



Asian Productivity Organization “The APO in the News”

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Mari Amano becomes 10th APO Secretary-General

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Dhaka, Sept 18 (UNB) – Mari Amano has taken the charge of Secretary General, Asian Productivity Organization (APO), vowing to upgrade the APO to become an international organization with the highest productivity.

The 10th Secretary-General of the APO, Mari Amano, was elected unanimously at the 55th APO Governing Body Meeting held in Tokyo in May 2013 to succeed the 9th Secretary-General Ryuichiro Yamazaki who completed his term of office on September 15.

Taking office at the Secretariat on the first day, the new Secretary-General was looking forward to enhancing the APO's relevance to the needs of a rapidly changing world. Mari Amano commented: "I would like to upgrade the APO to become an

international organization with the highest productivity."

His aspirations for APO members spanning the Asia-Pacific region include an emphasis on green technologies, women, and the service sector.

"I would like to build a solid personal friendship with each and every APO Director, and to that end I will try to visit all of them in their capitals in my first year," the new APO Secretary-General stated.

"Reaching out to such nonmembers as Myanmar, Brunei, the United Arab Emirates, and Africa should also be within our scope."

The APO welcomed Secretary-General Amano who will use his wealth of experience in diplomacy, economic development, and management to lead the APO and contribute to the sustainable development of member economies.

Amano is a graduate of the University of Tokyo where he received a BA in economics. He also studied at Hertford College, Oxford University, to obtain a diploma in social studies.

Amano joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) in 1973 and had a distinguished 40-year career and more recently, he served as Consul-General of Japan in Houston, Texas, USA, from 2001 to 2004, and as the acting Director-General of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization from 2004 to 2007.