

**3rd National Summit on Gender and Development (GAD) in Cooperatives
Waterfront Cebu City Hotel, Cebu City, PH**

April 3-5, 2018

**THEME: Philippine Co-ops Stepping up UN SDGs through GAD Mainstreaming
#1phcoop1actionforSDG2030**

**Cebu City National GAD Summit 2018
DECLARATION AND CALL FOR ACTION**

KEEPING IN MIND that cooperatives are instruments for social justice, equity, and economic development

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION the gender and development (GAD) perspective in the “Statement on the Cooperative Identity (SCI)”

DEEPLY CONVINCED that the challenge for Philippine cooperatives is to become gender-fair to allow women and men to have equal rights, equal benefits, equal opportunities for advancement, and equal access to and control of resources and benefits

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION the declarations and calls for action adopted in previous summits and conferences on gender equality, particularly on the issue of integrating a gender equality perspective in all policies, programs, projects, and activities of cooperatives at all levels

RECOGNIZING the importance of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), adopted by world leaders in September 2015, that seek to “end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities, and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind,” and of the important roles that cooperatives have in attaining the UN SDGs through GAD mainstreaming and other development actions, and

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that sustainable development, in relation to the UN SDGs, is defined as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs; calls for concerted efforts toward building an inclusive, sustainable and resilient future for people and planet; for its achievement, needs the harmony of the three core elements of economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental protection; and the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. To this end, there must be promotion of sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater

opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion, and promoting integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems,¹ and

PURSUING the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) campaign “Co-ops for 2030” that aims at making “cooperatives learn more about the SDGs, commit to pledges to contribute to achieving the SDGs (often through initiatives that are already in place), and report their progress.”

WE, the 884 delegates (609 female and 275 male) from 336 primary co-ops, unions, and federations, cooperative banks, co-op development councils, local government units, national government agencies, and non-government organizations gathered here in Cebu City in a Summit of hope, commitment, and action, guided by our shared values and principles, and determined closely to work together to advance the cause of gender equality, firm in the belief that gender equality is an idea whose time has come, do DECLARE and RESOLVE the following:

1. **CALL** on all cooperatives to put into action the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) Memorandum Circular No. 2013-22 or the “Guidelines on Mainstreaming Gender and Development in Cooperatives” and Memorandum Circular No. 2017-04 or the “Tool for Assessing Progress of Gender Equality in Primary Cooperatives as Supplemental to Memorandum Circular No. 2013-22” and for the CDA to enforce compliance; and for all cooperatives to capacitate themselves, including developing their own GAD trainers, to be able to conduct gender-related training or sessions to their own officers, staff, and members;
2. **CALL** on all cooperatives that they must continue mainstreaming GAD in their own organizations to help them attain the UN SDGs for greater development and sustainability, and for support to environmental protection and environmental programs;
3. **CALL** on all cooperatives to step up the development of micro-, small-, and medium-scale enterprises (MSMEs) for national economic development, especially that 58 percent of 922,677 MSMEs in the Philippines are owned and managed by women and households;²

¹ <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/> and quoting “Our Common Future 1987” (sustainable development main definition), 1987 report of the World Commission on Environment and Development

² Data from presentation by Undersecretary Zenaida C. Maglaya of the Philippines's Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) in the “3rd National Summit on Gender and Development (GAD) in Cooperatives,” April 3-5, 2018, Cebu City, PH

4. **URGE** Philippine Congress to review and amend Republic Act No. 9520 or the "Cooperative Code of the Philippines" to integrate gender in the law, that is, regarding the co-op structure and co-op statutory allocation;
5. **CALL** on government and non-government organizations; local government units; and co-op development councils, federations, and unions to help and support co-op efforts to attain the UN SDGs;
6. **URGE** Philippine Congress to review and amend Section 487, Article XVII ("The Cooperatives Officer") to support local government units (LGUs) in the setting up of cooperative development offices and appointment of Cooperative Development Officers; and to include in the roles of the co-op development offices and Cooperative Development Officers their support to cooperatives in GAD mainstreaming;
7. **URGE** GERC Inc.; cooperative federations, councils, and unions; co-op banks; and other co-op-supporting organizations to conduct mapping of GAD mainstreaming progress and GAD needs of cooperatives in the Philippines.

ADOPTED this 5th day of April 2018 in Cebu City, Philippines, during the "3rd National Summit on Gender and Development (GAD) in Cooperatives" with the theme "Philippine Co-ops Stepping up UN SDGs through GAD Mainstreaming" #1phcoop1actionforSDG2030, organized by the Gender Equality Resource Center (GERC) Inc. and Cooperative Development Authority (CDA).