

# Preface

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Two years have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011. Most of the damage to the experimental facilities of the ASRC had been fully repaved by January 2012.

The generous support and collaborations which have been benefitted the members of the ASRC since the earthquake are now important treasures for us. Many of the research reports presented in this Report reflect such treasures.

The research activity of the ASRC is now more than it was before the earthquake. The number of scientific papers published by the ASRC in this fiscal year has increased by about 34% compared to the previous year. That of press releases for the scientific activities in the ASRC has also increased.

From this issue on, the Annual Report will be presented by Web-page only, without a printed version. The Web-page version provides a variety to the presentations, with features such as more colorful figures.

I hope this version shows the activity of the ASRC in an exciting way.