



The China-Japan-Korea Joint GLOBEC Symposium attendees

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The 2nd China-Japan-Korea Joint GLOBEC Symposium was held in Hangzhou, China on 27–29 November 2004, sponsored by the China GLOBEC Programme. Three countries, China, Japan and Korea are active in GLOBEC studies in the northwest Pacific, one of the highest fish production waters in the world. Marginal seas in the region such as the Yellow Sea, the East China Sea and the Japan/East Sea are very important to the ocean ecosystem study. All three countries have national GLOBEC research programmes and have made good progress in recent years. The China-Japan-Korea Joint GLOBEC symposium provides a vital forum for exchanging new information and discussing research findings in the region.

The symposium was the second joint GLOBEC regional meeting for exchanging research results and discussing the cooperation among the three countries. Prof. Qisheng Tang from China, Prof. Yasunori Sakurai from Japan and Prof. Im Sang Oh from Korea were members of the organising committee of the GLOBEC symposium. After the first China-Japan-Korea Joint Symposium, held in December 2002 in Korea it shows that the region continues to develop a very dynamic, highly effective and supportive GLOBEC network. The central theme of the second symposium was the relationship between environmental variation and ecosystem responses in the Northwest Pacific region. The symposium focused on:

- Ecosystem structure and Food web trophodynamics
- Physical-biological processes and models.

There were 62 participants at the joint symposium, and Dr. Manuel Barange, Director GLOBEC International Office, offered his congratulation to the meeting. The scientists in the three countries contributed fifty-two papers to the symposium (25 oral presentations and 27 posters). Chinese GLOBEC provided 28 papers, Japanese 10 papers and Korean 14 papers. At the first session Prof. Im Sang Oh reported on 'Korea GLOBEC', Prof. Yasunori Sakurai reported on 'The Overview of Japan GLOBEC and Related Research Projects in Japan', and Prof. Qisheng Tang on the 'Overview of Chinese National GLOBEC program'.

Many excellent papers were given on the change in ecosystem structure and community structure of living resources in the Yellow Sea, the East China Sea, the Japan/East Sea, Korean waters and its adjacent regions. Prof. Yasunori Sakurai gave an impressive presentation on 'A New Scenario of Stock Fluctuation of Ommastrephid Squids Related to Climate Change'. Dr. Hyun-cheol Kim presented a paper on 'Year-to-year Variation of Phytoplankton Bloom and Wind in the East Sea'; Dr. Song Sun reported on 'Population Dynamics of the Dominant Copepod *Calanus sinicus* in the Yellow Sea' and Dr. Tian Yongjun gave a speech on 'Long-term Change in the Production of Large Predatory Fishes in the Japan Sea during 1958-2003 in Relation to Climate Changes with Special Reference to Yellow Tail'. Profs. Jing Zhang and Michio J. Kishi informed on the 'Biogeochemical Aspects in the China-GLOBEC Study and Modeling Interannual and Decadal Variability of Pacific Saury'.

At the end of the symposium a round table discussion was chaired by Prof. Jilan Su. It was noted that GLOBEC is entering its Integration and Synthesis for the next 5 years. Integration and Synthesis will need more cooperation and collaboration especially in the regional studies. The importance of database building and publication of the papers from the symposium were also discussed during the meeting. The next joint China-Japan-Korea GLOBEC symposium will be held in 2007 in Japan.