


## Productivity Data Experts Begin Work in Earnest

**O**n 8-9 April 2002, 13 national experts from APO member countries, led by a chief expert, met in Bangkok, Thailand, to consider ways to improve the 2002 edition of *APO Asia-Pacific Productivity Data and Analysis*. They were joined by three staff members from the APO Secretariat. Four national experts were unable to attend the meeting for various reasons. In a written statement to the experts, APO Secretary-General Takashi Tajima said that the APO and he personally regarded the *APO Asia-Pacific Productivity Data and Analysis* publication as very important. He stressed that the framework of the study, the methodology adopted for data collection, the rationale for the selection of the indicators and their classifications, including their definitions, and the formulae for the computation of various selected ratios should all be clearly spelled out so that even a layperson could understand their significance and meaning. He added that there was a need to take a

fresh look at the indicators to: 1) expand their range; 2) determine those where both absolute and relative data need to be collected; 3) rearrange them for better sequencing; and 4) modify their classifications to give them more relevance. In the analysis of the data for each country, an essential element to be included is suggestions for policy or strategy formulation, said Mr. Tajima.

After two days of intensive deliberations, the experts formulated 64 indicators for which data are to be collected and analyzed. These are divided into the eight categories of Productivity, National Economy, Green Productivity, People, Management and Innovation, Trade and Investment, Infrastructure, and Information Technology. This is an expansion in scope from the previous 42 indicators in six categories. The APO hopes to bring out the 2002 edition before the year is out. 



*Experts' meeting in progress*