



## International Productivity Congress 2011

The National Productivity Organization (NPO) in collaboration with the APO organized Pakistan's first International Productivity Congress (IPC) in Islamabad, 17–18 November 2011. NPO CEO Khawaja Muhammad Yousuf noted that the IPC would familiarize professionals with productivity approaches for different sectors and thus contribute to the overall economic growth of the nation. APO Secretary-General Ryuichiro Yamazaki and World Network of Productivity Organizations (WNPO) Vice President Mike Dillon gave addresses. Secretary-General Yamazaki appreciated the endeavors of the NPO, saying that productivity and quality-related programs would ultimately help Pakistan to become a more prosperous, productive country. Referring to the IPC as “a moment of pride that all major catalyst bodies are here to discuss tangibles that have a real impact on economic uplift,” he hoped that intergovernmental relationships between APO members would continue. WNPO Vice President Dillon stressed the need to identify waste within manufacturing and service industries for higher productivity.

The chief guest on day 1 was Muhammad Basharat Raja, Advisor to the Prime Minister, who congratulated the APO and NPO on their efforts to create awareness among Pakistani entrepreneurs of the need to improve productivity to achieve global competitiveness and excellence. Federal Secretary Industries Aziz Ahmed Bilour, chair of the second session, pointed out that a productive nation could “boldly face competition and other challenges in both the

local and global environment.”

Former Governor of the State Bank of Pakistan Dr. Ishrat Hussain, now Director of the IBA, Karachi, was the chief guest on day 2 and stressed building processes that disseminate information,

in the spirit of the NPO. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Industries, Shaista Sohail said that in times of uncertainty the government should use every tool at its disposal to strengthen the economy against global threats, which was where the NPO was important since it was mandated to fill gaps in industry.

The IPC 2011 concluded with the conferring of World Confederation of Productivity Science awards to five individuals including Khawaja Mohammad Yousuf of the NPO. Contributed by NPO Pakistan. 



(Front row L–R) Dr. Faqir Muhammad Anjum (presenting an award), Muhammad Yousuf, SG Yamazaki. Photo courtesy of NPO Pakistan.