9 October 2018

1. **Project Code**
   18-RP-45-GE-DON-C

2. **Title**
   Strengthening the Programs of the Center of Excellence on Business Excellence

3. **Timing and Duration**
   One year

4. **Venue**
   APO Secretariat

5. **Implementing Organizations**
   This project will be implemented by the APO Secretariat in close collaboration with participating APO member countries

6. **Objectives**
   a. To support the promotion and scaling up of activities of the Center of Excellence (COE) on Business Excellence (BE); and
   b. To help the COE on BE become world leading so as to offer high value-added, impactful, future-oriented services to APO MCs.

7. **Background**
   The 51st session of the APO Governing Body in Sri Lanka in 2009 designated SPRING Singapore (now Enterprise Singapore) as the first APO COE focusing on BE. Since then, the COE on BE has shared its best practices on BE among APO member economies, while strengthening its leadership in BE in the region. APO member countries were supported by the COE on BE in building up capacity and expertise on BE, enhancing their capabilities in managing their BE initiatives, developing and strengthening quality award systems, improving the productivity of various organizations, etc. In 2018 and 2019, efforts to assist the strengthening of BE initiatives through existing and new modalities on BE will be extended.

8. **Scope**
   a. Convening expert meetings, forums, international conferences, and workshops;
   b. Assigning international experts and APO Secretariat staff to attend the events listed in item a above;
   c. Participating in international missions and conferences in areas that promote innovation and new initiatives on the topic of BE; and
   d. Conducting relevant research that will analyze emerging needs related to BE.
9. **Implementation Procedures**

The Research and Planning Department will coordinate the COE project. It will prepare specific Project Implementation Plans for activities to be undertaken within the year in close coordination and consultation with concerned departments in the Secretariat and NPOs in member countries.

10. **Financial Arrangements**

**To be borne by the APO**

a. All assignment costs of overseas experts;

b. International airfare expenses for overseas participants;

c. Relevant costs for attending meetings, forums, conferences, training courses, and workshops; and

d. Local implementation costs including rental of conference rooms and required equipment for any research coordination meetings convened.

**To be borne by the host country**

Part of the local implementation costs as necessary and all other costs not covered above.

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Secretary-General