

**Opening Remarks**

**Fukushima Daiichi Accident and  
Initial Safety Measures Worldwide**

**Monday, 04 April 2011**

**18:30 — 20:30**

**Board Room A**

**Mr. Denis Flory**

**Deputy Director General**

**Head of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security**

**International Atomic Energy Agency**

## Welcome and Introduction

- Good evening distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, and colleagues. Let me welcome you to this meeting organized to present authoritative information on the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident, and the outlook for urgent initial safety initiatives taken by safety authorities in Japan and worldwide.
- But first, let me offer my deepest condolences to the people of Japan and express my respect to the plant workers as they courageously endure the unendurable from this immense tragedy at the same time as they fight an ongoing battle to stabilize the damaged reactors.
- Let me also take this opportunity at the outset to offer my deep appreciation to Japan for working with the IAEA to organize this event and to the panellists for their willingness to share their Country's perspectives, which plays an important role in harmonizing the safety approach activities.
- In a crisis of this nature, it is vital to share accurate information quickly with Member States and the wider nuclear community. This Side Event is meant to promote that interaction. I am convinced that it will also serve as one of the early steps leading to the Vienna Ministerial conference in June, with a final goal to draw all lessons from the Fukushima Daiichi accident and to implement these lessons in necessary actions to strengthen safety worldwide.
- In setting up this side event, the major thrust was first to provide an opportunity to the IAEA Member States to have a first-hand update on the Fukushima Accident, but then also to reflect the urgent activities launched by Safety Regulators from around the world. In organising this second part of today's side event, working with the Japanese permanent mission, our attention was attracted by the evident relevance of the US NRC's experience: it regulates, inter alia, NPPs similar to Japan's Boiling Water Reactor designs, and launched accordingly a number of immediate actions. Then, looking for experience that might be relevant to our daily work at the Agency, which is to provide for international safety standards and to promote harmonized implementation of these standards, Europe's experience in scaling from national approaches to EU harmonization, imposed itself as a laboratory test, for harmonised stress tests.

- The result is the agenda you have in front of you, with the first presentation providing an overview of the accident event by Mr. Koichiro NAKAMURA, Deputy Director General, Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA). Directly following Mr. NAKAMURA's presentation, we will have a short presentation by Mr. Shinichi KAWARADA, Advisor at the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) who will provide a briefing on the "Accident Response taken by MEXT" after which, we have allotted some time for a question and answer session. Messers NAKAMURA and KAWARADA will be assisted by Messers Kimitoshi YAHAGI from TEPCO, Kiyoharu ABE from JNES, and Akinori NAITO from JAEA.
- In the second part of the event, Mr NAKAMURA will address the initial safety measures decided by the Japanese Government, then Mr. Gregory JACZKO, Chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission will present NRC's response to The Fukushima Event.
- The third presentation will provide an overview of the so called "stress test" activities for NPPs in Europe, and be given by Mr. Jukka LAAKSONEN, Chairman of the Western European Nuclear Regulators' Association – WENRA, and also Director General of Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority in Finland (STUK). He will present the harmonisation approach through the work of WENRA, together with a country example.
- The last presentation will outline EU's First Response after Fukushima, presented by Mr. Andrej STRITAR, Chairman of the European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group – ENSREG.
- Following these presentations, we will have another opportunity for questions and answers.
- So without further delay, let me turn now to Mr. Nakamura to present the first in this series of presentations. Thank you for your attention.