

Summary & Recommendations

	KEY POINTS
Opening Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cooperatives and the continent will have to adapt to unprecedented changes and challenges- Cooperatives remain significant and resilient- Success of the cooperative movement can be improved with collaboration and respect of roles between the government and the movement.- National cooperative policies should be developed in consultation with the movement- The movement should aspire to aggregate cooperative products and services- Cooperative legislation could improve cross border trade- There is power in collaboration. By pooling resources together, sharing useful knowledge and ideas, and fostering partnerships, cooperatives can amplify their impact and address common challenges more effectively.- Coops should embrace e-commerce platforms, digital payment systems, and data-driven strategies, cooperatives can unlock new opportunities, expand their market reach, and enhance their competitiveness on both local and international stages.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperative must invest in education and training to equip cooperative members with adequate knowledge, skills, and competencies needed to manage their enterprises successfully. - The UN Resolution on SSE is laudable - African governments should support the consultation process for the proposed Cooperative model law in the Pan African Parliament
Reimagining Cooperative identity for a stronger Africa: Cooperatives as builders of the Economic and Social fabric from selected sectors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is need to transform cooperatives and ensure that the movement is providing demand-driven services and products by enhancing data, research and innovation, increased visibility and shared resources among others. - Challenges include low cooperative identity, weak institutional capacity and insufficient cooperation among cooperatives - Cooperatives can use coop values and principles to address the challenges - Health Cooperatives can accelerate development in Africa by enabling access to quality health care through cooperation and local ownership - Support Health Cooperative development where out of pocket costs are high - Can be part of a national scheme if political will exists

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review laws and regulations to ensure enabling environment for health cooperative growth - Worker cooperatives are a solution to youth unemployment in Africa - A multi-faceted approach and strategic partnerships are critical for the growth and the sustainability of the worker cooperatives model - The glue to hold together all the gains achieved and the dynamism of a cooperative sector is embedded in the legal reforms - All primary traditional agricultural cooperatives need to make assessments of the available crops that can be marketed by these primary cooperatives. - Government departments responsible for cooperatives, to assist agricultural cooperative in business marketing arrangements so that, these cooperative can be able to venture into multiple crop business -
Sustaining cooperation through stronger networks, trade, strategic partnership, financial inclusion and cooperative professionalism.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building Successful partnerships can be built to accelerate cooperative development in Africa though cooperative to cooperative trade - Key success factor is to build a self sustaining model like the case of consumer cooperative in the UK

with Producer cooperatives in Malawi

- Stronger networks can sustain cooperation
- Many gaps exist such as institutional capacity and network gaps
- To accelerate financial inclusion information asymmetry needs to be removed demand and supply of products/services
- Financial cooperatives need to influence policy and develop responsive product/service portfolio
- To retain the cooperative identity, people have to be educated on the principles and values of cooperative
- Research will help to identify needs in the cooperative movement and meet them
- Professional body of cooperators that certifies the members should be encouraged like the case of Kenya
- Legal framework through the cooperative development policy to standardize the training of cooperative members
- ICA should work with cooperatives on a tool to audit if cooperatives are implementing the cooperative values and principles
- Cooperation can be sustained by leveraging on technology to remove the trust barrier

<p>Cooperative Structures, tenets, legal frameworks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A multi-faceted approach must be deployed bearing in mind that anchorage in the overarching policy and legislative framework would be the first step to preserve and promote cooperative identity in national legal frameworks - Cascading the regulatory framework to the subnational and cooperative bylaw levels would serve to further entrench the principles and values bottom-up. - Leveraging partnerships for combined efforts is crucial in supporting the growth and development of cooperatives and ensuring that they continue to be a relevant and effective model for addressing the economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations of people worldwide.
<p>Country Papers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperatives can offer health insurance as a product to their members - ICA need to use the country reports for evidence-based decision making - Promotion of school coops through collaboration with the ministry of education to mainstream school coops in the curriculum - Data collection enables decision making at the national level - At the national level, implementing a cooperative management system is important for the government - Cooperative policies need to be reviewed to meet the needs of the

	<p>cooperative movement given new developments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperative financing is still a great challenge - Mainstreaming gender in cooperative membership and leadership is important - Engagement of youth in cooperatives MUST be prioritized - Collaboration on cooperative development partnerships between countries is a best practice - Shared services and deposit guarantee fund for saccos is a good practice
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Indicator Template

- Promotion of worker cooperatives
- Make indicators measurable and comparable across countries
- Engage the diaspora in cooperatives as the sixth region as practiced by the AU

