



14th AFRICA MINISTERIAL COOPERATIVE CONFERENCE (AMCCO) 2025 CONCEPT NOTE

*From Commitment to Action: Leveraging
Global, Regional, and Local Partnerships for
Sustainable Cooperative Development in
Africa*



6th –9th

OCT 2025



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NAIROBI KENYA



International
Cooperative
Alliance



International Year
of Cooperatives

Cooperatives Build
a Better World



BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The Africa Ministerial Cooperative Conference (AMCCO) is a premier platform convened after every three years by International Cooperative Alliance-Africa (ICA-Africa) in collaboration with African governments to shape continental cooperative policy and strategic direction. Since its inception in 1984, AMCCO has served as a unique space where ministers responsible for cooperatives, senior government officials, cooperative leaders, development partners, and other stakeholders converge to strengthen the cooperative ecosystem in Africa.

Cooperatives are instrumental to Africa's socio-economic transformation. With over 300,000 cooperatives reaching over 250 million people, the sector is a catalyst for job creation, food security, financial inclusion, and community resilience. Cooperatives contribute to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the African Union's Agenda 2063, and national economic priorities such as Kenya's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

Despite their potential, cooperatives face persistent challenges including weak legal frameworks, limited access to finance and markets, inadequate capacity building, poor governance, and limited visibility. These challenges require coordinated action across nations, regional, and global levels.

The 14th AMCCO, hosted by the Ministry of Co-operatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Development, Kenya and ICA-Africa, seeks to move the cooperative development agenda from policy commitment to action. It aims to catalyze investments, promote innovation, harmonize policies, and build a future-ready cooperative movement that is inclusive, climate-resilient, and digitally enabled.



OBJECTIVES

1. **Translate Policy Commitments into Action:** Mobilize political will and implement measurable cooperative development initiatives.
2. **Strengthen Enabling Environments and Policy Recognition:** Strengthen enabling environments by supporting the development of conducive legal, regulatory, and institutional frameworks that safeguard cooperative identity and ensure recognition of cooperatives as key socio-economic actors.
3. **Promote Inclusive Opportunities in Cooperatives:** Improve knowledge of best practices on inclusive cooperative opportunities that empower youth, women, and marginalized groups.
4. **Advancing Cooperative Competitiveness:** Improved knowledge of best cooperative financing models and market access strategies to enhance competitiveness and sustainability while advancing climate resilience and the green economy.
5. **Strengthening Cooperative Networks, Knowledge, and Growth:** Foster cooperative education, training, digitization, and cross-border collaboration to build strong networks, share best practices across cooperative sectors (health, housing, worker consumer, insurance, agriculture etc.), and accelerate cooperative innovation across Africa.
6. **Formation of a Regional Cooperative Development Committee, nested within the existing Technical Committee of the Africa Ministerial Cooperative Conference (TAMCCO)**

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. Adoption of a Ministerial Declaration and Action Plan that outlines commitments, priorities, and implementation pathways for sustainable cooperative development in Africa.

2. Strengthened legal, regulatory, and institutional frameworks that provide a more supportive environment for cooperatives through knowledge sharing and consensus building.

3. Improved knowledge and application of inclusive cooperative models that expand participation of youth, women, and marginalized groups in sustainable development.

4. Enhanced knowledge and use of innovative financing and market-access models that strengthen cooperative competitiveness.

5. Strengthened cooperative networks, education, awareness, and cross-border collaboration leading to improved cooperative innovation.

6. A Regional Cooperative Development Committee, nested within the existing Technical Committee of the Africa Ministerial Cooperative Conference (TAMCCO) formed.

CONCLUSION

The 14th AMCCO will be a key opportunity for African governments, cooperative organizations and stakeholders to forge a unified agenda that transforms the cooperative model into a robust engine for sustainable and inclusive growth across the continent.



Our Vision:
A hub for people's socio-economic transformation.

Our Mission:
To promote a dynamic and inclusive cooperative movement through shared resources.