Establishment of the Investigation Committee on the Accident at Fukushima Nuclear Power Stations of Tokyo Electric Power Company

— Cabinet Decision on May 24, 2011 —

1. Purpose

The government establishes the Investigation Committee on the Accident at Fukushima Nuclear Power Stations of Tokyo Electric Power Company (hereinafter referred to as the "Investigation Committee") with the aim of making policy proposals on measures to prevent further spread of the damage caused by the accident and a recurrence of similar accidents in the future, by conducting a multifaceted investigation in an open and neutral manner that is accountable to the Japanese public to determine the causes of the accident at the Fukushima Dai-ichi and Dai-ni Nuclear Power Stations.

2. Composition of the Investigation Committee

- (1) The members of the Investigation Committee shall be appointed by the Prime Minister from persons with academic and other various backgrounds.
- (2) The Prime Minister shall appoint the chairperson of the Investigation Committee from its members.
- (3) The chairperson may appoint technical advisors for the Investigation Committee who shall give advice on technical matters.
- (4) The Investigation Committee may, when necessary, ask any related ministers including the Prime Minister, officials of any related administrative organs, officers and employees of the related business operators, officials of any international organizations on nuclear energy, or any other related persons, to attend a meeting of the Investigation Committee.

3. Responsibilities of Related Ministers

- (1) All related ministers and officials of related administrative organs shall provide at-most cooperation to the operations of the Investigation Committee, and without any proper reason, shall not refuse requests from the Investigation Committee for materials and explanations.
- (2) On the requests from the Investigation Committee for on-site investigations, materials and explanations to the related business operators, concerning ministers shall exercise his or her authority based on applicable laws to instruct the related business operators to accept the committee's request.

4. Other matters

The administrative affairs pertaining to the Investigation Committee shall be conducted by the Cabinet Secretariat in cooperation with related administrative organs.

Summary of the Prime Minister's Remarks at the Cabinet Meeting on May 24, 2011

"Establishment of the Investigation Committee on the Accident at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Stations of Tokyo Electric Power Company"

I believe that the following three principles are highly important for the "Investigation Committee on the Accident at Fukushima Nuclear Power Stations of Tokyo Electric Power Company," which was established at today 's cabinet meeting: i) complete "independence" from the existing nuclear energy administration; ii) "openness" in fully disclosing facts both domestically and abroad; and iii) "comprehensiveness" in examining various areas that may have affected this accident, including technical aspects as well as the way systems and organizations operated.

Also of great importance for the committee is to conduct a credible and substantial investigation of the accident in order to win confidence both at home and abroad, as well as to carry on future nuclear energy administration. I am surely willing to cooperate on the committee's investigation, and I hereby ask for at-most cooperation from each Cabinet member in the operations of the committee.

It is also important for the committee's substantial investigation to have a secretariat that is appropriately organized and staffed. Thus, your cooperation in this regard will also be highly appreciated.