

**Concerning the Report Entitled “Evaluation of the Basic Concepts of Approaches to Guaranteeing Peaceful Uses and Maintaining and Strengthening the Nuclear Non-proliferation Regime, Specified in the *Framework for Nuclear Energy Policy*”**

15 May 2007

Atomic Energy Commission

On 15 May 2007, the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) received from the Policy Evaluation Committee a report entitled “Evaluation of the Basic Concepts of Approaches to Guaranteeing Peaceful Uses and Maintaining and Strengthening the Nuclear Non-proliferation Regime, Specified in the *Framework for Nuclear Energy Policy*.” The committee collected information from the Government and operating entities with regard to the basic concepts specified in Chapter 2, 2-2 “Guarantee of Peaceful Uses” and in Chapter 5, 5-1 “Maintenance and Strengthening of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Regime of the *Framework for Nuclear Energy Policy*,” focusing on the measures implemented by them based on these concepts and their self-evaluation thereof, and compiled this report to present the committee’s evaluation on these matters, taking into consideration the public’s comments on them. The AEC holds the conclusion of the report in high regard.

Based on the conclusion of the report, the AEC considers that the relevant parties should continue to comply with the basic concepts specified in the *Framework for Nuclear Energy Policy*, and take necessary measures while giving due consideration to the following.

(1) Promotion of the measures to guarantee peaceful uses of nuclear energy under the national legal systems and international frameworks

The AEC, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) etc. should secure transparency of information on the measures implemented in Japan in order to guarantee peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and disclose such information effectively in and outside the country. Additionally, the MEXT, the Nuclear Material Control Center (NMCC), and operating entities should, with the aim to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of safeguard activities, make constant efforts to improve their quality through cooperation with the IAEA.

(2) Dissemination of information to the public, and sharing of awareness in the relevant

parties in Japan

In reality, the majority of the public know little about the specific frameworks or approaches for guaranteeing peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Given such circumstances, the AEC and other relevant administrative agencies as well as operating entities should, by taking creative approaches, endeavor to develop a mutual understanding with the public regarding these frameworks and approaches and the importance thereof. Additionally, operating entities should implement measures, under the initiative of their top management, to share awareness regarding the importance of safeguards among their employees and other persons concerned, thereby creating an organizational culture focusing on peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

### (3) Sending messages to the international community

In order to avoid misunderstanding in the international community with regard to the fact that Japan utilizes nuclear energy exclusively for peaceful purposes, the Government, especially the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), should make further active efforts to send messages to the world that Japan has been working toward maintaining and strengthening nuclear non-proliferation in strict accordance with international agreements, and should also correct any misunderstanding identified regarding Japan's stance quickly and clearly.

Operating entities, academic institutions and private bodies should carry out grass-roots campaigns targeting overseas citizens as well as initiatives to create a common understanding in the industry. They should also strive to establish and maintain a multilevel mutual learning network with overseas counterparts focusing on peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

### (4) Securing transparency of the use of plutonium

The Cabinet Office, the MEXT, and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) as well as operating entities should release the information in and outside the country, in a timely manner, with regard to the management condition and plan of use of plutonium, while improving the quality of such information in order to make it more transparent and easily understandable.

### (5) Approaches toward nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament in cooperation with the international community

Under the circumstances where new concerns have been raised over nuclear proliferation despite the efforts of Japan and the international community on the one

hand, and nuclear power generation is expected to further expand on a global scale on the other hand, the Government, especially the MOFA, should continue to strive to maintain and strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime in the international community, and should also actively participate in international initiatives and rule-making processes aimed at achieving nuclear non-proliferation more effectively and efficiently. The Government should also promote R&D cooperation etc. in this regard, under the “Global Nuclear Energy Partnership,” based on the “Japan-United States Joint Nuclear Energy Action Plan” released in April 2007.

Furthermore, with the growing international concern over nuclear security in mind, the relevant organizations should also actively respond to new international initiatives to strengthen physical protection and nuclear security approaches. For the purpose of preventing the application of civilian technology and the roundabout exports that might result in nuclear proliferation, the METI should further strengthen cooperation with foreign countries and regions to ensure export control effectively and efficiently.

(6) Efforts in knowledge management, human resource development and technology development toward enhancing infrastructure for nuclear non-proliferation

The MOFA, the MEXT, the METI, operating entities, research institutes and other relevant parties should cooperate with each other to promote knowledge management, human resource development and technology development as essential tasks toward nuclear non-proliferation. For the purpose of carrying out these tasks effectively, they should strengthen cooperation with universities and promote exchange of human resources among them and with international organizations, with the aim to establish and maintain multilevel international information networks.

Also, the MEXT should encourage the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA) and the NMCC to make constant reviews of the existing technologies, thereby identifying R&D targets on technology and methodology for effective and efficient safeguards and carrying out R&D projects in a steady manner. Furthermore, operating entities, research institutes and relevant academic circles should cooperate with each other to promote the activities for international standardization in this area, including discussing a system for stable supply of the reference nuclear material that is fundamental to safeguard technologies.

The AEC will endeavor to send messages on this report, strengthen necessary activities and develop mutual understanding with the public. Through the review of

annual budget proposals for research, development and use of nuclear energy, the AEC will also strive to check the efforts of the relevant administrative agencies and other relevant parties in the areas mentioned above, and take necessary actions as appropriate.