

## PREFACE

An International Symposium on Environmental Research in the Arctic sponsored by the National Institute of Polar Research (NIPR) was held on July 19–21, 1995, at Kudan Kaikan and NIPR. The symposium aimed to discuss recent scientific activities and future research plans in the Arctic under the international cooperation of Japanese and foreign scientists. NIPR has started major research activities in the Arctic since 1990 as the International Cooperative Project on “the Global Environment Research in the Arctic (1990–1994)” according to International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) initiatives. The symposium was also held as the final report of this International Cooperative Project.

A total of 81 papers were presented at the symposium as invited talks and poster contributions, under five major topics; (1) overview of Arctic environmental research, (2) Arctic terrestrial and marine ecosystems and environments, (3) global atmospheric environment in the Arctic, (4) oceanographic observations in the Arctic, (5) environment change from circumpolar ice core of the ice sheet and glaciers. The present volume contains 34 full-length papers, submitted under three categories, scientific original papers, reports, and review papers. The scientific papers were refereed by two reviewers each, and the reports and review papers were refereed by one reviewer each, respectively.

It is hoped that this volume will contribute to the progress of research on the Arctic environment and international cooperation. Our sincere thanks are due to all of the contributors and referees who have readily cooperated to bring about this proceedings.

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