



Group Meeting on Nuclear Disaster Preparedness
30-31 January 2012
Tokyo, Japan

Meeting summary

(Prepared by Red Cross Nuclear Disaster Resource Center)

Hosted by:	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS)
Participants:	American RC German RC Norwegian RC JRCS IFRC Secretariat (Note: RC = Red Cross/Red Crescent)
Background:	A resolution for nuclear disaster preparedness was adopted at the 2011 IFRC General Assembly, which was held after the Great East Japan Earthquake and the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident. This working group meeting was hosted by the IFRC and the JRCS to work towards operationalizing the resolution.
Objectives:	To review: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experience to date in the RC/RC family dealing with the consequences of nuclear accidents;• Ways of incorporating nuclear disaster preparedness component into the wider disaster and response preparedness in the RC/RC programmes;• Ways to foster regional and cross-border cooperation between the National Societies in preparedness and dealing with consequences of possible nuclear disasters;• Existing state of play and potential for cooperation with the governments and relevant international organizations in nuclear preparedness and safety;• Potential for external advocacy and positioning;• Agenda, preparation, participation and expected outcomes of the National Societies meeting on nuclear disaster preparedness and response, to be hosted by the JRCS later in 2012.
Discussion summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction by and expectations from Mr. Konoe, President of the IFRC and the JRCS:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Importance of operationalizing the resolution- Link up with relevant external organizations – IAEA, UN- Emphasis on information management on preparedness – in most countries lack of information to the general public, RC/RC role here could be relevant and important. Noted that the context is very emotional with the public and there are lots of misconceptions and perceptions about nuclear safety which may be very sensitive.- Establish mechanism of sharing info and experience between the countries and NSs – it is a cross-border issue- RC/RC focus should be on preparedness for addressing humanitarian consequences of nuclear accidents, and in partnership with the international organizations and governments which are more focusing on the technical components



- Important to work out how the RC/RC volunteers network could be better utilized for the above (preparedness, info management)
- Experience in dealing with the consequences of nuclear accidents and findings were shared by the participants including:
 - Importance of collaboration and cooperation between the National Societies and with external partners and governments in preparedness and response due to a cross border nature of radiological effects or risks;
 - Linking nuclear and radiological emergency preparedness with general disaster preparedness;
 - Linking nuclear and radiological emergency preparedness with chemical and biological preparedness;
 - Importance of information management for the public.
- The IFRC Secretariat referred to the following points as well:
 - Provision of operational guidelines to the National Societies on how to build capability and key components of a possible RC/RC response;
 - Consideration of an option of establishing a Reference Centre.
- The outline of the National Societies meeting on nuclear preparedness in Tokyo scheduled for May 2012 was suggested as below.

Date: 14-15 May 2012 – meeting of the technical experts (Operational Segment, with invitation to external speakers);
16 May – meeting with the RC/RC leadership (high level segment). Report back by the expert group

Objectives:

 1. Agree on concrete implementation of the GA resolution
 2. Identify the RC/RC niche and scope
 3. Mobilize the RC/RC leadership commitment
 4. Get better prepared globally

Target participants:

38 National Societies – countries which either have (30) or are building (8) nuclear energy facilities plus interested and active countries, which strongly supported preparation and adoption of the GA resolution (e.g. Austria, Norway)
- The working group gathered in Tokyo will continue to function as a Steering Committee in preparation for the May 2012 meeting and beyond.