

theme of the symposium is "Scientific Contributions to the Effective Management of the Marine Environment in the Western Pacific." Leading experts have been invited to present lectures and papers. Contributory papers are also invited.

The symposium will be conducted over 5 days with Day 1 and Day 5 being committed to plenary lectures. Day 2 is planned for scientific papers on the following 4 topics:

- Causes and impacts of the sea level change
- Ocean variability and links with climate
- Biogeochemical processes
- Managing the marine environment

Day 3 and the morning of Day 4 will be committed to Workshops on the 9 approved IOC/WESTPAC Subcommission Programmes:

- Toxic and anoxic phenomena associated with algal blooms
- Recruitment of penaeid prawns in the Indo-Western Pacific Region
- Paleographic mapping
- Margins of active plates
- Climatic records in long-lived corals
- Cooperative studies of Ocean Dynamics in the Northwest Pacific

- Monitoring heavy metals and organochlorine pesticides using the mussel watch approach
- Cooperative research of the continental shelf circulation in the Western Pacific
- Assessment of riverine inputs to the sea in the WESTPAC region

The afternoon of Day 4 is scheduled for visits to local scientific establishments, or areas of marine development. A special half-day session on Day 5 will be committed to the topic of managing the marine environment.

Persons interested in the symposium and who wish to receive further details please contact the Symposium Secretariat at the address below.

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FOURTH SESSION OF WOCE DATA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The fourth session of WOCE Data Management Committee (DMC-4) will be held at the Hydrographic Department of Japan in Tokyo from 28 to 30 October 1991, hosted by the Japan Oceanographic Data Center.

WOCE (World Ocean Circulation Experiment), one of the biggest ocean research program in 1990's concerning the issues of global climate change, has been in operational phase.

The goals of WOCE are:

1. To develop models useful for predicting

climate change and to collect the data necessary to test them.

2. To determine the representativeness of the specific WOCE data sets for the long-term behavior of the ocean, and to find methods for determining long-term changes in the ocean circulation.

For WOCE implementation, it is a basic recognition among related oceanographers that effective and powerful data management system is essential to make the program successful. In DMC-4 meeting, the following items will be discussed: (1) Present status of the WOCE data assembly;

(2) Review of the data flow system; and,
(3) Preliminary statistics produced by Special Analysis Centers. Participants for the meeting will include experts responsible

for oceanographic data management in Asian countries as well as the members of the committee.

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE TO OCCUR J.H.D. OBSERVATION TEAM DISPATCHED

A total eclipse of the sun will occur on 11 July this year, and it will be observed in the zone covering from the mid North Pacific Ocean to Latin American countries. The total solar eclipse to occur this time is said to be one of the largest scale in this century.

The Japan Total Solar Eclipse Observation Party, 1991, which is composed of 8 members; 3 from Kyoto University, 3 from the Japan National Astronomical Observatory, and 2 from the Hydrographic Department of Japan, is being dispatched to La Paz, Mexico, located at the southernmost tip of Baja California (California Peninsula) from 11 June to 22 July 1991.

From the Hydrographic Department of Japan, Mr. K. Koyama, Geodesy and

Geophysics Research Officer of the Tokyo Headquarters, and Mr. M. Okumura, Observation Officer of the Bisei Hydrographic Observatory situated in Okayama Prefecture, joined the Japan Observation Party. The JHD team is responsible to observe the contact time (starting and ending times of the total eclipse) and to fix the geographical coordinates of the observation station.

It is 8 years since the JHD dispatched the total solar eclipse observation team to Indonesia in 1983.

The observation data to be obtained will be fully used to enhance the accuracy of the Japanese Ephemeris and the other nautical almanacs published by JHD.



Path of Total Eclipse, 11 July 1991