

The Japanese Red Cross Society (“JRCS”) carries out its relief activities based on the command specified by the scale of the operation, from the first-level through the third-level relief systems, in accordance with the extent of the disaster as provided by the *Guidelines for JRCS Headquarters Disaster Relief Systems*.

- The First-level Relief System: Directed for small-scale disasters that can be managed by the JRCS chapter responsible for the affected area.
- The Second-level Relief System: Directed for middle-scale disasters that require aid from multiple chapters including those in the adjoining areas, or from the chapters belonging to the entire block* including the affected area.
- The Third-level Relief System: Directed for large-scale, devastating disasters that require all-JRCS relief efforts on a national scale.

Note*: When necessary, the JRCS conducts disaster relief operations in the unit of geographical block, which has been formed by dividing the country into six regions.

In the event that the command for the Third-level Relief System was issued, the “Headquarters of Disaster Control at the JRCS Headquarters” (“HDC”) is organized at the JRCS head office, with the President as Head of the HDC.

In the wake of the March 11, 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, the command for the Third-level Relief System was launched at 15:30.



A screen at the HDC displaying the state of the nuclear accident



Discussion at the HDC



The JRCS staff in full swing at the HDC



Deployment status of the JRCS relief teams plotted on the map at the HDC