O221-018 Room: 301B Time: May 20 16:30-16:45

Seismic survey for Delineating the Outer Limits of the Extended Continental Shelf: Long 2D seismic survey offshore Japan

Yukihoro Kato[1]

[1] Hydrographic and Oceanographic Dept. of Japan

According to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), coastal states shall establish the outer limit of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles when coastal states fulfill a number of geomorphological and geological criteria. Coastal states must submit information including scientific data defining the outer limits of the continental shelf to the UN Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS).

Toward May 2009 which is the deadline of submission, Japanese government is now conducting surveys, the Continental Shelf Survey Project, including combined wide-angle and multichannel seismic survey, bathymetric survey, and ocean bottom sampling. Within the frame of this Project, long marine crustal seismic reflection profiles were executed offshore Japan, in order to obtain crustal images across several arc-backarc basin systems and seamounts in the Philippine Sea Plate and the Pacific Plate.