



ASIAN PRODUCTIVITY ORGANIZATION

PROJECT NOTIFICATION

28 May 2014

1. **Project Code** 13-IN-96-GE-RES-B
2. **Project Title** Development of the APO Certification System
3. **Duration** 1 June–30 November 2014 (up to six months)
4. **Implementing Organization** APO Secretariat
5. **Objective**

To prepare the course materials and study modules for self-learning e-courses on Development of Productivity Practitioners: Basic and Advanced (DPP: Basic and Advanced).

6. **Background**

In 2013, the APO Secretariat conducted an expert meeting to study the feasibility of and identify opportunities to develop an APO certification system and to obtain recommendations on the most appropriate way to develop it. The expert meeting was conducted over two days in the APO Secretariat office in Tokyo. Five experts from diverse background attended. Experiences from tested systems for certifying food professionals in Thailand and of consultants in Japan, the ROC, and Singapore were cited as good references for the proposed APO certification system. Opportunities and challenges were identified as well as necessary elements of the APO system. In view of the differences in the levels of capabilities in each member country, a common standard (with the option to expand to a layered certification system) should first be established to ensure consistency, relevance, and the continuing development of productivity practitioners from different countries.

As it is expected that the amount of work involved will be enormous, the APO must review and plan for the required resources and involve its stakeholders in setting up and maintaining the certification system. As a first step, it is proposed to develop self-learning e-courses on DPP: Basic and Advanced with the help of NPOs. These courses will become prerequisites for attending the APO's face-to-face DPP: Basic and Advanced courses. The experience gained in organizing these courses will subsequently be utilized to develop a common, standard certification system.

7. Scope and Methodology

- a. Assign experts from NPOs to examine the course material for DPP: Basic and DPP: Advanced;
- b. Develop course materials, study modules, quizzes, and an exam for self-learning e-courses on DPP: Basic and Advanced;
- c. Organize a meeting of NPOs that are involved in the development of self-learning e-courses after implementation of these courses to discuss future plans for the certification system; and
- d. Compile the recommendations of NPOs and experts and propose the future direction of the APO certification system program.

8. Implementation Procedures

The APO Secretariat will be the focal point of the activities. It will coordinate with NPOs in preparing the e-courses and advise on their finalization. The Secretariat will inform member countries of the specific activities through separate communications, highlighting the status of development of the APO certification system and other related initiatives.

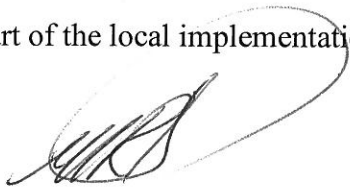
9. Financial Arrangements

To be borne by the APO

- a. All assignment costs of experts and NPO representatives for development of self-learning e-courses; and
- b. Local implementation costs including conference rooms, documentation, and other preparatory costs, if applicable

To be borne by the host country or NPO

Part of the local implementation costs, if any.



Mari Amano
Secretary-General