

BCBN mission from Thailand



(L-R) Secretary-General Takenaka, Dr. Phanit, and Duangthip Chomprang, APO Liaison Officer

A five-person mission from the Thailand Productivity Institute, led by Executive Director Dr. Phanit Laosirirat, visited Japan under the APO's Bilateral Cooperation Between NPOs Program, 19 and 20 January. After receiving orientation briefings at the APO Secretariat on the morning of the 19th and attending a lunch hosted by the APO Secretary-General, the five went on to the Japan Productivity Center for Socio-Economic where they heard presentations from staff on productivity initiatives for the next 50 years, technical cooperation for the Mekong region, and the Japan Quality Award system. They also paid a courtesy call on Deputy Director-General Kazuhiko Bando, Trade and Economic Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. On the second day, the mission observed kaizen practices at the Yokohama plant of Nissan Motor and then traveled to Fuji Xerox to hear a presentation on the company's knowledge design initiative.