

# Preface

Both of the IG-GSJ, AIST (Institute of Geoscience, Geological Survey of Japan, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology) and the NCKU-DPRC (the Disaster Prevention Research Center, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan) were agree to pursue scientific and technical cooperation about hydrological and geochemical research for earthquake prediction in Taiwan in February 2002. After three years' successful cooperation, GSJ, AIST and NCKU-DPRC agreed to renew scientific and technical cooperation in this field for 5 years in April 2005.

Follow the cooperation agreement, GSJ, AIST and DPRC-NCKU intend to carry out cooperative research activities on (1) Investigation of groundwater anomalies associated with the earthquake in Taiwan; (2) Analysis of the natural groundwater level changes in correlation to the geotectonic and meteorological activities; (3) Improving methodologies in monitoring and studying the groundwater anomalies with respect to geotectonic activities and/or other aspect as well; (4) Compiling the future periodically-monitored information of groundwater chemical and physical properties, and geotectonic anomalies; and(5) Analysis of the groundwater anomalies as earthquake precursors.

The 1<sup>st</sup> International Workshop on Hydrological and Geochemical Research for Earthquake prediction was held on Sep. 24, 2002 at GSJ, AIST, Tsukuba, Japan. After that, this workshop has been held every year in Japan and Taiwan, alternately. The main purpose of the workshop is proceeded to collaborate, and provide an opportunity to share the precious experience with other researchers. Although the earthquake prediction is a hard scientific challenge in the century, keeping on study and making any kind of approach are the better way to contribute earthquake hazard mitigation. We hope that this workshop will offer the good ideas and experiences for related work. In view of these sincerely cooperation, we absolute believe that will help us to preserve more safety for our life.

October 2006

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