



## Comment board



*Director **Nina Maria B. Estudillo**, Institute of Productivity and Quality, Graduate School of Public and Development Management, DAP, Philippines*

Resource person, consultative review meeting on the APO DPS Program, 20–23 November 2007, Malaysia

“The meeting was characterized by an atmosphere of open and free-flowing exchanges between those

attending, the implementing NPOs of the Development of Productivity Specialists (DPS) courses, i.e., the Development Academy of the Philippines for the basic course and the National Productivity Corporation, Malaysia for the advanced course. It coincided with the second week of the training course on DPS: Advanced Program held in Malaysia, 12–23 November. Thus, part of the time was allocated to observing the course and noting both the strengths and opportunities for improvement. The DPS courses have generated positive feedback, and I believe that aligning the modules of the basic and advanced courses will bring about more effective implementation of the program.”

*Deputy Director **Harsh Thukral**, Environment Group, NPC India*

Participant, seminar on Eco-labeling, Vietnam, 5–9 November, 2007

“The seminar highlighted the growing concern for ecological sustainability against the backdrop of increasing global and local environmental problems in correlation with an expanded concept of sustainable development. It strengthened our belief that greater attention to environmental aspects by

both producers and consumers of goods and services will lead to an era of greater environmental consciousness and more production and consumption of eco-products. The interactions among participants, deliberations on country presentations, and diligent work on group exercises led to fruitful exchanges of ideas and perspectives on eco-labeling scenarios and possibilities and at the same time generated wonderful camaraderie and lasting friendships.”

*Scientist **Vipan Kumar**, National Institute of Science Technology and Development Studies, India*

Participant, study meeting on Venture Business Support, 13–16 November 2007, Japan

“This study meeting program helped us to analyze Japanese examples of, and experience in, venture business support. Particularly, the presentation by Professor Noboru Maeda contained key lessons that may be applicable for the further development of venture business support in my country. The presentation given by Senior Investment Officer Susana Garcia-Robles, Inter-American Development Bank, also provided useful information on venture start-up support in Latin America. Field visits in Osaka enhanced our knowledge of the past, present, and future of venture businesses in Japan. However, the study meeting should have invested more time in discussions of how to improve venture business support systems among participants and resource persons, rather than allocating time for participating in Venture 2007 Kansai and a group discussion with the Asian Forum on Venture Business participants.”