46th WSM to convene in Kuala Lumpur

The 2006 APO Workshop Meeting of Heads of NPOs (WSM) is scheduled for 14–16 February, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Although Pakistan had originally planned to host the meeting, the devastating earthquake that struck the northern area of the country on 8 October necessitated a change in venue. The National Productivity Corporation, Malaysia, graciously stepped into the breach with an immediate offer to host the WSM. Approximately 70 delegates are expected to attend, including heads of NPOs and their advisers, agriculture representatives of APO member countries, international observers from both member and nonmember countries, and Secretariat staff.

Another change is in the structure of the WSM itself. The more ceremonial aspects have been eliminated to allow the delegates to concentrate on strategic planning sessions in the limited time available, where they will review the results of projects undertaken in 2005 and deliberate on the programs of the APO over the next two years. Discussions on how each NPO is faring in these challenging times and how they see their futures will form another important part of the meeting. The report of the WSM will be submitted for approval to the APO Governing Body, which will be held 13–15 June this year in the Republic of Korea.