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## Message from the Chairman

Dear Cooperators

It is delighted for me to express my gratitude to you for your commitment to the development of world fisheries cooperative movement across the world.

This December, I was reelected as the ICFO Chairman thanks to our members' support. Once again, I would like to express deep gratitude to you and I feel like I have great responsibilities on how to lead the ICFO and make fishermen of our member countries live well.



The 2021 COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the ICFO's action plans. The 2021 commemoration ceremony for World Fisheries Cooperative Day (June 16), jointly held every 3 years by the ICFO and the host country's Fisheries Cooperatives, was replaced with a commemorative speech, and The Korean Fisheries Cooperatives' Knowledge Sharing Program for the developing countries is not done.

Despite this situation, Jordan Cooperative Corporation and Australia Geraldton Fishermen's Cooperative applied for membership and became members in December 2021.

And ICFO fosters talents in the fisheries fields. This year 2 students from Turkey and Indonesia were selected to study in Korea at a graduate school.

ICFO participated in the 33<sup>rd</sup> World Cooperative Congress December 2021 in Seoul, Korea for the purpose of discussing the direction of cooperative development and introduced the main activities of ICFO and Korea National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives by setting up a PR booth.

I hope that in 2022 member organizations will work together with ICFO to overcome various obstacles and make efforts for the development of fisheries cooperatives and fishery industry.

I wish you and your family health, happiness and prosperity in 2022.

Yours Sincerely

Im Joon-taek  
ICFO Chairman

## NEWSLETTER

December 2021

### ICFO Newsletter

Published by the international  
Cooperative FISHERIES Organisation

### Publisher

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## ICA 33<sup>rd</sup> World Cooperative Congress



The 33<sup>rd</sup> World Cooperative Congress by International Cooperative Alliance was held in Seoul, Korea, from December 1 to 3 with about 1,200 participants for the purpose of discussing the direction of cooperative development on the topic of Deepening our Cooperative Identity. And About 1,000 people from around the world have accessed the online platform prepared in response to COVID-19 pandemic.

ICFO participated in the Congress for the purpose of discussing the direction of cooperative development, set up a PR booth and introduced the main activities of ICFO and Korea National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives for visitors, presenting ICFO brochures and souvenirs(masks and stationery).

The delegation of the Cot d'Ivoire Cotton Cooperative in Africa, who visited the PR booth, shared the experience of developing in Korea's fisheries cooperatives.

The closing ceremony was not held and no declaration was issued due to the discovery of COVID-19 on the afternoon of the last day of the World Cooperative Congress.



## The 11<sup>th</sup> World Fisheries Cooperative Day



The ICFO held an international symposium with the theme “The Role of Cooperatives for the Sustainable Development of Fisheries” in 2010 and adopted the “Seoul Declaration.” The Declaration called for the establishment of a “World Fisheries Cooperative Day.” As a follow-up, participants of the ICFO General Assembly meeting held on 2 September 2010 in Beijing, China, formally established “World Fisheries Cooperative Day.”

The 2021 commemoration ceremony for World Fisheries Cooperative Day (June 16), jointly held every 3 years by the ICFO and the host country's Fisheries Cooperatives, was replaced with a commemorative speech by ICFO Chairman Im Joon-Taek due to the pandemic.

In a commemorative address, Chairman Im said that fishermen and the industry around the world are facing difficulties due to the COVID-19, encouraging them to overcome difficulties through the spirit of cooperatives, “win-win and solidarity”

## ICFO Scholarship Program



The ICFO makes great endeavors to foster talents in the fisheries fields especially in the developing countries.

This year's scholarship for 2-year master's program went to Tugce Kilic from Turkey, and Dwi Ramadya Risqiana Putri from Indonesia, who majored in fisheries or fisheries-related fields. The ICFO and Pukyong National University has made their decision after a careful evaluation of such factors as the undergraduate majors of applicants, English fluency, and grades in college.

The scholarship program of the ICFO is very crucial since it is designed to promote the sustainable development of world fisheries and to nurture talent in the field of fisheries of developing countries.

### ICFO Scholarship Program

The ICFO fosters talents in the fisheries fields especially in developing countries. The ICFO and Pukyong National University concluded a memorandum of understanding on cooperation for nurturing talent in the field of fisheries, on 24 January 2014 at Pukyong National University, Busan, Korea.

The two organizations signed the MOU, mutually recognizing the need to build up human resource in the fisheries sectors in developing countries for the sustainable development of fisheries and a vigorous cooperative movement around the world.

Pukyong National University launched a two year graduate course for two students from developing countries, who had completed university education in fisheries or fisheries-related fields. The ICFO plans to select two university graduates annually with the support from Pukyong National University. The tuition fee is fully funded by Pukyong National University. The ICFO offers scholarship benefits such as airfare and boarding expenses including daily expenses.



## The Korean Fisheries Cooperatives' Business Knowledge Sharing education Program



The fisheries made a huge contribution to human history in terms of providing animal protein. However, fisheries across the world had trouble with constant decreases in fisheries resources due to overfishing, global warming, and rapid industrialization.

Owing to fisheries resource depletion, fishermen have been led to more competitive fishing, which may have resulted in more illegal fishing and damage to fishing areas across the world.

However, fisheries in the future will become growth engines, as many experts anticipate a brighter future for the industry. In order to realize this, the fishing industry must share its expertise and experiences among fisheries cooperatives worldwide.

The ICFO operates the Knowledge Sharing education program every year to share the success stories of the Korean Fisheries Cooperatives and promote the development of the global fishery industry. Fishermen from member organizations of developing countries will be invited to inspect Korea's fisheries cooperatives and major fisheries facilities for 7-10 days.

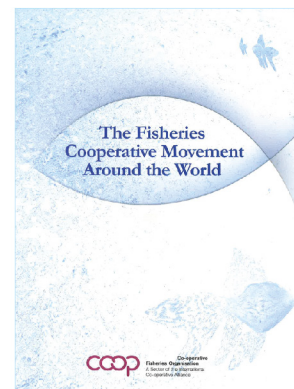
Unfortunately, it was not conducted in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We plan to actively promote the KSP program when the COVID-19 crisis is over.





## Publication of “The Fisheries Cooperative Movement Around the World”

The ICFO updated “The Fisheries Cooperative Movement Around the World” in December 2021. It systematically details ICFO activities, including a brief history, achievements. The ICFO Secretariat is convinced that it will help raise awareness of cooperatives in the world.



## 2021 ICFO Annual Meetings



2021 ICFO annual meeting (Executive Members Meeting and General Meeting) was carried out in writing December 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Executive Members Meeting's Agenda and General Meeting's Agenda were combined as one meeting because the agendas of two meeting are identical.

Mr. Im Joon-taek(Korea National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives) was reelected as the ICFO Chairman, and Mr. Park Kwang-bum(KNFC's team manager) was appointed as the Secretary General.

Jordan Cooperative Corporation and Australia Geraldton Fishermen's Cooperative were approved as the new ICFO member. Member organizations have become 24 organizations in 22 countries.



It is settled that 2022 ICFO Annual meetings will be held in June, 2022 in Sevilla, Spain, where ICA General Assembly will be held.