

## New Secretariat staff

The Secretariat Industry Department received new Director J.M. Thilaka Jayasundara on 6 January. Formerly Director of the National Productivity Secretariat (NPS) of Sri Lanka and Head of the NPO and APO Liaison Officer for the country, she also served as Director of Planning, Research and Development within the Ministry of Labour Relations and Productivity Promotion and as Deputy Director of the NPS. She holds a Master's in Public Administration from the Postgraduate Institute of Management of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura; Postgraduate Diploma in Information and Communication Technology from the Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology; and BSC Special Degree in Public Administration, Public Policy, Public Accountancy, Public Financial Management, Governance and Economics from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. She worked as a key resource person promoting productivity in Sri Lanka within several government agencies and the National Training Institute of the Bank of Ceylon.



Jayasundara is expected to work as a team member and provide visionary leadership to the Industry Department and contribute in particular to the APO's recent focus on public-sector productivity measurement and analysis. She is married and the mother of a son, and finds his personal growth and the development of feelings fascinating. Her hobby is reading Russian translations. She mentioned, "My ultimate wish is to serve the world, without being limited by boundaries. This is one world, there is one human race on the planet, and what we need to do is help others do better and create happiness among them."

A new Research and Planning Officer started working at the Secretariat on 6 February. Ngo Thu Huong, who was born in Hanoi, has an international educational and work background, along with trilingual capabilities, which all make her an asset to the regional productivity movement. After receiving a BA in Economics from Hanoi's Foreign Trade University, Huong studied for an MSc in Economics and Business Administration at Aalborg University in Denmark. Subsequently, she worked under the European Technical Programme for Vietnam, Phase 2, funded by the European Commission, and then in the private sector in Le Havre, France. Most recently, Huong acted as Project Coordinator for the Vietnam Energy Efficiency Standards and Labeling Project sponsored by the Australian Government and carried out under the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Vietnam.



In her free time, Huong enjoys traveling and taking photos. On the job at the Secretariat, she told the *APO News* that she looks forward to the challenge of "being creative and proactive to deal with emerging issues in the APO's member countries" with her new colleagues.

Secretariat colleagues walking past the tidy cubicle of new Research and Planning Department Director Naoki Ogiwara immediately notice four large sheets of paper on the wall behind his desk, headed with the labels "Vision," "Principle," "Discipline," and "Strategic Focus" and filled with colorful Post-it Notes. These principles of knowledge management (KM), which values the participation of members and stakeholders, govern the managerial style of Ogiwara, who took up his new post on 20 January.



After receiving a Bachelor of Law degree in Political Science from Keio University in Tokyo, he joined Fuji Xerox where he served as a management consultant for famed Knowledge Dynamics Initiative for 12 years, helping introduce KM, innovation management, and change management initiatives in major Japanese companies and central/local government agencies. Ogiwara studied at the F.W. Olin Graduate School of Business of Babson College in the USA and was awarded an MBA summa cum laude. Before joining the APO, he served as Senior KM officer at The World Bank in Washington, DC, for two-and-a-half years, where he practiced what he preached. He also served as an expert for APO projects on KM and innovation and helped guide early efforts in this area.

Ogiwara, who is a married wine-, travel-, and dog-lover, is glad to be back in Tokyo after an extended period abroad, because, "I have so much missed the three Fs in Japan (food, friends, and family). What did I miss most? Definitely, food!" One goal while serving as Director of Research and Planning is "to upgrade the APO to become a thought leader that advocates a unique Asian perspective on productivity increases."

Productivity veteran Jun-Ho Kim assumed a new position as Program Officer in the Secretariat Industry Department starting 10 February. The native of Jeju has worked in various posts within the Korea Productivity Center (KPC) since 1989, including a stint as the general manager of the KPC's Tokyo Office (August 1991–December 1994). Immediately prior to joining the Secretariat, Kim served as the Director of the International Cooperation Department of the KPC and APO Liaison Officer for the ROK and is therefore well known among member countries. His academic background includes a BA in English Language and Literature from Jeju National University, a Master's in International Convention Management from Hallym University International Graduate School, and he is currently writing the thesis that will lead to a PhD in Business Administration from Hallym University Graduate School.



Kim, who speaks four languages, mentioned that APO Secretariat staff and NPOs should be "one family" and hopes to communicate with NPOs on specific needs and issues for their productivity improvement while at the Secretariat. He is married with a son and daughter.