

## Preface

There is a broad range of climate in China, varying from arid to semiarid and semi-humid to humid, which induces a variety of hydrological phenomena. The Chinese population has tripled during the last 50 years, now reaching 1.3 billion, which is currently the largest in the world. Under the pressure of the increasing population, in northern China the scarcity of water resources is becoming a bottleneck for social and economic developments, and has led to the widespread degradation of natural ecosystems and the environment, while in south China flooding is a great threat whose potential risks are elevating steadily with the growth of the population as well as the economy. Accurate predictions of droughts and floods are extremely important to the social and economic safety of all these regions. China is on the way to changing from traditional water resources development to water resources management for sustainable development. The advanced hydrology can play an important role in the water resources management with regard to hydrological predictions. There are increasing demands for the application of PUB (Prediction in Ungauged Basins), which was launched by IAHS from 2003 to 2012, for better management of water resources in China.

The China PUB organization was formed in 2004. As a result of the efforts of the China PUB organization, the China PUB Working Groups were established, which focus on the new methodology of hydrological simulation and prediction under natural and human-induced global changes. To promote exchanges between China and IAHS, and with help from the international IAHS-PUB Scientific Steering Group (SSG), the China PUB National Steering Committee organized the International Symposium on Flood Forecasting and Water Resources Assessment for IAHS-PUB held in September 2006. Taking this opportunity, the symposium organizers would like to express sincere thanks to Prof. Murugesu Sivapalan (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Prof. Jeffrey McDonnell (Oregon State University) and Prof. Kuniyoshi Takeuchi (Yamanashi University) for their enthusiastic and valuable support.

There were 10 plenary lectures by eminent researchers, 70 research presentations and five poster presentations. All the papers were published in 2006 as the proceedings of the symposium by the China WaterPower Press. From this published proceedings, we selected 43 papers and proceeded with a peer-review process. Finally 37 papers were published as this IAHS publication.

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