

59th Session of the APO Governing Body
10–12 April 2017, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Welcome Remarks

**APO Director for the Islamic Republic of Iran and
Head of the National Iranian Productivity Organization
Dr. Roya Tabatabaei Yazdi**

In the Name of God;
Honorable Secretary-General;
Respectable APO Chair and Vice Chairs;
Dear APO Directors, Advisers, and Observers;
Distinguished Guests of Honor; and
Ladies and Gentlemen:

Good afternoon and welcome. It gives us great pleasure to host your valuable presence at the 59th Governing Body Meeting in IR Iran. We hope that the gathering provides the Asian Productivity Organization (APO) and member countries with a handful of achievements.

The APO, through 56 years of experience since its formation in 1961, has evolved into a fully developed and successful organization. The programs implemented and supervised by the APO are adapted to current world needs and address the challenges of the future world. This includes the current focus of the APO on the promotion of productivity in the public sector, human resources management, and the effect of the knowledge-based economy on productivity.

IR Iran has benefited from APO programs more than ever in the past few years. We are honored to have signed an MOU with the Republic of Korea and started programs under the Bilateral Cooperation Between NPOs with the Republic of China and Republic of Korea in the past year.

IR Iran seeks to extend its bilateral and multilateral cooperation with other member countries in 2017 and coming years. Relying on the potential of our country, we also hope to be recognized as a new center of excellence on education or sanitation as a branch of public-sector productivity.

Finally, I wish you all a fruitful and rewarding meeting and a delightful stay in IR Iran.