

United Nations

General Assembly

Draft Resolution

Reducing Fukushima Daiichi nuclear dangers

The General Assembly,

Conscious that numerous Japanese non-governmental organizations and nuclear experts worldwide have requested that the United Nations organize an independent team to assess the on-going dangers from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station and secure international assistance to prevent irreversible harm that could affect generations to come,

Aware of the grave risk, in the event of another earthquake, presented by the enormous inventory of radioactive materials at the severely damaged nuclear power station,

Stressing that the nuclear reactors are located in a highly active seismic zone where an earthquake is likely to further compromise the structural integrity of damaged buildings and equipment, that the melted reactor cores and fuel rods require constant cooling, and that a meltdown in a spent fuel pool would release unprecedented amounts of radioactivity into the global atmosphere,

Expressing alarm that vast amounts of radioactive water have been discharged into the Pacific Ocean every day since March 2011, that measurements have already shown increased radiation in marine life across the Pacific, that in 2013 there was a highly radioactive water leak from a temporary storage tank, of which there are hundreds, that there are multiple other leaks all over the site, that the situation remains out of control¹, and that decommissioning will take at least forty years,

Understanding that this radioactive contamination will be carried by the jet stream and spread by ocean currents to all parts of the world, adversely affecting marine life as well as human populations, and that much greater contamination is likely, given that the

¹ “We regard the current situation as not being under control,” stated Kazuhiko Yamashita, an executive officer of Tokyo Electric Power Co., on 13 Sept 2013.

reactor cores are highly unstable and that the structures and storage tanks are deteriorating,

Emphasizing that this disaster presents one of the gravest threats and greatest technological challenges ever to face our species, and as such demands an international response utilizing the world's most accomplished experts as well as international funding on a level commensurate with humankind's most ambitious efforts, in the interest of every nation,

Believing that an industry that minimizes the severity of the disaster will not resolve it responsibly, and that therefore independent expertise and innovative thinking are fundamental requirements for remediation,

Recalling that the UN has a fiduciary duty to act responsibly by informing itself ², and that the right to environmental security and the corollary right to know constitute fundamental international human rights, especially where the risks are immediate, devastating and irreversible ³,

Mindful that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights established the rights to life and of children to special protection ⁴,

Appreciating that the UN has a duty to act decisively when people's collective human rights, basic livelihood, environmental security, and right to know are being jeopardized ⁵,

1. *Appoints* on an emergency basis, within thirty (30) days, an International Independent Commission of Experts (IICE) charged with formulating, implementing and overseeing a plan to reduce, to every extent possible, releases of Fukushima Daiichi radiation into the atmosphere and the ocean, drawing personnel from universities, national research laboratories, other public institutions and nonprofit NGO's in order to avoid conflicts of interest and to ensure adherence to the purpose of the IICE, and insisting on transparency for investigatory, planning and implementation phases of remediation, ensuring that the project plans will be meticulously assessed, critiqued and optimized;

² The International Tribunal recognized this principle for the Law of the Sea in a dispute wherein the ITLOS court ordered (08 Oct 2003) the establishment of an "independent" expert commission to assess risks and effects.

³ UDHR Articles 3, 19, 25

⁴ ICCPR Part. III Articles 6, 24

⁵ In cases of genocide the UN has repeatedly intervened to rescue helpless communities.

2. *Empowers* the IICE, with the intention of accurately assessing risks and formulating viable solutions, to investigate the site with the assistance of the Government of Japan whose cooperation needs to include full access to the site, to relevant government documents and staff, and to personnel and documents of the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO), operator of the site;

3. *Directs* the IICE to publicize a report within ninety (90) days with a risk-based strategic plan that addresses all existing and emergent problems with a minimum mandate of preventing the abandonment of the site, and the ultimate goal of minimizing public health risks;

4. *Authorizes* the Commission to employ qualified project managers, technical consultants and contractors, and engineering firms to implement the plan;

5. *Further directs* the IICE to continue monitoring, and to publicize regular and accurate progress reports, as well as public health alerts as needed, working with Japan and with the public in an independent and transparent process;

6. *Calls upon* Member States and the international community to provide expeditious funding and resources for this urgent endeavor to protect the nations of the world from additional impending, irreparable harm.

This document and briefing notes are posted at:
www.FukushimaResponseBayArea.org/documents.html