

Secretary General's Report

1. APRACA is ready to open the 18th General Assembly and its Subsidiary Meetings in Cambodia

APRACA has scrupulously been preparing for the opening of the 18th General Assembly (GA) and 61st Executive Committee (EXCOM) Meeting of APRACA on May 31, 2012 in Siem Reap, Cambodia in collaboration with the local host Institution, National Bank of Cambodia. It has fixed the venue and dates of the meetings and the preceding Regional Forum as follows.

- Venue: Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Hotel, Siem Reap, Cambodia
- Dates: May 30 – June 1, 2012 (see Annex 1)
 - . May 30: Grand Opening and Regional Forum on Strengthening the Resilience of Smallholder Farmers through Rural Finance Innovations
 - . May 31: 18th General Assembly (AM), 61st EXCOM Meeting (PM)
 - . June 1: Field visit
- Host institution: National Bank of Cambodia

The Secretariat prepared Agenda papers of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee Meeting respectively and sent them to APRACA members on April 27.

As of May 7, 2012, a total of 62 overseas delegates completed registration for participation excluding around 30 members of a field visit team of Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural cooperatives who plan to join the first day meetings of the events; Grand opening ceremony and the Regional Forum.

2. APRACA secured 13 speakers for the Regional Forum on Strengthening the Resilience of Smallholder Farmers through Rural Finance Innovations

The Secretariat secured a total of 13 speakers of the Forum including a keynote speaker, Ms. Nancy Barry, President of Enterprise Solutions to Poverty (ESP), USA who is scheduled to speak on “New World of Agriculture and the Opportunities for Finance”. The Forum accommodates three sessions; sessions for value chain finance, green finance and risk management, respectively. Each session is composed four speakers including one regional view speaker and three country case speakers.

The speakers expected to present regional views are Dr. Prasun Kumar Das, Associate Professor, KIIT University of India, Dr. Jung-Sup Choi, Professor, Yeong-nam University of Korea, and Mr. Benedicto Bayaua, former Secretary General of APRACA. Nine country case speakers are one from each of the Philippines, Thailand, Korea, Iran, Pakistan, Bangladesh and three from Cambodia.

3. APRACA completed five-year IFAD grant programme: FinPower Programme

APRACA officially completed International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) grant FinPower Programme at the end of March 2012. FinPower Programme, APRACA's Regional Programme of Accelerating the Financial Empowerment of Poor Rural Communities in Asia and the Pacific through Rural Finance Innovations was conducted from 2007 to 2011 with aims to promote the financial empowerment of the rural poor in Asia-Pacific countries

through policy forums, innovative pilot programmes, and knowledge sharing among key stakeholder in the rural finance sector.

During the five-year Programme period, the FinPower provided a total of 49 offerings including nine regional forums, 15 National forums, 20 field visits, and five training courses that accommodated 2.436 participants. In addition, the Programme provided a total of 16 technical support to the national regulatory authorities and corresponding/microfinance institutions and conducted a total of 21 pilot testing activities. Besides, a total of eight case studies and research papers were produced under the Programme.

The results of the studies and important meetings including regional/national forums were printed and distributed to APRACA members and partner agencies including UN Organizations. Out of 21 printed publications of the Programme, following two publications were most recently printed and distributed to the member institutions. Readers are advised to search the publications and the other materials produced by FinPower Programme at the E-Library of this website.

- Completion report: APRACA FinPower Regional Forum-Consultation on Rural Finance Innovations and Emerging Issues
- Financial Empowerment of Poor Rural Communities: A Compendium of Rural Financial Innovations and Best Practices

APRACA has recently submitted a grant proposal to IFAD for a second phase of the FinPower Programme. It was due to the APRACA's needs to expand activities to support its member institutions as well as the accommodation of the recommendations by FinPower Programme final supervision mission team. The team has proposed APRACA to continue to work more actively in a way to utilize the platform made by the conduct of the FinPower Programme in knowledge accumulation and sharing as well as a well formed network between APRACA and its member institutions.

4. APRACA has got 16 abstracts for the International Symposium on Marketing and Finance of the Organic Supply Chain

A total of 16 abstracts of papers to be presented at the International Symposium on Marketing and Finance of the Organic Supply Chain have been submitted to APRACA Secretariat as of May 7. Out of 16, 12 abstracts will be chosen by the Call for papers committee on finance for the final invitation to the Symposium. Invitation letters to the chosen writers will be sent by May 18, 2012. General participants who are not subject to present papers at the Symposium will be invited on condition that their participating expenses be borne by themselves.

The Secretariat established the basic outline of the Symposium in collaboration with the co-host organizations: FAO-RAP, Agricultural and Food Marketing Association in Asia and the Pacific (AFMA), and National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) of Korea.

- Dates of the Symposium: September 23-26, 2012; field visit on September 23 and in-house symposium on September 24-26 (see Annex 2).
- Venue: NACF Head Office in Seoul, Korea

- Keynote speakers (2): Dr. Sung-Hoon Kim, Professor, Chung-Ang University of Korea and Dr. Andrew Monk, Biological Farmers of Australia.
- Number of Speakers: 24 (12 for finance, 12 for marketing)

5. APRACA Secretary General attended the AgriFin Financing Agriculture Forum 2012

The Secretary General attended AgriFin Financing Agriculture Forum 2012 held on March 28-30 in Kampala, Uganda. He was invited by the World Bank as a panelist and introduced the situation and challenges of agricultural finance in Asian region.

AgriFin, stands for Agricultural Finance Support Facility, as a special purpose body managed by the World Bank, supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation through a US\$ 20 million grant, works to strengthen capacity in agricultural finance in the world

Taking this opportunity, the Secretary General invited Ms. Nancy Barry, President, Enterprise Solutions to Poverty of USA who had attended the Forum as a keynote speaker, to APRACA Regional Forum on Agricultural Finance Innovations on May 30 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. She accepted the invitation and promised to present “New World of Agriculture and the Opportunities for Finance” at the Forum as a keynote speaker.

The Secretary General also met with Mr. Saleh Gashua and Dr. Moh’d Mustafa, Secretary Generals of AFRACA and NENARACA respectively in Kampala and discussed mutual collaboration projects of the world’s Rural and Agricultural Credit associations (RACAs).

One of the most important issues discussed was to start to work on organizing the fourth World Congress of RACAs in 2013. In this regard, Secretary Generals of both CICA (RACA for Europe) and Alide (RACA for Latin America) joined the discussion by e-communications later. The Secretary General of CICA agreed that he would first propose CICA members to host the World Congress in 2013 in Europe.

6. Indonesian Banking Development Foundation submitted membership application into APRACA

APRACA received a membership application from Indonesian Banking Development Foundation (IBDF, Indonesian name YPPI) through the letter from Mr. Abdul Aziz, Chairman and Secretary of Board of Management of YPPI on April 19, 2019. YPPI is the foundation established by Bank Indonesia on December 29, 1977, aiming to improve the quality of human resources particularly for the banking and finance industry of Indonesia. YPPI became one of three owners of APRACA Consultancy Service (ACS), a consultancy arm of APRACA, by succeeding its ownership from Bank Indonesia. YPPI’s membership application will be officially accepted at the EXCOM meeting on May 31, 2012.

**(Annex 1) Tentative Program of APRACA Regional Forum, 61st Executive
Committee Meeting and 18th General Assembly**

at Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Hotel, Siem Reap, Cambodia

MAY 30, 2012	
8:30-9:00	Registration
09:00-10:00	Opening Ceremony
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opening Address by APRACA Chairman - Congratulatory Address by Dr. Ganesh Thapa, Regional Economist, IFAD - Vote of Thanks by APRACA Secretary General - Welcoming Address by H.E. Chea Chanto, Governor of National Bank of Cambodia (NBC)
10:00-10:30	Photo Session, Break and Exhibition
10:30-10:40	Video clip (2)
10:30-11:10	Introduction of Cambodian Agriculture and Agricultural Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Kim Vada, Deputy Director General of Banking Supervision, NBC Keynote Speech on New World of Agriculture and the Opportunities for Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Nancy Barry, President, Enterprise Solutions to Poverty (ESP), USA
Regional Forum on Strengthening the Resilience of Smallholder Farmers through Rural Finance Innovations	
11:10-12:30	Session 1: Strengthening the Resilience of Smallholder Farmers through Linking Rural People to Linking Farmers to the Value Chain
	Moderator: and Speaker 1: Dr. Prasun Kumar Das, Associate Professor, KIIT University, India <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker 2: Dr. Enrique Navarro, Former Director, CARD MRI, Philippines • Speaker 3: Mr. In Channy, CEO, ACLEDA, Cambodia • Speaker 4: Mr. Athasit Surakul, Senior Vice President, Institutional Loan Department, BAAC, Thailand
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-14:10	Video clip (2)
14:10-15:30	Session 2: Strengthening the Resilience of Smallholder Farmers through Green Financing
	Moderator and Speaker 1: Dr. Jung-Sup Choi, Professor, Yeong-Nam University, Korea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker 2: Mr. Sim Senacheat, CEO of PRASAC: Biogases loan, Cambodia • Speaker 3: Mr. Byung-Soek Ham, Executive Vice President, NACF, Korea • Speaker 4: Dr. Arghavan Farzin Motamed, Manager, International Cooperation department, Bank Keshavarzi, Iran
15:30-15:45	Break

15:45-15:55	Video clip (2)
15:55-17:25	Session 3: Strengthening the Resilience of Smallholder Farmers through Appropriate Risk Management Strategies
	<p>Moderator and Speaker 1: Mr. Benedicto S. Bayaua, Former Secretary General of APRACA, Philippines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker 2: Mr. Muhammad Ashraf Khan, Executive Director, Department of Finance, State Bank of Pakistan • Speaker 3: Mr. Md. Fayzer Rahman, Executive Vice President (Operation) of ASA, Bangladesh • Speaker 4: Dr. Bun Muny, CMA Chairman (Client Protection), Cambodia
17:30-18:00	Wrap-up Session and closing (Dr. Navarro, Dr. Thapa, APRACA S-G, D-G of Banking Supervision)
19:00-21:00	Welcoming Dinner Hosted by NBC
MAY 31, 2012	
08:30-12:00	61 st APRACA Executive Committee Meeting
12:00-13:30	Lunch
13:30-17:00	18 th APRACA General Assembly
18:30-20:00	Dinner
JUNE 1, 2012	
Morning	Field visit to an Agricultural Project
Afternoon	Sightseeing at Angkor Wat Temple
JUNE 2, 2012	
	Delegate Departure

(Annex 2) Tentative program of International Symposium on Marketing and Finance of the Organic Supply Chain

The Symposium consists of 1 day field trip and 3 days conference as follows;

Sun 23rd Sept.	FIELD TRIP	
am	Hanaro Market in Yangjae-dong, Seoul	By NACF
pm	Organic farm product, marketing and processing complex of Hansalim Cooperative Federation situated, Asan City, Chungnam Province	By NACF
Mon 24th Sept.	MARKETING	
am	Opening: NACF, FAO, APRACA, AFMA	
	Coffee break	
	Key note: Dr. Sung-Hoon Kim, Professor, Chung-Ang University, Korea (Former Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Korea)	
	Key note: Dr. Andrew Monk, Biological Farmers of Australia Ltd. (Owner of Australian Certified Organic)	Australia's Organic Market Report 2012 - update and regulatory trends: investment opportunities and challenges
	Session 1:	
	Lunch	
pm	Session 2	
Tue 25 th Sept.	MARKETING and FINANCE	
am	Session 3	
	Session 4	
	Lunch	
pm	Session 5	
Wed 26 th Sept.	FINANCE	
am	Session 6	
	Wrap up and closing	
	Lunch	