Today, I would like to focus on three points: the establishment of International Nuclear Energy Development of Japan Co., Ltd., efforts to win public understanding of the geological disposal of radioactive waste, and participation in an event in conjunction with the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

## 1. Establishment of International Nuclear Energy Development of Japan Co., Ltd.

The first topic is the establishment of a new company. On October 22, International Nuclear Energy Development of Japan Co., Ltd., or JINED for short, will be jointly established by 13 companies, comprising the nine electric power companies which we represent, Toshiba Corporation, Hitachi, Ltd., Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd., and Innovation Network Corporation of Japan. JINED will make proposals to countries that are about to introduce nuclear power and try to win orders for projects.

Mr. Ichiro Takekuro, a fellow of The Tokyo Electric Power Company, Incorporated (TEPCO), will serve as President (CEO) of JINED. Currently, JINED is working to win an order for the nuclear power plant being planned in Ninh Thuận Province, Vietnam, such as by proposing plans for power plant construction and human resources development based on Vietnam's needs.

The establishment of JINED will lead to a full-fledged public-private framework, the first in this field in Japan, which will make it possible to deliver comprehensive proposals from the viewpoint of both plant builders and operators, backed by national support including better arrangements (such as bilateral nuclear cooperation agreements) and financing.

In particular, the electric power industry can:

- (1) contribute to enhancing the safety and reliability of nuclear power generation in project countries by providing Japan's expertise in the construction, operation, and maintenance of highly safe and reliable nuclear power stations;
- (2) maintain and raise the engineering skills of the nuclear power industry and the strength of human resources in Japan; and
- (3) acquire more data on the safe operation of Japanese reactors, etc., by exporting the same models as those used in Japan.

We expect that JINED will reinforce and develop the foundation of Japan's nuclear power industry.

Prior to establishing JINED, the top executives of three electric power companies and three manufacturers, Mr. Ichiro Takekuro, fellow of TEPCO, and the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry visited Vietnam in late August to make comprehensive proposals to Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung and ministers.

Japan's New Growth Strategy, which was approved at a Cabinet meeting in June, focuses on "overseas development of infrastructure package projects." Winning the order for the nuclear power plant project in Vietnam would constitute a major stepping-stone for increasing the international presence of Japan's nuclear power industry. I hope that we can make steady progress and receive the order.

2. Efforts to win public understanding of the deep geological disposal of radioactive waste

Let me move on to our efforts to win public understanding of the geological disposal of
radioactive waste.

To build a geological repository, it is indispensable to gain a good public understanding, including recognition of local residents around candidate sites. The Nuclear Waste Management Organization of Japan (NUMO), which takes the initiative in promoting projects for building a geological repository, is running a campaign entitled "Let's think now, about the geological disposal of radioactive waste!" from October 1 through December 5.

This intensive campaign includes newspaper and TV ads, man-in-the-street interviews, and other activities to reach out to as many citizens as possible and encourage them to think about geological disposal "as their own issue."

Meanwhile, the national government has designated October as "publicity month for the geological disposal of radioactive waste," and seminars and workshops have been held around Japan.

As part of NUMO's campaign, the Energy Talk Live will be held in collaboration with Yoshimoto Kogyo Co., Ltd., a major Japanese entertainment conglomerate, tomorrow on October 16 in Marunouchi, Tokyo. Similar events will be held in five cities across Japan.

On display behind me are a full-scale model of vitrified waste and a conceptual image of a geological repository that will be exhibited at the event venue. They will be available for you to

take a closer look at later on. The exhibition space of the venue will be staffed by employees from electric power companies in different regions, to work with NUMO in raising awareness.

The full-scale model of vitrified waste will also be exhibited at the reception desk of the Federation of Electric Power Companies of Japan (FEPC) from the end of October.

The electric power companies of Japan are also raising public awareness by printing information on the back side of meter-reading slips and by using electric power companies' PR facilities in cities and at power plants as well as the exhibition space at the Science Museum in Kitanomaru, Tokyo.

3. Participation in an event in conjunction with the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the Convention on Biological Diversity

The final topic is our participation in an event held in conjunction with the COP10 meeting in Nagoya from October 18 to discuss and verify the status of fulfilling the 2010 Biodiversity Target and to set new targets.

The Interactive Fair for Biodiversity is being held from October 11 through 29 in the area adjacent to the Nagoya Congress Center (COP10 venue).

The electric power industry is working in line with the Action Guidelines for Biodiversity that was created in April 2010.

Specific efforts are described in our pamphlet. To publicize the work of Japan's electric power industry, FEPC has set up an exhibition booth at the Interactive Fair for Biodiversity.

I hope you will take the opportunity to visit our booth and report on it.

Thank you for your kind attention.