

## Foreword

It is a pleasure for me to introduce the first issue of the Technical Reports of the Institute of Cetacean Research (TEREP-ICR). The main objective of the TEREP-ICR is to describe and report on the process, progress, or results of technical or scientific research, or the state of a technical or scientific research program conducted by the Institute of Cetacean Research (ICR). To inform a wide audience of the field and analytical research activities of the ICR, the TEREP-ICR will be written in English and will be published in December of each year.

In principle the TEREP-ICR will include two kinds of articles: research articles and commentary articles. In addition, the TEREP-ICR will publish in each annual issue a summary of international meetings in which ICR scientists have participated, and an updated list of peer reviewed publications based on ICR research. The main focus of the research articles will be on biological, ecological, stock assessment and resource management research, but studies related to social science will be also included. Articles will be based on data collected by surveys under Special Permit Scientific research, and other surveys conducted by ICR.

TEREP-ICR is a non-peer reviewed journal, and articles included will be considered as 'non-archival' publications, so that the authors of articles published in the TEREP-ICR will be free to publish them elsewhere in peer-reviewed venues with or without modifications.

I sincerely hope that the TEREP-ICR will contribute to increasing understanding of the technical and research activities conducted by the ICR among the international scientific community.

Dr. Yoshihiro Fujise  
Director General ICR  
Tokyo, December 2017