NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Center, Camp Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines

13 March 2011

PRESS STATEMENT re Nuclear Emergency in Japan

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) convened a meeting this afternoon to discuss contingency plans in connection with potential effects on the Philippines of the nuclear emergency in Fukushima, Japan.

Representatives from the DOST-PNRI (Philippine Nuclear Research Institute) and DOST-PAGASA, briefed member-agencies of the NDRRMC on possible scenarios arising from the damage sustained by the cooling system at the Fukushima nuclear power plant.

At present, there is no immediate threat to the Philippines.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and DOST-PNRI are monitoring the situation in Fukushima, particularly the efforts of the Japanese Government to contain the damage.

In the event the Philippines will be affected, the NDRRMC will put into action the existing National Radiological Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (RADPLAN) that covers nuclear emergencies such as this.

The RADPLAN establishes an organized emergency response capability for timely, coordinated action of Philippine authorities in a peacetime radiological incident or emergency. Participating agencies such as the PNRI and the Office of Civil Defense are given authority and responsibilities for coordinating activities of other agencies involved.

Advisories will be issued by the DOST-PNRI to update the public on developments.

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