

# Mid-to-Long-Term Roadmap for Decommissioning of Fukushima Daiichi NPP and International Cooperation

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# Outline

1. Mid-to-Long-Term Roadmap for Decommissioning of Fukushima Daiichi NPP
2. R&D Roadmap
3. International Cooperation

# **1. Mid-to-Long-Term Roadmap for Decommissioning of Fukushima Daiichi NPP**

# Mid-to-Long-Term Roadmap and Primary Targets

“Government and TEPCO Council on Mid-to-Long Term Response for Decommissioning”, which was established last December, adopted the “Mid-to-Long-Term Roadmap for TEPCO’s Fukushima Daiichi Units 1 to 4.” This Roadmap defines the term of decommissioning into three phases, and outlines major milestones of on-site work and R&D projects

**Phase 1**: From the completion of Step 2 (last December) to the commencement of fuel removal from spent fuel pools  
(Target: Accomplish in 2 years)

**Phase 2**: From the end of Phase 1 to the commencement of fuel debris removal from RPVs  
(Target: Accomplish in 10 years)

**Phase 3**: From the end of Phase 2 to the end of the decommissioning process  
(Target: Accomplish within 30 to 40 years)

# Roles of the Government and TEPCO on the Mid-to-Long-Term Roadmap

## ■ Role of the Government

### ➤ METI/ANRE

- Oversee the progress of the Roadmap and TEPCO's on-site work
- PDCA Management of the R&D program

### ➤ NISA (Regulatory Authority)

- Prepare necessary regulatory systems
- Ensure safety

## ■ Role of TEPCO

- On-site work, consistently ensuring human resources and project management, as the responsible site operator

# Organizational Structure

## Government and TEPCO Council on Mid-to-Long Term Response for Decommissioning

Co-Chair : Mr. Hosono, Minister for the Restoration from and Prevention of Nuclear Accident, Cabinet Office  
Mr. Edano, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)

Vice-Chair : Parliamentary Secretary of Cabinet Office, Vice Minister of METI, and President of TEPCO

Members : Agency of Natural Resources and Energy (ANRE), The Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA)

### Management Board

Co-Chair: Mr. Sonoda, Parliamentary Secretary of Cabinet Office  
Mr. Kitagami, Vice Minister of METI  
Mr. Aizawa, Executive Vice-President of TEPCO

Adviser : Ms. Kamimoto, Vice Minister of MEXT

Members: METI/ANRE  
TEPCO  
NISA (Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency)  
MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports,  
Science and Technology)  
JAEA (Japan Atomic Energy Agency)  
Toshiba  
Hitachi-GE

### R&D Management Headquarter

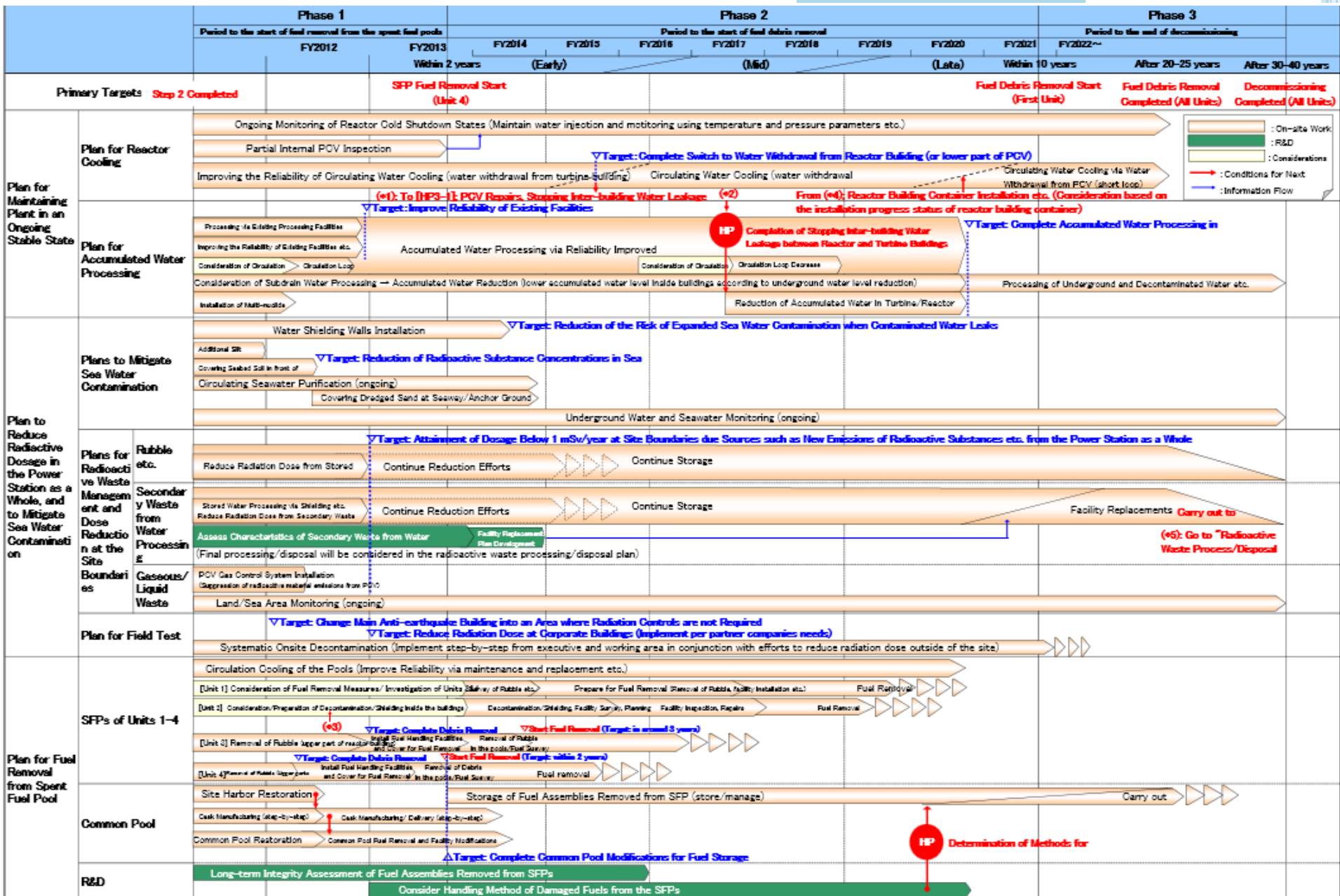
Chair : Mr. Kitagami, Vice Minister of METI

Vice-Chair: Mr. Sonoda, Parliamentary Secretary of Cabinet Office  
Ms. Kamimoto, Vice Minister of MEXT

Members : METI/ANRE  
TEPCO  
MEXT  
AEC (Atomic Energy Commission)  
JAEA  
AIST  
CRIEPI  
Toshiba  
Hitachi-GE  
and a couple of academic advisors

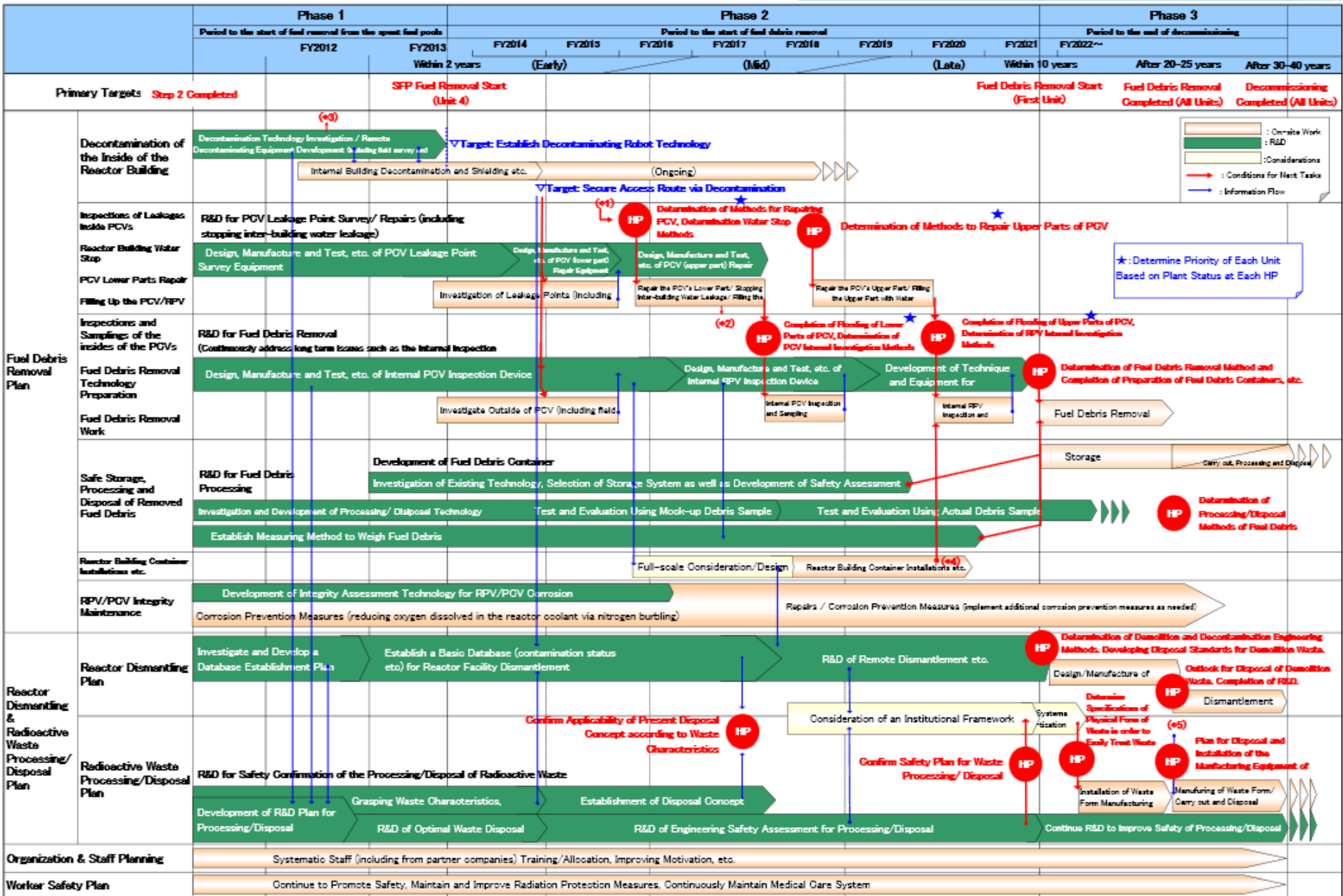
# Major Schedule of the Roadmap

- TEPCO's on-site work and government-led R&D program are clearly differentiated.
- Some of the on-site work will proceed in a phased process, based on R&D results.
- At the key points for judgment on the progression to subsequent processes, there will be further deliberation and judgment, including additional R&D and revision of process and task content. These are set as Holding Points (HPs).



\*This roadmap will be updated in consideration of the on-site situation and the latest research and development results.





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# Major Areas in the Roadmap

The Management Board supervises the progress of the Roadmap. The major areas the following:

- Circulating Water Injection Cooling
- Accumulated Water Treatment
- Reducing of Environmental Radiation Dose
- Improvement of Work Environment
- Fuel Retrieval from Spent Fuel Pool
- Preparation for Fuel Debris Removal
- Radioactive Waste Treatment and Disposal

# The Roadmap Updated in July

The “Government and TEPCO Council on Mid-to-Long Response for Decommissioning” held its second meeting on July 30, 2012, and adopted the updated roadmap, which:

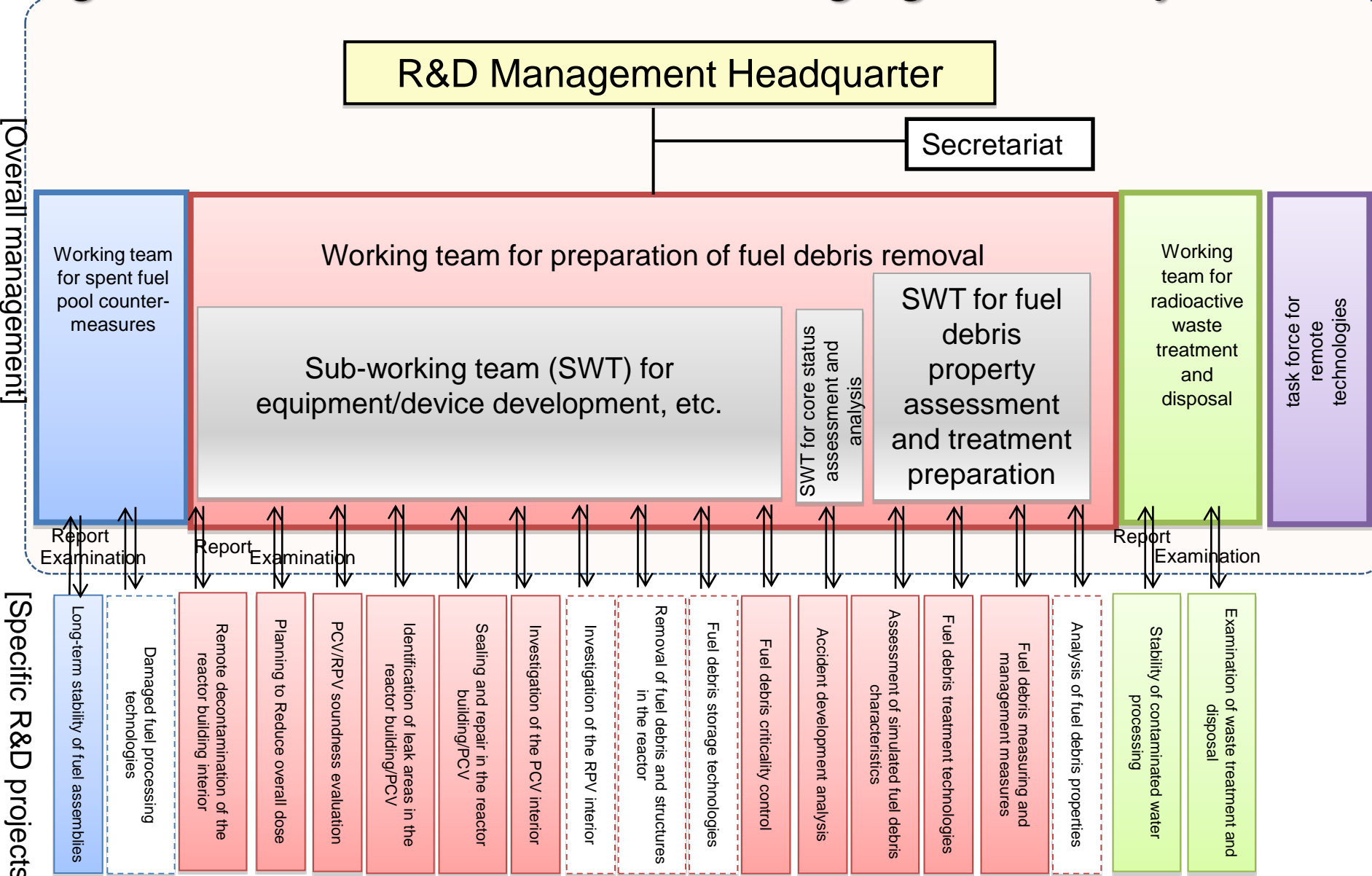
- reflects the latest version of TEPCO’s “Facility Operation Plan” for increasing reliability of equipment and site facilities
- highlights major outcomes to date
- clarifies short-term targets and milestones in response to the progress of the roadmap

## 2. R&D Roadmap

# Major Areas in the R&D Roadmap

- Long-term management of retrieved fuel from SFP
- Preparation of fuel debris removal
  - Equipment/device development
  - Core status assessment and analysis
  - Fuel debris characterization and management
- Radioactive waste treatment and disposal
- Remote-controlled technologies as a common base

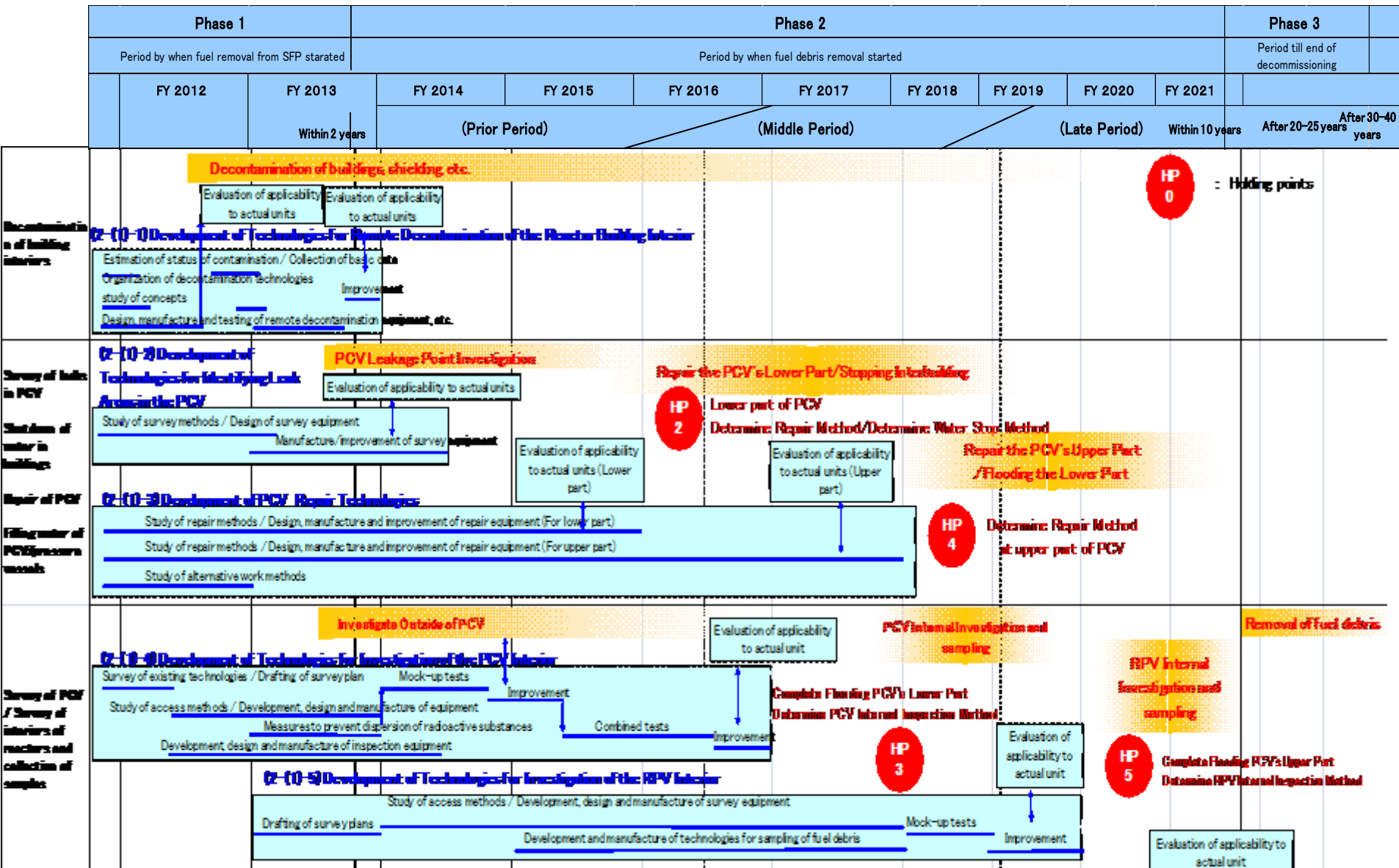
# Organizational Structure for Managing R&D Projects



# Three Principles for Implementing the R&D Program

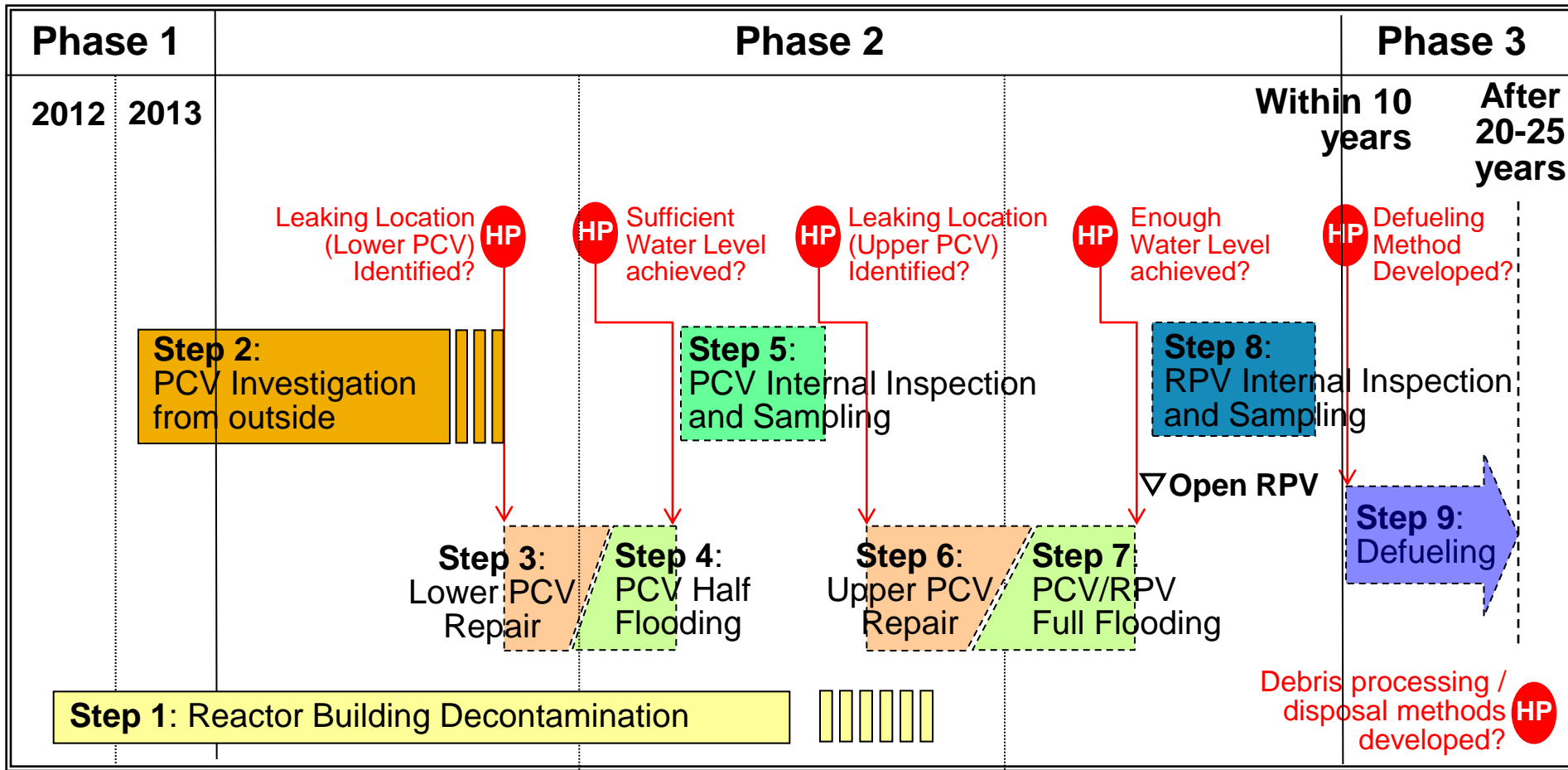
- Address on-site technological needs
- Government involvement and support
- Open and flexible framework for implementation with support from international engineering and science communities

# R&D Roadmap (Example)



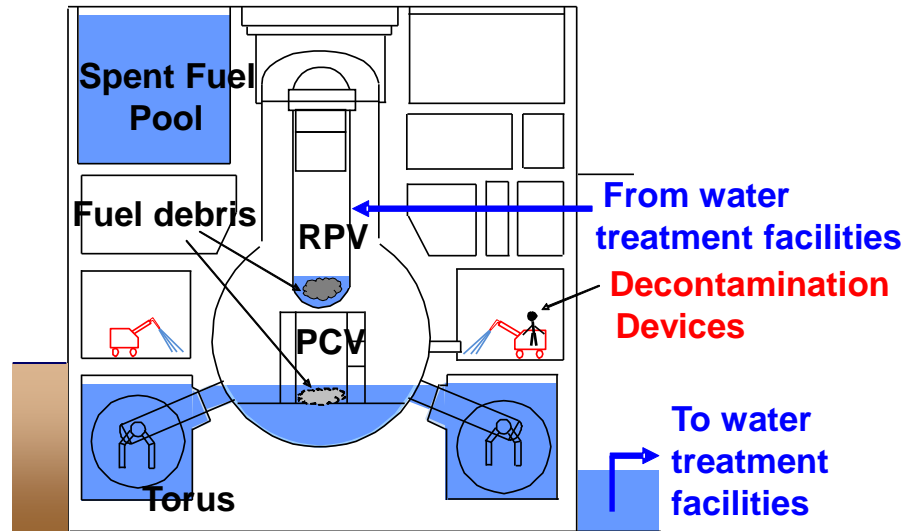


# Milestones for Fuel Debris Removal (Defueling)



**HP** : Technical holding points.

# Step 1: Reactor Building Decontamination



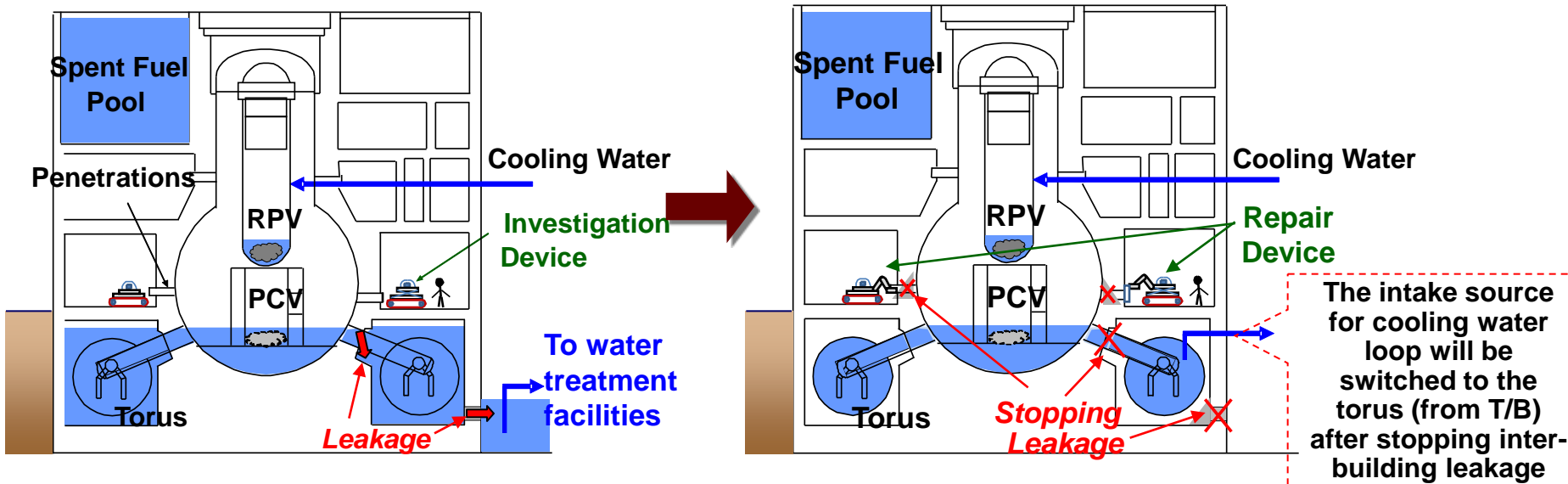
## Decontamination of the area is essential to following procedures.

- Research and technology development of high-pressure washing, coating, scraping, etc.
- Combined usage of shielding

## Major Challenges and Difficulties:

- High dosages ( $\sim 5$  Sv/h ).
- Obstacles such as rubble scattered in R/B.
- Smaller space due to the compact design of BWR4

## Steps 2&3: Identification and Repair of the PCV Leakage Points

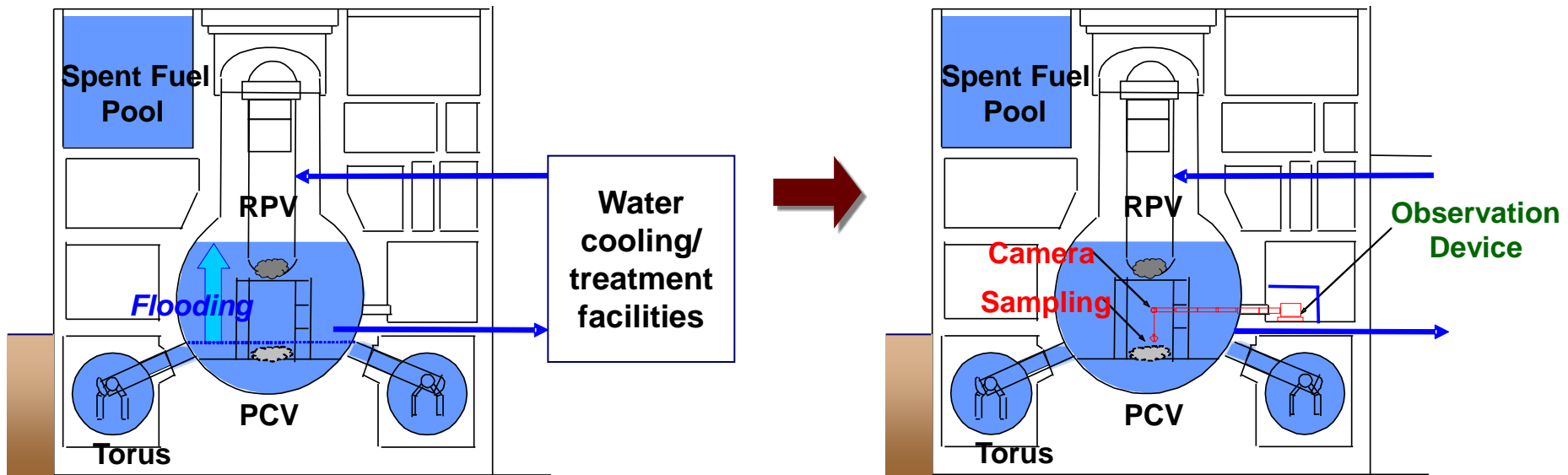


**Leaking locations will be investigated from outside the PCV and will be repaired**

### Major Challenges and Difficulties:

- High dose rate and humidity of PCV inside.
- Most "suspicious locations" are underwater with poor visibility.
- Repair work has to be conducted while highly radioactive cooling water is running for continuous fuel cooling

# Steps 4&5: Flooding of the Lower PCV, and Inspection & Sampling

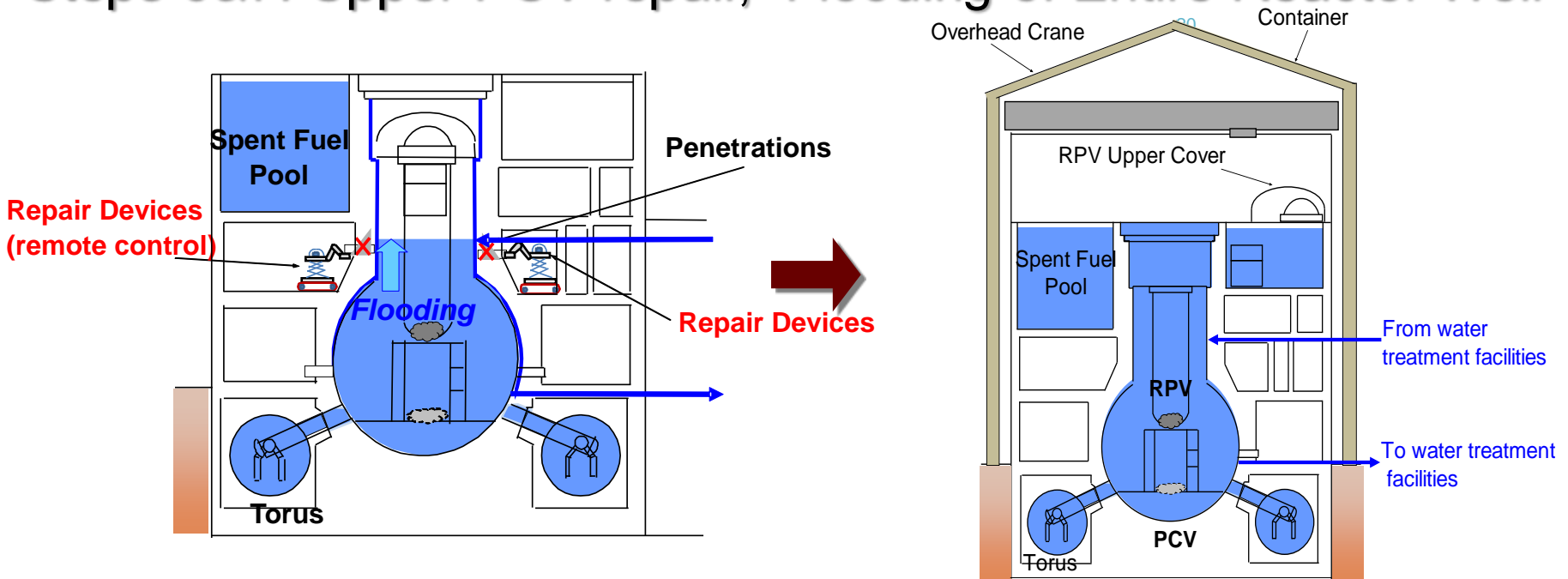


- Once the PCV gains its boundary, water will be filled (flooding)
- The distribution and characteristics of the fuel debris will be investigated

## Major Challenges and Difficulties:

- High dose rate, limited accessibility and poor visibility.
- Leak-tight penetration is required for the investigation device once PCV flooding is achieved.
- Subcritical assessment

## Steps 6&7: Upper PCV repair, Flooding of Entire Reactor Well

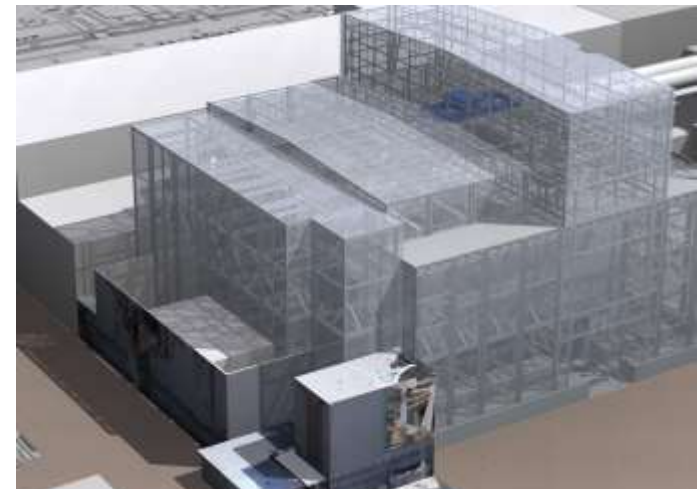
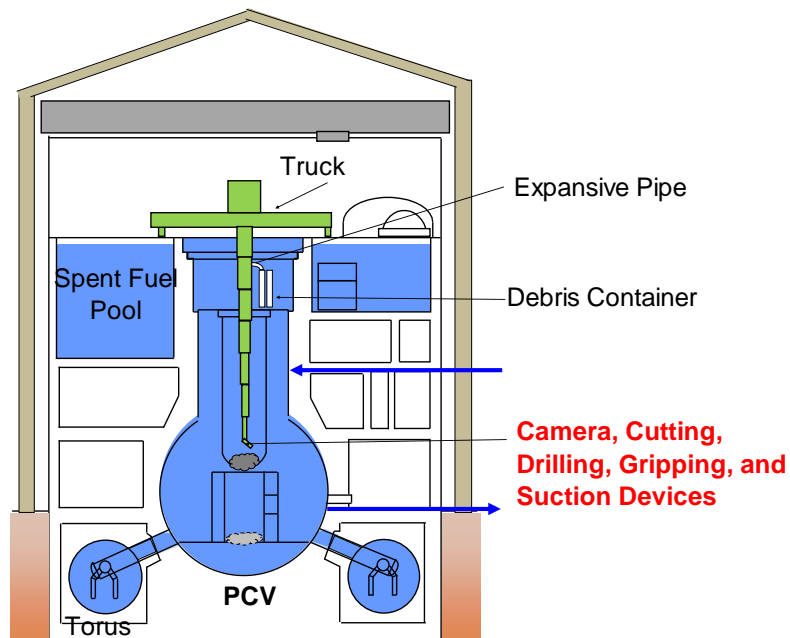


- 1) Filling entire PCV/RPV with water after repairing upper PCV
- 2) R/B container and overhead crane will be installed for defueling.
- 3) RPV/PCV top heads will be removed after sufficient water is attained

### Major Challenges and Difficulties:

- High dose rate, limited accessibility.
- Seismic stability after flooding has to be maintained considering water mass.
- Prevent radioactive substances release from PCVs
- Subcritical assessment

# Step 8: Internal RPV Inspection & Sampling

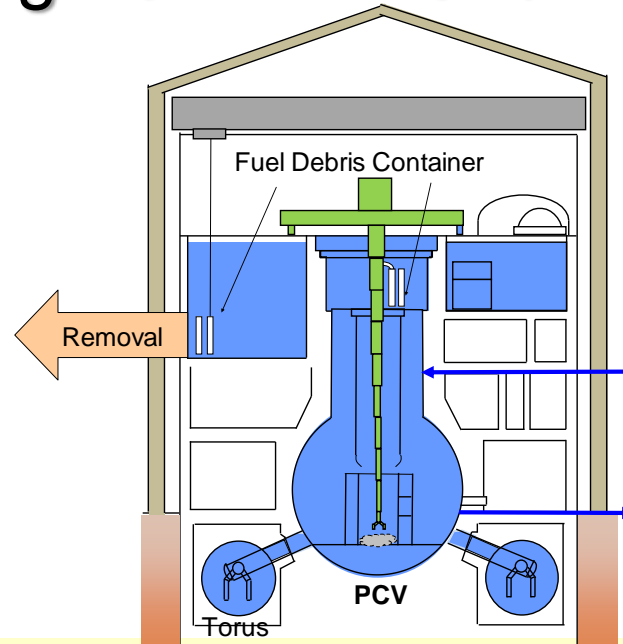


**Condition of RPV internal and Fuel debris will be investigated**

## **Major Challenges and Difficulties:**

- High dose rate, limited accessibility and poor visibility.
- Development of necessary devices
- Subcritical assessment
- Store the removed debris

## Step 9: Defueling from RPV and PCV



### Fuel debris and RPV internal structure will be removed

#### Major Challenges and Difficulties:

- Fuel debris is assumed to have fallen onto the complicated RPV bottom structure (BWR structures are much more complicated than those of PWRs)
- Debris may have fallen even out of the RPV (debris remained in PRV in TMI-2)
- Diversity of neutronic, mechanical and chemical properties of debris as a mixture with different types of metals and concrete
- Subcritical assessment
- Store the removed debris

# R&D Issues for Radioactive Waste Processing and Disposal

## 1. Properties Investigation and Characterization

- Properties differ from conventional waste, such as rubble, sludge, and decontaminated waste liquid (nuclide composition, chloride content, etc.)
- Basic information needs to be assessed for the development of each technologies

### Examples of differences with conventional waste

- Main nuclides: Co-60, C-14, etc.
  - Fukushima Daiichi: Cs-137, Sr-90, etc.
- Sodium concentration is 5 times that of the TMI case due to 50-90% contamination by seawater
  - Lower Cesium absorption performance, increased waste generation
- Presence of sludge and other materials of unknown chemical composition
  - Need to identify these materials through analysis



Sludge sample  
(made by JAEA)



Zeolite sample

### Outputs

- Radioactive concentration of each type of nuclide
- Component content
- Physicochemical characteristics, etc.

The installation of a hot lab near 1F must also be considered, as large volumes of high-dose, untransportable samples are expected to be generated accompanying decontamination and fuel debris removal.



# R&D Issues for Radioactive Waste Processing and Disposal

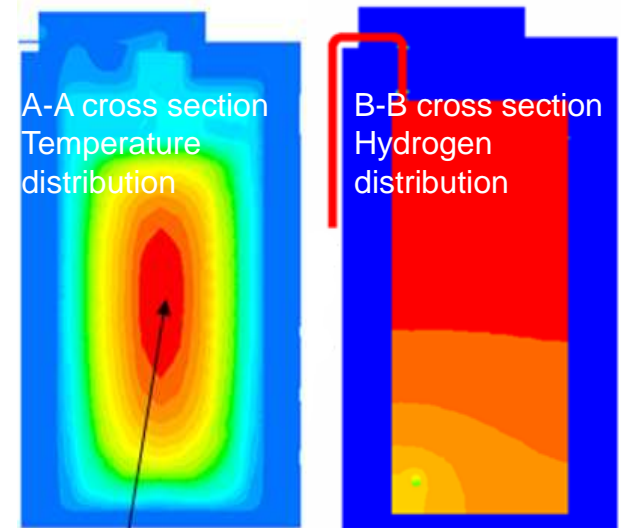
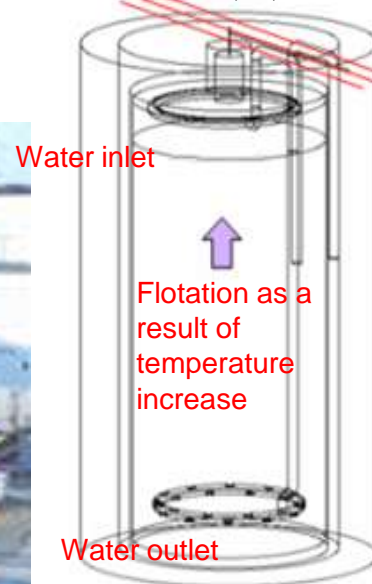
## 2. Long-term storage technologies

- Impact of chloride (corrosion) and high radioactivity (heat, hydrogen, surface radiation)
- Duration of storage: how long should it be?
- Is treatment necessary before storage?

Facility for secondary waste storage after water treatment (example)



Cross section B , A, C



Temperature of zeolite layer  
Approx. 170°C max.

Evaluation of temperature and hydrogen distribution in a KURION absorption vessel (by JAEA)

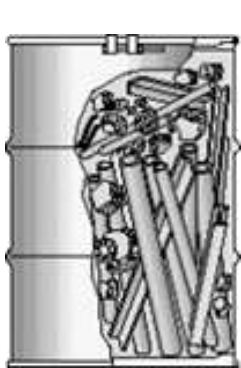
Output: Long-term storage method for each type of waste

# R&D Issues for Radioactive Waste Processing and Disposal

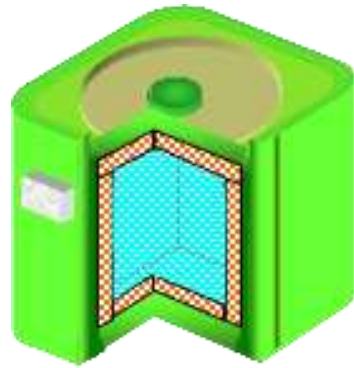
## 3. Processing technologies

- Can technologies used for existing processing technologies be applied?

### Examples of waste package

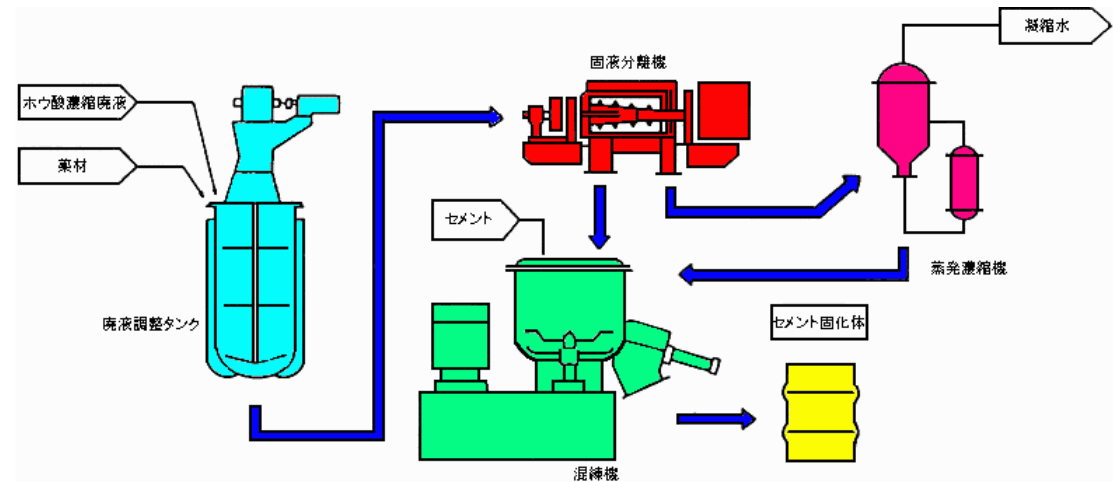


Drums



Square vessels

### Examples of solidification



Basic flow in a cementing facility

### Outputs

- Treatment methods for storage
- Methods for production of waste packages
- Performance of waste packages

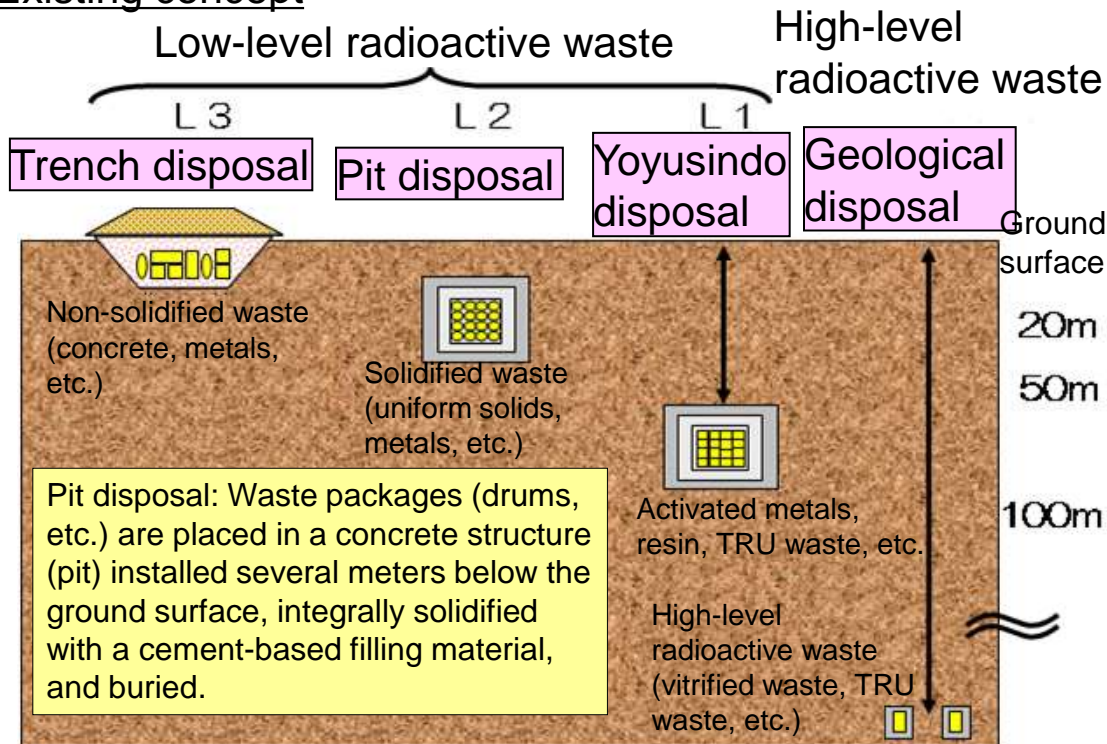
Source: Japan Atomic Industrial Forum Inc. (ed.), *Radioactive Waste Management: Technical Development and Plans in Japan*, July 1997, p.81.

# R&D Issues for Radioactive Waste Processing and Disposal

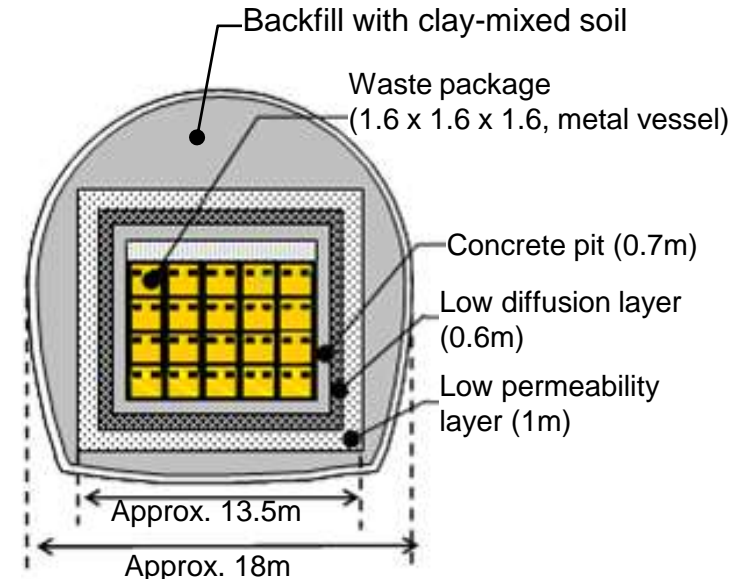
## 4. Disposal technologies

- Fundamental new technologies on the existing disposal concept
- Extract and address issues related to safety evaluation and find a solution

### Existing concept



### Example of an engineered barrier (Yoyusindo disposal)



Output: Waste disposal methods (required burial depth, construction of an engineered barrier, etc.)

## **3. International Cooperation**

- Technological challenges in conducting a wide array of government-led R&D projects require wisdom and expertise from international communities, which indicate potential areas for international cooperation.
- The knowledge and technologies gained from these R&D projects will be valuable common assets for the improvement of decommissioning processes and become a knowledge base for further enhancing safety at nuclear facilities all over the world.
  - Government and TEPCO Council on Mid-to-Long-Term Response for Decommissioning held an International Symposium on March 14, 2012 in Tokyo. This event was organized in cooperation with the IAEA and OECD/NEA.

# 1. Challenges for Defueling:

## 1) Development of Remote Equipment and Devices

### ■ Short-term

- ✓ Monitoring devices for the R/B under high dose environment
  - remote-controlled UAVs, etc.
- ✓ Sensing devices for water surface in the S/C and PCV to identify location of leaks
- ✓ Remote-controlled robots running in the water to repair leaks
  - Identify self location in the water
  - Automatic treatment of long-length communication cable
  - Sensor for the shape and water-flow

### ■ Mid-term

- ✓ PCV repair devices and defueling equipment

# 1 . Challenges for Defueling:

## 2) Accident analysis for evaluating the core status

### ■ Short-term

- ✓ Accident progression analysis and benchmark study, by using existing and improved integral severe accident codes (cf. TMI-2 experience of OECD/NEA joint research)
- ✓ Database/information portal to make accident data readily available to the international community.
- ✓ Assessment on the validity of severe accident codes and leading greater confidence in the code predictive capabilities

### ■ Mid-term

- ✓ Further analysis applying various models and methodologies
- ✓ Collection of physical data during sampling and defueling

# 1 . Challenges for Defueling:

## 3) Characterization and Sampling of Fuel Debris

### ■ Short-term

- ✓ Simulated fuel debris for evaluating its characterization
- ✓ Creating and updating database by making use of the experience of the TMI-2 debris study
- ✓ Management and storage of fuel debris, and development of a new accountancy method

### ■ Mid-term

- ✓ Sampling and analyzing actual fuel debris
- ✓ Deployment of defueling equipment, devices, and storage.



## 2. Challenges for Radioactive Waste Treatment

### ■ Short-term

- ✓ Development of analysis techniques and methods for the characterization of accident-origin solid waste
  - Pre-treatment of solid radioactive waste
  - Simplified and standard methodologies
  - Regulatory and institutional framework
- ✓ Management and processing secondary waste storage after water treatment

### ■ Mid-term

- ✓ Exploring possibility for building a research center for international collaborative research program
- ✓ Researchers/experts exchanges with international community

### 3. Challenges for Improving the Work Environment

#### ■ Short-term

- ✓ Technologies and systems to reduce the doses of workers
  - Dose reduction management, including shielding
  - Improving materials for workers' suits
- ✓ Studying methodologies for increasing human performance
  - Advancing human health and performance innovations for severely challenging environments
  - Designing a better work environment

#### ■ Mid-term

- ✓ Address human resource needs for the mid-to-long term

## Conclusion

In addressing the challenges we are facing, we are committed to the international community to make available information and data from the accident and decommissioning processes, through international collaboration projects.

With lessons learned from the Fukushima Daiichi accident, It is our responsibility to work together with international community for further improving decommissioning processes and knowledge-base for the safety at nuclear facilities.

**Thank you very much.**

Please visit our website:

[www.meti.go.jp/english/earthquake/nuclear/decommissioning](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/earthquake/nuclear/decommissioning)