

## Preface

The Otsuchi Marine Research Center, Ocean Research Institute, the University of Tokyo was established in April 1973 as a new coastal marine research center to promote basic and comprehensive research in marine science. Present staffs study marine biology, marine ecology, marine pollution, marine physiology and physical oceanography. Some of the present research programs are conducted as a part of International projects of GOOS (Global Ocean Observing System), GLOBEC (Global Ocean Ecosystem Dynamics) and DIVERSTAS (Biodiversity). Since 1979 the staffs of the Center have continued to make cooperative researches with Japanese and foreign visiting scientists. Recently, 60–80 scientific research programs have been annually carried out by visiting scientists more than 4,000 person-days per year. Advanced scientific information, environmental information of Otsuchi Bay, and abstracts of scientific meetings held at the Center have been published mostly in Japanese in Otsuchi Marine Research Center Report, No. 1–23 since 1974. These reports supply us with a lot of scientific information and knowledge of coastal marine science in Otsuchi Bay. I appreciate all of the visiting scientists, the staffs and other members for their continued encouragement and substantial aid in publishing the above report.

The Otsuchi Marine Research Center having the history over a quarter of a century promotes to establish an international cooperative marine research system with foreign research institutes. As a series of activities of the Otsuchi Marine Research Center, following Otsuchi Marine Research Center Report, the Center starts to publish a new style publication OTSUCHI MARINE SCIENCE in 1999. OTSUCHI MARINE SCIENCE publishes significant new scientific information resulting from original coastal marine research not only in Otsuchi area but also anywhere in the world. OTSUCHI MARINE SCIENCE includes (1) *Original articles*, (2) *Review articles*, and (3) *Activities of the Otsuchi Marine Research Center*. Original and Review articles are subject to peer review. Other information is also published with judgment of the Editor of OTSUCHI MARINE SCIENCE.

I hope OTSUCHI MARINE SCIENCE publishes new and advanced information on coastal marine science and supply valuable knowledge to the scientists and people concerning with coastal marine science and coastal marine management. For the coming 21st century human beings will face severe food supply problem, coastal marine environmental problem and unexpected problems. I wish OTSUCHI MARINE SCIENCE contributes to resolve these coastal marine problems.

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