



**Global 2005**

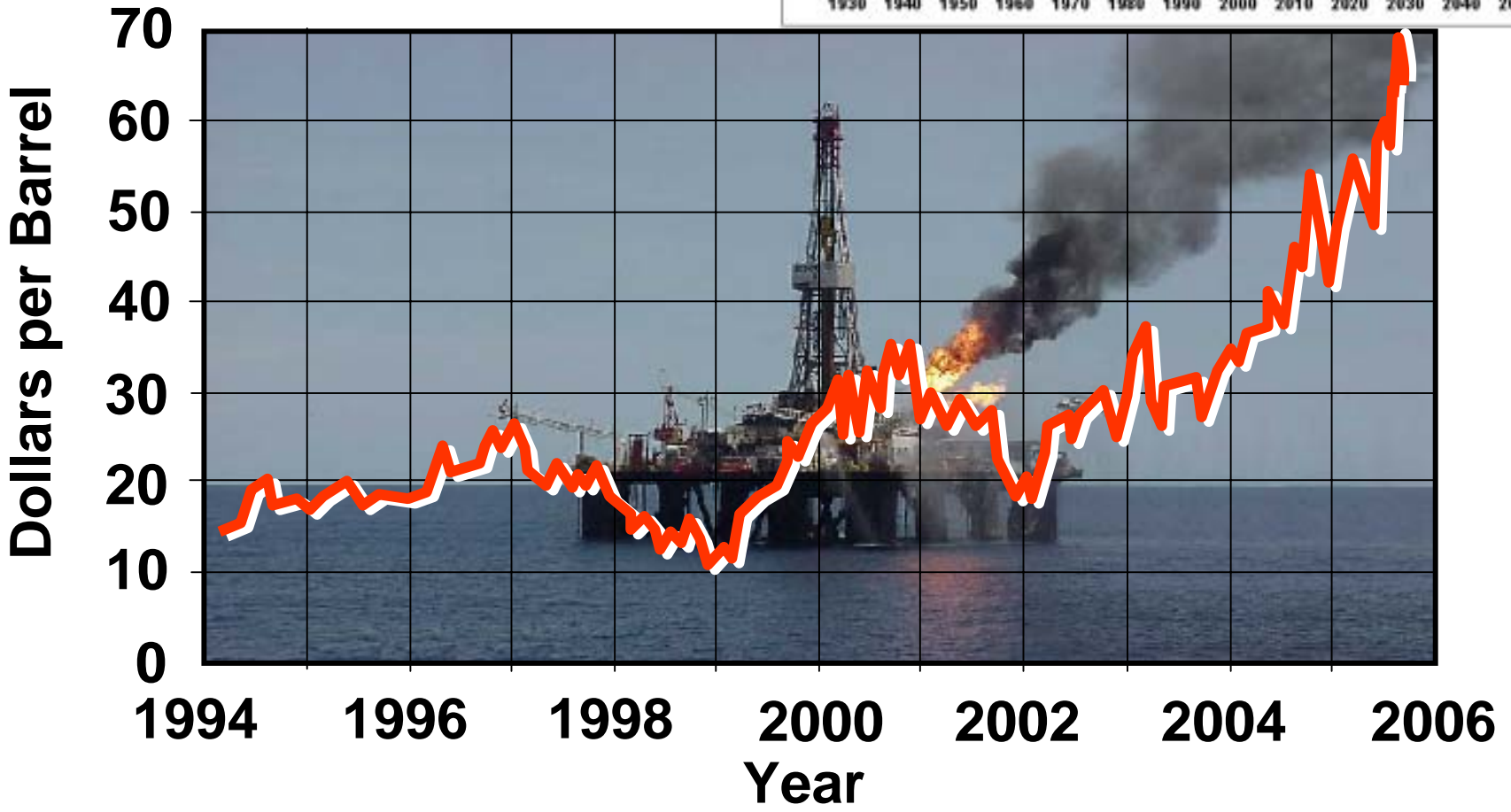
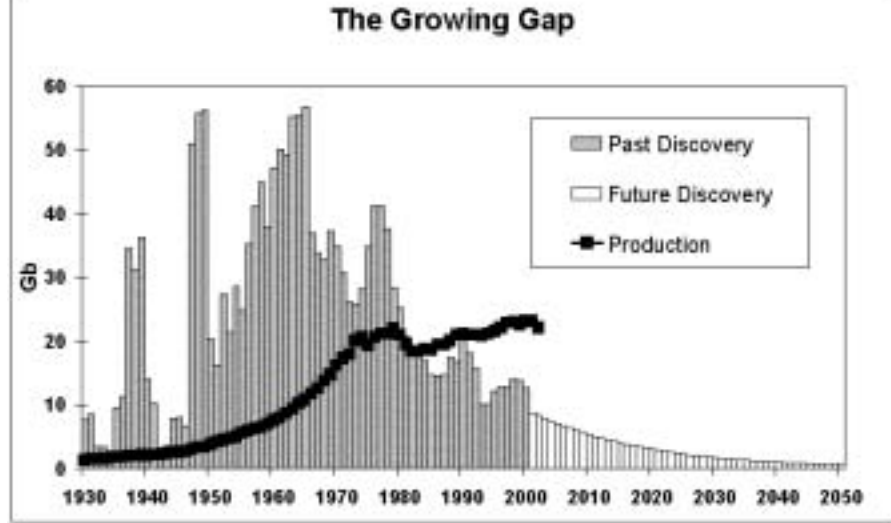
**October 10 – 13, 2005, Tsukuba, Japan**

# **Civilian Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Nonproliferation Norms**

**Tomio KAWATA**  
**Executive Officer**  
**Japan Atomic Energy Agency**  
**(JAEA)**



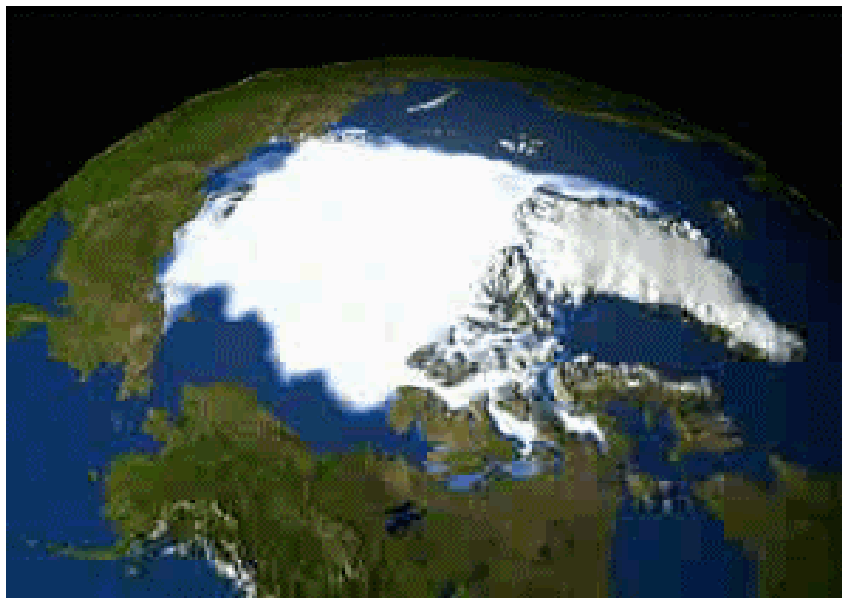
# Rise of Oil Prices



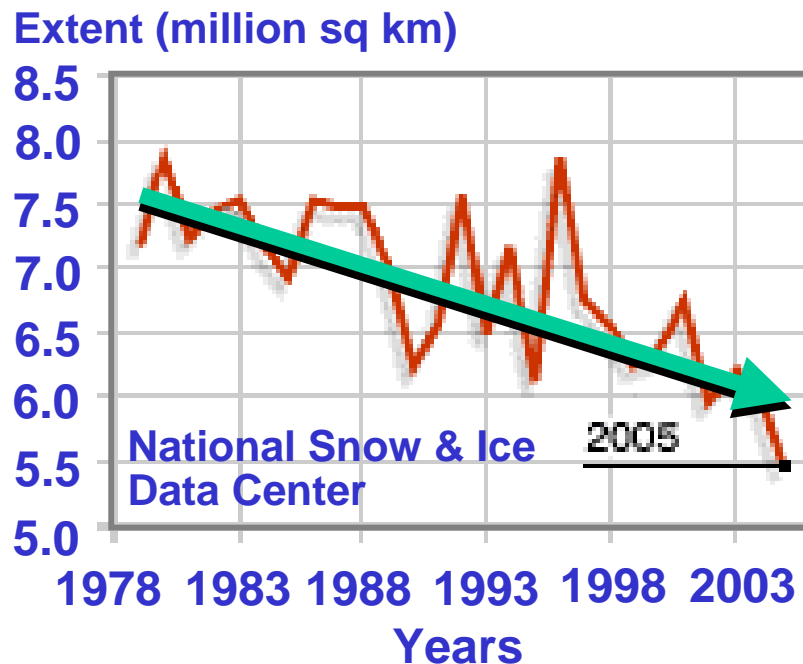


# Arctic Ice Is Melting !

- Rate of shrinkage of the area covered by ice = 8% per decade (September trend)
- At this rate there may be no ice at all during the summer of 2060 !



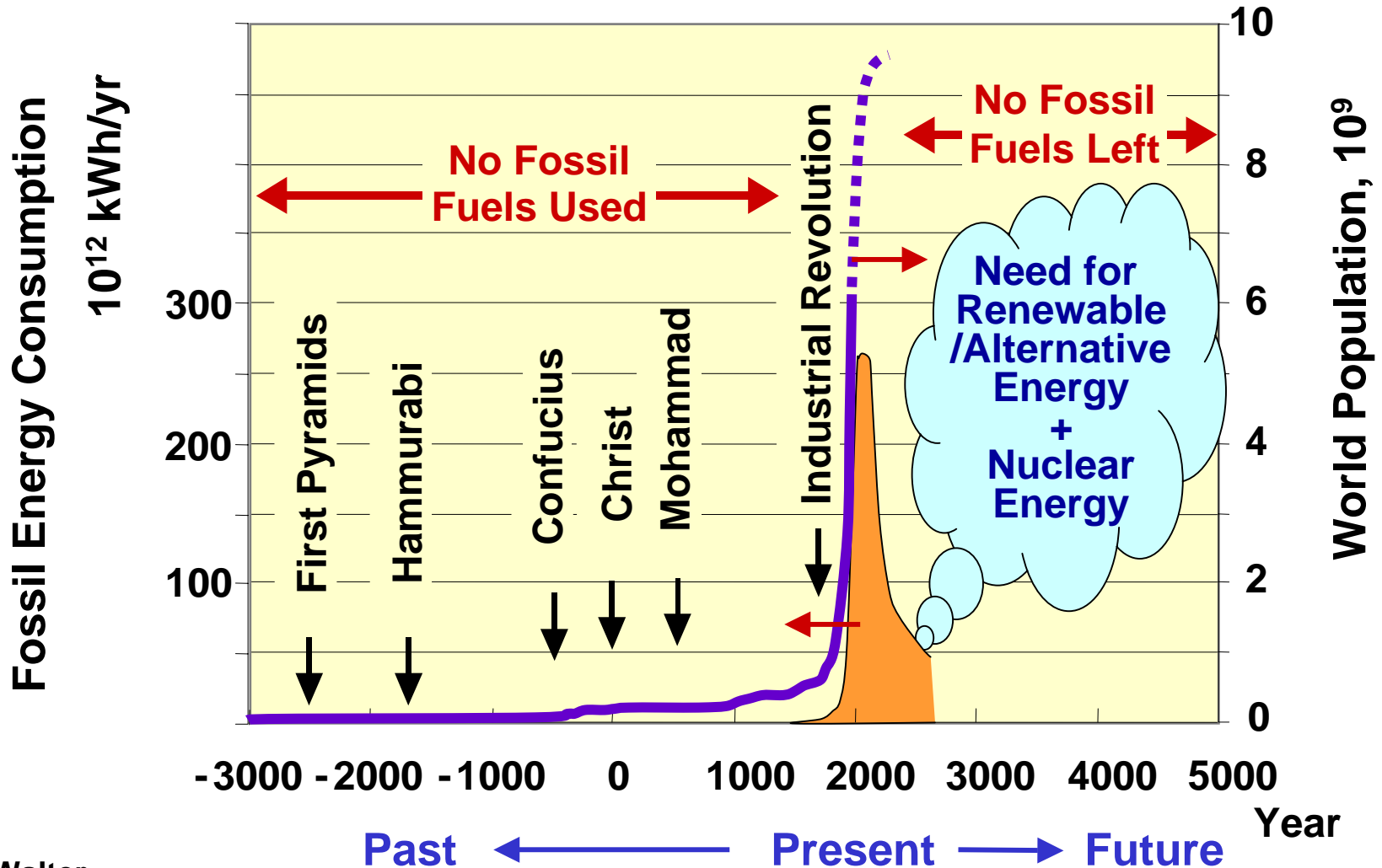
NASA



# Gigantic Hurricanes and Typhoons



# Sustained use of nuclear energy is indispensable for our future generations





# Sustainability of nuclear energy

- **Sustainability of fuel supply**
- **Sustained availability of waste (HLW) repositories**

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- **Economical competitiveness**
- **Safety**
- **Compatibility with nonproliferation norms**



# World Installed Capacity Sorted by Fuel Cycle Policies



Direct Disposal  
or Wait & See  
(excl. USA)

27 %

Direct  
Disposal  
(USA)

27 %

Reprocessing  
and Partial  
Reprocessing

46 %

World net installed  
capacity = 368 GWe  
(as of end of 2004)

# Three fundamental problems in direct disposal option

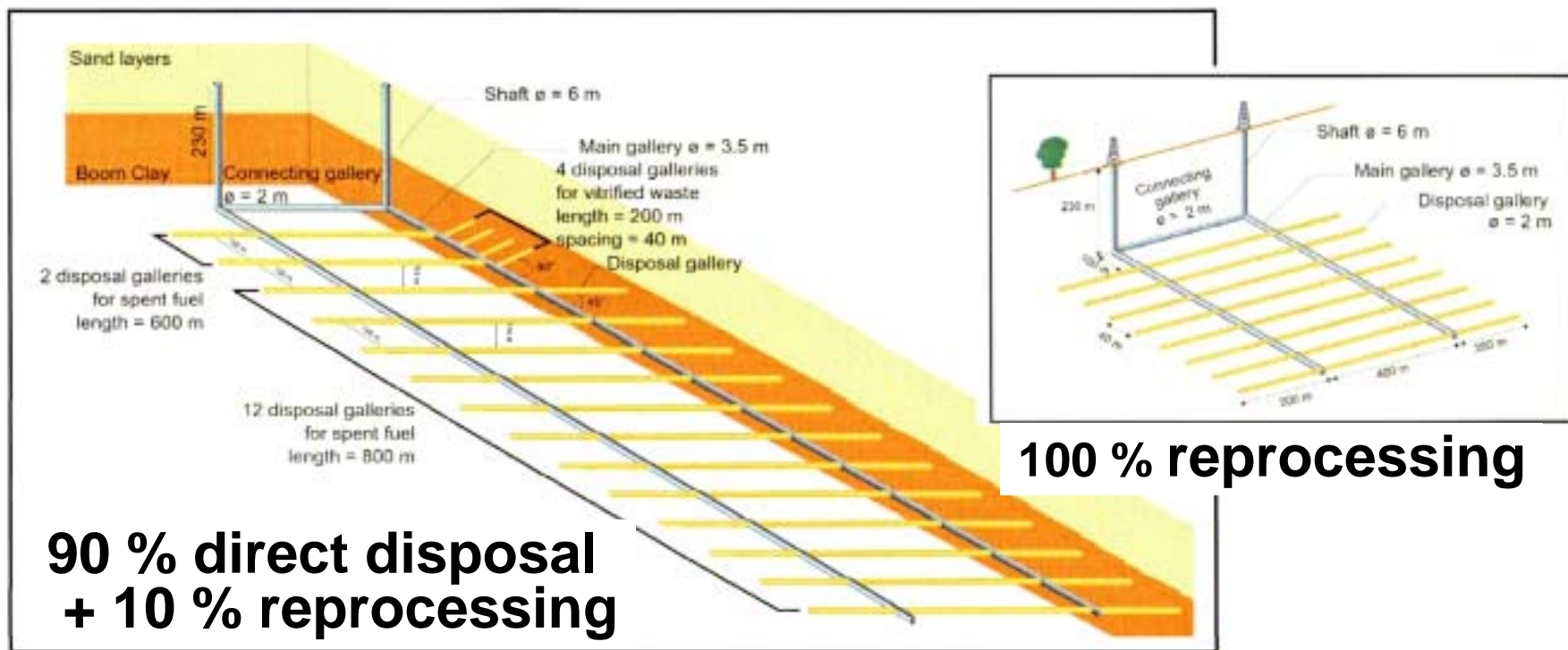


- **Extremely low uranium utilization efficiency (<1%)**
- **Need for larger HLW repository space due to larger volume and larger heat load of waste packages**
- **Formation of plutonium mines**
  - **More than 8,000 tons of Pu will be buried by 2100**
  - **100 years later, access becomes easier, and plutonium properties become more attractive for weapon use**

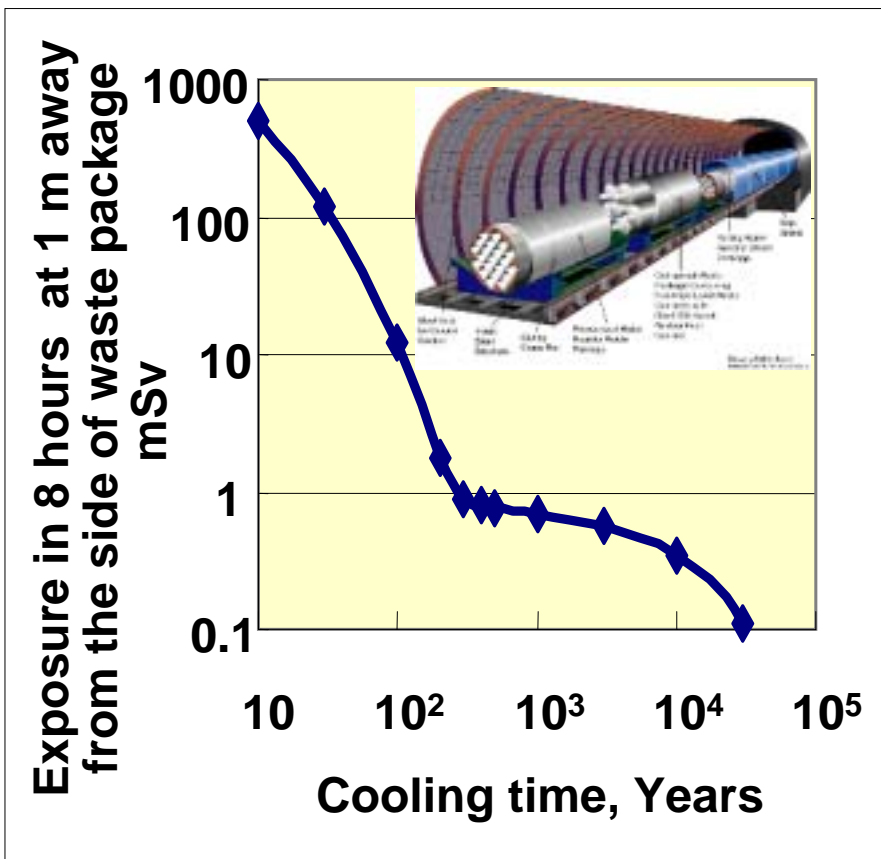


# Direct Disposal vs. Vitrified HLW Disposal - Belgian Case -

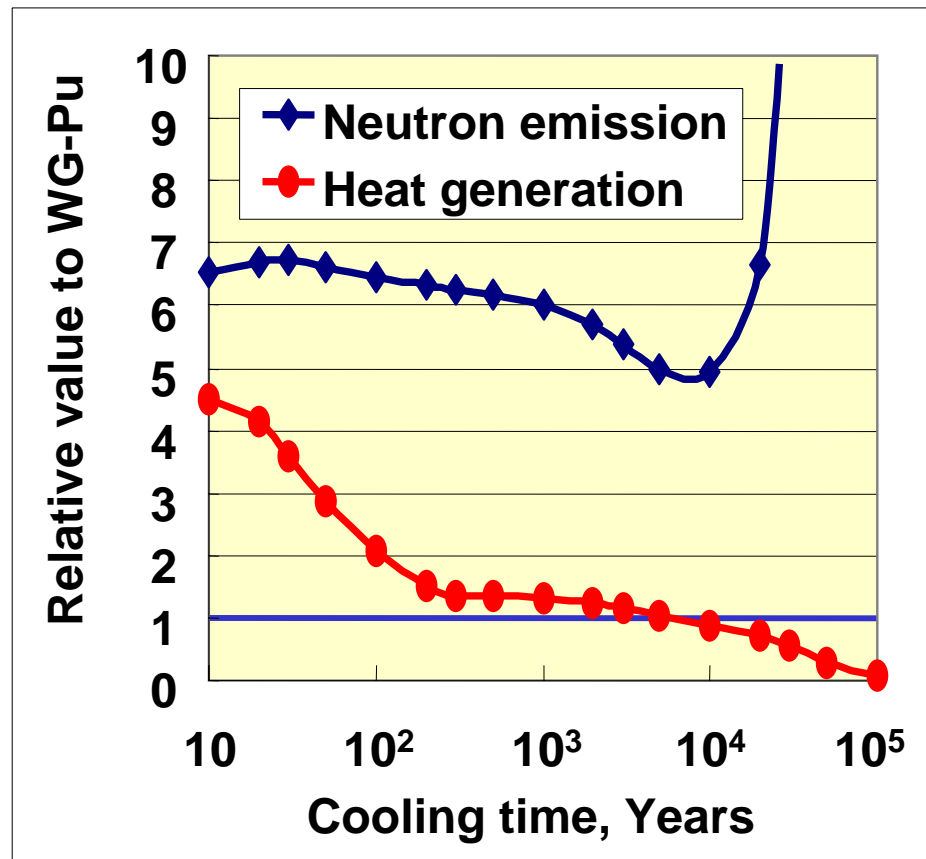
- SAFIR 2 Report (December 2001)
- **Direct disposal requires 6 times larger space than vitrified waste disposal**



# 100 years later, access becomes easier and plutonium becomes more attractive in direct disposal



Radiation exposure



Plutonium properties



## For countries with large-scale nuclear power program (> 20 GWe),

- **Endless reliance on once-through option would be problematic because of**
  - **Need for unrealistically large number of HLW repositories**
  - **Imposition of uncontrollable proliferation risk upon future generations**
- **Recycle option will solve these problems**
- **Needless to say, the compatibility with non-proliferation norms is prerequisite for recycle option**



## For countries with relatively small-scale nuclear power program,

- **Once-through option will continue to be a reasonable choice, because:**
  - Recycle option will not be economically justifiable due to lack of scale merit
  - Spent fuel discharge rate is low and space requirement for HLW repository remains modest
- **Building a limited number of centralized regional repositories under multi-national or international control is strongly recommended in order to avoid the risk of forming too many small plutonium mines spread throughout the world**

# Fuel Cycle Options for Countries with Large-scale Nuclear Power Program (>20 GWe)

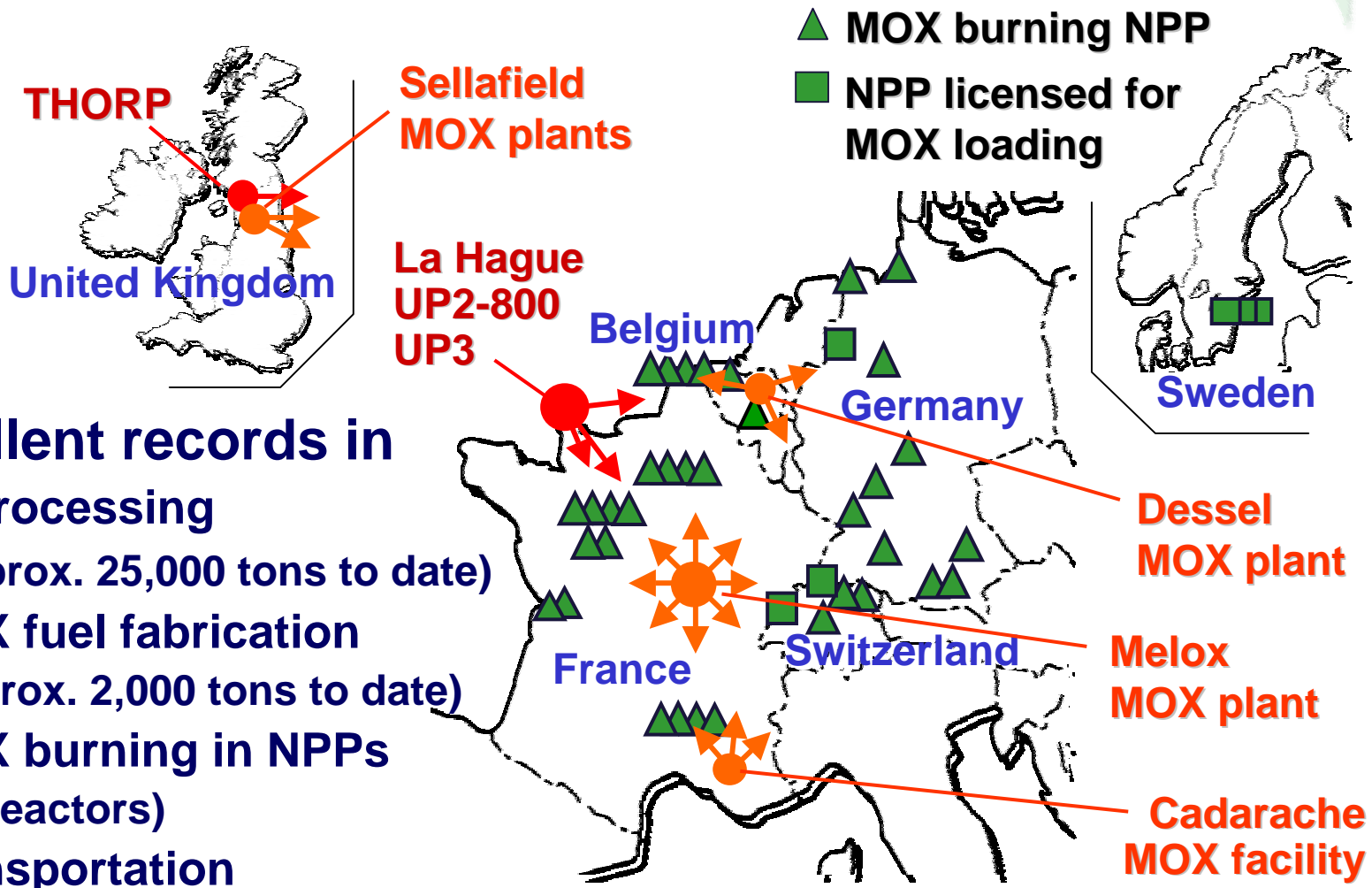
Country	Number of NPPs*	Installed Capacity (GWe) *	Current Policy	Future Options
USA	103	97.5	Direct Disposal	Proliferation-resistant closed cycle (R&D under AFCI)
France	59	63.5	Closed Cycle	Closed cycle with FBR
Japan	52	46.3	Closed Cycle	Closed cycle with FBR
Germany	19	22.4	Nuclear phase-out	-
Russia	30	21.7	Closed Cycle	Closed cycle with FBR
South Korea	19	16.8 (26.1 by 2015)	Direct Disposal	DUPIK cycle (Study on FR is also in progress)
China	9	6.6 (32- 36 by 2020)	Closed Cycle	Closed cycle with FBR
India	14	2.5 (20.9 by 2020)	Closed Cycle	Closed U/Pu cycle with FBR or thorium cycle with AHWR



# Is the compatibility between nonproliferation norms and civilian nuclear fuel cycle achievable ?

- **Yes**
- **There are examples which show that the compatibility is achievable in modern industrialized countries**
  - **Western Europe**
  - **Japan**

# Reprocessing and MOX fuel utilization in Europe



## Excellent records in

- Reprocessing (approx. 25,000 tons to date)
- MOX fuel fabrication (approx. 2,000 tons to date)
- MOX burning in NPPs (35 reactors)
- Transportation

(Commercial production terminated)

# Japan – unique case

- Only one country with full-scope nuclear fuel cycle as NNWS under NPT



**Rokkasho  
Enrichment Plant**



**53 LWRs (47 GWe)**



**Rokkasho  
Reprocessing Plant**

**MOX Fuel Fabrication  
Plant in Tokai**



**Prototype  
FBR Monju**



**Tokai  
Reprocessing Plant**



# Japan – unique case

First country with nuclear power and fuel cycle program to qualify for Integrated Safeguards



**“I am pleased to note that Japan has become the first State with an advanced nuclear cycle to qualify for integrated safeguards”**

**Statement by IAEA DG El Baradei to 2004 IAEA General Conference (20 September 2004)**

# How has Japan succeeded in achieving the status of an Integrated Safeguards state ?



## - Five key background elements -

- (1) Obvious need of fuel cycle program
- (2) Country's clear intention for renunciation of nuclear armament
- (3) Transparency of national nuclear energy program
- (4) Excellent record of compliance with nonproliferation norms for many decades
- (5) Numerous proactive efforts

# (1) Obvious need for nuclear fuel cycle program in Japan

- Importance of long-term energy security as a highly populated, highly industrialized and yet energy-scarce island country
- **Large-scale nuclear power program (47 GWe)**
- Virtually no domestic uranium resource
- Very limited land availability for waste disposal

## (2) Country's clear intention for renunciation of nuclear armament

- **“Peaceful purposes only” policy in Atomic Energy Basic Law enacted in December 1955**  
“The research, development and utilization of atomic energy shall be limited to peaceful purposes, .....”  
(Article 2)
- **This policy reflects Japanese strong desire to realize the world without the fear of nuclear wars as a nation that experienced two A-bomb tragedies in Hiroshima and Nagasaki**

# (3) Transparency of national nuclear energy program

A decorative graphic of two green leaves is positioned in the upper right corner of the slide. The leaves are stylized with a light green color and a darker green outline, pointing upwards and to the right.

- **AEC's Long-Term Program**  
**Long-Term Program for Research, Development and Utilization of Nuclear Energy**
  - Open document to describe national nuclear energy policy & program
  - Adherence to “Peaceful purposes only” policy
  - Periodical revision (every 5 years)
- **Transparency of policy making process**
  - - Open process for revising L-T Program
- **Transparency of national budgetary system**

## **(4) Excellent record of compliance with nonproliferation norms for many decades**

- **Good record of compliance with Comprehensive Safeguards since 1977**
- **Ratification and implementation of Additional Protocol**
- **Complete adherence to bilateral agreements with US and others since 1955**
- **Incorporation of Zanger Com. and NSG requirements into export control laws**
- **Incorporation of enhanced PP requirements into domestic laws**



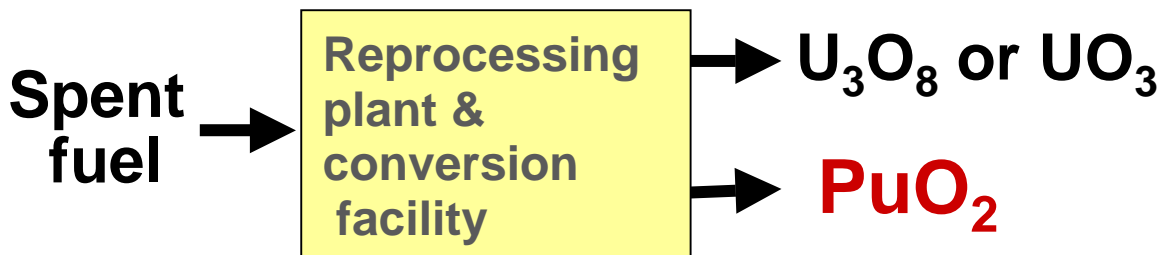
## **(5) Numerous proactive efforts made by Japan**

- Enhancement of proliferation resistance in reprocessing plants
- **Active cooperation with IAEA** in developing and demonstrating reliable safeguards methodologies to be applied to civilian nuclear fuel cycle: **JASPAS, LASCAR**, etc.
- Cooperation with US in the area of advanced safeguards technologies
- Ratification of CTBT and support to FMCT
- Support to Russia for disposition of excess W-Pu

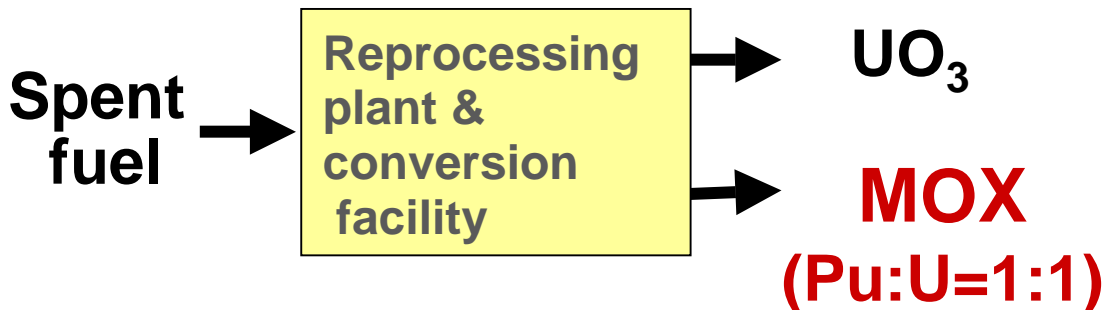
# Enhanced proliferation resistance in Japanese reprocessing plants

- Example of proactive effort -

**European  
Reprocessing  
Plants**  
UP2-800, UP3  
THORP



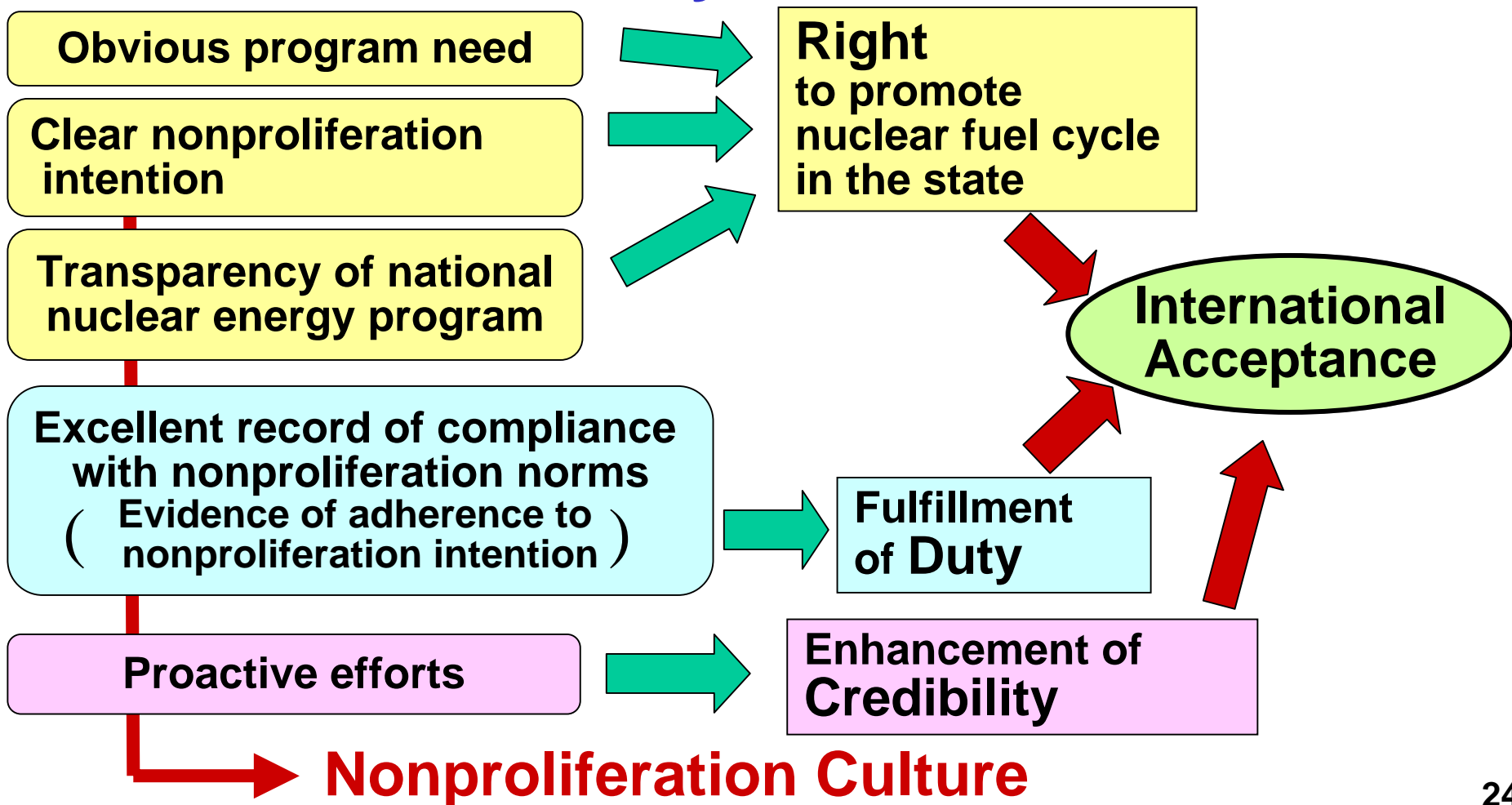
**Japanese  
Reprocessing  
Plants**  
Tokai RP  
Rokkasho RP





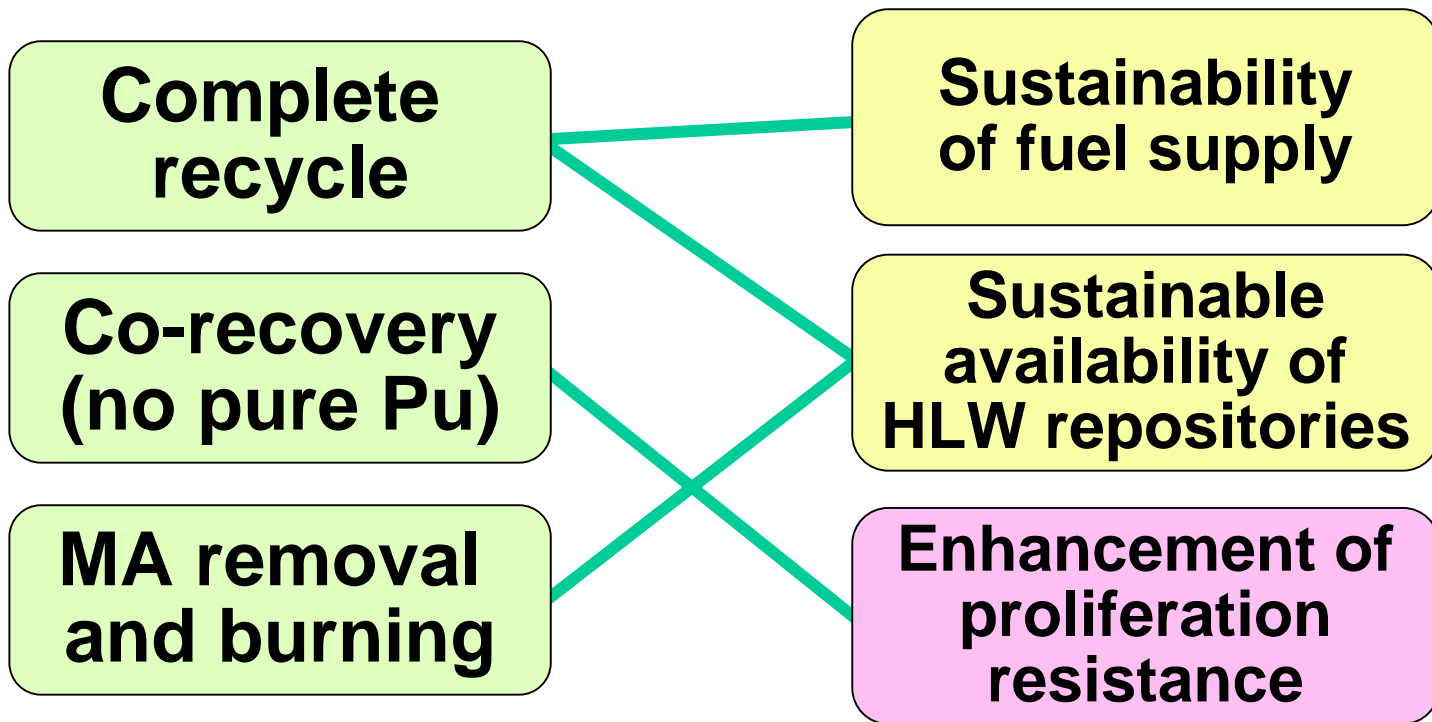
# Japanese Model

- An acceptance model for civilian nuclear fuel cycle in NNWS



# Key factors for future nuclear cycle

(other than safety and economy)



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**Establishment of nonproliferation culture**

# Conclusions (1)



- **Closed nuclear fuel cycle** is necessary for sustained use of nuclear energy in large scale
- Building **centralized regional HLW repositories** under multi-national or international control is recommended for use by countries with relatively small-scale nuclear power program relying on direct disposal policy



# Conclusions (2)

- **Compatibility with nonproliferation norms and civilian nuclear fuel cycle is achievable** in modern industrialized countries
- Implementation of **Integrated Safeguards in Japan** is a proof of the success of original objectives of NPT regime
- Japanese case offers an acceptance model for civilian nuclear fuel cycle program in NNWS (**Japanese model**) and this model will become the basis of establishing **“Nonproliferation Culture”**

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**Thank you for attention**