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**IMF Appoints Akira Ariyoshi as New Director of
The Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific**

International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Rodrigo de Rato has named Akira Ariyoshi as Director of the IMF's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. Mr. Ariyoshi was Deputy Director-General of International Bureau at the Ministry of Finance of Japan before taking up this position, and succeeds Mr. Hiroyuki Hino.

Mr. Ariyoshi, a Japanese national, joined the Ministry of Finance as a career civil servant in 1976, and held a variety of positions, including Deputy Vice Minister for International Affairs and Councilor and Deputy President of Policy Research Institute. He also held positions at the IMF—most recently as Assistant Director at Monetary and Exchange Affairs Department (now Monetary and Financial Systems Department) from 1998 to 2000. Mr. Ariyoshi holds a D.Phil in Economics from the University of Oxford, and a B.S. in Mathematical Engineering from the University of Tokyo.

The Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (OAP), which is located in Tokyo, monitors regional economic and financial developments, participates in regional fora on monetary and finance cooperation, and promotes dialogue in the region on current issues and challenges in the international financial system as well as on the Fund and its policies. OAP takes the lead in facilitating the Fund's involvement, at the regional level, in the economic and financial development of the Asia-Pacific region.