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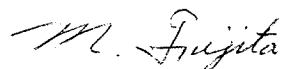
The University of Osaka

Preface

This is the fourth year of the Core University Program. Every time I write a preface, I count the age of the program just like I count that of my grandchildren. As children grow up, they become able to walk, talk, and communicate to others. The same thing can be applied to the project. The program now produces a lot of interactions among the scientists of Vietnam and Japan and research papers which are valuable fruits resulted from the collaboration works. The program I cared about is now independent and walks alone under the support of many people.

This year, seventeen papers were collected for the annual report. Seven papers dealt with Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, Topic 1, discussing of monitoring of toxic organic compounds and metals. Another seven papers wrote about Environmental Creation and Conservation, Topic 2, describing assessment of water and air environment and also applying mathematical modeling for environmental assessment. The other three papers covered Topic 3, Development of Total Environmental Technology, investing wastewater treatment technologies.

I am very happy to have such excellent results as those mentioned above and am very proud of it. I hope the researches from the Core University Program will give some solutions to the environmental problems existing not only in Japan and Vietnam but also in Asian community. I deeply thank JSPS and NCST for supporting the program.



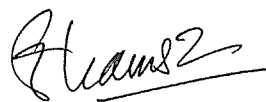
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This year probably has been the most prevailing time of our Core University Program. The initial implementation has been successfully done and the project now becomes independent in its progress. The annual report comprises 17 papers, in which 7 papers dealt with Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, Topic 1, demonstrating status of pollution, fate and transport of various kinds of hazardous contaminants with special emphasis on persistent organic pollutants and toxic heavy metals. Topic 2 concerns Environmental Creation and Conservation, in which in-depth knowledge about assessment of water and air quality as well as the suitability of using mathematical modeling for environmental assessment were discussed. And the Topic 3, Development of Total Environmental Technology, dealt with wastewater treatment technologies, which is one of the most practical and important steps of the long-term strategies of environmental monitoring and conservation.

As scientists who have common efforts and endeavours to make our environment become better, we realize the need to promote young scientists to be able to approach and develop the up-to-date knowledge in environmental science and technology. Therefore, scientific exchange programs particularly for young researchers among laboratories in Japan and Vietnam is critically important.

I am very happy with the present outcomes of the project and we look forward to more successful steps in the very near future.

I would like to express our deepest thanks to JSPS and NCST for the effective support for the program throughout the last four years.



Prof. Pham Hung Viet

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