

Follow up of the UNSCEAR 2013 Report: Developments and Outline [Reference]

Even after the publication of the UNSCEAR 2013 Report*, related pieces of scientific information have been disclosed and released.

As such newly available information may affect the assessment results (confirmation of, objection to or enhancement of findings, or responses or contributions to identified research needs, etc.), the UNSCEAR conducts follow-up activities in two phases as follows.

Phase I: Ascertain and evaluate scientific information disclosed after the publication of the 2013 Report that has relevance to the content of the report, in a systematic and ongoing manner

Phase II: Consider an update of the 2013 Report at an appropriate time

The results of the follow-up activities are compiled as a white paper and a report. The UNSCEAR publicized three white papers by the end of 2017 and a report in March 2021.

* "Levels and Effects of Radiation Exposure due to the Nuclear Accident after the 2011 Great East-Japan Earthquake and Tsunami" (released in 2014)

Follow up of the UNSCEAR 2013 Report: Major Conclusions [Reference]

The 2015 White Paper, 2016 White Paper and 2017 White Paper publicized so far concluded that there were no newly released publications that would materially affect the main findings in, or challenge the major assumptions of, the 2013 Report. These White Papers also selected and compiled publications that would contribute to research needs identified in the 2013 Report. The conclusions of the latest 2017 White Paper (publicized in October 2017) are summarized as follows.

Conclusions (from the Executive Summary of the 2017 White Paper)

- A large proportion of new publications that the UNSCEAR reviewed have again confirmed the main assumptions and findings of the 2013 Report.
- None of the publications have materially affected the main findings in, or challenged the major assumptions of, the 2013 Report.
- A few have been identified for which further analysis or more conclusive evidence from additional research is needed.
- On the basis of the material reviewed, the Committee sees no need, at the current time, to make any change to its assessment or its conclusions. However, several of the research needs identified by the Committee have yet to be addressed fully by the scientific community.