

The photo contest held last year to commemorate the APO's 40th anniversary received an overwhelming response with 1,079 entries. The photographs submitted were generally of a very high standard. The winning entries were featured in the APO 2002 calendar, which was honored with a special meritorious mention in the 53rd Japan Calendar Exhibition 2002 organized by the Japan Federation of Printing Industries and the Japan Printing News Co., Ltd.

The successful outcome of last year's contest prompted the APO to organize one again this year. The new theme is "Improving Productivity in Harmony with the Environment." It reflects a key thrust area of the APO and a major worldwide concern, i.e., environmental protection. In 1994, the APO initiated the Green Productivity (GP) concept, a strategy for integrating productivity enhancement with environmental protection. Since then it has been actively promoting GP in member countries with very encouraging results.

The contest is open to nationals of all APO member countries, and photos for the contest must be taken in those countries. The prizes remain as attractive as in last year's contest: one Gold Prize (US\$1,000), three Silver Prizes (US\$750 each), and five Bronze Prizes (US\$500 each). Each of these prizes also comes with a certificate and a compact camera. In addition there are ten Special Prizes comprising a certificate and compact camera. Fujifilm is the sponsor of the camera prizes for two years running.

Publicity fliers giving details of the contest, including the rules and regulations for participation and the entry form, are available from the national productivity organizations (NPOs) of APO member countries and from the APO Secretariat. The same information, including the addresses and contact phone/fax numbers of the NPOs, is also available from the APO Web site on the Internet at www.apo-tokyo.org. Closing date for submission of entries is 31 August 2002. Winners will be notified directly by the APO in October this year, as well as by announcements in the APO News and on the APO Web site. The APO plans to feature the winning entries in its 2003 calendar.

Winning entries will be picked by a panel of five distinguished judges. The members are H.E. Mr. Touqir Hussain, Pakistan Ambassador to Japan; H.E. Mr. Domingo L. Siazon, Jr., Philippine Ambassador to Japan; Ms Sanae Numata, professional photographer; Mr. Hideki Tomizawa, Managing Director, Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Inc.; and Mr. Shigeru Chatani, Director, Photographic Society of Japan.