

## **IAEA to Hold Workshop in Kashiwazaki on Seismic Safety of Nuclear Power Plants**

From June 19 to 21, the International Atomic Energy Agency is to hold an international workshop in Kashiwazaki City (Niigata Prefecture) concerning the seismic safety of nuclear power plants (NPPs), focusing on the lessons learned from strong earthquakes.

The workshop will not be limited to the effects of the giant Niigata Chuetsu Offshore Earthquake (magnitude 6.6) that struck the Kashiwazaki Kariwa Nuclear Power Station on July 16, 2007, but will take a broader tack, looking at the experience of NPPs worldwide in the face of earthquake disasters. Exchanges of opinions will be held on the information gained and the lessons learned.

There will also be reports and opinion exchanges of a highly technical nature, with experts participating from various fields related to earthquakes and NPPs, such as geologists. Simultaneous interpretation (Japanese, English) will also be provided.

On the 19<sup>th</sup>, experts will present various reports, and opinion exchanges will be held. On the 20<sup>th</sup>, then, in addition to experts' reports, an on-site inspection tour will be organized to the Kashiwazaki Kariwa NPS site for foreign participants. On the final day, June 21, reports will be given about the anti-seismic design of existing NPPs, as well as the efforts currently being made to improve such design. A round-table discussion by IAEA and Japanese experts will also be conducted on the final day.

To participate in the workshop, it is necessary to make an application to the IAEA via one's own government's official organization. IAEA's Web site can be found at <http://www.iaea.org/>

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