PREFACE

This is the final proceedings of the domestic study meeting for the Yellow River Study holding once every year by the whole members during two days on October 25-26 at Kaga City. As we didn't hold an international workshop this year, we determined to have to write our final study results in English, also. And we have decided to publish our final YRiS News Letter as Vol. 8, soon. This project is composed of seven sub-study teams, these are "Social-economical water team" under the leadership of Professor IMURA, Hidefumi who belongs to Nagoya University, "Real status of large irrigated agricultural fields in the Yellow River basin" under the leadership of Professor WATANABE, Tsugihiro, RIHN, "Observation and analysis of the boundary layer in Loess Plateau" under the leadership of Associate Professor HIYAMA, Tetsuya who belongs to Nagoya University, "Hydrological analysis of the long-term change of water budget by human activities" under the leadership of Senior Scientist SATO, Yoshinobu, RIHN, "Historical understanding of river channel changes downstream" under the leadership of Professor KINOSHITA, Tetsuya, RIHN, "Groundwater investigation downstream" under the leadership of Associate Professor TANIGUCHI, Makoto, RIHN, and "Changes of biological basic production in Bohai Sea" under the leadership of Professor YANAGI, Tetsuo who belongs to Kyushu University. I'm in charge of the role of coordination and bring each result successful conclusion. Fortunately, we have got fruitful results. These are seen in the proceedings.

I have already published a book for general readers on January 2008 and we are to publish a textbook for student and graduate student relevant to environmental sciences including not only natural sciences, but human sciences written by our members on March 2008. If possible, we wish to translate it in English version in future.

Although we have clarified a cause of the dry-up of the Yellow River begun since 1970s quantitatively, we became aware of polluted river water of the Yellow River, in the same time. But we didn't argue this issue positively. If possible, our results could contribute to Chinese countermeasures against water pollution, also.

> January 29, 2008 FUKUSHIMA, Yoshihiro (RIHN) Leader of the Yellow River Project