

Afghan delegates visit APO Secretariat

At the request of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Afghanistan Office, the APO Secretariat received a study mission of Afghan ex-mujahideen commanders on 13 April 2005. The study mission was organized by the UNDP as a part of its Afghanistan New Beginning Programme and the objective was to “facilitate the Afghan ex-commanders’ entry from military to civilian life” by giving them “exposure to foreign cultures and industrial development with the aim of bringing about positive changes in commanders’ mindset and way of life.”

The APO Secretariat welcomed nine former brigadier generals and lieutenant generals and two UNDP Program Officers. Secretary-General Takenaka greeted them and the Directors of the Agriculture and Industry Departments briefed them on the role of the productivity movement in the reconstruction of the Japanese economy after the Second World War. At the end of the briefing, the commanders expressed their gratitude to the APO Secretariat and expressed interest in Afghanistan becoming a



(L-R) Tsubota, Takenaka, and Inoue at the head table with the Afghan delegation

member of the APO in the near future. The UNDP officers also expressed their appreciation to the APO Secretariat for hosting the visit. 🇯🇵