

## PREFACE

I am very glad to introduce you to the fourth volume of the *Cetacean Population Studies (CPOPS)*. The publication of this CPOPS Vol. 4 turned out to be a long and difficult process. This may be in part because we expended much of our energy in editing the previous CPOPS Vol. 3, Dr. Seiji Ohsumi Memorial Volume, but mainly because I, as Editor-in-Chief, had to temporarily leave the editorial front for health reasons.

I understand that the burden of the CPOPS editorial board and the secretariat members, especially Dr. Gabriel Gomez Diaz, who filled the void, was not negligible. In a nutshell, the publication of this volume owes much to their efforts.

This is how CPOPS Vol. 4 came out to light. Although we were unable to cover all the papers submitted, we would like to make a fresh start for the next volume while taking advantage of the unique characteristics of our journal.

August 1, 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hidehiro Kato', written in a cursive style.

Hidehiro Kato, Ph. D.  
Chairman

Publication Committee for the Cetacean Population Studies