

JAEA Expands Cooperation with EDF on Fast Reactors

On October 1, the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA) signed an agreement with Electricité de France (EDF) concerning technological cooperation on fast reactor systems. JAEA President Toshio Okazaki and Senior Executive Vice President Bernard Dupraz of EDF were the two signatories.

In 1995, the two parties had originally concluded an agreement on technological cooperation for the operation and maintenance of fast reactors, particularly the prototype fast breeder reactor (FBR) "Monju" in Japan and the demonstration fast breeder reactor "Superphenix" in France. That has now been revised to expand cooperation to include fast reactor systems. The agreement includes three major items: (1) exchanging information on operation and maintenance at Monju, the experimental fast reactor "Joyo" in Japan, and Superphenix, (2) exchanging information on design requirements and design concepts for commercial and demonstration (prototype) sodium-cooled fast reactors, and (3) providing venues for personnel training.

Previously, in 2005, JAEA already concluded a framework agreement with the Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique (CEA) concerning cooperation in the fields of R&D of nuclear reactor and next-generation nuclear energy systems.

Editor: Mio Kimuro, JAIF