# **Background**

### Rationale and Scope

Oyster culture is a popular activity and has a long history all over the world. Oyster products are the most traditional seafood for the human and their nutritive value is so high that oysters are said "milk of the sea". These facts led us to assume that oysters gave birth to thought of aquaculture and thought of marine environmental protection, meaning that they are the extremely important marine creatures. As an international trade object among marine products, oysters are acquiring greater importance. The first international symposium about oysters was held in Tokyo on the two years ago, under the sponsorship of the Foundation of Oyster Research Institute, Japan. The second international oyster symposium will be held in Hangzhou, China to discuss the recent advances, potentials, challenges and problems of oyster industry in the world. The second international oyster symposium scheduled for 26th to 29th November 2007 will discuss the following topics in oyster industry:

- 1.Disease prevention and environmental quality monitoring and improvements in the course of oyster production
  - Strategies and Technologies of Sustainable development in oyster industry
  - 3. Resource restoration and genetic improvements of oyster seeds and stocks
  - 4. Product processing and health foodstuff in oyster industry, and the relationship with human health

#### Vision

The symposium brings together the oyster people of the World for the benefit of Mankind.

#### Mission

The Mission of the symposium is to be a platform of goodwill, friendship and cooperation for all who have some linkage to oyster research, production and use anywhere in the World.

## **Objectives**

- -To improve public knowledge of the oyster and of its benefits to Mankind.
- -To develop children's understanding and love for oysters.
- -To cooperate with existing organizations for sharing and distributing oyster science.
- -To encourage and support the sustainable culture of oysters.
- -To encourage and support the use of oysters as human food.
- -To work with the oysters to improve water quality in coastal environments.
- -To explore and understand the role of natural oyster beds and of oyster culture in maintaining and restoring biodiversity in coastal marine ecosystems.