

## INPRO: THE FIRST TEN YEARS<sup>1</sup>

Shunsuke Kondo  
Chairman  
Japan Atomic Energy Commission

Director General Amao  
Deputy Director General Sokolov  
Distinguished delegates and ladies and gentlemen

It is a great pleasure for me to join you at this event to mark the tenth anniversary of the INPRO and applaud the significant role it has played in promoting cooperation and collaborative research efforts for developing and deploying nuclear energy technologies among member countries.

In order to maintain and expand the share of nuclear energy in the energy supply market, it is important to pursue the innovation of both the technology and the business model to use it incessantly. Based on this recognition, Japan has been promoting the development of the fourth generation nuclear energy technology and the fast reactor and its fuel cycle technology; in particular, as this technology will make it possible to realize significantly improved fuel material use and waste management.

In this endeavor, Japan has been promoting various bilateral and multilateral cooperative activities, including those in the INPRO as Japan firmly believes that this development is very important for the future of our global community and should be promoted under the umbrella of various international networks, as exchange of knowledge and experience through such networks will surely stimulate innovation of both technology and business model.

Therefore I look forward, with a great deal anticipation, to the significant role the INPRO will play in the coming years, in promoting the peaceful use of nuclear energy

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through facilitating a common understanding and cooperation among member states. Director General and Deputy Director General, be assured that Japan, as a member of the INPRO, will continue to contribute to the success of the project.

Thank you