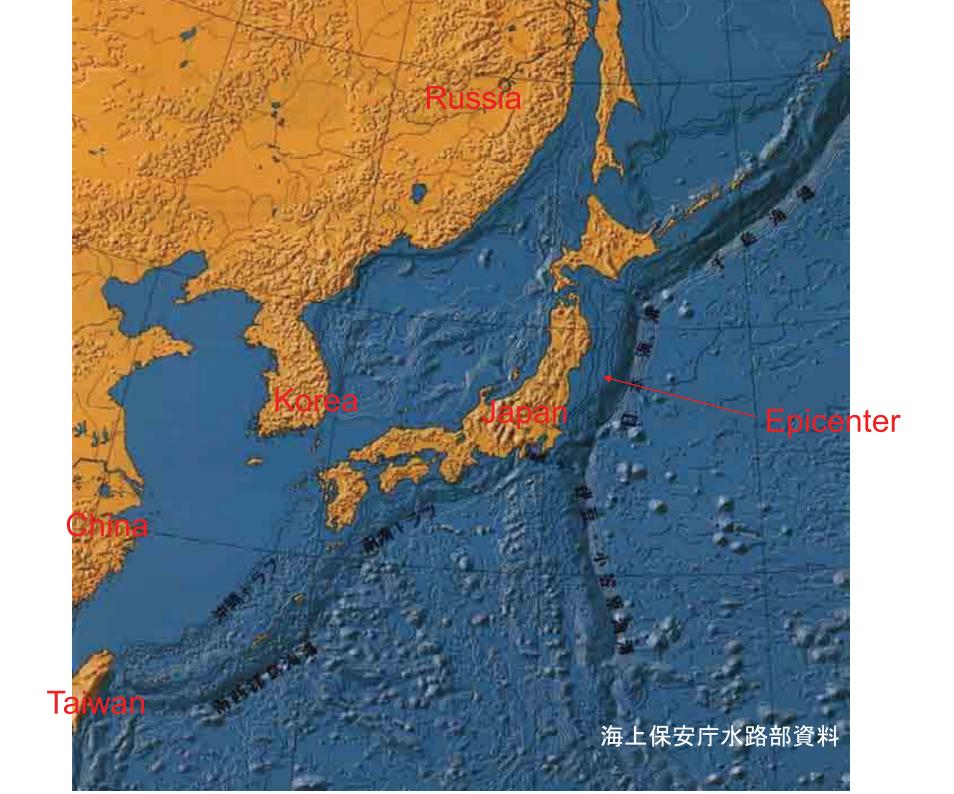
#### Lessons Learned from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant Accident

#### "Nuclear Energy Safety" Symposium Academy of Science of South Africa October 13, 2011

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## Earthquake and Tsunami on March 11, 2011

On March 11, 2011, at 14:46 (Japanese standard time)

Earthquake with Mw 9.0 at the Pacific Ocean of Tohoku

From 40 minutes to 1 hour later Several waves of large tsunami attacked the coast of Tohoku-Kanto area

Peoples, buildings, thermal and nuclear power plants and every structures on the coast were suffered

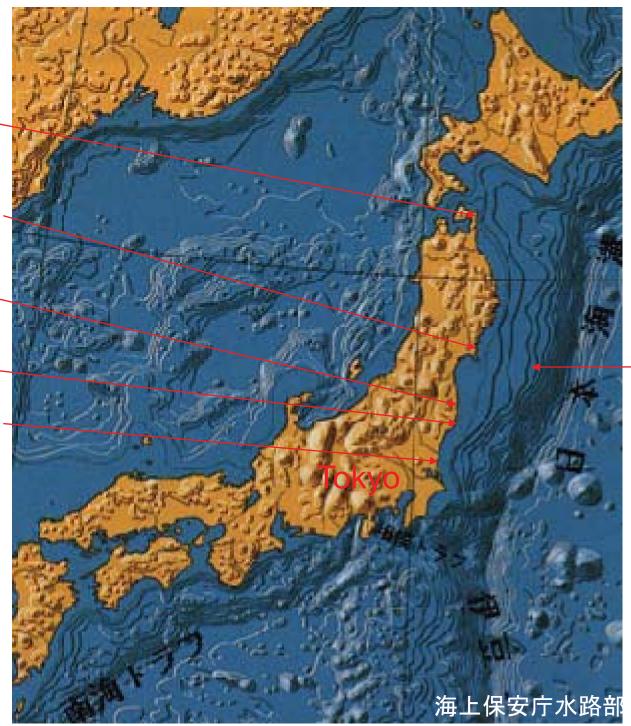
More than 15,000 persons: died Almost 4,000 persons: missing

Onagawa NPS

Fukushima Daiichi NPS

Fukushima Daini NPS

Tokai Daini NPS



#### Epicenter

Nuclear Power Plants in Japan and in Tohoku Area

**Operating Nuclear Power Plants in Japan** Total 54 plants, BWR 30 and PWR 24 Tohoku and Kanto Area Total 15 BWR Plants Higashidori NPS (Tohoku EPCO): 1 plant Onagawa NPS (Tohoku EPCO): 3 plants Fukushima Daiichi NPS (TEPCO): 6 plants Fukushima Daini NPS (TEPCO): 4 plants Tokai Daini NPS (JAPCO): 1 plant

#### Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station

Fukushima Daiichi NPS: Japan's Oldest NPS

Unit 1 (BWR3) : constructed by GE
commercial operation from Jan. 1971
Unit 6 (BWR5) : constructed by Toshiba
commercial operation from Oct. 1979

At the Earthquake and Tsunami Unit 1,2,3 plants were under normal operation Unit 4,5,6 plants were under periodic inspection

#### Generation Facilities at the Fukushima Daiichi NPS

	Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5	Unit 6
Electric output (MWe)	460	784	784	784	784	1100
Commercial operation	71/03	74/07	76/03	78/10	78/04	79/10
Reactor model	BWR3		BWR4	BWR5		
PCV model	Mark-1					Mark-2
Number of fuel assemblies in the core	400	548	548	548	548	764

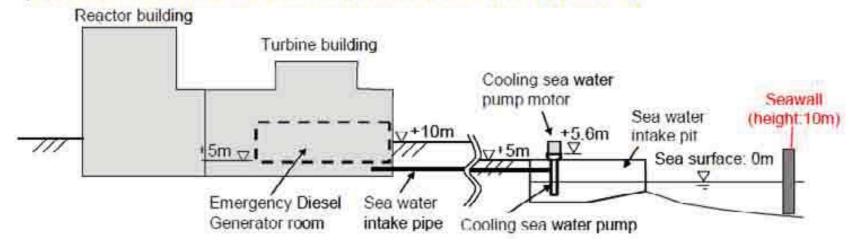
Accident sequence at Fukushima Daiichi NPS

By the earthquake

- Operating 3 plants(Unit 1,2,3): automatically shut down
- All off-site power was lost
- Emergency diesel generator power systems started

Emergency Cooling systems started Isolation Condenser (IC):Unit 1 Reactor Core Isolation Cooling System (RCIC): Unit 2 &3 High Pressure Injection Cooling System (HPIC):Unit 3

#### Cross section of Fukushima Dai-ichi (Unit-1)





Reference: The Tokyo Electric Power Co., Inc. Release [Online].http://www.tepco.co.jp/tepconews/pressroom/110311/index-j.html

Fig. III-2-5 Tsunami getting over seawall at the Fukushima Dai-ichi NPS. 10

Cited from Japanese government report to IAEA, June 7

Accident sequence at Fukushima Daiichi NPS

By the tsunami of almost 15 m high

All Emergency Diesel Generator Power Supply was lost for Unit 1 to 4 Loss of all AC power Loss of all terminal heat sink

Emergency cooling system did not work so long time Resulting the heat-up and meltdown of the fuels

One emergency diesel (air cooled) generator was alive It could supply power for Unit 5 and 6

After earthquake at 14:46 and Tsunami at around 15:40 Loss of all electric power Isolation condenser was stopped at the attack of Tsunami. Loss of cooling water for reactor fuels (14 hours with no cooling) Loss of all terminal heat sink

Nuclear fuels are estimated to start melting at around 17:00. (one hour and 20 min. later of the Tsunami attack.)Melted fuel moved to the bottom of reactor vessel and possibly some of the fuels dropped on the dry well floor.

Hydrogen generated by the Zirconium-Water reaction.

Containment Pressure increased.

Wet well venting at 14:30 on March 12, and hydrogen explosion at 15:36 on March 12. Destruction of reactor building

After earthquake at 14:46 and Tsunami at around 15:40

- Loss of all electric power RCIC was continued to inject the water to the fuel. Loss of all terminal heat sink: feed and bleed operation
- RCIC stopped at 13:25 on March 14. (Loss of cooling water for 6 hour and 30min., until sea water injected.)

Nuclear fuels are estimated to start melting at 18:00 on March 14. Melted fuel moved to the bottom of reactor vessel.

Containment pressure increased. Wet well venting at 11:00 on March 13.

Sound of explosion around the torus room of containment vessel at 6:00 on March 15. No visible damage for reactor building.

After earthquake at 14:46 and Tsunami at around 15:40

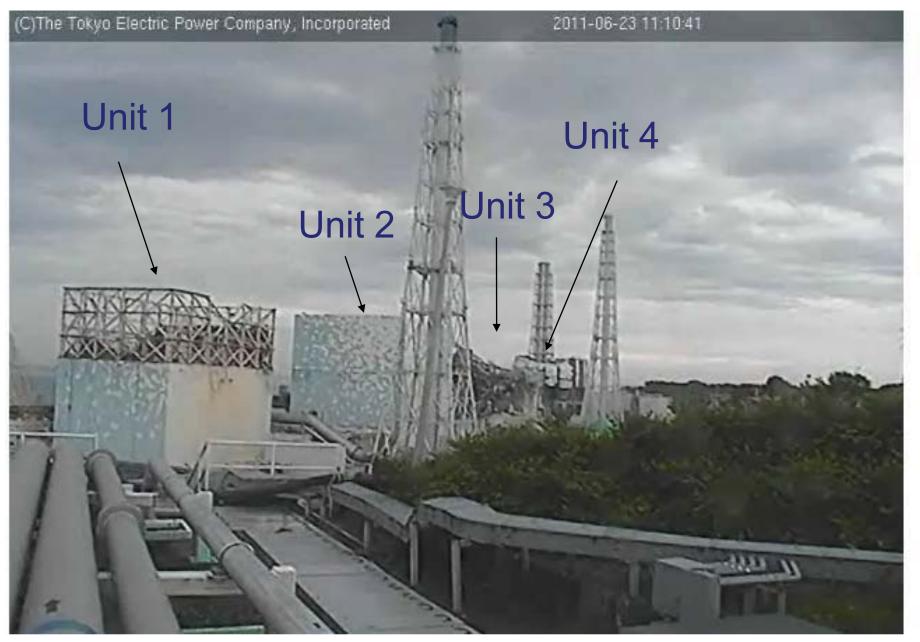
Loss of all electric power RCIC was started to inject the water at 16:03 on March 11. Loss of all terminal heat sink: feed and bleed operation

RCIC stopped at 11:36 on March 12. HPIC started at 12:35 on March 12 and stopped at 2:42 on March 13. (Loss of cooling water for 6 hour and 40 min., until sea water injected.)

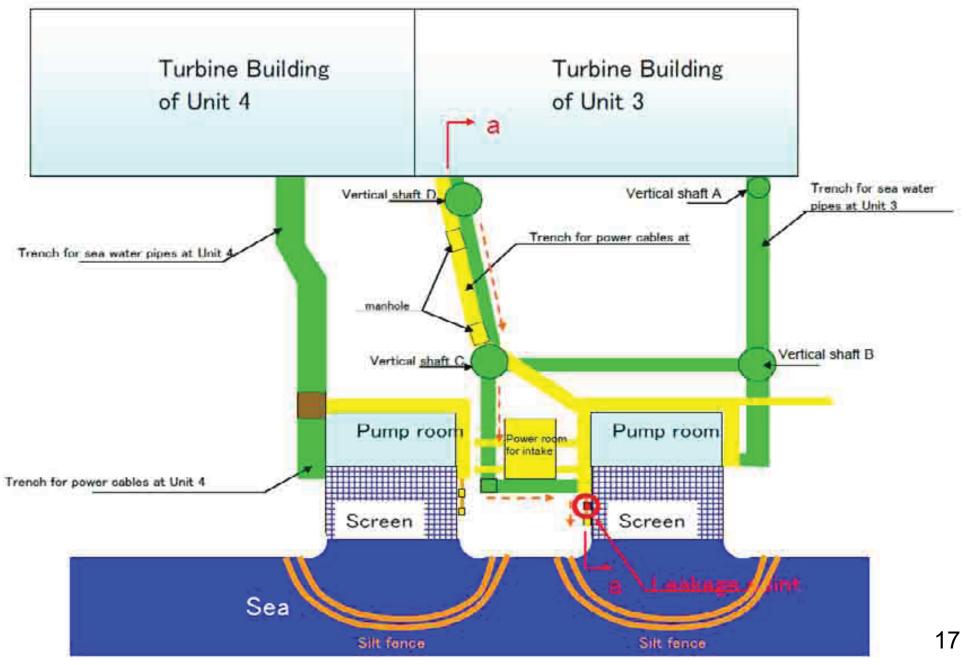
Nuclear fuels are estimated to start melting at 8:00 on March 13. Melted fuel moved to the bottom of reactor vessel.

Wet well venting at 5:20 on March 14, and hydrogen explosion at 11:01 on March 14. Destruction of reactor building

- Unit 4 was shut down for periodic inspection all of the fuels were transferred to the spent fuel pool
- External power was lost by the Earthquake and emergency diesel generator stopped by the Tsunami: The function to cool the spent fuel pool and to feed the water was lost
- At around 6:00 on March 15, explosion of No.4 building occurred. Cause of the explosion is estimated to be the inflow of Hydrogen through the piping from the Unit 3



#### Trench for sea water pipes at Unit 3 (plain view)



Cited from Japanese government report to IAEA, June 7

## Sequence of Other 11 Plants

Important Items for the plants

- (1) External AC power supply : alive or lost
- (2) Emergency diesel generator : alive or lost
- (3) RHR (Residual Heat Removal system) : alive or lost
- (4) Plant status : in operation or under periodic inspection
- (1) External AC power supply alive: Operating 6 plants.
- (1-1) RHR/auxiliary cooling system alive, and RCIC et al. alive:3 plants. Onagawa Unit 2 and 3, and Fukushima Daini Unit 3.Cold shutdown status was reached on March 12.
- (1-2) RHR system lost. Later Temporary Cable installed for RHR :
  3 plants. Fukushima Daini Units 1,2 and 4.
  Cold shutdown status was reached on March 14 or 15.

## Sequence of Other 11 Plants

(2) External AC power supply lost: Operating 2 plants.

(2-1) Emergency Diesel Generator on, and RHR alive:2 plants. Onagawa Unit 1 and Tokai Daini Unit.Cold shutdown status was reached on March 12 and 15.

(3) External AC power supply lost: Under periodic inspection, 3 plants.

(3-1) Emergency Diesel Generator on, and RHR lost, Later it recovered.2 plants. Fukushima Daiichi Unit 5 and 6.Cold shutdown status was reached on March 20.

(3-2) Emergency Diesel Generator on. Fuels were outside reactor:1 plant. Higashidori Unit.

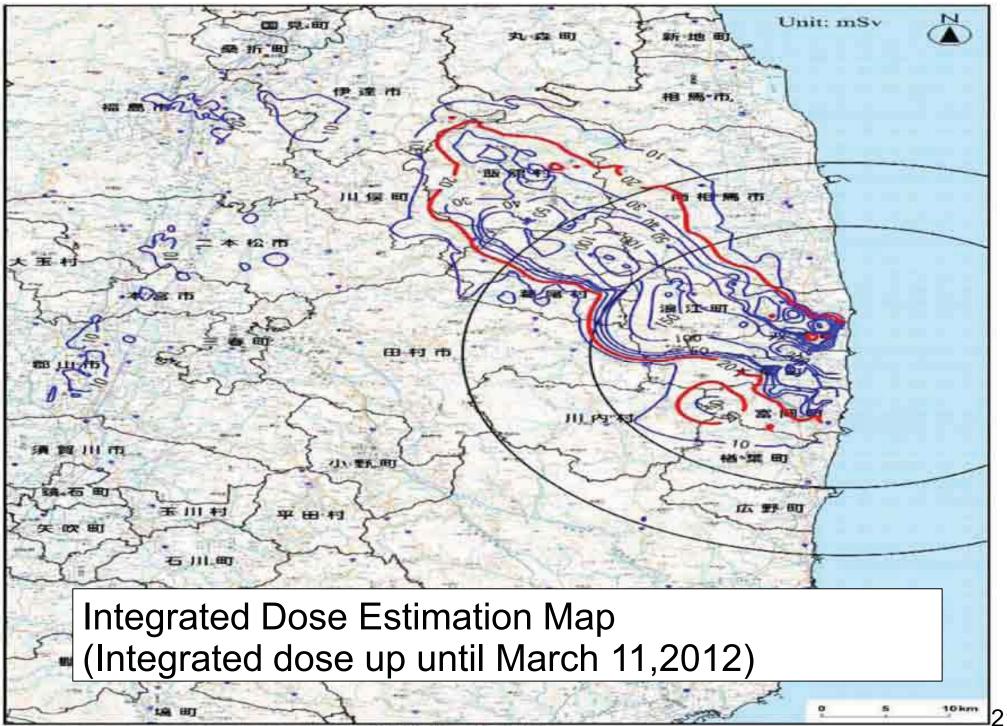
Either External AC Power or Emergency Diesel Generator was alive, then plants could be reached to the cold shutdown status

## Evacuation of the residents surrounding the NPS

At 21:30 on March 11, Prime Minister instructed to evacuate the residents within 3 km radius from NPS, and to stay in house within 10 km radius

- At 5:44 on March 12, Prime Minister instructed to evacuate the residents within 10 km from NPS
- At 18:25 on March 12, Prime Minister instructed to evacuate the residents within 20 km from NPS and to stay in house within 20 to 30 km radius
- Evacuation area was expanded and additional evacuation area was set afterward

Evacuated persons are about 78 thousand.



Based on actual values observed up to 24:00, May 11, 2011 Cited from Japanese government report to IAEA, June 7

Road map for the settlement of the accident

TEPCO announced on April 17

**Basic Policy** 

Reactors and spent fuel pools:stable cooling condition Mitigating the release of radioactive materials Every effort to enable evacuees to return to their home All citizens to secure a sound life

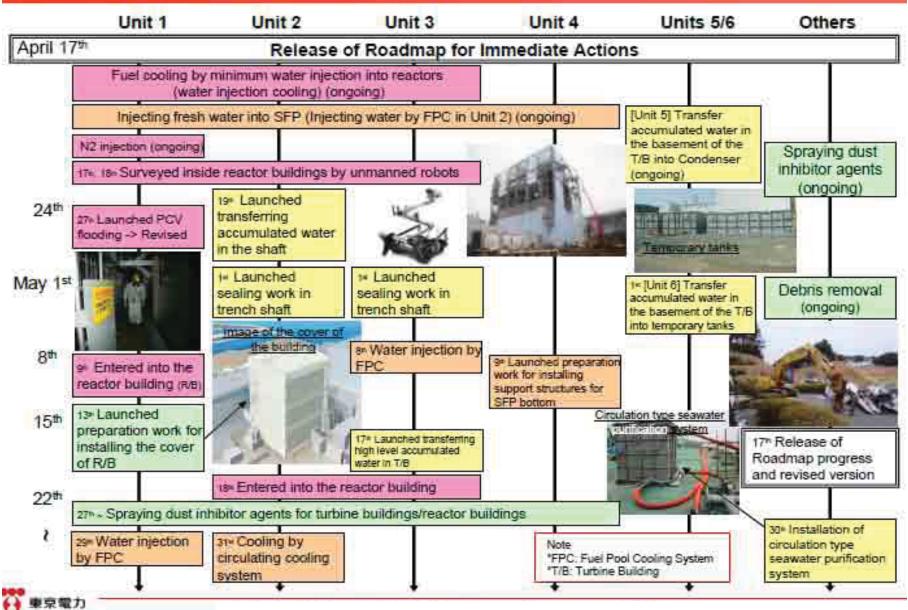
Targets: two steps

Step 1: Time line is Middle of July

Radiation dose in steady decline

Step 2: Time line is 3 to 6 months after step 1 Release of radioactive materials under control Radiation doses being significantly suppressed

#### Work Progress at the Site As of May 31

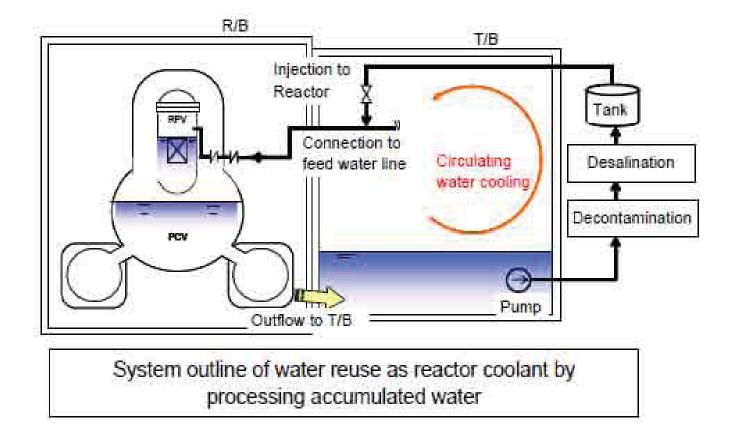


## Evaluation of Step 1 and Target of Step 2

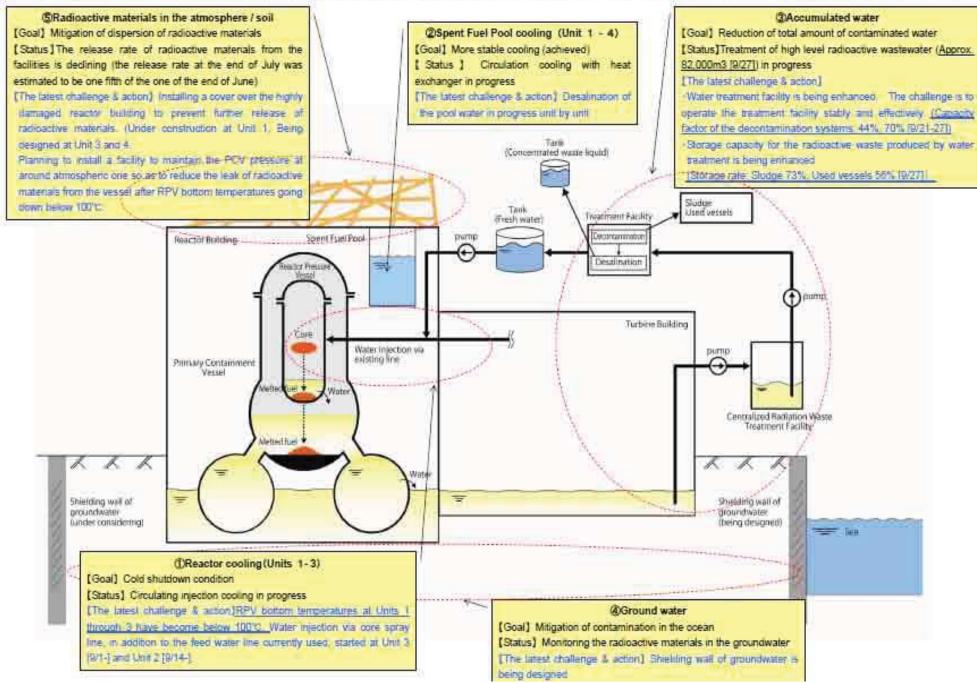
#### **Evaluation of Step 1**

- (1)Stable cooling was established for reactors and fuel pools. The temperature at the bottom of reactor pressure vessel are keeping about 100 to 120 °C.
- (2)The radiation dose has been declining during the period of Step 1 and confirmed that the exposure dose at the site boundary is approximately 1.7 mSv/year at the most (Cs134, 137).
- Target of Step 2
- (1)Continue the circulating cooling and bring cold shutdown status.
- (2)Release of radioactive materials under control and radiation dose is significantly held in.

## **Circulating Water Cooling System**



Overview of the status of countermeasures at Fukushima Daiich Unit 1 - 4 (Sep. 22<sup>nd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Refer to the attached table for details of (1-5))



#### Cited from JAIF Homepage

Lessons learned from the accident (5categories and 28 items)

Category I: Strengthen measures against a severe accident measures against earthquakes and Tsunami et al.

- Categoruy 2: Enhancement of response measures against severe accident: measures to prevent hydrogen explosion, containment venting et al
- Category 3: Enhancement of nuclear emergency responses Combined emergencies of both large-scale natural disaster and prolonged nuclear accident et al
- Category 4: Reinforcement of safety infrastructure Reinforcement of safety regulatory bodies, reinforcement of legal structure, criteria and guidance et al.

Category 5: Thoroughly instill a safety culture

#### Actions Regarding to the Lessons Learned

- (1) Overall Safety Evaluation
  - Evaluate the robustness of plants for external events
- (2) Revision of Safety Guideline Seismic safety and severe accident
- (3) Revise of the Regulatory Bodies NSC, NISA and a part of MEXT will become one agency
- (4) Restart Condition of the Stopping Plants
- (5) Investigation Committee on the Accident at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Stations of TEPCO Comprehensive investigation for fundamental cause of the accident

## Regarding the Accident

- 1.First Reactor was Introduced by turn-key contract from GE (BWR) and Westinghouse (PWR) Lack of fundamental R&D experience in Japan
- First Plant constructed more than 40 years ago Science & Technology developed sharply after then How to feedback in old plants with long life time
- 3. Wide Scientific & technological fields are concerned Cooperation among various fields required
- Companies existed with high technology in Japan Very important in today's highly developed technological society

# We will do our best for the Nuclear Energy Safety in the world

Thank you very much