

## Measuring public-sector productivity



Undersecretary Richard E. Moya (standing) of the Department of Budget and Management, a national government agency in charge of public budget and planning, explaining the performance-based bonus system under Government Administrative Order 25 addressing public-sector productivity.

**A**n APO workshop on Measurement of Productivity in the Public Sector was hosted by the Development Academy of the Philippines, 9–13 November 2015. Twenty-two participants from 15 member countries studied how to measure the productivity of the public sector, a current hot topic in the region, with the ultimate aim of improving the quality of public services that are required by society.

Resource person Dean Parham, who has had a long career in public services, most notably with the Australian Productivity Commission, shared his knowledge and experience in measuring productivity in the sector. Meanwhile, Professor Hiroaki Inatsugu of Waseda University, Japan, presented the findings of a recent study on measuring public-sector productivity among selected APO member countries. The findings solicited mixed reactions but great interest, especially from participants from the member countries studied. Zahid bin Ismail from the Malaysia Productivity Corporation shared

the different approaches that NPO has adopted in measuring public-sector productivity in recent years. He also conducted an exercise to apply the concepts learned, which was appreciated for its practicality.

The participants had a chance to visit the Department of Interior and Local Government, a national government agency in charge of strengthening local government capabilities, for an overview of national initiatives to improve overall public-sector performance and productivity, especially among provincial and municipal governments, cities, and *barangays* (villages). A visit was also made to the City Government of Pasig, where Mayor Maribel Eusebio personally received the participants and provided an orientation on the latest activities and achievements of her government meant to enhance the efficiency and performance of staff in the delivery of public services. A summary of learning and action plan formulation wrapped up the workshop. 🌐



City Government of Pasig Mayor Maribel Eusebio (fourth L) during the site visit.