

We have suffered a great disaster by earthquake and Tsunami in the east part of the Japanese main island, but ISETS in Nagoya shall be held in the next December as planned.

Dear Colleagues:

On the 11th of March, the east part of Japanese main island (Tohoku district around Sendai city) has suffered a very strong earthquake and an unexpected big Tsunami. More than 10 thousands people died and similar numbers of people are still missing. This is the most greatest earthquake in Japanese history, and that is very much tragic.

However, the capital function in Tokyo is with no problem and the Japanese government makes a maximum effort to reconstruct the destroyed areas. On an occasion of the disaster, nuclear reactors in Fukushima prefecture were broken, particularly by Tsunami. Fortunately, the reactors were automatically stopped, but electric power for the cooling system was shut down by the Tsunami. Overheat of nuclear reactors and storage pools for used nuclear fuels happened. Our governmental agencies made various kinds of cooling actions by flowing sea water into the overheat areas. Then, around March 23, the temperatures of the areas are stabilized less than 50 degree Celsius. Also additional electric power plants in place of the original ones were constructed in order to cool the total system in an ordinary way. During these kinds of treatment on the reactors and pools, a slight amount of radioactive iodine and cesium was released into air. Then radioactivity level in air increased a little bit, which is truly within human safety.

Based on this estimation, people even in Tokyo areas still lives and works in an ordinary way, and those in Nagoya and Osaka areas has not any problem and the radioactivity level is ordinary, which is perfectly safe, because Nagoya is far from the Fukushima prefecture by more than 450 km. The present radioactive level in Nagoya is 0.050-0.070 micro-Sivert(Sv)/hr. The detail values of the present radioactivity in Japan can be viewed in a governmental HP as shown below

http://eq.wide.ad.jp/index_en.html

Judging from the information, we hope that the ISETS in the next December shall be held in Nagoya University as planned. One of the tips may be to use Osaka(KIXS) and Nagoya(NGO) international airport for your visit to Nagoya City, rather than Tokyo-Narita international airport.