

## PREFACE

This is the proceedings of the 4<sup>th</sup> Joint Meeting of the UJNR Panel on Earthquake Research held in Morioka from 6 to 8 November, 2002.

The first joint meeting of the panel for earthquake prediction technology, which is the preceding panel of Panel on Earthquake Research, was held in Tokyo in 1976. Since then, research on earthquake has shown a remarkable progress. The progress is supported by surveying and observations in which many of panel members are engaged. I believe the exchange of information and cooperation through this panel played an important role for advancement in such field.

Since the last joint meeting in Menlo Park, there were many remarkable events and advancement of research discussed in this Panel as are collected here. We found a slow slip event just west to the suspected source region of Tokai earthquake in 2001, Japan. The slip is still going on today. Long term evaluation of seismic risk by Japanese government led to a new law for hazard mitigation against earthquakes that may occur along Nankai Trough. In US side, Earth Scope project is advancing with interesting products.

Technical Sessions were held at the Hotel Metropolitan Morioka NEW WING focusing on scientific topics, "The New Wave of Earthquake Research", "Space technologies", "Real-time Seismic Information System", "Strong ground motion", "Plate subduction", "Preparatory process for seismogenesis" and "Earthquake Process and Mechanism". In total 41 papers were presented, and we could promote our mutual understanding and friendship through discussion in these two days. We also discussed ambitious projects, remarkable phenomena, fruits of collaborations and so on.

At the end of the meeting, a resolution, which includes words of encouraging workshop activities in addition to agreement on continuation of collaboration, was adopted. Through the agreement, we can expect focused collaboration in between each joint meeting.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Panel members and participants for their contributions, which have led the meeting a great success and also to Iwate University and Tohoku University for their assistance in study tour, which was quite fruitful, too.

March 2003

星 塾 由 尚

Hoshino, Yoshihisa

Chairperson of the Japanese side Panel

Director General, Geographical Survey Institute