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# **MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**25 FEBRUARY 2025  
MOMBASA, KENYA**



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### **AGENDA EXCOM 2025-01: CALL TO ORDER**

1. The Executive Committee Meeting started following the General Assembly with the call to order by facilitator Col. Himanshu, Director, NEDAC. The meeting program, instructions and detailed agenda notes had been circulated among all members and invitees through email by the NEDAC Secretariat prior to the meeting.

### **AGENDA EXCOM - 2025-02: ROLL CALL**

2. Representative from all member countries, except China were present at the meeting. The list of participants is at under.

### **AGENDA EXCOM-2025-03 : WELCOME : NEW EXCOM MEMBERS**

3. Col. Himanshu, Director, NEDAC welcomed new NEDAC Executive Committee. The list of new members are as under:

- (a) Chairman NEDAC – Mr. Pankaj Kumar Bansal, Additional Secretary Ministry of Cooperation (Govt of India) & MD NCDC
- (b) Co-Chairman – Kenya Union of Savings & Credit Cooperatives (KUSCCO) Ltd. Kenya (yet to be nominated)
- (c) Vice-Chairman – Mr. Badri Guragain, CEO, National Co-operative Bank Ltd. Nepal
- (d) Vice – Chairman – Mr. Virgilio Lazaga, Assistant Secretary, CDA, Philippines
- (e) General Secretary – Mr. P.S. Gahlaut, Managing Director, Indian Potash Ltd.
- (f) **Executive Committee Members**
  - (i) Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO): Mr. Dileep Bhai Sanghani, Chairman
  - (ii) National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI): Mr. Sudhir Mahajan, Chief Executive
  - (iii) National Federation of State Cooperative Banks (NAFSCOB): Mr. Subrahmanyam Bhima, Managing Director/CEO
  - (iv) The Haryana State Co-operative Supply and Marketing Federation Limited (HAFED): Mr. Mukul Kumar, Managing Director



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- (v) Mulkanoor Coop Credit and Marketing Society: Mr. Praveen Reddy, President
- (vi) Unati Cooperative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd: Mr. Jyoti Saroop, Director
- (vii) National Fisheries Development Board: Dr. Bijay Kumar Behera, ARS, Chief Executive
- (viii) Central Union of Rural Agricultural Coops of Iran (Iran): Ms. Tahmineh Kashani, Foreign Commerce Manager
- (ix) Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China- yet to be nominated

(a) **SPECIAL INVITEES**

- (i) Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP): Dr. P. Chandra Shekara, Director General
- (ii) Cooperative University of Kenya (CUK): Prof. Issac K. Nyamongo, Dy. Vice Chancellor

- (b) **PERMANENT MEMBER** International Cooperative Alliance Asia Pacific: Mr. Balasubramanian Ganpathy Iyer, Regional Director, ICA- AP

**AGENDA EXCOM-2025-04: STATEMENT BY ICA-ASIA PACIFIC**

4. Mr. Balasubramanian Ganpathy Iyer, Regional Director of ICA-AP, congratulated NEDAC for its significant role in promoting the sustainability of agricultural cooperatives across the Asia-Pacific region. He emphasized that agricultural cooperatives are central to ensuring food security and livelihood resilience, especially in both rural and urban communities. He further pointed out that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes cooperatives as key drivers in achieving the SDGs, particularly in eradicating poverty, improving access to essential goods and services, and protecting the environment. Through their collective efforts, agricultural cooperatives foster inclusive economies, enhance livelihoods, and strengthen the resilience of communities, creating a more sustainable and equitable future for all. He further thanked NEDAC for organizing the event and proposed collaboration with NEDAC in ICA activities.



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**AGENDA EXCOM-2025-05: STATEMENT BY CENTRE ON INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (CIRDAP)**

5. Dr. P. Chandra Shekara, Director General of CIRDAP, extended his gratitude as a special invitee at the meeting. He emphasized that this year is particularly significant as we celebrate the collective efforts of co-operatives, especially with 2025 being the International Year of Co-operatives.

6. He highlighted that to elevate co-operatives to the next level, we need to focus on building the capacity of cooperative leaders, promoting cooperative principles through sensitization and training, preparing solid business plans, and integrating startups and technology into cooperative activities. Additionally, establishing strong backward and forward linkages, along with ensuring sustained policy support, will be critical in driving the long-term success of cooperatives.

**AGENDA EXCOM-2025-06: RECONSTITUTION OF NEDAC**

7. Col. Himanshu, Director of NEDAC, briefed on the reconstitution of NEDAC. He further elaborated that while the number of staff in the NEDAC Secretariat has increased, the salary and expenditure have decreased. The Committee approved reconstitution. The reconstituted NEDAC Secretariat is as under:

- (a) Col. Himanshu, Director
- (b) Mr. Kanisorn Punyaprasiddhi, Technical Officer
- (c) Ms. Siramol Pandey, Administration & Accounts
- (d) Ms. Prachi Rathi, Media and Communication

**AGENDA EXCOM-2025-07: PRESENTATION OF STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

8. Col. Himanshu, Director of NEDAC, presented the audited statement of accounts, which was approved by the Executive Committee. Regarding the proposal to open a fixed deposit account in the bank, he presented two options as follows:

- (a) **Option 1:** Open a fixed deposit account in Thailand, with an interest rate of 1.5%.
- (b) **Option 2:** Open a fixed deposit account in India, with an interest rate of 5.6%.



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9. Col. Himanshu, Director of NEDAC also pointed out that when taking over the account from the previous director, it was noticed that USD 18,000 was shown in the account books, while the amount had already been remitted. In this regard, an explanation has been sought from the previous director.

10. **DIRECTION OF THE COMMITTEE** The legality and feasibility of opening an account in India should be thoroughly assessed from a legal perspective. If it is found to be legally unfeasible, a fixed deposit account should be opened in Thailand to invest the unutilized funds.

**AGENDA EXCOM-2025-08: DISCUSSION ON THE NEXT EXCOM MEETING**

11. It was decided that the next Executive Committee Meeting shall be organized in November in Sri Lanka along with the ICA Event.

**AGENDA GA 2025-09: CLOSING OF EXCOM AND VOTE OF THANKS**

12. The Meeting was formally closed with a vote of thanks from Col. Himanshu, Director of NEDAC.

Signature of Director, NEDAC, Col. Himanshu

Date: 02.04.2025

Place: Bangkok