

## The Headquarters for Emergency Disaster Control

Pursuant to Article 28, paragraph 2 (*Establishing the Headquarters for Emergency Disaster Control*) of the *Basic Act on Disaster Control Measures*, the Prime Minister may establish the “Headquarters for Emergency Disaster Control” in the Cabinet Office, after presenting the subject to the Cabinet, if he/she “deems it imperative in order to facilitate the disaster response for the current calamity, when extremely unusual and catastrophic emergency/disaster took place”.

In the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake (initially named *2011 Tohoku Region Off-the-Pacific-Coast Earthquake*) on March 11, 2011, the “2011 Tohoku Region Off-the-Pacific-Coast Earthquake Headquarters for Emergency Disaster Control” was established at 15:14, with the Prime Minister as its Director General.

## Declaration of a Nuclear Emergency Situation

The “Declaration of a Nuclear Emergency Situation” is issued by the Prime Minister on condition that the events defined by Article 15 (*Declaration of a Nuclear Emergency Situation, etc.*) of the [Act on Special Measures Concerning Nuclear Emergency Preparedness](#) are thought to have occurred.

Following the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011, the Declaration of a Nuclear Emergency Situation was launched for the Fukushima Daiichi and Daini Nuclear Power Plants at 19:03 on March 11 and 7:45 on March 12, respectively, of which the latter was lifted on December 26, 2011.

### Declaration of a Nuclear Emergency Situation

“At 16:36 on March 11, 2011, an event that falls under the criteria provided in Article 15, paragraph 1, item (ii) of the *Act on Special Measures Concerning Nuclear Emergency Preparedness* occurred at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant operated by Tokyo Electric Power Company, for which we recognized the need for emergency response to ensure the prevention of the potential spread of nuclear disaster. Accordingly, the Declaration of a Nuclear Emergency Situation has now been issued.”

“Declaration of a Nuclear Emergency Situation” issued for the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant  
Source: The Cabinet Office Website

## 2011

### Nuclear Accident Course of Events

<b>Mar 11</b>	14:46 The Great East Japan Earthquake struck. 14:49 Major Tsunami Warning issued. 15:14 The Headquarters for Emergency Disaster Control established. 19:03 Declaration of a Nuclear Emergency Situation issued for the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.
<b>Mar 12</b>	07:45 Declaration of a Nuclear Emergency Situation issued for the Fukushima Daini Nuclear Power Plant. 15:36 Reactor 1 of the Fukushima Daiichi NPP exploded.
<b>Mar 13</b>	
<b>Mar 14</b>	11:01 Reactor 3 of the Fukushima Daiichi NPP exploded.
<b>Mar 15</b>	Around 06:00 Explosive sound suggestive of damage noted at Reactor 2 of the Fukushima Daiichi NPP. Around 06:00 Reactor 4 of the Fukushima Daiichi NPP exploded.
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<b>Dec 26</b>	Declaration of a Nuclear Emergency Situation for the Fukushima Daini Nuclear Power Plant lifted.