

New President Named at JAEA

On December 22, Pres. Yuichi Tonozuka of the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA) announced that he would resign his post effective December 31, and would be replaced on January 1 by Vice President Toshio Okazaki. The new JAEA Vice President will be Vice President Yuichi Hayase of the Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO).

On the same day, at a press conference held at the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Pres. Tonozuka said that he resolved to resign his position recently as he felt that he had "fulfilled his duties," realizing that "a certain level of progress had been reached" concerning issues faced by the newly reorganized JAEA since its establishment two years ago, including the refurbishing work at the fast breeder reactor (FBR) Monju and the disposal of the uranium soil (waste rock) from the Ningyo-Toge site.

Meanwhile, the incoming Pres. Okazaki said that his primary concern was the establishment of the nuclear fuel cycle, and pledged moreover to reinforce links with industry and academe. He also stated that he looked forward to the management prowess displayed by the incoming Vice Pres. Hayase in the private sector so as to promote the realization of FBRs.

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