

## Welcome Address

GODAE OceanView Fifth Annual Meeting

Dr. Hui Wang

Director-General of NMEFC, Local Host

Dear

Dr. Andreas Schiller, co-chair of GODAE OceanView Science Team,  
Ms. Kirsten Wilmer-Becker, Program Officer of GODAE OceanView,  
Ms. Yue Chen, Deputy-Director of International Cooperation Department, SOA,  
Dr. Yihong Duan, President of the Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences, CMA,  
Dear GODAE OceanView Scientist Team members and guests,

On behalf of the National Marine Environmental Forecasting Center (NMEFC), State Oceanic Administration, it is my distinct honor to welcome you all to this 5th Annual Meeting of the GODAE OceanView Science Team. Thank you for coming. That many of you travel long distances, serves to remind us all just how important GODAE OceanView is to the international operational oceanography.

As many of you may know, NMEFC proposed to host this meeting during the 4<sup>th</sup> GOVST annual meeting in Brazil in 2012. It is your kind support during the 2013 GODAE OceanView Symposium and Review in the United States that makes us gathering at this moment in Beijing. Thank you for your support. Thank you for choosing Beijing.

I would like to take this opportunity to especially thank the full support from State Oceanic Administration of China, especially its Department of International Cooperation, on NMEFC's proposal to host this meeting. I would also like to thank colleagues from fellow institutes or organizations from China. The local organizing committee as well as myself will do the best to make sure this meeting goes smoothly.

NMEFC is a branch of the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) that receives financial support from the Chinese government. The primary functions of the Center are marine environmental forecasting, marine disaster forecasting and warning, and operational management. NMEFC supplies services and technical maintenance for marine economic development, marine management, national defense, marine disaster prevention and mitigation, and other sectors.

The Center was established in 1965; its predecessor was the State Oceanic Administration Marine Hydro-meteorological Forecasting General Observatory. Over the past half century,

the Center has become a leading authority that specializes in marine environmental and disaster forecasting and warning systems, scientific research, and consulting services. The Center is also authorized by the State Council Academic Degrees Committee of Physical Oceanography and Meteorology to grant master's degrees.

The NMEFC publishes numerous marine forecasting products regarding ocean waves, storm surges, tsunamis, red tides, sea ice, ocean currents, sea temperature, El Niño patterns, beach forecasting, oil spills, sea level, and marine weather. In addition, NMEFC undertakes the following duties: to establish and guide the China marine environmental forecasting operational development plan; to collect and distribute real-time observation data; to provide related services and technical support for public and emergency management; to investigate and assess significant marine disasters; to prepare a marine disaster bulletin synthesizing marine scientific research; to produce and disseminate marine climate prediction products; and to investigate polar scientific research on marine environmental forecasting protection. The Center has high-performance computer systems, high-definition video production systems, and well-appointed oceanic and atmospheric detection equipment for use in the marine environmental numerical forecasting operation system.

NMEFC is hosting the Tsunami Warning Center of State Oceanic Administration. We began to provide tsunami warning services to government and public since 2006. NMEFC is also the hosting center of the IOC South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Centre (SCSTAC), which will be responsible to provide tsunami advisory service for the SCS region.

Finally, it is my great pleasure to extend a very warm welcome to you all to visit NMEFC on the 15th from 4:00-6:00 pm. A bus has been arranged by NMEFC and will pick you up from where we are now. Following the on-site visit to NMEFC, a welcome dinner will be host by NMEFC. I look forward to having a toast with you.

Again, on behalf of NMEFC, I wish you all a very pleasant stay in Beijing and a successful GODAE OceanView Fifth Annual Meeting

Thank you very much!