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## Preface

FY2006 was the eighth year of the Core University Program (CUP). Our cooperative activity in the CUP framework has been becoming more and more active year by year, and ten research projects have been run in the topics of (1) Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, (2) Environmental Creation and Conservation, (3) Development of Total Environmental Technology and (4) Mathematical Methods for Environmental Science and technology during FY2006. Totally seventy-one researchers made trips between Vietnam and Japan.

The recent 2-year results of such active exchange were summarized in the 6th General Seminar held in Kumamoto in October, 2006 and the contents of the proceedings are contained in this Annual Report. The Kumamoto General Seminar gathered 28 and 47 colleagues from Vietnam and Japan, respectively, from all the CUP cooperative universities/institutions and we enjoyed the enthusiastic discussion. The papers contained in this Annual Report will remind us of the wonderful time in Kumamoto, its beautiful scenery and very comfortable atmosphere. We could pile the fruitful results with the wonderful memory again in FY2006 of the CUP.

I would like to give my special thanks for all the CUP colleagues. Also I would like to express my deepest appreciation to JSPS and VAST for supporting the CUP.

Prof. Michihiko Ike

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The Coordinator of the CUP on Japan side
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The year 2006 was a great landmark for the "Core University Program" (CUP) between Vietnamese and Japanese universities after two years coordinated by Prof. Michihiko Ike - the successor of Prof. Masanori Fujita.

As the National Coordinator of CUP from Vietnamese side, I am very happy that we could continue conducting the scientific exchange and research activities in this interdisciplinary program very effectively in a close cooperation with Prof. Ike.

After occupying the position of Prof. Fujita, Prof. Ike and I agreed that besides the cooperative research studies have been currently conducted, we will open a new research field on "Development and Application of sensors and biosensors for environmental analysis and food safety". This research field will be implemented in collaboration with concerned prominent professors from Osaka University and Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (JAIST).

As the planned schedule, general seminars will be held annually in which all the Vietnamese and Japanese scientists will have a good opportunity to meet and share their research results and achievements in the past years. In this fiscal year 2006, the general seminar was held in Kumamoto City instead of the animated and modern Osaka City as usual. It was wonderful that the seminar organizing committee chose Kumamoto City located in the charming Kyushu Island as the host meeting venue for our momentous event.

The Vietnamese scientists together with me were very honored to be welcome considerately and warmly by the Japanese counterparts. When arriving in Kumamoto, I had special experiences that Kumamoto, an old city, is very well-known for its beautiful landscapes. The most amazing beauty is Aso Volcano which is still very active and considered as "the land of fire". In spite of this dynamic movement of the Volcano, while standing here, I was extremely astounded by the surrounding beauty bestowed by the nature to this city: green tree carpets, abundant high quality groundwater resources, etc and the residents in this scenic city are also friendly and hospitable.

I truly believe that we, in such a beautiful and peaceful atmosphere and an ideal environment, would make our contribution to bring about the success of the scientific general seminar, to foster our relationship more closely as well as the scientific cooperation more efficiently.

I would like to express my thankfulness and best wishes to you all.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Pham Hung Viet

The Coordinator of the CUP on Vietnamese side

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