

25<sup>th</sup> December, 2025

Your Excellency,

The President and Board of the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA),

The ICA Global Leadership,

The African and Global Co-operative Community,

**INNALILLĀHI WA INNĀ ILAIHI RĀJĪ'ŪN**

*(From the Almighty we came and unto Him is our final return).*

On behalf of the Board, Management, and the entire cooperative movement in Kenya, the Co-operative Alliance of Kenya (CAK) conveys its deepest condolences to the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA), the regional cooperative fraternity in Africa, and cooperators across the globe following the passing of **High Chief Tajudeen Oriyomi Ayeola**, President of ICA Africa, Vice President of ICA Global, and former President of the Co-operative Federation of Nigeria.

It is with a deeply heavy heart, profound sorrow, and humble submission to the Will of Allah (SWT) that we mourn the departure of an iconic figure, a revered leader, a community enthusiast, and an international pillar of unity and philanthropy. His passing is a monumental loss not only to his family and nation, but also to Africa, the global cooperative movement, and all who benefitted from his wisdom, vision, generosity, and unwavering commitment to humanity.

High Chief Ayeola Oriyomi was an exceptional and transformative leader. As President of ICA Africa, he provided bold, principled, and unifying leadership at a time when Africa's cooperative movement required a clear voice, strong institutions, and renewed confidence. His desire to **unite Africa through cooperatives** was unwavering, grounded in the firm belief that cooperatives are powerful instruments for inclusive growth, social justice, and shared prosperity.

At the global level, in his role as Vice President of ICA, he worked tirelessly to **position cooperatives on the world stage as credible, competitive, and people-centered enterprises**, contributing significantly to national economies, employment creation, and sustainable development. He was a passionate advocate for the social and economic empowerment of cooperators, ensuring that cooperative enterprises remained anchored in values while scaling their impact.

High Chief Ayeola was particularly committed to the **inclusion of youth and women** in cooperatives and leadership. He consistently championed generational renewal, mentorship, and gender equity, firmly believing that the future strength and relevance of the cooperative movement lay in empowering young people and women to lead, innovate, and shape cooperative enterprises.

Beyond his leadership roles, he was a compassionate human being, a bridge-builder, and a philanthropist whose life exemplified service, humility, and purpose. He lived a life of impact, honor, and dedication, leaving behind legacies that will endure across generations and institutions.

We join the global cooperative family in prayer, asking Allah (SWT) to forgive his shortcomings, accept his good deeds, illuminate his grave, and grant him the highest abode in **Al-Jannatul Firdaus. Allahumah Āmīn.**

May Allah grant his family, the International Co-operative Alliance, the African cooperative community, and cooperators worldwide the strength, patience, and fortitude to bear this irreparable loss.

Please accept the assurances of our highest esteem, solidarity, and heartfelt sympathy during this moment of collective mourning.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Marube', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**DANIEL MARUBE, MBS**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CEO**