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Preface

This is the first time for me to write the preface for "Annual Report" of the Core University Program (CUP), making me a little excited. At the end of March, 2005, Professor Fujita, the former great Coordinator, has retired from Osaka University and I have become the new Japanese-side Coordinator. Here I have to greet afresh all the colleagues participating in CUP, and promise to do my best for properly and effectively managing our CUP together with Prof. Pham Hung Viet, the Vietnamese side Coordinator, and staffs of both coordinating offices.

The period which has been given to our CUP is 10 years, in a sense a long term, but at the end of fiscal year 2005, the remaining period has become only 3 years, less than a third of the given period. I realize that "time flies". On the other hand, I also realize that we have steadily piled up the results on the CUP history and that are approaching to the goal of the project. That is the real contribution for solutions to the environmental issues not only in Vietnam and Japan but also in the whole Asian region. The Annual Report of FY2005 includes in total 46 papers; 14 from Topic 1, 10 from Topic 2, 11 from Topic 3 and 11 from Topic 4. I feel great pleasure because we could pile these fruitful research results again on to the CUP history.

I deeply thank all the researchers who have joined and contributed to the projects. I would like to thank also JSPS and VAST for supporting the CUP.

M. Ike

Prof. Michihiko Ike
The Coordinator of the CUP on Japan side
Division of Sustainable Energy and Environmental Engineering
Graduate School of Engineering, Osaka University

The 10-year Core University Program has gone over half of its way up to now and it received a strong financial support from JSPS and a close cooperation network among Vietnamese and Japanese scientists. From 1998-2004, I was really honored to be worked with Professor Fujita, our great coordinator from Japanese side, who has made impressive contribution to the CUP program in particular and to the Asian environmental science in general. This year we have Professor Michihiko Ike be involved in the CUP Program as the new Japanese National Project Coordinator as the successor of Professor Fujita. I strongly believe that Prof. Ike will be our superior partner of Prof. Fujita in our CUP from now on.

Under the lead of the new coordinator, our program has gained a lot of splendid achievements on the field of environmental science and technology. The papers printed in the Annual Report with three topics - Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, Environmental Creation and Conservation, Development of Total Environmental Technology - have identified new environmental issues as well as supplied further information, developed new technology in order to approach a common target: a better sustainable development for the Earth.

In frame of the program, scientists and researchers from both sides have conducted a lot of scientific exchanges, seminars and meetings. These activities lead to a more effective cooperation between the two countries. The remarkable results obtained in this joint program have played an important role in the improvement of the environment in Vietnam, Japan and in the Asian region as well, not only in pure scientific and technological issue but also in cultural exchange issue in the region.

With the excellent background of seven years of establishing and strengthening bilateral research and cooperation, I do believe that we will accomplish more fruitful results not only in the research field but also in education and technology transfer in the near future.

I would like to say thank you, and wish health and success for you all.

Prof. Pham Hung Viet
The Coordinator of CUP on Vietnam side
Research Center for Environmental Technology and Sustainable Development (CETASD),
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