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## Mongolia to host 49th GBM

The 49th Session of the APO Governing Body will be held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 26–28 June 2007. It will be the first for Mongolia since joining the APO in 1992. This year is also auspicious for the National Productivity and Development Center, the NPO of Mongolia and host of the Governing Body Meeting (GBM), as it marks the 15th anniversary of its establishment. About 70 persons comprising APO Directors and their advisers from 19 member countries, observers from various national agencies and international organizations, and APO Secretariat staff members are expected to attend the GBM.

The meeting will elect a new APO Chairman and two Vice Chairmen. APO Secretary-General Shigeo Takenaka, who will be completing his first term in office this year, will present his annual report to the meeting. A key item in this year's agenda is revision of the membership contribution formula that was carried forward from last year's meeting to allow APO Directors more time to consult their respective governments. Other major matters for the consideration of the GBM are the Financial Report for 2006, two-year rolling plan for 2008 and 2009, and appointment of the Secretary-General.

Part of the meeting program includes a study tour and delegates will be taken to visit the newly developed XIIIth Century National Park. Located outside Ulaanbaatar and set in a vast open plain that stretches beyond the horizon, the sprawling complex provides a rare and unforgettable glimpse into nomadic life during the time of the Mongol Empire under Chinggis Khaan.