

## New officers at Secretariat

Duangthip Chomprang is from Bangkok, Thailand, and was formerly an APO Liaison Officer before assuming her new role as Industry Department Program Officer as of 1 April. At the Thailand Productivity Institute, she was a productivity and business consultant in the areas of business reengineering, the Thailand Quality Award, organizational assessment, knowledge management, and Six Sigma. Before joining the FTPI, she spent 14 years in the private sector, mainly in the telecommunications and financial and banking sectors. Duangthip is a Six Sigma Black Belt and Master Black Belt with more than 100 projects. Her passions are reading, horseback riding, chess, classic cars, and anything with cultural elements. She received a BA in finance and banking (Thailand) and a Master's in International Banking and Investment (UK).



Fumihiko Kabuta joined the Secretariat as a Program Officer in the Agriculture Department starting 1 April. After graduating from the University of Tokyo with a BA in agricultural science, Kabuta spent five years working in various capacities in the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF). He then went to the UK, where he received a Master of Science of Agricultural Economics from Reading University, followed by a Master of Science in Environmental and Resource Economics from London University. His employment with the MAFF then resumed, with his most recent position being Deputy Director of the Food Policy Planning Division. His special interest in the agricultural field is economic analysis of various food- and agriculture-related issues and strengthening the collaborative relationships between agriculture and the food industry. Kabuta is married and has one daughter. In his off-the-job hours, he enjoys culinary tourism, especially eating locally produced food in the "slow food" spirit.

