

56th Session of the APO Governing Body
15 April 2014, Hanoi, Vietnam

Welcome Remarks
Director General of the Directorate for Standards, Metrology and Quality and
APO Director for Vietnam
Dr. Ngo Quy Viet

Vice Minister of Science and Technology Tran Viet Thanh,
APO Chair and Vice Chairs,
APO Secretary-General Mari Amano,
Fellow APO Directors and Delegates,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today in Hanoi, as the APO Director for Vietnam, it is my great pleasure to welcome all of you to this 56th session of the APO Governing Body. We are honored to have with us today Vice Minister of Science and Technology Tran Viet Thanh as a representative of the Government of Vietnam to deliver the Inaugural Address. On behalf of Vietnam, I would like to send my warm wishes to delegates from the countries celebrating the Water Festival.

Since its inception in 1961 until now, as an intergovernmental organization the APO has made significant contributions to the economic development of its member economies. The APO is also an important bridge connecting members in the region as well as with other international organizations.

We gather here today at the 56th session of the APO Governing Body to discuss and approve strategic plans for the upcoming years. Later on, a presentation on the economic development of Vietnam will be delivered by an expert from the Ministry of Planning and Investment. There will be a site visit to Traphaco Joint Stock Company, a leading pharmaceutical company that has successfully applied solutions to enhance productivity. Traphaco was awarded Vietnam's Gold National Quality Award in 2012 and Asia-Pacific Quality Award in 2013. The delegates will also visit the Museum of Ethnology to learn more about Vietnamese culture.

Finally, I would like to thank all APO Directors and delegates for your attendance. My sincere thanks also go to the Ministry of Science and Technology for its leadership and support and to the APO Secretariat for its smooth cooperation with the VPC in preparing for and organizing this important event.

I wish you all good health and happiness. I hope that this Governing Body Meeting in Hanoi will be a memorable stay for you. Thank you.