

Preface

Both of the NCKU-DPRC (the Disaster Prevention Research Center, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan) and the IG-GSJ (Institute of Geoscience, Geological Survey of Japan, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology) were agree to pursue scientific and technical cooperation about hydrological and geochemical research for earthquake prediction in Taiwan in February 2002.

Follow the cooperation agreement, DPRC-NCKU and IG-GSJ 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 1st International Workshop on Hydrological and Geochemical Research for Earthquake prediction had held on Sep. 24, 2002 at GSJ, AIST, Tsukuba, Japan. The workshop had good beginning to promote the research cooperation between Japan and Taiwan. The main purpose of the workshop this time is proceeded to collaborate, and provide an opportunity to share the precious experience with other researchers. In total, seventeen papers will be presented in this workshop.

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.

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