

September 13, 2022

Honorable ICAO members,

I am Sung-hee Lee, President of ICAO and Chairman of the NACF, and extend a heartfelt greeting to our members.

I sincerely appreciate your effort to achieve the development of global cooperatives, showing steadfast support and interest in agriculture and rural communities even in this unprecedented COVID situation and a sudden upheaval in the business environment.

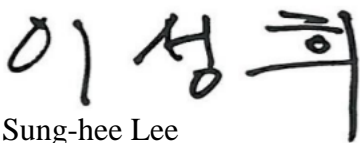
The NACF Korea has spared no effort to champion farmers' rights and led the cooperative movement as a board member of the ICA and the president organization of ICAO. The NACF has also planned the "Korea Scholarship Program for talented students in developing countries" as I said in my ICAO election speech in June, and now I will proceed with this program with our ICAO members.

This Scholarship Program is intended to share Korea's experience in developing its agriculture and rural communities with developing countries and contribute to attaining sustainable development of cooperatives across the world. To that end, we kindly ask you to recommend talented students in your country. If the student is selected as a beneficiary of the program through the NACF's internal selecting process, s/he will have a "study chance" at a Korean language school (1 year) and a college (3 years) in Korea.

In particular, we will support them to grow as cooperative experts who can suggest developmental direction and lead innovation in agriculture and rural communities, by providing quality education in agriculture, finance, and digital through Agricultural Cooperative University (ACU), an NACF-running and agriculture-specializing college.

Believing in the potential of all the ICAO members, I hope this program would be another opportunity for your prosperity.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized Korean characters '이성희' (Lee Sung-hee).

Sung-hee Lee  
Chairman