

**Office of the President**

[president.guarco@ica.coop](mailto:president.guarco@ica.coop)

Ecuador 374, Piso 2 |  
Ciudad Autónoma de  
Buenos Aires  
Argentina



Mr. Toru Nakaya  
President  
Japan Co-operative Alliance (JCA)  
11, Funagawara-machi  
Shinjuku-ku  
162-0826 Tokyo  
Japan

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Dear President Nakaya,

On behalf of the International Cooperative Alliance, I welcome with enthusiasm the adoption of the Law on Associated Labor Cooperatives which was approved this 4 December 2020 in the Japanese Parliament. I already commended JWCU for its sustained efforts made over several years and which finally have been rewarded.

However, I am aware that these congratulations must be shared with the Japan Co-operative Alliance which, I am sure, supported JWCU in this process. Therefore, this success is greeted as a joint “victory” of JWCU and JCA.

This new law celebrates both the unity and the diversity of the Cooperative Movement in Japan which has no law covering the entire cooperative sector.

The win is a historic one as it will contribute to strengthen existing cooperative laws but, also, as it will contribute to protect, preserve and develop the cooperative model in Japan.

I believe that as long as there will be cooperators who are convinced, committed and involved in Japan and worldwide, the voice of the cooperative movement will be heard, weighed, and respected by decision-makers at national and international levels.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ariel Guarco', with a horizontal line underneath.

Ariel Guarco  
President