

APO names Asia-Pacific productivity champions on its golden jubilee

The search for 2011 recipients of the APO Regional and National Awards was completed in January this year with the selection of 12 distinguished individuals who have significantly contributed to the promotion of the productivity movement in the region. APO Secretary-General Ryuichiro Yamazaki announced that five regional and seven national winners had been chosen by the APO's Governing Body to receive the awards during the 50th anniversary year of the organization. The most distinguished is former President of the Republic of the Philippines Fidel V. Ramos for his leadership in advocating sustainable development and contributions to the cause of Green Productivity not only in his country but also throughout Asia.




Photo J. Bernardo/APO

The APO, the prime mover in productivity-enhancing initiatives in the Asia-Pacific region, confers the awards only every five years. Individuals who have contributed significantly to advancing the productivity movement in the Asia-Pacific region are eligible for the Regional Awards, and those in a specific member economy of the APO are eligible for the National Awards. Former President Ramos, along with Dr. Tyzz-Jiun Duh (Republic of China), Mr. Rachmat Gobel (Indonesia), Mr. Tsuneaki Taniguchi (Japan), and Dr. Dong-Kyu Choi (Republic of Korea) (*see p. 7*), will be honored at the APO 50th anniversary commemorative event on 19 April 2011 at the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo.

The seven recipients of the 2011 APO National Awards are Dr. Pao-cheng Chang (Republic of China), Mr. Kunjung Masehat (Indonesia), Mr. Yousef Hojjat (IR Iran), Dr. Faqir Muhammad Anjum (Pakistan), Mr. Feliciano L. Torres (Philippines), Mr. Darshan Singh, (Singapore), and Mr. Upali Marasinghe (Sri Lanka). These national awardees will be honored by their governments through the national productivity organizations.

This is only the eighth conferring of the APO Awards since their inception in 1979. To date, 64 individuals, 13 of whom were regional awardees, have been honored. Secretary-General Yamazaki noted that in the 50 years since its establishment in 1961, the APO has been the sole international organization in the region with the mission of contributing to the socioeconomic development of its members through enhancing productivity. The APO is especially proud to mark its golden jubilee with an outstanding lineup of recipients who serve as living testimony to the APO's mission.

The conferring ceremony at the Productivity Jubilee: 50 Years of the Asian Productivity Organization on the 19th will be attended by distinguished international and Japanese guests representing the APO's network of members and partners. The APO's golden jubilee celebration will also coincide with the 53rd Governing Body Meeting, 19–21 April in Tokyo. The high-level group will convene to receive the Secretary-General's annual report and decide on the APO's plan and annual programs for the ensuing fiscal years. 



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