

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS / MINUTES



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
(EXCOM)
MEETING
Bangkok
March 7- 9, 2019



NEDAC

Network for the Development of
Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia and the Pacific

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS / MINUTES OF MEETING OF
THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXCOM) OF NEDAC HELD
ON MARCH 7 & 8, 2019 AT REMBRANDT HOTEL,
SUKHUMVIT SOI 18, BANGKOK, THAILAND
FOLLOWED BY FIELD VISIT ON 9 MARCH 2019**

**Agenda Item 1901: Welcome. Introduction, Confirmation of
Proceedings / Minutes**

1901.1 Chairman, NEDAC Mr. Sundeep Kumar Nayak, IAS extended hearty welcome to all participants (EXCOM members and invitees) to the EXCOM Meeting for attending the meeting. He welcomed all the new members of NEDAC. He expressed special thanks and welcomed Md. Kamal Uddin Talukder, Secretary, Rural Development and Cooperatives Division (RD CD), Ministry of LGRD & Cooperation, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. He expressed thanks to CPD for their support to NEDAC. Chairman NEDAC presented a memento to the Secretary RD CD as a token of respect and appreciation. Chairman also thanked the FAO focal point Mr. Yukitsugu Yanoma, Policy Officer, FAORAP for attending the meeting. He welcomed Ms. Christie R.C. Plantilla, FPSDC, Philippines; the President of TS Coop Apex Bank, India; the Managing Director of TS Coop Apex Bank, India; the Chairman of Karnataka State Coop Apex Bank, India. He specifically welcomed the first member of NEDAC from Africa, the KUSCCO, Kenya for joining NEDAC. He also expressed special thanks to Mr. Bhima Subrahmanyam for taking special efforts in expanding the membership base of NEDAC. Chairman complimented Mr. K. B. Upreti for being elected Chairman of NCDBL, Nepal. Chairman also thanked the Chairman, APEDA for participation of two representatives from APEDA.

1901.2 All the participants introduced themselves. The list of participants is at **Annex-A**.

1901.3 The proceedings of the last EXCOM held on 16 November 2018 at New Delhi had been circulated along with the proceedings of General Assembly held at New Delhi on 15-16 November 2018. As there were no comments, the Minutes / Record of Proceedings were confirmed and adopted unanimously.

Agenda item 1902: Adoption of Agenda and Time table of the EXCOM Meeting

The tentative agenda and time table of the EXCOM Meeting was earlier circulated to all NEDAC Members. There were no comments or suggestion on the Agenda and time table. EXCOM adopted the agenda and time table without any change.

Agenda item 1903 : Board Thematic Areas Sub-Committee Meetings

The Chairman of each Sub-Committee presented the progress.

1903.1 Sub-Committee on Strategic Communication and NEDAC Website.

Mr. N. Satyanarayana showed the progress on construction of new NEDAC Website. It was felt that since each member organization may have its own website, NEDAC website should have link to the website of individual members. In case a member does not have its own website, the NEDAC website may contain description about the member. It was decided that final recommendation of the Sub-Committee/interim report should be submitted later to Chairman NEDAC for approval and the process would be reported in the next EXCOM.

1903.2 Sub-Committee on Capacity Development / Training.

1903.2.1 Mr. Mohamed Riyas, Vice Chairman, NEDAC informed the meeting that training programme for youth development and empowerment was prepared with emphasis an IT Programme. It was decided that the training programmes as developed in Sri Lanka may be circulated to other members of the Sub-Committee and to NEDAC Secretariat so that if other members want to take part in the training programmes in Sri Lanka, it can be facilitated by NEDAC.

1903.2.2 Chairman talked about proposal of NEDAC Secretariat to start NEDAC TRAINING CENTRE (NTC) at Bangkok through NEDAC Secretariat, Bangkok. NTC would run short duration training programmes which would contribute towards capacity development and also help NEDAC generate resources. NTC may be without any additional cost to NEDAC. Chairman offered the services of NCDC Training Academy specialists prepare the initial training modules for NTC. The Member of EXCOM representing CPD and Secretary General, APRACA assured their active support in running programmes at NTC.

1903.2.3 Chairman was authorized to take steps for administrative and financial arrangements and incurring expenditure for various activities including engagement of experts / personnel on contract basis at NEDAC Secretariat, Bangkok and at Chairman's Office in Delhi.

1903.3 Sub-Committee on Experienced Learning and Study Visits.

Mr. K. B. Upreti, Chairman of the Sub-Committee stated that the study visits should be for learning best practices. NAFSCOB suggested that NCBL, Nepal may also invite NEDAC members to visit Nepal and learn about production practices of agric. products, fruits, vegetables, livestock etc. It was also suggested the study visits should also include activities/ programmes of agricultural credit. It was also stated that APRACA may also contribute to the study visits on agric. credit system in NEDAC member countries as some members of NEDAC are also member of APRACA.

1903.4 Sub-Committee on Sub-Committee on Ideas to Action through exchange programmes.

It was decided that Secretary, RDCCD would be the Chairman of the Sub-Committee and Head of KUSCCO, Kenya would be the Co-Chairman. TS Coop Apex Bank, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Nepal, India (A&N Islands Administration) and CPD would be the members of this Sub-Committee.

1903.5 Sub-Committee on Sustainable Development and Response of Cooperatives to Climate Change.

The Chairman of the Sub-Committee Mr. Orlando R. Ravanera was not able to attend the EXCOM meeting due to problem of his travel authorization. His paper on coop response to climate change was circulated to NEDAC members. It was therefore decided to defer

discussion on the matter for Mr. Ravanera's participation in the next EXCOM meeting in Philippines in December 2019.

1903.6 Sub-Committee on Complete Value Chain and C2C trade promotion.

NCDC as head of the Sub-Committee would organize C2C trade platform once the NEDAC website is developed. It was decided that FPSDC Philippines may join this Sub-Committee.

1903.7 Sub-Committee on International Cooperative Trade Fair Platform.

1903.7.1 Chairman NEDAC informed the meeting that NCDC, NEDAC and others are going to organize the First India International Cooperatives Trade Fair (IICTF) at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 11 - 13 October 2019. Road Show on Trade Fair is being organized by NEDAC on March 8, 2019 at Rembrandt Hotel, Bangkok. He requested the participation of NEDAC members and others from the respective member countries in the IICTF. It was decided that there should not be any rental/fees for one basic unit of exhibition space measuring 3metre x 3metre coupled with one room twin bed accommodation for five nights (10-14 October 2019) for non-Indian NEDAC members participating in IICTF as exhibitor/buyer, as an incentive from the organizers to NEDAC member organizations.

1903.7.2 It was decided that CPD and RDCD would consider joining IICTF as Partner Countries. Formal request for such partnership would be sent by the organizers.

1903.8 Sub-Committee on Advocacy and Policy Dialogue.

Chairman NEDAC informed that some of the elected political leaders expressed desire to be the members of this sub-committee. A senior leader may head the sub-committee in due course. The members would be T.S CAB, Karnataka Coop Apex Bank and policy leaders. The other members would be from Sri Lanka / Philippines / Bangladesh and NCUI India.

Trade with ASEAN countries on fruits and vegetables is very important for advocacy and policy dialogue. Chairmanship of this sub-Committee will be decided in the next meeting of EXCOM in December 2019.

Agenda item 1904 : Discussion on Draft NEDAC Strategic Plan 2019 2020 and 2021

The Draft NEDAC Strategic Plan for 3 years (2019, 2020 and 2021) as prepared by local office in New Delhi had been circulated. Detailed discussion took place. NEDAC's activities as shown in the strategic plan could be reviewed by FAORAP to assess common interest for possible support/assistance from FAO. As per the draft plan, out of 0.6 million USD total outlay, it is proposed to seek FAO's support amounting to 0.4 M USD and 0.2 M USD will be generated by NEDAC through different sources such as membership fee, training of coop personnel at NEDAC Training Centre, Bangkok etc.

Assistance may also be explored from other sources including travel cost of participants of the workshop would be met by the concerned organizations joining the workshop or by the participants themselves. The matter may be examined further for exploring support from IFAD or any other organization / donors.

It was decided that participation in EXCOM / General Assembly by Members would be on self-financing basis (air fare, accommodation, food) as decided in November 2018, while reiterating that the local host (for example CDA Philippines for next EXCOM and China for next GA) is expected to meet the cost of venue, field visit, food and accommodation etc. as per practice.

Mr. Yukitsugu Yanoma from FAORAP informed the meeting that FAORAP might consider the strategic plan for possible support/assistance to NEDAC for implementation of the strategic action plan on best production practices, food safety and sustainable food production activities.

Agenda item 1905 : Discussion on Address by ADG/RR FAORAP

Chairman NEDAC heartily welcomed ADG / RR to the EXCOM. He thanked her for agreeing to address the meeting. All EXCOM participants introduced themselves to ADG/RR.

ADG/RR thanked Chairman NEDAC for kindly inviting her to address the EXCOM meeting. She stated that it is her privilege to meet with the NEDAC EXCOM members. She spoke about the larger context of growth in the dynamic Asia Pacific region. She emphasized that the need of the hour is to address inequalities spreading across the region

through the medium of cooperatives at grass roots level and as such the role of NEDAC becomes important. She stated that FAO RAP looks forward to some of the bold visions of NEDAC through its strategic plan under formulation. FAO RAP would like to consider the doable and important activities under the bold vision of NEDAC. She mentioned about the great work being done in the agriculture sector in Philippines, Thailand, China, SAARC countries etc. She suggested that NEDAC should explore assistance/support to activities specially in cross country learning, agri-business, agri-processing, mechanization, market participation, post harvest losses of fruits and vegetable, food safety and sustainable food production from FAO and other organizations like WB, IFA, IFAD, ILO, other donors. NEDAC should also aim at promoting a Network of Champions.

About the NEDAC Strategic Plan, she stated that it would be reviewed in FAORAP for finding areas of common interest where FAO support/assistance could be considered. All EXCOM meeting participants appreciated ADG/RR's encouragement and supportive attitude to NEDAC.

Agenda item 1906 : Discussion on Address by HE Ambassador of India

Chairman NEDAC extended hearty welcome to HE Ambassador of India to Thailand for kindly addressing the EXCOM meeting participants. HE Ambassador of India to Thailand briefly stated the cooperative development in India especially in Dairy, sugar, textiles and handlooms and storage/marketing include agric. credit. HE Ambassador also mentioned that 95% of the farmers in India are covered under different types of cooperatives. Government gives priority to production of high value crops, improved food production technology, marketing of agric. produce and C2C trade promotion.

She encouraged the NEDAC members to take benefit of ITEC programme of Government of India. She also mentioned that EOI will try to send cooperative personnel/organization from Thailand to the IICTF in India in October 2019 and EOI will also join the Road Show on IICTF on March 8, 2019 at Rembrandt Hotel and look forward to further collaboration with NCDC/NEDAC for promotion of the Trade Fair in India.

All EXCOM meeting participants appreciated HE The Ambassador's encouragement and supportive attitude to NEDAC.

Agenda item 1907 : Reporting matters on NEDAC functioning for the year 2018

1907.1 Finding a NEDAC Member willing to Host NEDAC General Assembly Session 2018

Report was noted and accepted.

1907.2 NEDAC Membership Drive

Report was noted and accepted. EXCOM decided that regular members in China, Thailand, Iran and Bangladesh would approach more cooperative organizations to join NEDAC. CPD was requested take up with CLT to join NEDAC.

1907.3 NEDAC Membership fee for 2018

It was stated that NEDAC membership fee for 2018 was received from 14 old members and 7 new members (6 in India and 1 in Sri Lanka). It was decided that NEDAC report should state that USD 2500 or USD 3000 for membership fee or new membership fee as received and the net amount received after bank charge deduction should be reflected separately in accounts.

1907.4 NEDAC Earning of additional Income by working with FAO Bangkok through Letter of Agreement (LOA) in 2018 and 2019

Report was noted and accepted. EXCOM was happy to know that additional income of NEDAC by working with FAO, Bangkok in 2019 will be around USD 21,100.

1907.5 NEDAC & other Regional Associations i.e. APRACA/AFMA/APAARI established by FAO must register as an Association in Thailand

Chairman NEDAC informed the meeting that during his last visit to Bangkok he had discussions with the ADG/RR of FAO about the registration of the Regional Networks/Association as an Association in Thailand. He (Chairman) also informed the meeting that ADG/RR had agreed in principle to provide support/assistance to these Associations for visa or stay permit of international staff working in the Regional Networks/Association up to end 2019. In meantime, the Regional Networks/Association must register as International Association in Thailand. Chairman NEDAC also informed the meeting

that he had also discussions with CPD for their help in the registration process of NEDAC and CPD also agreed to provide help to NEDAC. Chairman NEDAC also informed the meeting APRACA the oldest Regional Association is now in the registration process with legal support of BAAC, Bangkok and NEDAC with help of APRACA will follow the similar line of activities in close collaboration with APRACA.

The Secretary General of APRACA assured that all possible help and guidance will be provided to NEDAC for its registration as International Association in Thailand. After due deliberation, EXCOM authorized the Chairman to arrange registration of NEDAC as International / Regional Association in Thailand with help and collaboration of APRACA. EXCOM also authorized Chairman NEDAC for incurring all necessary expenditure and required follow up for registration of NEDAC as International / Regional Association in Thailand.

1907.6 NEDAC Secretariat matters

1907.6.a Amendment of Decision of Executive Committee Meeting on November 16, 2018 concerning Salary of Secretary NEDAC from January 2019 to December 2020

It was decided that the earlier decision of EXCOM meeting held in November 2018 must prevail. It means that Secretary NEDAC should be paid Thai Baht equivalent to USD 1000 per month as per prevailing rate USD / Thai Baht on the day of withdrawal/payment of the salary.

1907.6.b Day to day functioning of NEDAC Secretariat Bangkok and Delhi Local Office of Chairman

It was decided that the services of Mr W.I. Khan as Program Adviser on contract / consultant basis shall be for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 December 2019 while noting that the arrangement could be terminated by the Chairman prior to 31 December 2019, if deemed so. Chairman was authorized to fix the monthly honorarium for Mr W.I.Khan and contract of engagement be drawn up. Chairman was also authorized to take steps for administrative and financial arrangements and incurring expenditure for various activities including engagement of new experts / personnel on contract basis at NEDAC Secretariat, Bangkok and at Chairman's Office in Delhi. It was also decided that for arranging Thai Visa by FAORAP, Bangkok the tenure of service of Mr W.I.Khan shall be up to 31 December 2019.

1907.6.c Report on Visit of Chairman, NEDAC to Bangkok in January 2019

EXCOM noted it and placed on record its appreciation for the steps taken by the Chairman.

1907.7 NEDAC Financial Report for January - December 2018.

Chairman NEDAC informed the meeting that the NEDAC accounts have not been audited so far. It was decided by the EXCOM that NEDAC accounts for year 2018 should be audited by competent auditor. It was also decided that the same auditor who audited APRACA accounts may be used for auditing NEDAC accounts for 2018 at a rate to be negotiated and fixed by Secretary General APRACA.

1907.7.i Hosting of NEDAC General Assembly in 2020 by Department of Rural Cooperative Economy under MARA, China

The delegate from China was requested to confirm that the NEDAC General Assembly in 2020 would be hosted by the Department of Rural Cooperative Economy/MARA. The delegate from the Department of Rural Cooperative Economy informed the meeting the Department of Rural Cooperative Economy has already applied for government approval of hosting the NEDAC G.A. in 2020. The decision of Government is expected to be received soon. After receipt of the Government decision, the matter will be reported to Chairman NEDAC in due course of time within 2019.

Agenda item 1908 : Presentation by Members, Invitees and observers

RDCD Bangladesh, FSPDC Philippines, APEDA India, CYES Sri Lanka, DCD Sri Lanka, Karnataka Apex Coop Bank, TS Apex Coop Bank and A&N Island Admin spoke about their activities.

Agenda Item 1909: Adoption of NEDAC Strategic Plan 2019, 2020, 2021.

Based on the discussion following address by ADG/RR FAO RAP, comments by FAO India Representation Office and views of meeting participants, it was unanimously decided to adopt the Strategic Plan 2019, 2020, 2021 with minor modifications. Chairman was authorized to carry out the modifications and present the final version to FAO RAP. He was also authorized to present that Strategic Plan 2019,

2020, 2021 to other funding agencies. Chairman was authorized to prepare Concept Paper (by end April 2019) based on the Strategic Plan and carry out modifications based on discussion with FAO RAP in Bangkok and with other funding agencies based on their requirements. Chairman was further authorized to incur expenditure in this regard including those on start of activities mentioned in the Strategic Plan / Proposed Concept Paper from out of NEDAC resources in NEDAC member countries through member organizations.

Agenda Item 1910: Discussion on India International Cooperatives Trade Fair (IICTF), October 2019 at New Delhi organized by NCDC and NEDAC.

EXCOM took note with appreciation, of actions taken so far. It was decided that NEDAC as a Co-Organizer would make the IICTF a grand success.

Agenda Item 1911: Discussion on Address by Distinguished Guest from CPD, Royal Government of Thailand

The keynote address on “Creating Value, Acting Together: Opportunities for Cooperative to Cooperative Trade in Asia and the Pacific” by CPD Thailand was highly appreciated. It was decided to circulate the text of the address among all members of NEDAC. EXCOM placed on record its deep appreciation for all the timely support of CPD to NEDAC

The Road Show was a great success.

Agenda Item 1912: Any Item with the permission of the Chair, Wrap up

It was resolved to work on all fronts to mainstream NEDAC in its objectives. Outline of the field visit on 9 March 2019 was discussed.

EXCOM meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Approved.



Sundeep Kumar Nayak
Chairman, NEDAC
8 March 2019

List of Participants in EXCOM Meeting on 7-9 March 2019 at Bangkok

Bangladesh

1. Md. Kamaluddin Talukder	Secretary	RDCD
2. Md. Azam E Sadat	Deputy Secretary	RDCD

China

3. Ms.Xitong Yang	Staff member	Rural Cooperative Economy Department of MARA
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India

4. Mr.Sundeep Kumar Nayak IAS,	Managing Director	NCDC
5. Mr.Sandeep Singh	Assistant Director	NCDC
6. Mr.Bhima Subrahmanyam	Managing Director	NAFSCOB
7. Mr.N. Satyanaryana	Chief Executive	NCUI
8. Mr.Konduru Ravinder Rao	President	TSCAB
9. Dr.Nethi Muralidhar	Managing Director	TSCAB
10. Mr.K.N.Rajanna	President	Karnataka SCB
11. Mr.Lamuel Moses	Assistant Registrar	A & N Islands
12. Mr.Vikas Deswal	Deputy General Manager	HAFED
13. Mrs.Samidha Gupta	Assistant General Manager	APEDA
14. Mrs.Rakha Mehta	Assistant General Manager	APEDA

Nepal

15. Mr.K.B. Upreti	Chairman	NCBL
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Philippines

16. Ms.Christie Plantilla	CEO	FPSDC
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Sri Lanka

17. Mr.Mohamed Riyas	Chairman	Coop Yes
18. Mr.S.L.Naseer	AS, Commissioner & RCS	DCD

Thailand

19. Mr.Panuwat Na Nakornpanom	Executive Adviser	CPD
20. Dr.Prasun Kumar Das	Secretary General	APRACA
21. Mr.Yukitsugu Yanoma	Policy Officer (SEDPS)	FAORAP
22. Mrs.Kundhavi Kadiresan	ADG/RR	FAORAP
23. Mrs.Suchitra Durai	Ambassador of India to Thailand	

NEDAC, Bangkok

24. Mr.Waliul Islam Khan	Programme Advisor	NEDAC
25. Ms.Chanyaphak Rakpanyakaew	Secretary	NEDAC

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