

# African mission to Japan

As a follow-up to the Roundtable Conference for the Promotion of the Productivity Movement in Africa held in South Africa in August, a top management study mission from four African nations visited Japan from 29 October to 5 November under the JPC-SED's African Program. The 12-person mission was composed of leaders from governments, unions, and NPOs, and managers from Botswana, Kenya, Mauritius, and South Africa. The main purpose of the mission was to examine how the productivity movement contributes to economic growth and how to spread awareness of it among various stakeholders based upon the Japanese experience.

During the stay in Japan, the mission visited not only the JPC-SED but also the Japan Business Organization, the Japanese Trade Union Confederation (Rengo), and Toyota Motor to investigate labor-management consultation mechanisms and practical approaches to productivity promotion. In addition to paying courtesy calls on the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Economy, Trade and Industry, the mission spent time at the APO Secretariat where members received relevant briefings on operational programs undertaken by various departments. On the journey back to Africa, the mission also visited Thailand to study the development of the productivity movement in that country.