

UNSCEAR Event: Presentation of the UNSCEAR 2020 Report

Tuesday 9 March 2021, 12-13.30 CET

Opening Remarks: Borislava Batandjieva-Metcalf, Secretary, UNSCEAR

Excellencies, Chair, Experts, dear colleagues, it is my honour and my pleasure to welcome you to the annual UNSCEAR presentation to Permanent Missions and this year also extended to decision makers and scientific community worldwide.

While we had hoped that we could have had this event in person last year, the pandemic had continued and impacted our lives in many ways. Despite that, I am pleased to say that UNSCEAR and the secretariat were able to adapt quickly and effectively, to the new normal.

To highlight some of the milestones and achievements from 2020, the Committee held its first online session last November and adopted three reports:

- An evaluation of medical exposure to ionizing radiation;
- Biological mechanisms relevant for the inference of cancer risks from low-dose and low dose rate radiation,

And finally, the one that we are presenting to you today:

- Levels and effects of radiation exposure due to the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station: implications of information published since the [2013 UNSCEAR Report](#). The Committee has been following the latest research and scientific data on the issue since its last publication in 2014.

It is hard to believe that it has already been 10 years since the triple tragedy in Japan, and to commemorate this tragic event, the UNSCEAR secretariat has organized this online event and launch of the report.

Joining us today, it is my great pleasure to welcome the UNSCEAR Chair, lead writers and experts who will present the main findings of the report.

Before we start, I would like to inform you that we will address Q posed prior to the event and during the event via the chat box after we listen to all presentations. We will address as many questions as we can and in case time is not sufficient, the secretariat will share the responses to the remaining questions after the event.

Finally, I have the pleasure of sharing with you a message of the Secretary-General of the UN, António Guterres, released on the 10th anniversary of this accident.

PAUSE

Thank you, and also to the Secretary-General for his recognition of the work of the Scientific Committee.

I would now like to hand over to the Chair, Ms. Gillian Hirth. Gillian, you have the floor.

CLOSING

I would like to sincerely thank you for your participation, our Chair, all experts, the Committee contributing to this evaluation, UN colleagues for publication of the report. The Report is now available on the UNSCEAR website.

The Report will be available in Japanese in the next few months.

Please share feedback with the secretariat, on whether you would welcome more such technical briefings on UNSCEAR reports, either on webinars or in person.

Thank you once again and wish you a pleasant rest of the week!