APPENDIX G

PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION

1. Membership of a cooperative society should be voluntary and available without artificial restriction or any social, political, racial or religious discrimination, to all persons who can make use of its services and are willing to accept the responsibilities of membership.

2. Cooperative societies are democratic organisations. Their affairs should be administered by persons elected or appointed in a manner agreed by the members and accountable to them. Members of primary societies should enjoy equal right of voting (one member, one vote) and participation in decisions affecting their societies. In other than primary societies, the administration should be conducted on a democratic basis in a suitable form.

3. Share capital should only receive a strictly limited rate of interest, if any.

4. Economic results arising out of the operations of a society belong to the members of that society and should be distributed in such a manner as would avoid one member gaining at the expense of others. This may be done by decision of the members as follows:

   (a) By provision for development of the business of Cooperative;
   (b) By provision of common services; or
   (c) By distribution among the members in proportion of their transactions with the Society.

5. All cooperative societies should make provision for the education of their members, officers and employees and of the general public, in the principles and techniques of Cooperation, both economic and democratic.

6. All cooperative organisations, in order to best serve the interests of their members and their communities should actively cooperate in every practical way with other cooperatives at local, national and international levels.