

NPO Pakistan inks its first international MOU

The NPO of Pakistan expanded its horizons when its Head, Saquib Mohyuddin, signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the international firm Belmah Strategies, based in Malaysia, on 16 February 2005. The signing ceremony was attended by Malaysian Prime Minister Dato' Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who was on a three-day state visit to Pakistan, and Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz of Pakistan. Belmah Strategies, headquartered in Petaling Jaya, is a well-known provider of technology for leading-edge developments in all aspects of advanced product quality planning, total quality management, service quality, and R&D involving manufacturing software solutions for SMEs.

The MOU represents a classic example of making the best possible use of APO seminars/workshops for NPO staff. It originated when Program Coordinator and Head, IT, Ishfaq Sheikh attended the APO workshop on Information and Communication Technology as Productivity Tools for SMEs, 22-26 November 2004, in Malaysia, at which a Belmah Strategies representative gave a presentation. Extensive electronic communications between the firm and the NPO of Pakistan ensued, finally resulting in the signing of this MOU. The APO Secretariat and NPO of Pakistan can take pride in laying the groundwork that led to this bilateral cooperative MOU with an international firm.

To reap the maximum advantage from this opportunity, Pakistan's NPO will soon offer entrepreneurs in association with chambers of commerce and industry a selection of Belmah Strategies' IT-based tools to enhance their productivity. Interested enterprises will be designated as role model companies and provided with the



(L-R) Saquib Mohyuddin, Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Shaukat Aziz, and Dominic Belavendram of Belmah Strategies

appropriate training. Successful examples will be publicized among other enterprises and then replicated. 🌐