

IAEA-MOE Japan 3rd Experts Meeting on Volume Reduction and Recycling of Removed Soil Arising from Decontamination Activities



Background

- Regarding the removed soil and waste generated in Fukushima Prefecture, the Government of Japan is to take necessary measures to complete final disposal outside Fukushima Prefecture within 30 years from the start of transportation to the Interim Storage Facility. In order to reduce the final disposal volume, the national government is making efforts to reduce the volume and recycle the removed soil and waste.
- This meeting was held by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) upon the request of the Ministry of the Environment (MOE), Japan, aiming at providing international assessment and advice from technical and social perspectives, concerning the measures taken by MOE to recycle and, where necessary, dispose of removed soil in the future.
- The 3rd meeting was held in Tokyo in February this year. The final report will be produced by IAEA around this summer. The 1st meeting was held in Japan last May and the 2nd meeting was held in Vienna, Austria last October.

Overview of the 3rd meeting

● Date / place

Schedule: Monday, 5 Feb. - Friday, 9 Feb. 2024

Main venue: Conference Room in Tokyo

● Main agenda

1. Concepts of safety and standards for the managed recycling and final disposal of removed soil
2. Approach for communication with residents etc. and international information dissemination
3. Consistency with the IAEA Safety Standards, etc.

● Members of the Experts Meeting

10 persons of IAEA officials and international experts etc.
(please refer to the next page)



Way forward

- The final report will be produced by IAEA, which will be submitted to MOE and published.

IAEA officials and international experts etc. participating in Experts Meeting on Volume Reduction and Recycling of Removed Soil Arising from Decontamination Activities



IAEA Officials (Department of Nuclear Safety and Security)

- Ms. Anna Clark : Head of the Waste and Environmental Safety Section
- Mr. Gerard Bruno : Head of Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel Management Unit
- Mr. Vladan Ljubenov : Head of Decommissioning and Remediation Unit
- Ms. Chantal Mommaert: Remediation Specialist, Decommissioning and Remediation Unit,
- Ms. Mathilde Prevost : Coordination Officer, Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel Management Unit

International Experts

- Mr. Jon Richards : Regional Radiation Expert & Remedial Project Manager, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) , US
- Mr. Ray Kemp : Member of UK Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM) and UK Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment (COMARE)
- Ms. Shelly Mobbs : Chief Expert in Radiological and Environmental Protection (past Director), Eden Nuclear and Environment Ltd, UK
- Mr. Jörg Feinhals : (Former) Head of Unit, Radiation Protection and Radioactive Waste Management, DMT GmbH & Co. KG, Germany
- Mr. INOUE Tadashi: Research Advisor to Central Research Institute of Electric Power Industry (CRIEPI)

Japanese Experts

- Mr. TAKEDA Seiji : Assistant Division Director/ Leader of Waste and Environmental Safety Research Group, Fuel Cycle Safety Research Division, Nuclear Safety Research Center, Japan Atomic Energy Agency
- Mr. YASUTAKA Tetsuo : Group Leader, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, Visiting Professor, Graduate School of Engineering, Hokkaido University
- Mr. TAKAMURA Noboru: Professor, Atomic Bomb Disease Institute, Nagasaki University
Director, the Great East Japan Earthquake and Nuclear Disaster Memorial Museum

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Summary of results

- Various kinds of topics regarding the volume reduction and the managed recycling of removed soil (e.g. approach for safety and standards for the managed recycling and final disposal of removed soil, approach for communication with residents, etc, international information dissemination) were discussed in 5-day meeting by IAEA officials (5 persons), international experts (5 persons), Japanese experts and MOE officials.
- MOE presented progress made after the 2nd meeting in October 2023 including, current situation for consideration of institutional arrangement for the managed recycling and final disposal of removed soil, progress made for approach for communication and information dissemination, views of MOE on the consistency with the IAEA Safety Standards.
- IAEA officials and international experts presented examples of measures for final disposal of Low Level Radioactive Waste in various countries (UK and Belgium). In addition, IAEA officials and international experts exchanged their views with Japanese experts, who are involved with communication with people in Fukushima etc.
- Measures of MOE, Japanese experts and other countries were shared, and measures taken by MOE regarding the managed recycling and final disposal were further assessed in light of the IAEA Safety Standards. It was also agreed, for MOE and IAEA to make their efforts with close interaction toward future dissemination of the achievements of the Experts Meeting.
- The final report is scheduled to be published by IAEA in around summer of this year based on the 3 Experts Meetings.