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Session 1

Review of the Provision for Japan Disaster Risk Reduction Responding to the Great East Japan Earthquake

Purpose: Consideration
Submitted by: Japan



**6th Senior Disaster Management Officials
Forum
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Review of the Provision for Japan Disaster Risk Reduction responding to the Great East Japan Earthquake

Cabinet Office, Government of Japan
September 2012

CONTENTS

1. Governmental Review in response to The Great East Japan Earthquake

- Establishment of “Committee for Technical Investigation for Earthquake & Tsunami based on Lessons from off the Pacific Coast of Tohoku Earthquake ”
- Discussion at “Council on Disaster Countermeasures Promotion”

2. Reform of Legislation System

- Revision of Disaster Countermeasures Basic Act
- Revision of Basic Disaster Management Plan

3. Contribution of the Government of Japan toward International Disaster Risk Reduction Initiatives

Outline of a Comprehensive Disaster Management System: Disaster Countermeasures Basic Act

[National level]

Prime Minister

Central Disaster Management Council

Formulation and promoting implementation of the Basic Disaster Management Plan

Designated Government Organizations,
Designated Public Corporations

Formulation and implementation of the Disaster Management Operation Plan

[Prefectural level]

Governor

Prefectural Disaster Management Council

Formulation and promoting implementation of Local Disaster Management Plan

Designated Local Government Organizations

- **Extreme Disaster Management Headquarters**
- **Major Disaster Management Headquarters**

Designated Local Public Corporations

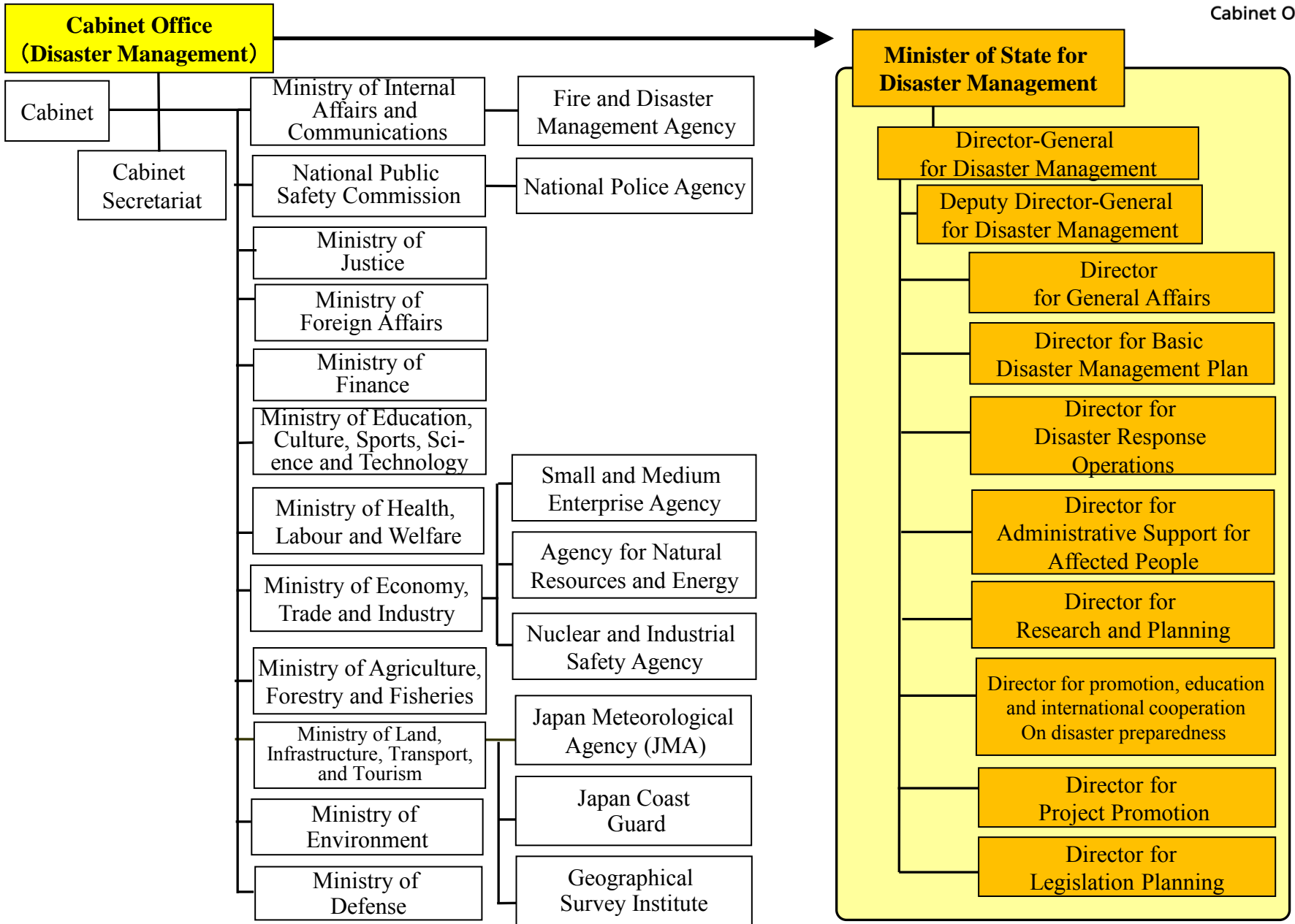
[Municipal level]

Mayors of Cities, Towns and Villages

Municipal Disaster Management Council

Formulation and promoting implementation of Local Disaster Management Plan

[Residents level]



REVIEW OF OVERALL DISASTER COUNTERMEASURES

Tsunami Disaster

Photo taken at Miyako City, Iwate Prefecture

Courtesy of Tarocho Fisheries Cooperative Association



Catastrophic Damage

Photo taken at Kesennuma City, Miyagi Prefecture on 14 March Courtesy of Tokyo Fire Department



Photo by Tokyo Fire Department

Search and Rescue

Photo took on 12 March, in Kesennuma City, Miyagi Prefecture

Provided by Tokyo Fire Department



Photo by Tokyo Fire Department

Review of the response and lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake(1)

Discussions in the “Committee for Technical Investigation on Countermeasures for Earthquakes and Tsunami Based on the Lessons Learned from the 2011 off the Pacific Coast of Tohoku Earthquake”

➤ **Final Report (Sep. 28, 2011)**

Outline of the Final Report on the “Committee for Technical Investigation on Countermeasures for Earthquakes and Tsunami Based on the Lessons Learned from the 2011 off the Pacific Coast of Tohoku Earthquake”

Findings: Excessive dependence on the conventional assumption & coastal protection facilities, and Underestimation of tsunami alarm

→Need for reconstruction of overall disaster prevention plan based on findings & lessons learned



Basic Principle: Reviewing countermeasures toward maximum scale of earthquake / tsunami taking into consideration of every possibility



Probable tsunami cases (2 cases) :

- **The most catastrophic tsunami (even though its occurrence frequency is quite low)**
→Putting top priority on human lives centering on people's evacuation, it is necessary to establish a comprehensive tsunami countermeasures with every possible means.
- **Disastrous tsunami (its occurrence frequency is high but its height is low)**
→ Coastal protection facilities should be developed in view of ensuring efficient product base, stabilization of local economical activities and protection of people's properties, in addition to human life protection.

Revision of “Basic Disaster Management Plan” (Effective on Dec.,2012)

【Contents】

1. **Establishment of a New Chapter of “Countermeasures against Tsunami Disaster”**
2. **Drastic enhancement of earthquake & tsunami countermeasures based on the lessons of the Great East Japan Earthquake**
 - ① Envisage the occurrence of the most devastating earthquake & tsunami considering every possible cases
 - ② Envisage two levels disasters’ occurrence and each countermeasures
 - ③ Build tsunami-resilient cities and towns
 - ④ Disseminate the knowledge of disaster prevention to citizen
 - ⑤ Enhance the implementation structure of research & observation of earthquake & tsunami
 - ⑥ Delivery tsunami alarm and make sure of preparedness for evacuation
 - ⑦ Minimize possible disaster damage caused by quake
3. **Implementation of disaster prevention countermeasures reflecting recently occurred disasters**

(e.g.)

 - Improvement of living environment at evacuation centers & consideration into women’s needs
 - Innovation in wording on flood alarm and evacuation warning messages
 - Provision of information on emergent mudslide disaster for issuing evacuation warning to municipalities
 - Development of practical evacuation plans and volcanic-eruption countermeasures, etc.

Review of the response
and lessons learned from
the Great East Japan Earthquake (2)

**Discussion in the “Council on Disaster
Countermeasures Promotion”**

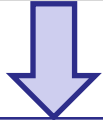
- Interim Report (March 7, 2012)
- Final (July 31, 2012)

Full picture of review for “Disaster Countermeasures Basic Act”

Overall review of have-to disaster prevention countermeasures based on lessons & challenges from the Great East Japan Earthquake

- ◇To protect life from disaster...
- ◇To make a framework to support disaster area...
- ◇To manage evacuation centers in response to specific needs...
- ◇To support affected peoples promptly and generously...
- ◇To prepare mechanism to perform smooth recovery & reconstruction...
- ◇To bear preparedness in mind to survive even catastrophic disaster

Action taken



• Emergent Actions except other than “Action to be taken”

(1) To strengthen prompt reaction against wide-area catastrophe

- Establishment of new provision for interactive backup framework between local authorities by central & local governments, expansion of services

(2) Improving attitude toward affected people at wide-area disaster occurred

- Establishment of scheme to supply relief goods to affected area without fail

(3) To enhance disaster prevention capacities in local areas through the delivery of lessons and education by diverse stakeholders

(4) Others

Action to be taken



- Actions relating to citizen’s right/obligation
- Government function including paying burden

○ Define the philosophy of “disaster risk reduction” and improve awareness of disaster risk prevention by diverse stakeholders

○ Ideal Response to nation-wide emergency caused by natural disasters

○ Improve support quality and quality to affected people

○ Development of the framework of rehabilitation

○ Define the concept of evacuation

○ Review of overall legislation related to disaster prevention, etc.

■ Chapter 1 Basic attitude

Disaster management is one of the most important political responsibility

- Mainstreaming disaster management
- Coordinating public and private sectors
- Regarding disaster damages as the start of reconstructing local communities
- Developing disaster countermeasures as the frontier of Japan
- Prepare for the worst such as national crises level disaster

■ Chapter 2 Basic principles

(Premise)

- Be aware that one disaster can trigger other disasters
- Utilize the latest scientific knowledge
- Check all policies from the view of disaster management

(After a disaster strikes)

- Never base on usual or normal conditions
- Despite few information, realize and predict situations to make decisions timely
- Be aware that all disaster management is a competition with time

(Preparations)

- Combination of tangible and intangible countermeasures
- The power of people to protect their own lives
- Collaboration with the private sector and citizens
- Market that can withstand disaster risks
- No optimism in disaster prevention

(Support for disaster victims and Recovery/Restoration)

- Treat disaster victims to meet their needs with flexibility and agility
- Aim to build back better
- Take regional characteristics and conditions into account

■ Chapter 3 Enhancement of disaster countermeasures

Section 1 Save lives from disasters and support disaster victims

- Initial response to save lives from disasters.
- Early recovery from damage to lifelines
- Detailed support during evacuee life
- Reconstructing livelihoods of disaster victims, etc.

Section 2 Preparations for disaster management

- Enhancement manpower, information system and planning etc.
- Revise management system for natural disasters on a national scale

Section 3 Multilateral efforts to prevent disasters

- Clarification of the basic ideas in disaster prevention, and collaboration by diverse actors
- Land use regulations for a disaster-resistant nation, regions and cities

Section 4 Efforts toward prompt and smooth recovery

Section 5 Concentration all actors` efforts for disaster management

■ Chapter 4 For the enhancement of future disaster countermeasures

Revision of “Disaster Prevention Basic Plan System” (Effective Sept., 2012)

Countermeasures against large-scale & wide-area disaster

1 Strengthening to cope with disaster

- Enhancement of the capabilities of proactive information collection, transmission and sharing in the event of disaster
- Preparedness at normal time for smooth mutual cooperation system among local municipalities
- Enhancement of conclusion of agreements between local municipalities and private sectors
- Implementation of joint drills among diverse stakeholders
- Response to complex disasters

2 Improving attitude toward affected people

- Introduction of frameworks to deliver rescue supplies to affected areas; e.g. starting transportation of supplies without request from local municipalities
- Conclusion of agreement for acceptance of affected people over boundary of local municipalities
- Strengthening of cooperation between a municipality affected by disaster and counterpart municipality which accepts affected people in order to care of the wide-area evacuees.

3 Enhancing disaster risk prevention power in local area through delivering lessons and giving education

- Promotion of succession of lessons learned from disasters
- Promotion of participation of diverse stakeholders in making local disaster management plans. (e.g. women, disabled persons)

Countermeasures against nuclear disaster

1 Strengthening countermeasures against nuclear disaster by central government

- Decision-making by Prime Minister Office & Enhancement of information delivery function
- Clarification of roles for structural and non-structural response

2 On-site Handling (framework and support to accident-shooting activities)

- Enhancement of disaster risk reduction by nuclear operators such as emergency center, backup point and the nuclear rescue force

3 Off-site Handling (protection of citizen and support to affected people)

- Enhancement of measures protecting citizen's security by introduction of preparedness for evacuation procedure plan by area, and, maintenance of framework for emergency monitoring system including definition of disclosure about SPEEDI forecast

4 Enhancing infrastructure and materials & equipment for nuclear disaster prevention

- Formation of communication network using TV conference, etc., connecting Prime Minister Office, Nuclear Control Agency, nuclear operators and governmental offices
- Securement of multi satellite circuit channels & emergency electric power supply, to secure continual communication network even at multi disastrous events

- Reinforcement of off-site facilities (eg strengthening radiation-proof measures, securing alternative facilities)

5 Considering restoring measure

- Stipulation of central government responsibilities about health counseling & decontamination work, after declaration of lifting emergent situation

Contribution of the Government of Japan toward International disaster risk reduction initiatives

- Promotion of Disaster Prevention Mainstreaming
- Revitalizing discussion toward post HFA
- Commitment of USD30 hundred million of assistance for 3 years starting 2013, to enhance comprehensive disaster prevention power by developing economies
- Japan-hosting 2015 the 3rd U.N. Disaster Prevention World Conference



Cabinet Office

Thank you