

Yutaka MICHIDA

**Special Presidential Envoy for the UN Ocean Decade,
Professor, Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute,
The University of Tokyo**



Personal Information:

Born: May 25, 1958, Japan

Gender: Male

Education:

B.S. (Geophysics), The University of Tokyo, 1981

M.S. (Physical Oceanography), The University of Tokyo, 1983

PhD (Physical Oceanography), The University of Tokyo, 1999

Professional Experience:

Ocean Surveys Officer, Hydrographic Department of Maritime Safety Agency, 1984-1988

Oceanographic Data and Information Officer, Japan Oceanographic Data Center, 1988-1992

Senior Technical Officer, Science and Technology Agency, 1989-1991

Ocean Surveys Officer, Hydrographic Department of Maritime Safety Agency, 1992-1993

Visiting Scientist, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, San Diego, 1993-1994

Senior Research Officer, Ocean Research Laboratory, Hydrographic Department, Maritime Safety Agency, 1994-1997

Deputy Director, Japan Oceanographic Data Center, 1997-1999

Associate Professor, Ocean Research Institute, The University of Tokyo, 2000-2007

Professor, Ocean Research Institute, The University of Tokyo, 2007-2010

Professor, Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute, The University of Tokyo, 2010-2024

Special Presidential Envoy for the UN Ocean Decade, The University of Tokyo, 2024-

Five Representative Publications:

1. Michida, Y. and H. Yoritaka, Surface currents in the area of Indo-Pacific Throughflow and in the Tropical Indian Ocean observed with surface drifters, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 101, 12475-12482, 1996.
2. Michida, Y., A. Tateoka, H. Kinoshita, M. Namiki and M. Odamaki, Long-term and seasonal changes of the mean sea level at Syowa Station, Antarctica, from 1981-2000, *Polar Meteorol. Glaciol.*, 18, 19-29, 2004.
3. Michida, Y., S. Chavanich, S. Chiba, M. R. Cordova, A. Cosar, F. Glagani, P. Hagmann, H. Hinata, A. Isobe, P. Kershaw, N. Kozlovskii, D. J. Li, A. L. Lusher, E. Marti, S. A. Mason, J. Mu, H. Saito, W. J. Shim, A. D. Syakti, H. Takada, R. Thompson, T. Tokai, K. Uchida, K. Vasilenko, J. Y. Wang, Guidelines for Harmonizing Ocean Surface Microplastic Monitoring Methods. Version 1.1., Ministry of the Environment Japan, pp. 71, <http://dx.doi.org/10.25607/OBP-867>, 2019.
4. Isobe, A., N.T. Buenaventur, S. Chastain, S. Chavanich, A. C  zar, M. DeLorenzo, P. Hagmann, H. Hinata, N. Kozlovskii, A. L. Lusher, E. Mart  e, Y. Michida, J. Muk, M. Ohno, G. Potter, P. S. Ross, N. Sagawa, W. J. Shim, Y. K. Song, H. Takada, T. Tokai, T. Torii, K. Uchida, K. Vassillenکو, V. Viyakarn, W. Zhang, An

interlaboratory comparison exercise for the determination of microplastics in standard sample bottles, Marine Pollution Bulletin, 146, 831-837, 2019.

3. Michida, Y., Y. Shirayama, K. Isensee, S. Belov, J. Bemiasa, L. Pendleton, B. Pfeil, K. von Shuckmann, P. S. Correa, M. Belbeoch, and E. Heslop, Data and information for a sustainably used ocean, IOC Global Ocean Science Report 2, Ch. 7, 197-216, 2020.

Publications 1985-2021

Type	Number
Refereed Papers	82
Other Publications	125

Honors and Awards:

Encouraging Award of Hydrographic Research, 1990

Outstanding Publication Award of The Society of Advanced Marine Science and Technology, 2002

Prize of Marine Surveys and Technology, 2006

IOC/WESTPAC Outstanding Scientist, 2014

Japan Prime Minister's Prize for promotion of ocean state, 2015

Honorary Doctorate from University Terengganu, Malaysia, 2015

Japan Coast Guard Commandant's Prize of Appreciation, 2016

IODE Achievement Award, 2019

Techno-Ocean 2023 Award, 2023

Significant Achievement Award of Advanced Marine Science and Technology Society, 2024

Professional Service in major research field:

Member, responsible for physical oceanography of the 28th Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition (JARE), 1986-1987.

Member, Board of Directors, The Oceanographic Society of Japan, 1995-1999, 2001-2005, 2007-2011

Member of the Council, The Oceanographic Society of Japan, 1995-

Vice President, Japan Society of Marine Surveys and Technology, 2007-2015; President, 2017-

Member of the Council, Japan Society of Marine Surveys and Technology, 2005-2015, 2017-

Member of the Council, Society of Advanced Marine Science and Technology, 2001-

Member, Japan National Committee for the Physical Oceanography, Science Council of Japan, 2003-2005

Member, Advisory Board for the President, The University of Tokyo, 2011

Vice President, Japan Society for Ocean Policy, 2020-

Professional Service in IOC and related activities:

Cahir of IOC, 2023-

Vice-Chair of IOC (Group IV), 2011-2015

Co-Chair of IODE, 2015-2019

Member, Japanese National Commission for UNESCO, 2021-

Member, Japanese National Committee for Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), 2001-2021

Chair, Japanese National Committee for Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), 2018-2023

Member, Data Products Committee of the World Ocean Circulation Experiment (WOCE), 1998-2002

Member, Ocean Observations Panel for Climate (OOPC), 2002-2006

Lecturer, NEAR-GOOS training course (at JODC), 2002-2006

Member, IOC/IODE Review Team, 2003-2005

Member, IOC/WESTPAC Advisory Group, 2009-2012

Member, IODE/JCOMM ETDMP, 2010-2018

Dr Yutaka MICHIDA is a professor at the Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute (AORI) of the University of Tokyo, Japan.

Professor Michida received his BSc in Geophysics in 1981, his MSc in 1983 and his PhD in 1999 in Physical Oceanography from the University of Tokyo. His research interest is in physical oceanography, particularly on the structure and variability of oceanic currents in the surface layers, and ocean/marine data and information management. He also expanded his research interests to cover marine policy since 2010. He has published more than 200 scientific and technical articles including 82 referred papers in national and international journals.

Professor Michida began his career at the Hydrographic Department of the Maritime Safety Agency (presently Japan Coast Guard) in 1984. Among his professional experiences, he worked as Officer at the Japan Oceanographic Data Center (JODC) from 1988 to 1992, Deputy Director of JODC from 1997 to 1999, and a member of the Data Products Committee of the World Ocean Circulation Experiment (WOCE) from 1998 to 2002. After his 16 years' services at Japan Coast Guard, he joined the University of Tokyo in 2000. Upon his retirement from a full professor's position of the University of Tokyo at the end of March 2024, he has been appointed as a Special Presidential Envoy for the UN Ocean Decade at the University since April 2024.

Having been engaged in the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO over the past 40 years, he was Vice-Chair of IOC (Group IV) between 2011 and 2015. Responsibilities of his vice-chairpersonship mainly covered (i) tsunami and ocean-related hazards and (ii) oceanographic data and information management. Further accolades include serving as Co-Chair of the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) from 2015 to 2019 as well as a member of the IODE Review Team, a member of the Ocean Observations Panel for Climate (OOPC), and a member of the JCOMM/IODE Expert Team on Data Management Practices (ETDMP). He was elected to the Chairperson of the Commission at the 32nd Session of IOC Assembly in 2023, and is completing his first term of the IOC Chair at the end of 33rd Assembly, with a lot of and a wide range of successful achievements of the Commission over the last 2 years.

As a member of the Delegation of Japan, Professor Michida participated in every session of the IOC governing bodies, from the 21st session in 2001 for the Assembly, and from the 33rd session in 2000 for the Executive Council. He served as the Alternate between 2012 and 2017 and has served as the Head of the Delegation from 2018 to 2023.

Professor Michida's long engagement with IOC has enabled him to gain clear vision on several aspects of its future direction: (i) Effective implementation of the UN Decade of Ocean Science (2021-2030), (ii) Capacity development, (iii) Promotion of regional activities, and (iv) Cooperation with other organisations, programmes and projects. Professor Michida's visionary insight in and commitment to these areas are detailed below.

(i) Effective implementation of the UN Decade of Ocean Science (2021-2030)

We are in the midst of this essential 10-year initiative. The Commission needs to further enhance its global cooperative network, and regional and inter-regional collaborations to implement the Decade actions. We have excellent leadership from the Decade Advisory Board and support from the Secretariat. In particular, the importance of reliable,

workable, accessible data and information sharing system(s) shall be underlined. This is essential infrastructure for the implementation of the Decade actions, in which “data and information” covers indigenous and local knowledge in addition to the traditional observation data.

(ii) Capacity development

The new capacity development strategy for 2023-2030 has been set out at the 32nd Session of the Assembly after intensive discussions at the intersessional working group. Capacity development has been a key component of the Commission and promoted both at regional and global levels since its establishment in 1960. One of the core targets of the UN Decade actions is to further develop capacities of Member States. Despite the resource constraints, we need to keep paying full attention to capacity development activities, taking into account key aspects of Global Priority Africa, gender equity, inclusive society, *Early Career Ocean Professionals* (ECOPs) and *Small Island Developing States* (SIDS).

(iii) Promotion of regional activities

The Commission has four regional Sub-Commissions: WESTPAC, IOCARIBE, IOC-AFRICA, and IOCINDIO. Regional contributions to the Commission are critical to the coverage of the global observing system, and early warning and mitigation systems of tsunamis and other ocean-related hazards. They are also central to the management of integrated coastal areas and Marine Spatial Plannings (MSPs).

(iv) Cooperation with other organisations, programmes and projects

Defined as a competent international organisation by its Statutes, the Commission should keep contributing to international coordination of marine sciences and observation systems. Responding to the requirements of the UN and other ocean-related agencies is also key. Furthermore, IOC must strengthen cooperation among other international organisations, programmes and projects, without which expected outcomes and societal solutions of the UN Decade will not be achieved.

Bearing in mind the “One Planet, One Ocean” concept, Professor Michida will actively and faithfully contribute to all of the activities to achieve IOC’s high-level objectives balancing scientific research and policy-related subjects, based on his 2 years’ experiences of leading roles as the IOC Chair since 2023. There are so many issues confronting us, such as global warming, ocean acidification, marine plastic pollution, and ocean forecasts that need reliable science to tackle. The Commission has a unique position within the UN system to address such emerging ocean-related issues based on sound scientific knowledge and data-driven solutions.