A Network of Asian River Basin Organizations

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL



Good to see you. I, Hisao INOUE was nominated for the Acting Secretary General in October 2011 as the successor of Mr. Katsuaki KAWANO. I experienced waterworks of huge population city, Saitama, in Japan.

I am glad to deliver all of you that Annual Report 2010 / 2011 was published in cooperation with you. This Annual Report is the 7th issue. 8 years have been passed since the first one was published in 2004. Following the past years, NARBO has steadily produced good results in its activities. In addition, the numbers of organizations joining NARBO has increased significantly from 43 organizations from 11 countries just after the 1st General Meeting in 2004, to 76 organizations from 17 countries, as of February 2013.

In 2010, NARBO 4th General Meeting was conducted in Indonesia, and the number of Vice Chairperson was increased from 1 seat to 3 seats in order to encourage NARBO Activity I think this change brings us great success. Because we obtain various suggestions and inputs from excellent NARBO officials, and exchanging knowledge and opinions were promoted more than the past because of strong leadership of NARBO officials.

In March 2011, Japan was faced triple disasters, earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear accident. It was quite hard challenges for Japanese. Some water-related facilities of JWA were damaged by the earthquake. JWA paid huge efforts to recover the severe damages caused by the triple disasters. I realized these experiences should be shared to NARBO members. Asian countries have still many challenges, natural disasters, population increasing, environmental problems, and so on. I strongly think we should share various experience and knowledge in order to cope with these challenges. In June 2011, NARBO organized "1st NARBO IWRM Executive Retreat on Leadership in River Basins" and "International Seminar on Corporate River Basin Organizations in Asia". It was quite useful events. To analyze and abstract key for success of leadership and RBOs is quite essential topic to lead IWRM successfully in each countries. Secretariat of NARBO are planning to hold next events which will focus on "Leadership" and "RBOs",

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To promote IWRM effectively, NARBO is trying to conduct various cooperation activities with other water-related networks and/or institutes. In September 2011, NARBO co-organized joint session on Water Quality Management in River Basins with Integrated Water Resources Management with WEPA, Water Environment Partnership in Asia for the purpose of involvement for element of IWRM. I think these kinds of cooperation should be encouraged in the future.

NARBO shows good progress on dissemination of IWRM into not only Asian region but also other regions. But I think NARBO should seek for much better, more effective improvement. To achieve that, I would like to request all of NARBO members to give us your suggestions and opinions on NARBO activities.

NARBO is a Network, therefore, NARBO activities are encouraged by your actively and voluntary participation. I think NARBO will contribute to achieve sound and sustainable IWRM. So, let us make relationship more deeply each other and work together more closely.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you and working with you for our future.

February, 2013 Acting Secretary General of NARBO

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Mr. Hisao Inoue