

Two new officers at the Secretariat

Two officers started their employment at the APO Secretariat on 1 June. Although with different backgrounds and working in different departments, both are music lovers and already in harmony with other staff in working for the productivity movement.



Yoshihide Endo, new program officer in the Agriculture Department, is a native of Kofu, Japan, and received Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Agricultural Economics from Kyoto University, followed by a Master of Arts (Economics) from the University of Toronto. He has been a staff member of the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries since 1984 and worked as a food standard officer for the UN FAO in Rome (Codex Alimentarius Commission). He also served as a diplomat in the

Embassy of Japan in Rome as Alternate Permanent Representative of Japan to the FAO. His professional focus has been on food security, food safety/quality standards, and research on how international food standards affect trade in agricultural products.

Endo's personal interests including cooking and eating with his wife, singing, and "traveling to enjoy exotic cultures in foreign countries." At the Secretariat, his goal is to do his best to contribute to the development of the Asian region as whole.



The Administration and Finance Department welcomed Atsuo Kishimoto as a new officer in charge of finance. Born in Kobe, Kishimoto majored in Regional Studies for a Bachelor's of Arts degree at Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo. He then received a Master of Arts degree in International Relations from Lancaster University, UK, and passed the US Certified Public Accountant examination. His previous employment included positions as financial manager for a variety of companies in Japan

with international tie-ups and as an economist at the Japan Center for Economic Research where he was responsible for forecasting trends in the Japanese chemical industry and the EU economy.

In his free time, Kishimoto enjoys swimming and playing classical music on the flute and is currently growing tomatoes, cucumbers, and peas in his garden, a task he refers to as "challenging." Married with two children, Kishimoto describes himself as "very family oriented."