

57th Session of the APO Governing Body  
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Welcome Remarks

APO Director for Thailand Dr. Atchaka Sibunruang

Minister of Industry,  
APO Chair,  
APO Secretary-General,  
APO Directors and Delegates,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen:

It gives me great pleasure to extend to you all a very warm welcome on behalf of the Royal Thai government and as the APO Director for Thailand and to say how grateful we are to APO Directors from 18 countries and honored guests from overseas and international organizations convening at this 57th session of the APO Governing Body here in Bangkok.

I would like to express my gratitude to His Excellency Chakramon Phasukavanich, Minister of Industry, for attending this opening ceremony as our guest of honor. Minister Chakramon has played a major role in promoting productivity in Thailand for quite a long time. He was the APO Director for Thailand before taking the position of Permanent Secretary of Industry, so he is very familiar with the APO.

This meeting is one of the most important steps for member countries in defining the directions for enhancing the productivity of each. The APO's direction toward the year 2020 is considered crucial to support the concept of sustainable development to balance economic, social, and environmental aspects of our countries.

I really admire member countries for dedicating all necessary resources to create a body of knowledge and to develop human resources in strengthening various sectors, including industry, agriculture, services, and the public sector, for decades. Similarly, Thailand also focuses on encouraging environmental sustainability, which has a great impact on human life not only of Thais but also world citizens. Hence, we have planned to provide you all the meeting materials using the website through a QR code for your convenience.

Thailand has continuously promoted eco-friendly production. Many local products achieve international standards, and we strongly intend to use environmentally friendly materials in clean processes, as you can see from the souvenir from this meeting.

Once again, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to Minister Chakramon, the APO Chair, APO Secretary-General Mari Amano, and our distinguished guests. I wish you every success in your endeavors and a very pleasant stay in Bangkok.