

Findings of the “International Symposium for the Integration of Marine-related Data and Information”

The international symposium for the integration of marine-related data and information was convened in Tokyo, Japan from December 7th to 8th, 2011. The following points are recognized based on the keynote speeches, presentations and the panel discussion.

1. For the environmental preservation, disaster prevention and sustainable use of the sea, it is indispensable to carry out systematic surveys and observations and to make the data and information available comprehensively.
2. The International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) has been increasingly active for 50 years and has greatly enhanced the efficiency of oceanographic data and information management. The IODE has inalterable value in the future.
3. Various efforts for the data and information management, such as Ocean Data Portal, are emerging. Moreover, as seen in SEAGOOS, regional efforts are also being promoted. These activities should be encouraged, continued and enhanced.
4. Marine cadastre will and should become an indispensable instrument for policy makers and stakeholders to plan, govern, and sustainably use the ocean based on the scientific knowledge. Marine cadastre can also be an effective measure to coordinate regional matters.
5. NODCs are expected to play leading roles in promoting the marine cadastre program, as they have long experience in handling oceanographic data and producing data products, and IODE, the international network of NODCs, will be able to provide the technical, technological and training support.