

## Summary of 1st Chief Nuclear Officer Conference

1. Date : October, 3, 2014 (Fri) 10:00AM ~ 12:30PM
2. Place: Otemachi Headquater, Central Research Institute of Electric Power Industry (CRIEPI)

### 3. Participants:

Chair: G. Apostolakis (NRRC)

Members: Maki (Hokkaido EPCO, substitute for Sakai), Inoue (Tohoku EPCO), Ane-gawa (Tokyo EPCO), Sakaguchi (Chubu EPCO), Yonehara (Hokuriku EPCO, substitute for Kanai), Toyomatsu (Kansai EPCO), Furubayashi (Chugoku EPCO), Kakinoki (Shikoku EPCO), Shono (Kyushu EPCO), Ichimura (JAPC), Tanaka (JNFL), Nagashima (J-Power), Yokoyama, Omoto (NRRC)

Organizers : Yokoo, Shimeno (NRRC)

### 4. Proceedings

The organizer reported the NRRC press release on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> and the result of meeting between Dr. Apostolakis, the Head of NRRC, and Ms. Obuchi, the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry. The organizer also reported the progress of discussion of the NRRC research plan for the next FY.

Dr. Apostolakis stated his aspiration as the Head of NRRC, and then exchanged opinions with members.

#### 【Aspiration of Dr. Apostolakis, the Head (main points)】

The mission of the center is to assist utilities in continuous improvement of nuclear safety and management of residual risks of nuclear power plant operations. On the establishment of NRRC, we have set our mission and vision, and posted them on the website.

To assist utilities, I have to start to learn the situation of the efforts of utilities, listen what utilities expect NRRC, and then will consider what we can do for utilities.

Our mission statement mentions not only Probabilistic Risk Assessment and risk-informed decision making, but also risk communication. This risk communication is very important especially in today's Japan. It refers to not only technical stakeholders, but also the public.

Our vision is to become the center of excellence that is respectful around the world. Our challenge is how we achieve becoming such an excellence and how we establish communication line with public. It is very important to do excellent work, and also to ensure the open and transparent operations.

I think it is important for us to have an open line for communication with utilities. Both NRRC and utilities should understand that the essence of the risk management is risk-informed decision making. In this risk-informed decision making process, decision makers have to take accounts of not only risk assessment, but also numerous matters such as defense in depth, costs, and so on.

In two or two-half year, we will focus especially on earthquakes and tsunami among various external events. At the same time, we will work on furnishing utilities with infrastructure that will be required for risk assessment. In the field of infrastructure, we will focus especially on Human Reliability Analysis (HRA).

**【Discussion (Main Points)】**

(Member) We struggle with the thought that the nuclear power will never revive in Japan without making our activities along with roadmaps of voluntary safety improvement and the enhancement of risk management recognized by the public.

(Member) I would like to know experiences in the U.S.A. how to make public understand the utilities' efforts.

(Head) Public is not one. There are many groups in the public. First we need to listen and receive their opinions and then make our directions. The most important thing is to get general public understanding that utilities talk frankly and do not hide anything. Another important thing is never to lecture public. Any communications must be two way communications.

(Member) HRA is very important for PRA, therefore we expect NRRC very much to develop improved HRA method.

(Head) Regarding HRA, the human performances in an extreme condition like Fukushima or the evacuation of residents have not been researched yet in the world.

Not only in HRA field, risk assessment must be realistic. So I would like to request the cooperation from utilities' engineering, maintenance, and operator groups that makes our research real enough and helpful for decision making.

(Member) It is highly appreciated if you suggest how to make a good communication with the public.

(Head) Regarding risk communication, the important thing is how the concept of residual risk is understood by ordinary people, who usually want to know it is safe or not.

Not only in case of nuclear power, everything we do everyday involves certain risks. But we do it because we are benefited by doing it. I think this is the good start point to talk with the public.