

## New officers at the Secretariat



**Seiji Takahashi** joined the APO Secretariat as its new Administration & Finance Officer on 14 March. After graduating from the Waseda University School of Commerce in Tokyo with a degree in marketing, Seiji passed the Japanese CPA exam and started as an auditor in a major auditing firm. His previous positions included Vice President of Finance

and Controller for North America at D&M Holdings US Inc., USA, and more recently, Finance Director for Baxter Limited in Japan. He lives with his wife, and they are currently trying to find new hobbies they can enjoy together. Their son is a freshman at Emory University in the USA. On days off work, Seiji is busy refining his jogging techniques in the hope of running in the 2017 Tokyo Marathon. He looks forward to doing his best to increase the productivity of the APO Secretariat by improving the efficiency of its back-office functions. He also hopes that his new position will offer opportunities for building new friendships in the Asia-Pacific and expanding his social network.



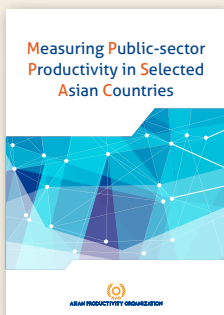
On 10 April 2016, the APO Secretariat welcomed back a familiar face, **Md. Zainuri Juri**, who rejoined the Industry Department as a Program Officer. Zainuri previously worked in the same department between December 2007 and February 2010. He brings knowledge and expertise from previous roles at the Malaysia Productivity Corporation, most recently as Senior Consultant, Quality & Excellence Development Division. Zainuri enjoys spending time with his wife and their three sons, watching movies, and traveling to different parts of the world. He also enjoys an occasional game of bowling or billiards. "I hope to be able to contribute to the APO's efforts to help its members develop more productivity experts," Zainuri said of his aspirations in his new role. He also looks forward to working closely with all of the NPOs and to helping strengthen the network among them.

On 24 April 2016, **Shubhendu Parth** arrived in Tokyo to join the APO Secretariat team. An Indian national, Parth brings to his new role as Information & Public Relations Officer, Administration & Finance Department, experience in public relations including Deputy Editor for Governance Now, and Director, Corporate Affairs, Mutual Public Relations Private Ltd. He holds a postgraduate diploma in journalism from Rajendra Prasad Institute of Communication & Management in New Delhi. He is an e-governance enthusiast and a strong advocate of ICT for sustainable development. Reading, traveling, writing, and listening to Indian music are some of his favorite ways to spend his free time and weekends. Parth hopes to play a role in enhancing the visibility of the APO and strengthening its brand through communication and public relations using both traditional and new-age media. He looks forward to working with colleagues from different countries and learning new things from them. He also hopes to get to know more about Japan and Japanese culture.



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## New publication



### Measuring Public-sector Productivity in Selected Asian Countries

Influenced by the "new public management" concept, the APO and other institutions are re-thinking how to measure productivity in the public sector, since its roles affect the lives of all citizens. Along with overviews of methods used in Australia, Finland, New Zealand, and the UK to improve public services, efforts in eight APO members are examined in detail, focusing on their tax and passport agencies.

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