Lessons from Fukushima and the Way Forward

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Investigation Reports and Studies on Fukushima

- Government Commission Report (July 2012)
- Private-sector Report (February 2012)
- TEPCO Report (June 2012)
- New IAEA Study
- US Academy of Sciences Study
Findings (Kurokawa Report)

- A “Manmade” disaster:
  * Lack of safety culture ( “nuclear safety myth”, etc.)
  * Weaknesses in organization and system (lack of independence; collusion between regulators and operators - “regulatory capture”)

- Organizational/management problems within TEPCO:
  * Lack of preparedness, negligence, inaction…

- Weaknesses in emergency preparedness and response:
  * Ambiguities in the roles and responsibilities of actors; inadequate risk communications
Was the accident preventable?

- Safety first policy not strictly enforced
- Lack of preparations for SA (natural hazards)
- Neglect of international good practices and safety standards
- At Fukushima NPP, delays in back checks, reinforcements against big earthquake and tsunami
Seven Policy Recommendations
(Kurokawa report)

1 Establishing oversight of the nuclear regulatory administration by a dedicated parliamentary committee (with support of expert advisory group)
2 Reform of the crisis management system
3 Enhancing Government responsibility for radiation monitoring and for public health and welfare
4 Fundamental corporate changes at TEPCO
5 Establishing criteria for the new regulatory body
6 Reform of laws and regulations on nuclear energy and safety
7 Setting up independent investigation commissions to follow up on specific unresolved issues
5 Criteria for the new regulatory body

- **Independence**: from nuclear promoting organizations, from the operators, from politics

- **Transparency**: public disclosure of information

- **Professional expertise**: global standards, exchange with overseas regulatory bodies, advisory body with outside expertise

- **Proactive**: continuous reform
International Dimensions

- Inviting IAEA’s IRRS as soon as ready
- Bilateral cooperation
  (US, UK, France, Chernobyl-related and others)
- IAEA, OECD/NEA, WINS, WANO, etc.
- External Advisors
- Japan/Korea/China
  Trilateral cooperation framework (Top Regulators’ Meeting) for Northeast Asia