



ASIAN PRODUCTIVITY ORGANIZATION

## PROJECT NOTIFICATION ADDENDUM

15 September 2016

- 1. Project Code** 16-AG-28-GE-SMN-A
- 2. Title** Study Mission to a Nonmember Country on Innovations in Agriculture to Increase Productivity and Profitability
- 3. Addendum No.** 1
- 4. Reference** APO Project Notification 16-AG-28-GE-SMN-A dated 10 May 2016
- 5. Details**

a) Item No. 6 “Number of Overseas Participants ” will change as follows:

Up to 23 qualified participants  
(See 11. Qualifications of Candidates)

Unless otherwise modified by the APO in writing, the other provisions of the Project Notification dated 10 May 2016 pertaining to this study mission will remain valid.

Mari Amano  
Secretary-General



ASIAN PRODUCTIVITY ORGANIZATION

## PROJECT NOTIFICATION

10 May 2016

1. **Project Code** 16-AG-28-GE-SMN-A
2. **Title** Study Mission to a Nonmember Country on Innovations in Agriculture to Increase Productivity and Profitability
3. **Timing and Duration** 7–12 November 2016 (six days)
4. **Venue** Adelaide, Australia
5. **Implementing Organization**  
APO Secretariat  
Leaf Square Hongo Building 2F  
1-24-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku  
Tokyo 113-0033, Japan  
Tel: 81-3-3830-0417  
Fax: 81-3-5840-5324  
e-Mail: agr@apo-tokyo.org
6. **Number of Overseas Participants** Up to 19 qualified participants  
(See 11. Qualifications of Candidates)
7. **Closing Date for Nominations** 10 August 2016
8. **Objectives**
  - a. To expose participants to the latest innovations and best practices to improve the productivity, profitability, and sustainability of agriculture in Australia;
  - b. To learn the latest trends, methods, and technologies for postharvest handling of agricultural and food products through observing state-of-the-art operations of relevant organizations, institutions, and companies; and
  - c. To establish networks with Australian experts, professionals, and entrepreneurs in agriculture.

### 9. Background

Agriculture will face enormous challenges in feeding about 10 billion people by 2050. Food production must increase by 70% by 2050 despite the limited availability of arable land and fresh water and other less predictable factors, such as the impact of climate change. Innovation-led and productivity-driven agricultural growth is crucial in enabling developing

member countries to enhance national and regional food security. In most developing countries in Asia and the Pacific, however, the agricultural landscape is dominated by small and medium-sized farms where productivity and profitability remain low and degradation of natural resources is widespread.

The main constraint is a lack of knowledge of advanced production technologies, postharvest management, and modern farm management tools and techniques. Member countries can learn a lot from the experience of Australia, since its fresh produce and food products have been in the forefront of global quality ratings for decades. Direct extension activities including the introduction of new techniques, technologies, and ideas and training of growers and producers have made the agriculture sector a pillar of the Australian economy despite droughts, water restrictions, and uncertain weather conditions.

South Australia (SA), the destination of this study mission, has a global reputation for producing some of the highest-quality (premium-quality, safe, clean) food and wine. Wine grapes are grown in clean soil, seafood comes from clean oceans, and agricultural produce is generated in a pristine environment. SA is the leading agricultural state, producing a wide range of fruit and vegetables on small-, medium- and large-sized farms. Grain farming, cattle and sheep ranching, and aquaculture and mariculture are also practiced. Visits to state-of-the-art SA farms, food distribution centers, processors, and wholesalers will be of great value to Asian participants.

## **10. Scope and Methodology**

The study mission will include visits to farms, food distribution centers, processors, wholesalers, etc., to view state-of-the-art practices and facilities and meet growers, producers, and food industry representatives to network and exchange ideas, concepts, information, and first-hand experiences from those in agriculture and agribusiness. The study mission will focus on both industry-wide exposure as well as specific areas. The tentative program itinerary is attached. Participants will exchange views and network with centers of excellence in agriculture in SA for future cooperation.

## **11. Qualifications of Candidates**

The participants are expected to possess the following qualifications:

Present Position	Senior officials of government; farm managers; representatives of farmers'/producers' associations; executives of agribusiness companies; and consultants of NPOs, professionals, and academics in charge of promoting innovations in agriculture and agribusiness.
Experience	At least two years of experience in the position described above.
Education	University degree or equivalent qualification from a recognized university/institution.
Language	All proceedings of the project are conducted in English, and participants are expected to participate in discussions and make presentations. They must therefore be proficient in spoken and written English. Those who are not proficient in English will not be accepted.
Health	Physically and mentally fit to attend an intensive project requiring participants to complete a number of individual and group

activities and strenuous travel for site visits. It is therefore recommended that member countries do not nominate candidates likely to suffer from physical and mental stress.

- Age Candidates who fit the above profile are typically between 35 and 55 years of age.
- APO Certificate Participants are required to attend the entire program to receive the APO certificate of attendance.

## **12. Financial Arrangements**

### **To be borne by participants or participating countries**

- a. International airfare between the international airport nearest to the participants' place of work and the project venue in Australia.
- b. Any travel expenses related to travel insurance costs, passport, visa fees, and airport taxes.
- c. Participants' insurance premiums: All participants must be fully insured against accident and illness (including hospitalization and death) for a principal sum equivalent to US\$10,000.00 for the entire duration of the project and travel and must submit to the APO Secretariat a copy of the comprehensive travel insurance certificate before participation. Such insurance should be valid in the host country. This insurance requirement is in addition to existing government insurance coverage in some member countries. Neither the APO nor the implementing organizations will be responsible for any eventuality arising from accident or illness.
- d. Any expenses incurred by participants for stopovers on the way to and from the project venue as well as for extra stay at the project venue before and/or after the official project period on account of early arrival or late departure, or any other reason must be borne by the participants themselves/participating countries.

### **To be borne by the APO**

- a. Appropriate hotel accommodation and per diem allowances for all participants for up to seven days in Australia.
- b. All local expenses related to the study mission.
- c. All assignment costs of resource persons.

## **13. Actions by Member Countries**

- a. Each participating country is requested to nominate three or more candidates in the order of preference. Please ensure that candidates nominated meet the qualifications specified under section 11 above.
- b. No form of self-nomination will be accepted. All nominations must be endorsed and submitted by an APO Director, Alternative Director, Liaison Officer, or their designated officer.
- c. Please note that nomination of a candidate does not necessarily guarantee that he/she will be selected. Selection is at the discretion of the APO Secretariat. A basic criterion for selection is the homogeneity of the participants in terms of qualifications and work

experience. Nonselection therefore does not mean that the candidates concerned are not competent enough. Sometimes candidates are not selected because they are overqualified for a project.

- d. Each nomination should be accompanied by the necessary documents. A nomination lacking any of these documents may not be considered: two copies of the candidate's biodata on the APO biodata form together with a passport-sized photograph. The biodata form can be downloaded from the APO website ([www.apo-tokyo.org](http://www.apo-tokyo.org)). We encourage submitting the biodata form to the APO Secretariat in electronic form as an attachment to a cover e-mail message from the APO Director, Alternate Director, or Liaison Officer. The nomination documents should be sent to the Agriculture Department, APO Secretariat (e-mail: [agr@apo-tokyo.org](mailto:agr@apo-tokyo.org), fax: 81-3-5840-5324).
- e. The APO Medical and Insurance Declaration/Certification Form. Every candidate must complete and submit a copy of the APO Medical and Insurance Declaration/Certification Form with his/her biodata at the time of nomination. Please note that self-declaration is sufficient for candidates without any of health conditions or illnesses listed on the reverse side of the medical form. However, for all others, medical certification by a licensed physician on the reverse side of the medical form is required.
- f. Necessary documents are to be submitted electronically. In that case, there is no need to send a hard copy by postal mail. However, if the documents are submitted by fax, member countries are requested to mail the originals of the documents to the APO Secretariat as well. If a digital photograph of a nominee is not attached to the electronic biodata form, a hard-copy photograph should be sent to the APO Secretariat by postal mail. Please give the candidate's name and the project code on the reverse side of the photograph.
- g. Member countries are requested to adhere to the nomination deadline given on page 1. The APO Secretariat may not consider late nominations as they have in the past resulted in considerable difficulties to the implementing organization in its preparatory work for the project.
- h. For member countries where nominations are required to be approved by higher government authorities and require a longer time, the APO Liaison Officers/NPOs are urged to send the names of nominees on or before the deadline, indicating that government approval will follow.
- i. If a selected participant becomes unable to attend, he/she should inform the APO Liaison Officer/NPO in his/her country immediately and give the reason for withdrawal. The NPO concerned is requested to transmit that information to the APO Secretariat and the host country promptly.
- j. NPOs are requested to inform the selected participants that they are not to bring family members or to engage in any private business activities during the entire duration of the project.
- k. Each selected participant should be instructed to arrive at the venue one day before the start of the official project. Also, he/she is expected to return home upon completion of the official project because he/she is visiting the host country for the specific purpose of attending this APO mission.
- l. NPOs should inform participants that they must attend all six days of the project to qualify for the certificate of attendance.

#### **14. Actions by the APO Secretariat**

- a. Under normal circumstances, candidates who are selected will be informed of their acceptance at least four weeks prior to the start of the project.
- b. If some candidates fail to qualify or be unable to participate after selection, or if some member countries fail to nominate any candidate, their slots may be filled by alternates from the same or another member country on a merit basis.

#### **15. Postproject Actions**

All participants are required to prepare action plans based on their learning from the study mission for follow-up and share the plans with their NPOs. The APO will also request participants to submit progress reports six months after completion of the mission.

#### **16. Evaluation of Participants**

If the conduct/attendance/performance of a participant is not satisfactory, these will be reported to the APO director concerned.

#### **17. Guide for Participants**

Other conditions for participation are given in the *APO Guide for Participants*, which is available from APO Liaison Officers/NPOs in member countries and on the APO website ([www.apo-tokyo.org](http://www.apo-tokyo.org)).



Mari Amano  
Secretary-General

16-AG-28-GE-SMN-A

Study Mission to a Nonmember Country on Innovations in Agriculture to Increase  
Productivity and Profitability, 7–12 November 2016, Adelaide, Australia

**Tentative Program Itinerary**

(to be finalized in consultation with the implementing organization and resource persons)

Date	Activity
Sunday, 6 November 2016	Arrival in Adelaide following individual itineraries Hotel in Adelaide (to be informed later) (vicinity of Rundle Mall/Central Market)
Monday 7 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opening Session (APO, SA state government)</li> <li>- Briefing/group photo</li> <li>- Visits to Adelaide Plains (Virginia, Two Wells, Angle Vale) (tomatoes/cucumbers, mushrooms, carrots, potatoes, onions, herbs, salads, etc.)</li> <li>- (Lunch at Doncho's Cafe-Restaurant, Virginia)</li> </ul>
Tuesday 8 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visits to Ashton/Hahndorf (Adelaide Hills) (apple orchards, strawberries, cherries; fruit juice production, jam &amp; sauce production as part of farm operations)</li> <li>- Lunch at Hahndorf (venue to be confirmed)</li> <li>- Vineyard</li> <li>- Tea with Adelaide Hills farming community</li> </ul>
Wednesday 9 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visit to Murray Bridge/Monarto/Myaponga (mushrooms, strawberries, iceberg lettuce, Asian vegetables, Halal-certified abattoir)</li> <li>- (Lunch on houseboat restaurant, subject to confirmation)</li> </ul>
Thursday 10 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visit to Pooraka Wholesale Market</li> <li>- Visit to supermarket distribution center (Coles/Woolworths)</li> <li>- Visit to independent food distribution center (Swires)</li> <li>- Visit to TafeSA Training Centre (food preparation and catering)</li> <li>- Lunch at TIROS@Regency (campus restaurant)</li> <li>- Tour Glenelg and Harbourtown</li> </ul>
Friday 11 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visit poultry farm/operations</li> <li>- Visit/tour South Australian Research &amp; Development Institute (SARDI)</li> <li>- Briefing by Food SA (NGO)</li> <li>- Central Market tour/Haig's Chocolate Factory</li> </ul>
Saturday 12 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Panel discussion on innovative ways to enhance productivity, profitability, and sustainability in agriculture</li> <li>- Formulation of follow-up action plans</li> <li>- Program evaluation by participants and implementing organization in Australia</li> <li>- In the afternoon, the schedule is open for delegates to arrange final networking meetings on their own.</li> </ul>
Sunday 13 November	Departure from Adelaide following individual itineraries

**Note:** The onsite program will include safety instructions/tour (including photographs unless otherwise instructed) and host's briefing/Q&A session. When possible, picking and tasting of fruit (seasonal), vegetables, and prepared/processed food will be arranged.