WHO Reports and UNSCEAR 2013 Report (1/3) Comparison of Assessments (1/2): Overview

	WHO	UNSCEAR
Purpose	To estimate health risks of residents due to radiation exposure for the first one year after the accident (conservative assessment)	To compile obtained information and make an assessment To provide scientific knowledge (realistic assessment)
Content	Preliminary dose estimation Health risk assessment	Time chart and analyses of the nuclear accident of the nuclear accident Release and diffusion of radioactive materials Public exposure doses Cocupational exposure doses Health effects Exposure doses and risk assessment for non-human biota
Time of assessment	Immediately after the accident (data up to September 2011) Data immediately after the accident contains inaccurate information.	After the elapse of a certain period of time from the accident (data up to September 2012) More recent data, if appropriate, is also taken into consideration.
Time of release	Dose assessment: May 2012 Health risk assessment: February 2013	April 2014
Conclusion	The possibility of increases in diseases due to radiation released as a result of the latest nuclear accident is small, and risk increases are ignorable in Japan except for some areas in Fukushima Prefecture, as well as in neighboring countries.	Lifetime doses that the Japanese people will receive due to the nuclear accident are small and it is hardly likely that any health effects of radiation will be observed among Japanese people in the future.

Reports by the World Health Organization (WHO) on dose estimation and health risk assessment*¹ and the 2013 Annual Report by the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) *² are compared and their outlines and key points are introduced here.

The purpose of the WHO Reports is to estimate people's exposure doses for the first one year after the accident and identify areas requiring emergency measures. Therefore, the WHO provisionally assessed the residents' health risks based on limited information available and released the preliminary dose estimation report in May 2012. Later, the WHO released preliminary health risk assessment report in February 2013.

In the meantime, the UNSCEAR regularly reports the status of radiation exposure of respective countries all over the world based on its scientific review of information. It has been continuing research and analysis of the effects of the Chernobyl NPS Accident for years and it also released the report on the effects of radiation exposure caused by Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO)'s Fukushima Daiichi NPS in April 2014.

(Related to p.190 of Vol. 1, "WHO Reports (1/4) Outline of the WHO's Dose Assessment" and p.195 of Vol. 1, "UNSCEAR 2013 Report (2/9) Outline of Assessment of Public Exposure Doses")

- *1: WHO Reports on preliminary dose estimation and health risk assessment:
- Preliminary dose estimation from the nuclear accident after the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami (2012)
- Health risk assessment from the nuclear accident after the 2011 Great East Japan earthquake and tsunami, based on a preliminary dose estimation (2013)
- *2: 2013 Annual Report by the UNSCEAR:
- SOURCES, EFFECTS AND RISKS OF IONIZING RADIATION UNSCEAR 2013, Report, Volume
 I, REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SCIENTIFIC ANNEX A: Levels and effects of radiation
 exposure due to the nuclear accident after the 2011 great east-Japan earthquake and tsunami (2013)

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