

XIII. Conclusion

The nuclear accident that occurred at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Station (NPS) on March 11, 2011 was caused by an extremely massive earthquake and tsunami rarely seen in history, and resulted in an unprecedented serious accident that extended over multiple reactors simultaneously. Japan is extending its utmost efforts to confront and overcome this difficult accident.

In particular, at the accident site, people engaged in the work have been making every effort under severe conditions to settle the situation. It is impossible to resolve the situation without these contributions. The Japanese Government is determined to make its utmost effort to support the people engaged in this work.

We take very seriously the fact that the accident, triggered by a natural disaster of an earthquake and tsunamis, became a severe accident due to such causes as the losses of power and cooling functions, and that consistent preparation for severe accidents was insufficient. In light of the lessons learned from the accident, Japan has recognized that a fundamental revision of its nuclear safety preparedness and response is inevitable.

As a part of this effort, Japan will promote the “Plan to Enhance the Research on Nuclear Safety Infrastructure” while watching the status of the process of settling the situation. This plan is intended to promote, among other things, research to enhance preparedness and response against severe accidents through international cooperation, and to work to lead the results achieved for the improvement of global nuclear safety.

At the same time, it is necessary for Japan to conduct national discussions on the proper course for nuclear power generation while disclosing the actual costs of nuclear power generation, including the costs involved in ensuring safety.

Japan will update information on the accident and lessons learned from it in line with the future process of restoration of stable control and also further clarification of its investigations. Moreover, it will continue to provide such information and lessons learned to the International Atomic Energy Agency as well as to countries around the world.

Moreover, we feel encouraged by the support towards restoration from the accident received from many countries around the world to which we express our deepest gratitude, and we would sincerely appreciate continued support from the IAEA and countries around the world.

We are prepared to confront much difficulty towards restoration from the accident, and also confident that we will be able to overcome this accident by uniting the wisdom and efforts of not only Japan, but also the world.