

## Chapter 5 Research Evaluation Committee review

### 1. Public Works Research Institute review

Taking into consideration the evaluation results at the Public Works Research Institute Evaluation Subcommittee meetings described in Chapter 2 and the measures taken by the Institute, the Institute held Public Works Research Institute Evaluation Committee meeting on June 24, 2008 conducted the final review on the important project research themes. The contents of the review are as follows. The details of the discussion are found in the minutes in the reference section at the end of this volume.

#### Review

The important project researches are progressing duly. Each subject should be worked on taking evaluations and discussions at the committee/ subcommittee meetings. The overall activities of Public Works Research Institute are improving very well.

Other opinions of the evaluation committee members are shown below.

#### (1) Direction of research

- As a state research institute, direction of the research should be constantly examined taking into consideration world wide situations such as global warming issues, energy issues, food issues and low child birth rate and aging society, which are characteristic to our country.
- As Public Works Research Institute can contribute to developing countries in many ways, the Institute's further involvement in support and cooperation to such countries.
- The staff members transferred to the Institute from Hokkaido Regional Development Bureau due to the project transfer from the institute should be trained as personnel who bridge the institutions and assigned to appropriate posts. The transferred projects are expected to work as stimulus to the Institute and to further activate it in future.
- It is indeed a right time to establish Structure Maintenance Research Center. Its responsibility for the social foundation facilities is extremely heavy. The center is particularly expected to examine not only development of inspection/ repair technology but also contribution to prioritization of repair/ reinforcement from the asset management viewpoint.
- As acquisition of external funds such as grant-in-aid for scientific research is one of fair ways of evaluation of research results, active application for such funds is expected.

- Further systemization of role sharing between the integrated Public Works Research Institute and Civil engineering Research Institute for Cold Region to facilitate both competition and cooperation between the institutes.

(2) Utilization of research results

- The prolific research results should be compared with internationally so that the related technologies acquire international competitiveness.
- Clear direction of research should be given in order to fill the gap between the individual technology development and its practical use.
- Not only explanation on development of individual technology, explanation on how the benefits of the research results of development of individual technology should be returned to society is needed.

(3) Human resource training

- The Institute should strive to train young researchers including those transferred from Civil Engineering Research Institute as the Public Works Research Institute has been doing.

## **2. Measures by Public Works Research Institute**

The Institute intends to work towards attainment of goals set in the implementation plans by proceeding with research with enthusiasm in accordance with the implementation plans based on the subcommittee evaluation results approved by Public Works Research Institute Research Evaluation Committee, the related measures by Public Works Research Institute and the review by the evaluation committee.