

## **The 19<sup>th</sup> Sino-Japanese Seminar on Nuclear Safety**

### **Opening Address—Minister Ouyang**

2004.11.29

I would like to greet Deputy Representative Ichikawa, Head of Japanese Delegation Takato, President Chen, Vice President Jeng, and all of the nuclear energy experts from Taiwan and Japan who have gathered here today!

First, I would like to sincerely welcome the Japanese guests who have accepted our invitation to attend today, and express our gratitude for their coming to Taiwan from so far away to participate. As all of the experts and scholars from our two countries in attendance today are preeminent in the field of nuclear energy, this is truly a rare opportunity to share our skills and experience. I am confident that this seminar will not only help promote exchange between Japan and Taiwan in the areas of nuclear safety and technology, but will also be valuable in strengthening nuclear safety in our two countries and enhancing our interaction in these areas.

The Executive Yuan's Atomic Energy Council has long strived to promote nuclear research and safety in Taiwan. In the area of nuclear research and development, the plasma vitrification furnace designed and built by the Council's Institute of Nuclear Energy Research was put through a 202-hour continuous operation test in March of this year. Aside from being used in the treatment of radioactive waste, this technology could also be used to process industrial waste. The Institute of Nuclear Energy Research has also developed a real-time radiation monitoring system that is capable of monitoring nuclear power plants at both the regional and national levels, and is even capable of international transmission over the Internet. In the areas of nuclear safety and control, unexpected shutdowns and reported incidents at Taiwan's three operating nuclear power plants were at a record low last year, and an annual nuclear safety exercise was implemented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Nuclear Power Plant in southern Taiwan in September of this year. This was the first time an exercise was conducted as part of a month-long "Nuclear Safety Outreach" program. The program combines safety indoctrination, pre-duty education, hands-on in-plant drills, and a full-scale off-site exercise. Through drill training, all personnel involved, including local residents, are able to assess their own level of familiarity with their duties; in the event of an actual accident, they are thus able to respond in a calm and efficient manner, thereby protecting public lives and property.

During the nearly two decades the Sino-Japanese Seminar on Nuclear Safety has been held, joint efforts by the Taiwanese and Japanese sides have ensured that the seminar

grows larger each year, with ever greater numbers of experts participating. Indeed, increasing exchange between the two sides has produced fruitful results. Just last month, the Atomic Energy Council held the Workshop on the Future Trend of Radiation Protection and the Sino-Japanese Modern Engineering and Technology Symposium. The latter was attended by eminent experts from Japan, and was a major event in Taiwan and Japan's nuclear energy circles. In addition, last week the Japan Nuclear Safety Organization (JNES) and Taiwan's Nuclear Science and Technology Association held the 1<sup>st</sup> JNES-NuSTA Technical Information Exchange Meeting. With the benefit of this meeting, as well as the present Sino-Japanese Seminar on Nuclear Safety, Taiwan and Japan will surely be able to maintain friendly and productive exchange in the areas of plant operations, management trends and accident prevention systems in the long term, contributing greatly to nuclear safety in our two countries.

I would like to thank our Japanese guests and local experts again for their enthusiastic contributions. Our two countries have established excellent channels of interaction and cooperation over the years, and with the rapid development of global industrial technology in the coming years, exchange between our countries will reach an even higher level. I sincerely hope that during this seminar we can build upon the solid foundation that has already been established, and devote our efforts to enhancing friendship between our two countries and working toward the advancement of nuclear technology.

In closing, I'd like to express my best wishes for the success of this seminar, and the health and happiness of all attending guests. Thank you!