



A·P·O *news*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ASIAN PRODUCTIVITY ORGANIZATION

NEW YEAR MESSAGE

APO Secretary-General Takashi Tajima




As we bid welcome to 2003, it is my pleasure to wish all APO friends and readers of the *APO News* "A Very Happy and Prosperous New Year!" and to thank you for your interest in this newsletter. Over the past year, I believe that most of you, if not all, have made valuable contributions to the APO in the implementation of its programs to assist member countries in their socio-economic development through improving productivity. I would like to express the APO's sincere gratitude for your support and cooperation. We look forward to your continued involvement in our cause.

The end of one year and the start of another is a time for reflection, new resolutions, and making plans for the year ahead. As we look back on 2002, we take encouragement from the achievements, resolve not to repeat mistakes and oversights, and set new goals to strive for. This process is true for individuals as well as for organizations.

Among the accomplishments of the APO in 2002, the following are some highlights: the entry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic as the 19th member of the APO; the publication of the first-ever *APO Asia-Pacific Productivity Data and Analysis 2001*; the establishment of the Intranet and the APOnet IT systems in the APO Secretariat; harnessing private-sector involvement in the APO Green Productivity program; participation in the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg; and the 2nd APO World Conference on Green Productivity in Manila.

In the APO Secretariat, we continued to make strenuous efforts to renovate and improve the operational systems in order to serve member countries more efficiently and effectively, with positive results. At the same time, in response to the prolonged financial constraints of member countries, the Secretariat has embarked on a cost-reduction program to release as many funds as possible for projects beneficial to them. These cost-cutting measures will likely be intensified in the year ahead.

In 2003, the APO will continue to undertake projects that promote knowledge management; extend the Green Productivity program; strengthen SMEs and NPOs; enhance integrated community development activities; give added focus to agricultural productivity; intensify the use of IT in its operations; and provide more and better productivity data and analysis service.

In all that we are setting out to do and achieve, improving the quality of life of all the people in APO member countries is our ultimate concern. It is the APO's resolve to spare no effort to achieve this. 

Volume 33 Number 1
January 2003

"Without the vision to anticipate and adapt to change the most productive worker today will be unproductive tomorrow."

Richard Tully

INSIDE

- 2 **p-Watch—Australia**
- 3 **The Secretary-General's schedule**
- 4 **New APO publications**
- 4 **Common Sense Talk**
- 5 **Manila to host APO annual planning meeting**
- 6 **Integrated productivity improvement for supporting industries**
- 6 **e-Books on the APO Web site**
- 7 **p-Experts**
- 7 **APO/NPO update**
- 7 **Program calendar**
- 8 **2nd World Conference on Green Productivity**

Published by
Asian Productivity Organization
Hirakawa-cho Dai-ichi Seimei Bldg. 2F
1-2-10 Hirakawa-cho, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102-0093, Japan
Tel: (81-3) 5226-3920
Fax: (81-3) 5226-3950
E-mail: apo@apo-tokyo.org
Web site: www.apo-tokyo.org



Printed on Recycled Paper