

The Start of N-20 Meeting

1991

“By the global environmental problem, drastic changes in the U.S.S.R. and the East European countries, the Gulf War and other related complicated affairs in the world, the situation surrounding energy/nuclear issues have been seriously affected. Japan and France, in this situation, have been making all possible efforts for the overall development of nuclear energy, because they do not have special natural resources in their countries.”

“It is extremely significant that the competent responsible persons of France and Japan keep continuously exchanging views and information on their country's nuclear development plan and its background in a frank manner in order not only to promote development of nuclear power generation but also to strengthen their cooperative relationship.”

“Thus the persons concerned in France and Japan agreed to set up a periodical meeting called “N-20” under the principles mentioned below.”

- a) So as to make the discussion in the N-20 meeting actually frank and fruitful, the experts concerned of France and Japan have agreed on the rules as below with each other from the beginning:
- b) The number of the members to participate in the meeting is limited to 10 for each side. The total number becomes 20. It can be said that the nickname of "N-20" may be originated from this number. The members are fixed as much as possible so as to foster friendship among them.
- c) The minutes of the meeting does not be taken.
- d) The opinions delivered in the meeting are fundamentally considered as "personal" ones. It is not allowed to quote "who said what".
- e) The principle of sharing costs for organizing the N-20 meeting is mutually well understood.



1st N-20, Saclay, 1991



