



## Comment board



*Head of Organization Learning* **Arnold Tick Yeow Chan**, *Standard Chartered Bank, Singapore.*

Resource Person, study meeting on Learning Organizations, 24–27 June, Indonesia.

“Many participants in the meeting were strong learners who exhibited concrete learning styles. While appreciating the concepts and tools implemented in learning organizations, they showed

great interest in strategies and measures that could address current issues and challenges in the topic. I shared several examples of how to build a learning culture and how to apply those measures to both large and small enterprises. I also spoke on talent and knowledge management using examples of training strategies and talent development programs practiced in some organizations. Discussion and deliberations on policies, talent retention, and leadership coaching and mentoring followed the presentation and continued into the tea break. I was impressed not only with the extensive knowledge of participants but also with their enthusiasm and passion. I believe the launch of the APO KM Framework and tool kit will further enable participants and organizations who are eager to implement their learning plans and manage intellectual capital.”

*Director* **Ahmad Fadzil bin Mahmud**, *Training and System Development, Malaysia.*

Participant, study meeting on Bilateral/Regional Economic Partnership Agreements, 17–20 June, Thailand.

“The study meeting was a fruitful event where participants shared their insights into bilateral and regional economic partnership agreements (EPAs). Through the numerous insights gained from both the theoretical and practical aspects of free trade agreements (FTAs)/EPAs, it quickly became clear

that trends in FTA/EPA agreements in Asia were changing due to the rapidly changing and intensely competitive global business scenario. It would be value adding if the APO could initiate an inter-NPO study on the relationship effects of national productivity movements on FTAs/EPAs and/or vice versa. This study could yield benefits for productivity drives in APO member countries and reveal new frontiers and strategies for the productivity movement in Asia. In the Malaysian context, we are highlighting the need to deliberate on EPAs for the service sector.”

*Factory Inspecting Engineer* **Dehiwala Liyanage Asoka Peiris**, *Industrial Safety Division, Department of Labour, Sri Lanka.*

Participant, training course for Certified Lead Auditors for Occupational Health and Safety Management System OHSAS 18001:2007, 17–24 June, Sri Lanka.

“My objectives of participation in the training course were first to become a lead auditor and second to become familiar with the OHSAS 18001:2007 standards. Through the program, I obtained knowledge, confidence, and practical skills to conduct an audit as an audit team leader as well as the necessary management skills to lead the audit team. Now I am more confident that OHSAS will enhance national productivity through minimizing losses attributable to occupational accidents and disease in industry and thereby nurture a culture of preventive safety. To disseminate OHSAS 18001:2007 implementation and auditing management skills, I will organize or attend local training programs on the issue and encourage more industries to adopt these standards. Although useful and rewarding, it was nevertheless quite stressful and challenging to keep up with the tight schedule of the program. I would like to suggest including at least a one-day rest period in the middle of the course so that participants can have some time to recover from the grueling schedule and review the learning points.”