



## COMMITTEE FOR THE PROMOTION AND ADVANCEMENT OF COOPERATIVES

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### Global Launch of the International Year of Cooperatives

**Deadline for accreditations: 25 September 2011**

Cooperatives and their organizations are invited to attend the United Nations launch of the International Year of Cooperatives (IYC) on 31 October 2011 during the plenary meeting of the 66<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly at UN Headquarters in New York (USA).



Join government officials, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system, and non-governmental organizations at the global launch.

#### Programme of Events

Launch events will be held on 31 October 2011 at the headquarters of the United Nations in New York City.

The morning will start with informal round-table discussions where panellists will introduce the role and impact of cooperatives in national level development. They will highlight the role of cooperatives in addressing food security, financial and economic stability and environmental sustainability and focus on the unique nature of cooperatives and their resilience of the business model. Panellists will also address the challenges that cooperatives face in developing internal capacity and enabling policy environments for their growth. There will be opportunities for questions and discussion.

In the afternoon, the United Nations Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly will officially launch the IYC, during the General Assembly Plenary Session.

Cooperatives, civil society organizations, United Nations Member States and UN system organizations are also organizing side-events to commemorate the occasion and to highlight the diverse role of cooperatives in development.

#### Registration

Organizations that are members of the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) can register to participate in the events by simply sending an email to the ICA: [ica@ica.coop](mailto:ica@ica.coop). They will be automatically accredited.

Others must request accreditation to attend the events by the **25 September 2011**. Full information is available from the official UN International Year of Cooperatives website at: <http://social.un.org/coopsyear/ngosparticipation.shtml>

**Do not miss the opportunity to be part of this event! Register now!**