

Cabinet Approves Fundamental Principles for the Nuclear Policy Program

On October 14, the Cabinet approved the Fundamental Principles for the Nuclear Policy Program that had been compiled by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). The task for the future, over the next decade or so, is to get related ministries, agencies and other organizations to adopt policies in line with the basic outlines described in the Program.

Every five years or so since 1956, the AEC had regularly drawn up a Long-term Program relating to national nuclear policy, which the governmental ministers in charge then referred to the Cabinet for discussion. The recent bureaucratic transfer of the AEC to the Cabinet Office, however, has meant that the organization has assumed the new role of indicating to the various ministries, bureaus and agencies the general direction that basic policy is to take. That, in turn, prompted the name change of the plan from "Long-term Program" to the "Fundamental Principles for the Nuclear Policy Program." It was also determined to put the new Program up for Cabinet approval, a much more important action in terms of position.

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