finance institutions and Développement international Desjardins (DID) whose members have made a commitment to work towards the dual objectives of financial performance and social impact which they consider inseparable. ACCU and COLAC are members of Proxfin.



CUCO Incoming CEO Aims ACCESS Branded CUs in 2014

The much coveted ACCESS Brand by credit unions would seem to pave way in Indonesia as the incoming General Manager of the Credit Union Central of Indonesia (CUCO) made it his first project even before he assumes the position on December 1, 2013. Designated General Manager of CUCO Mr. Basilius Puspo Cahyo hopes that at least two credit unions receive ACCESS brand when CUCO hosts the Asian Credit Union Forum in 2014.

Held on October 15-17, the ACCESS Auditors training build the skills of 37 technical persons of CUCO and credit union chapters. The training enables the team to conduct ACCESS audit, provide technical advice to achieve the standards and facilitate strategic planning using ACCESS as a tool. The skills to critically

analyze the inability to achieve the standards, identify the OFIs (opportunities for improvement), and sustain the future are the needed by the auditors.

ACCU CEO Ranjith Hettiarachchi suggested creating a pool of ACCESS auditors in which CUCO shall monitor and ensure the quality of performance.

The new GM Mr. Puspo recognizes the importance of ACCESS branding to secure the credit unions under CUCO affiliation. Mr. Puspo has been with CUCO since 1998 as the Manager of the Mutual Aid Department. He will replace Mr. Abat Elias S E who has been in the movement for more than 25 years. Mr. Abat will continue his service to the credit union by assisting CUCO on the administration of its training programs.



*Designated General Manager of CUCO
Mr. Basilius Puspo Cahyo*



BOL Determined to Uphold Development of SCUs

After attending the Asian Credit Union Forum in Nepal, the Director General of the Financial Institution Supervision Department of the Bank of Lao PDR (BOL), Dr. Akhom Praseuth led the group of 7 senior officers for a study visit in Thailand on October 7 to 11. BOL is the regulatory body for savings and credit unions (SCUs) in Laos. The ACCU SACUDIL Project in Laos is lobbying with BOL the registration of the secondary organization of SCUs under the SCU law. The group visited CULT and FSCT as well as the Cooperative Promotion Department, the regulating body for cooperatives in Thailand. BOL has granted registration to six SCUs supported by the project, while six are on the verge of registration. The secondary organization for SCUs has now organized, but subject to registration.



WELCOME: New Supporter Members

The following credit unions came forward to support credit union development in Asia through ACCU:

**Bangladesh: Mothbari Khudra
Beboshaye Samabaya Samity Ltd.,**

**Philippines: ACDI Multi-Purpose
Cooperative, LAMAC Multipurpose
Cooperative, and Sta Ana Multi-
Purpose Cooperative (SAMULCO).**

62 Supporter members from 13 countries are directly involving in the promotion and strengthening of credit unions in developing movements.



Board and executive staff of ACDI MPC from the Philippines visited ACCU on 7 October as part of their Thailand study visit on October 7 to 12. During this visit, the coop is accepted as Supporter Member of ACCU.



CARD & U Life Ink an Agreement

ACCU witnessed the signing of agreement between CARD and Union Life Insurance Public Co. Ltd. aimed to formalize a non-exclusive partnership meant to explore collaboration on technical assistance, distribution of products and services, investments and ownership agreements. Both an Affiliate member of ACCU, CARD operates a subsidiary called CARD MRI Insurance Agency, Inc. (CAMIA) while U Life is a membership based cooperative insurance company in Thailand. "ACCU paves the way to this collaboration and we will ensure that the partnership will add value to our service offering to our members and clients," said CARD MRI Managing Director Dr. Aristotle Alip.

ACCU welcomes Intern from DID

ACCU welcomes Ms. Caroline Richard on the 7th of October as a Communication Intern from Développement international Desjardins (DID). Ms. Richard will be working with ACCU team for the next six months until March 25, 2014. She will be supporting ACCU in marketing the online training and develop tool for credit union marketing. Ms. Richard has earned Masters Microprogram in Communications, Marketing and New Media and has worked for caisse populaire or credit unions in Quebec. Ms. Richard is the 2nd intern from DID. The first intern Ms. Emilie Morissette Grégoire had completed her 6 months internship on the first week of October 2013.



DID's internship program is part of the International Youth Internship Program is a program for Canadian graduates (ages 19 to 30 inclusive), part of the Career Focus stream of the Government of Canada's Youth Employment Strategy, and provides Canadian youth with tools and experience they need to launch successful careers.

Block your Calendars for these events!

- December 2 to 5, 2013: Credit Union Loan Officers Competency Course, Bangkok, Thailand
- January 27 - 30, 2014: Audit/ Supervisory Committee Competency Course - Bangkok, Thailand
- March 4 to 6, 2014: CEOs Workshop (for CEOs of national federations), Bangkok, Thailand
- March 7 to 9, 2014: 7th Cooperative/Credit Union Regulators Conference, Bangkok, Thailand
- April 2014: NACUFOK Friendship Program
- May 5 to 9, 2014: Credit Union CEOs Competency Course (Updated), Bangkok, Thailand
- June 15 to 20, 2014: 16th Development Education Workshop, Bangkok, Thailand
- September 15 to 17 - Pre-Forum Workshops, Indonesia
- September 18 to 20 - Asian Credit Union Forum, Indonesia
- September 21 - ACCU Annual General Meeting, Indonesia

For more details e-mail:
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