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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Japan: Earthquakes  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** RR : FAF Posts  
**Ministers:** Parl Sec Tde, Prime Minister, Foreign Minister  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:**  
**Response:** Routine, Information Only

**Summary**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

All Embassy staff and dependants present in Japan are accounted for s22(1)(a)(ii). We are attempting to contact other Australians but are being impeded by damaged and overburdened telecommunications. We have conveyed the Government's offer of assistance to MFA and sought assistance to deploy Embassy team when feasible.

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Welfare of Embassy Staff, dependants, and official visitors.**

3. All Embassy staff and dependants, as well as attached ADF personnel currently in Japan have been accounted for. s22(1)(a)(ii)

Embassy communications are all functioning though mobile phone communication is difficult.

4. s22(1)(a)(ii)

7. 41 Australian citizens in the worst affected areas, are registered with the Australian Embassy. We believe the actual numbers are significantly more than that. We have no reports yet of Australian casualties but contact even with registered Australians is being rendered very difficult by damaged or overloaded telecommunications. We are making preparations to send a team from the Embassy to the worst affected areas as soon as this is practicable, and have sought assistance from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to facilitate this; at present our assessment based on the best information available to us is that it may be some time before it is safe to deploy there.

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 6: Japan earthquakes  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:**  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Response:** Routine, Information Only

#### Summary

Please find below, sitrep 6 for the 11 March Japan earthquake

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There are no specific evacuation centres for Australians or other foreigners. Therefore, Australians would be spread among a large number of evacuation centres. Accordingly, it will be necessary to carefully plan any assistance effort.

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**Energy Infrastructure/ Nuclear Power**

The reactor fuel rod in the No 1 Nuclear Power Station in Fukushima No1 Fukushima reactor is reportedly undamaged. No recovery efforts have been undertaken at the No 1 reactor due to the danger of radioactivity. The No2 Fukushima shows no leakage of radioactive substance. NHK reports there is a leakage from the No 1 plant. Procedures for cooling the tanks which had achieved some result had been stopped because of the dangerous level of radioactivity (NHK news updates at 12:00). The Japanese Government made an Emergency Status statement for both the 1st and the 2nd power station and all residents living within 3 km from the 2nd and 10km from the 1st have been evacuated.

Australians

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Quite a few Australians have asked whether the government will be supplying charter planes to evacuate them from Japan.

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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Narita Airport Evacuation Plans

The Crisis Centre has inquired about the evacuation plans for the 4,100 people at Narita airport if there is another earthquake. Please note that Narita Airport has a well established evacuation plan for earthquake scenarios.

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 8 - Japanese Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:**  
**Ministers:** Parl Sec Tde  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:**  
**Response:** Routine, Information Only

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**Summary**

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The Qantas Duty Manager is attempting to get extra people on the flight, as there has been a number of cancellations.

**Australians at Narita Airport**

*(1) we understand that about 300–400 Australians are at Narita, bound for the flights to Australia, including:*

- *Two QFF22 flights bound for Sydney*
- *One QF flight to Perth*
- *JAL flight*
- *Jetstar flight*

s22(1)(a)(ii)

*(3) Embassy Consular staff deployed to Narita have undertaken a walk around to offer support to Australians.*

s22(1)(a)(ii)

- *Qantas have advised Consular staff that flights are scheduled to depart on time.*

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 9 - Japanese Earthquake

**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**To:** Canberra

**Cc:**

**Ministers:** Parl Sec Tde

**From:** Tokyo

**From File:**

**EDRMS**

**Files:**

**References:**

**Response:** Routine, Information Only

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**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 9 of 11 March earthquake in Japan.

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

We are awaiting for updated ETA details for the 72 person **Australian Search and Rescue Team**, with sniffer dogs. We plan to hold an early planning meeting with Japanese authorities to facilitate deployment. Japan is yet to advise the location of the deployment. Four DFAT staff, including three Japanese speakers, will deploy with the team to provide liaison with local authorities and consular assistance.

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Infrastructure***As at 0220**Fukushima Nuclear Reactor***Prime Minister Kan and Chief Cabinet Secretary Edano joint press conference 2030hrs**

Edano said TEPCO had confirmed the nuclear canister of the Fukushima number one nuclear plant had not been damaged in the explosion which took place at 15:36 on 12 March. Edano said the radiation level at the Fukushima plant had not increased as a result of the explosion.

Edano said the decision to expand the evacuation zone around the plant to a 20 kilometre radius was a precaution.

**The Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (METI) held a press conference at 0140, 13 March.** They said that at 20:20, technicians began to pour seawater into the container of Fukushima number one reactor. The transfer of seawater into the reactor was still taking place.

They characterised the decision to expand the evacuation zone to 20 kilometres as a comparatively/ low key appropriate response under the circumstances as some radiation has been released.

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 11 - Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** RR ; Tokyo  
**Ministers:** Parl Sec Tde  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Response:** Routine, Information Only

#### Summary

Cable below contains Sitrep 11 of 11 March earthquake in Japan.

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**Search and Rescue Team**

17. We expect the Search and Rescue Team will arrive at US Airforce Yokota Airbase not before 0140 hours Japan time Monday 14 March. Post continues to make arrangements for reception and on-forwarding, and will meet with Japanese Government authorities Sunday afternoon to discuss in-country logistics, including transport to the Minami Sanriku site which MFA has advised is where the Government of Japan wishes the Australian team to conduct search and rescue operations.

18. The team includes:  
72 USAR members from NSW  
2 dog handlers (and 2 dogs) from QLD  
1 liaison officer from EMA  
1 linguist from PM&C

19. Specific logistic requirements on the ground are:

- Transport is needed to the site for 78 pers and 2/4 dogs and 20 tons of equipment. All equipment is man portable.
- Once at the site, the team will establish camp. Noting the possibility of cold weather, our preference would be the ability to set up the accommodation tents under cover to protect them from snow / rain.

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- Once on the ground, the team will operate with four seven man teams (each team has a team leader, seven firefighters, 3 paramedics, doctor, and two engineers). Two teams will be in the field at any one time, two resting. Remainder are logistics, coordination, communications and HQ team. Minimum transport once the force is deployed at Minami Sanriku is four vehicles and ability to carry supplies - four cars / four dual cab trucks and one 5-tonne truck . We will also need an official exemption for need of licences for driving vehicles - or interim licences.
- Water - the team was only able to bring five days supply of drinking water. We will need drinking water for an extra 5 days - around 2 tonnes will be required. This will need to be provided by the Government of Japan. The team is self-sufficient for drinking water for five days. They have enough food, batteries and power for ten days. Any water for washing / showering etc would also be great.
- We will now only send two DFAT officer with the team - s22(1)(a)(ii)  
They have a number of Japanese speakers on the team.

20. Post is seeking a meeting with MFA to get these arrangements in place. They are also seeking a call with the Kyoto Fire Department as soon as possible. Counsellor (s22(1)(a)(ii) ) and Defence Attache (s22(1)(a)(ii) ) will travel out to Yokota tonight to meet the team. They are seeking assistance from MFA to assist with briefing our SAR team.

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InfrastructureNuclear ReactorMFA Briefing

26. Post attended a briefing at MFA this morning on the nuclear reactor, MFA Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Science Department Director-General s22(1)(a)(ii)

28. According to radiation monitoring data, the level of microsieverts per hour had dropped to 70.5 by 18:58 yesterday, (down from a recorded levels of 1015 at 15:29 and 860 at 15:40 yesterday.)

29. s22(1)(a)(ii)

The government has issued advice of an exclusion zone of 10km around this reactor.

30. s22(1)(a)(ii)

31. s22(1)(a)(ii) said the government has highly recommended that those who have been evacuated to Sendai city remain there (it is 60–70km from the reactor site and well outside the exclusion zone). Those situated within the outskirts of the exclusion zone have been asked to take precautionary measures to cover their skin as much as possible and to ensure they do not consume any food that may have originated from within the 20km exclusion zone.

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32. 19 people have reportedly been tested positive for radiation. s22(1)(a)(ii) said efforts were currently underway to establish the level of radiation exposure to these people, but that as far as he was aware, the initial figures indicated it was not serious. s33(b)

(s47E(d))

*Nuclear Industrial and Safety Agency*

33. METI's Nuclear Industrial and Safety Agency (NISA) announced that 9 people were exposed to radiation in the explosion of the Fukushima No.1 nuclear plant. A further 150 people may have been exposed to radiation while being evacuated.

*Edano press conference*

34. Chief Cabinet Secretary Edano held a press conference at 11:03. s22(1)(a)(ii)

Edano said monitoring of the level of radiation was continuing and advised the public to be reassured that the current level of radiation (beyond the 20 km exclusion zone) did not post a danger to human health. As at 0930, the level of radiation had fallen to 70.3 microsieverts from a peak of 1204.2 at 0833. s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 12 - Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** RR : Tokyo  
**Ministers:** Parl Sec Tde  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Response:** Routine, Information Only

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**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 12 of 11 March earthquake in Japan.

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Australian Search and Rescue Team - USAR**

13. s22(1)(a)(ii)

14. Japanese authorities have advised that owing to the excessive burden on resources they are unable to provide transport for the Search and Rescue Team. We are making other arrangements, as per email s22(1)(a)(ii) . We will exhaust every option in order to find a workable solution, although availability of fuel and water is posing major difficulties. The Search and Rescue Team will arrive at Yokota Airbase at 0130 hours on 14 March. The team is currently liaising with Japanese authorities.

15. In a briefing earlier today, Japan's Fire and Disaster Management Agency (FMDA) in Sendai advised that the Australian USAR team would be part of an International Rescue

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

Team (IRT) that would deploy from the assembly area. s22(1)(a)(ii)

The FMDA are reporting no mobile communications are available in the Minami Sanriku area. The team will be communicating via satellite phone. Trucks and other vehicles are not able to access the Minami Sanriku area, at this stage only foot access is possible.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**Infrastructure**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

*Nuclear Industrial and Safety Agency*

31. At 12:00 hours, the monitoring post of Onagawa Nuclear Power Station (NPS) read 21 micro Sv higher than the upper permit limit of 5.7 micro sievert (Sv) per hour. NISA has judged the gauged radiation was flown from Fukushima Nuclear Power Station, as the radioactivity checked within the stack of Onagawa NPS has not changed. However, the 5.7 micro Sv is equivalent to one tenth of the radioactivity used for X-ray examination, and the level of the carried dose is not influential on human health. Another reason for NISA believes that the radioactivity was flown from Fukushima was that the timing and the direction of the wind were identical. The Onagawa NPS is located 100km north of Fukushima NPS.

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Japanese Earthquake: Sitrep 16  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra; Tokyo  
**Cc:**  
**Ministers:** Parl Sec Tde  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:**  
**Response:** Routine, Information Only

**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 16 of 11 March earthquake in Japan.

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*Urban Search and Rescue Team*

7. The USAR departed Yokota air base for Minami Sanriku at approximately 12.10am on 15 March. As at 0435hrs (local) the USAR had passed Nasu-Kogan (Tochihi Prefecture) and had an ETA at Minami Sanriku of 1000hrs (local).

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

#### Media Reports

s22(1)(a)(ii)

16. (NHK TEPCO press conference 0000hrs)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

17. A higher than normal radiation level was detected at the No 1 reactor at the Fukushima number 2 nuclear plant at 10:07pm. TEPCO notified METI at 10:13pm as required by Article 10 of the Act on Special Measures Concerning Nuclear Emergency Preparedness. The radiation level rise appears to have been caused by incidents at the No.1 plant.

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19. Radioactivity levels at the Fukushima number 1 nuclear plant, reactor number 2 were as follows:

21:37	3,130 microsieverts (highest level)
22:15	431.7 microsieverts
22:35	326.2 microsieverts

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 25: Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** RR : Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei Acio, Washington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Response:** Routine, Information Only

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**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 25 of 11 March earthquake in Japan.

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

Visit to Miyagi Government Office

11. s22(1)(a)(ii) is going to Miyagi Government Offices with s22(1)(a)(ii) to make a request at as senior a level as possible for transport for the Australian USAR team, now stranded in Tomei without transport.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

13. s22(1)(a)(ii)

is going to find out any updates on transport options out of Sendai. As reported in yesterday's sitrep, the last the team heard was that there are two main ways out of Sendai:

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

- Miyage Kotsu bus company which has long queues of people all day every day. Buses operate on a first come first served basis and there's no timetable (understandably) but they are relatively frequent. Buses run from the bus station opposite City Hall (shiyakusho) to Yamagata and Niigata.
- JR Bus also runs services to Yamagata and Niigata from the bus station on the east side of Sendai Station (Sendai eki). Bookings are essential and there is a current delay of 24 hours between making a booking and departure.

**USAR Team**

14. Some of our USAR has reached Minami Sanriku (by mini-bus). And others will go there on Japanese Self Defence Force trucks later today. We have arranged transport for the USAR team in Tome City to Minamisanriku (about 30km away) on 3 Japanese SDF Trucks. The trucks should arrive to pick them up from Tome at about 12.30 pm today. Tokyo has also arranged at 4 minibuses (36 seats altogether) from Tokyo and one minibus (28 seater) from in Tome City to help with transport issues. Tokyo has also booked a 50 seat bus for the USR team for the next three days.

15. MFA Oceania division is planning to send a van to the site where the Australian USAR team is working, and have offered to carry supplies up there for us. The van is departing early tomorrow (Thursday 17 March) and will possibly return the same day or the day after. It is a 9-seater van, and at the moment they are planning to carry a driver and two passengers. They would like our advice as to whether we would like them to take anything as soon as possible.

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 26: Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** RR : Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei Acio,  
Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Response:** Routine, Information Only

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**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 26 of 11 March earthquake in Japan.

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

7. One member of our the Consular team has been collecting information this morning on all options to depart Sendai. An update will be provided as soon as this team member returns. This information will be shared with Australians at the 1600 meeting.

8. The Consular Team understand there are substantial seats still available on Jet Star flights departing Osaka for Cairns and Coolangatta (twice daily) from 18 March (flights are heavily booked until then).

s22(1)(a)(ii)

*Consulate-General in Osaka*

10. A significant number of Australians who are trying to return to Australia have started to arrive in Osaka, with the aim of leaving from Kansai International Airport. Chris Rees, the Consul-General, has identified that many of them are likely to require consular/passport assistance. There is no consular official at the Consulate-General and, with the numbers of Australian requiring assistance likely to increase, assistance is requested.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**USAR Team**

13. After further discussions with USAR Team Leader s22(1)(a)(ii) , the USAR has decided the mission will continue. Transport has been arranged which we are confident should meet the needs of the team (in case of personnel) either for operations or pull out for at least the

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

next three days (until 19 March). We are still grappling with haulage vehicles for the equipment, but thanks to the assistance from the Consulate-General in Sapporo, we may have had a breakthrough on the issue of fuel.

14. DFAT officers attached to the USAR will be rotated on 17 March. The Admin area has arranged a mini-van and two drivers for Thursday 17 March, tentatively leaving at 0500. MFA has advised that their van can only be used to carry supplies.

15. We understand the team may be in situ for as long as another four days, but this depends on an assessment of the value of the mission. s22(1)(a)(ii)

16. We understand the USAR team is engaging in search activities from PM on 16 March.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

19. CG Osaka is working with s22(1)(a)(ii) in Sendai re possible evacuations ex Kansai - if so there may be a need for an Airport Liaison Officer at Kansai International Airport before long.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Nuclear Power Plants**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

24. (NHK 11:15) At a press conference at 11:15, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano said s22(1)(a)(ii)

The radioactivity level around the gate of the plant rose significantly on the morning of 16 March, peaking at around 10:55 but the radiation level had since been decreasing and the evacuation area remained unchanged. s22(1)(a)(ii)

25. (NHK 12:05) The Nuclear Industrial and Safety Agency (NISA), clarified the radioactivity level around the Fukushima No.1 nuclear power plant. The level of radiation measured around the gate of the plant started to rise significantly from around 10:00, reaching 6.4 millisievert (6400 micro sievert) per hour at 10:45 but then fell to 2.4 millisievert at 10:54. NISA said 6.4 milliSievert was equivalent to 3 times the radiation dose a person would normally receive in a year but did not pose an immediate health threat. The relationship if any between the 'white smoke' observed this morning and the heightened radiation level had not been confirmed, but NISA suspected the rise in radiation level was due to the damaged suppression pool at reactor No.2.

26. Radiation measurements taken by the Citizens' Nuclear Information Centre in Shinjuku, Tokyo (microsieverts per hour) on 16 March were:

10:00 indoors: 0.06–0.08; outdoors: 0.10–0.12

11:00 indoors: 0.05–0.08; outdoors: 0.09–0.10

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 28: Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** RR : Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei Acio,  
Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Response:** Routine, Information Only

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**Summary**

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

## CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE

We held a very well-received briefing at the Prefectural Government Office in Sendai for all Australians we are aware of in the area. Attendance was good, with around 15 Australians and a further 10 s22(1)(a)(ii) . We discussed DFAT's

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

Travel Advice and the ARPANSA media release, and provided the latest details on departure options from Sendai. s22(1)(a)(ii)

As discussed s22(1)(a)(ii) is also arranging a bus to transport citizens back to Tokyo. Besides the commitment to carry s22(1)(a)(ii), we do not yet know if there will be any spare seats left for Australians.

The Embassy will provide advice on the possibility of using USAR vehicles returning to Tokyo from Minamisanriku to transport Australians remaining in Sendai.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**USAR Team**

9. The following report was provided by s22(1)(a)(ii) at 20.17 on 16 March.

The USAR team expanded search operations at Minami-Sanriku with all search personnel deployed to the site (including liaison officers). Thanks to the efforts of the Sendai Consular Team, the Japanese Self Defence Forces supplied three trucks to USAR teams for use. Thanks to embassy efforts, transport has now been arranged for ongoing search operations. Radiation levels are being monitored at the camp and site on a regular basis. USAR teams now intend to continue search operations until 20 March. They will pack up on 21 March and return to Tokyo on 22 March. Liaison Officers (s22(1)(a)(ii)) will return to Tokyo tomorrow, departing the camp in the early afternoon.

**Nuclear Power Plant**

10. (NHK on line 22.49) METI's NISA held a press conference at 21.30 on 16 March at which it announced that, given falling radiation levels at the main gate of the plant during the afternoon, it did not consider the containment vessel at the third reactor to be severely damaged. NISA said it was not sure of the reason for the brief, sharp rise in radioactivity to 10 milli sievert at around 12.30 on 16 March.

11. (NHK 21.30) s22(1)(a)(ii)

. The radiation recorded today was: 21.4 mSv in Fukushima City (535 times usual levels), 0.501 in Maebashi City, 0.208 in Saitama City, 0.16 in Shinjuku (Tokyo), 0.182 in Yokosuka and 0.141 in Ichihara City in Chiba. These levels are higher than normal (around 0.04), but are not high enough to have negative impacts on human health.

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

14. (NHK 19.55) Chief Cabinet Secretary Edano announced that the escalation of radiation levels on the morning of 16 March may have been due to a leak of radioactive material from the No.2 reactor which had a problem with its suppression pool.

15. (NHK 18.46) The wind in the area surrounding the Fukushima nuclear plant is expected to be a northwest wind heading towards the ocean in a southeast direction. The wind is expected to continue to blow in the same direction until 18 March.

16. (NHK 18.07) Japan's Self-Defence Forces were preparing to drop water on the third reactor at Fukushima No.1 plant, but the radiation level in the air far exceeded allowable levels, and the operation was called off.

17. (NHK on line) MEXT released the results of radiation measurements of 14 places between 20 and 60 km from the nuclear plant, saying that the highest level recorded was 25km to the west-north-west at 80 micro sievert per hour, which was somewhat higher than normal, but would not immediately affect human health.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Government Responses****23. Press Conference by Chief Cabinet Secretary Edano**

Chief Cabinet Secretary Edano gave a press conference at approximately 18.00. At the press conference, he made the following points:

- Nuclear expert Professor Toshizo Kosako of Tokyo University has been appointed to advise the Cabinet Office on issues related to the Fukushima plant.
- NISA and MEXT have been monitoring radiation levels outside the 20km radius of the plant. They will announce details shortly. They report that levels of radiation in the 20-30km area are not at a level that would affect human health.
- There are no immediate health problems between 20 and 30 km from the plant. If you are continuously in this area there may be some effects, but it will not immediately affect you if you exposed for a short time or a period of days.
- Efforts have begun to spray water at the damaged plant to cool down the reactors.
- It has been reported that people not within the evacuation areas or 20-30km indoor shelter areas are also evacuating and are trying to stay indoors. This is an overreaction and is affecting the distribution of supplies.
- Even those within the 20-30km area face no immediate danger if they only go outdoors for short periods of time. For those that are over 30km away, please do not overreact, so that supplies can be distributed.
- The amount of radiation at 16.00 was 1,500 microsievert.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 29: Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** PP : Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei Acio, Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

MFA media release - Acceptance of rescue teams of Australia and New Zealand.docx  
s22(1)(a)(ii)

170311\_Fukushima\_towns in 80km radius.xlsx

**Response: Priority, Information Only**

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 29 on the 11 March earthquake in Japan.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Consular Update**

*Evacuation of Expatriates and other Embassy Advice*

6. The Embassy Consular Team is working as a matter of priority to identify Australians within the 80km s22(1)(a)(ii) exclusion zone.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

9. At 6am local time the consular team in Sendai will commence phoning the people that attended the meeting yesterday to alert them to the new advice from the s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

11. We attach a spreadsheet of towns within the 80km s22(1)(a)(ii) exclusion zone.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Nuclear Power Plant**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

21. Police cars are patrolling areas around 30 kilometers of the plant and urging residents to stay indoors with their windows shut and air conditioning switched off.

22. According to NHK, Prime Minister Kan said "We are making every effort to prevent the leak from spreading. I know that people are very worried but I would like to ask you to act calmly."

s22(1)(a)(ii)

24. (NHK) Tokyo Electric Power Co., pulled out 750 workers, leaving 50, and a 30-km (19 mile) no-fly zone was imposed around the reactors. There have been no detailed updates on what levels the radiation reached inside the exclusion zone.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

28. In contrast, according to the Ministry of Defence the Japanese Self-Defence Forces did not conduct a planned operation on 16 March to drop water from helicopters on the troubled No. 3 reactor of the Fukushima No.1 power plant because of concerns over the high radiation level around the plant. The Ground Self-Defense Force helicopters were on standby to drop water on the reactor as it was feared the reactor may have released radioactive steam due to damage to its containment vessel.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

*Japanese Foreign Ministry press release on the acceptance of Australian and New Zealand rescue teams*

39. The Japanese Foreign Ministry has issued a press release welcoming the messages of condolences and sympathy from Australia and New Zealand, and expressing appreciation for the dispatch of the search and rescue teams (attached).

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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20 - 80 km zone	Marginal Zone 80 - 85km	0 - 20 km zone
Asakawa	Inawashiro Town	Futaba
<b>Date City</b>	Murata Town	Namie Town
<b>Fukushima City</b>	Natori	Naraha Town
Furudono Town	Nishigo Village	Okuma Town
Hanawa	Schikashuku	Tomioka Town
Hirata City	Sendai Kuko	
Hirono	Takahagi City	
Iizaka Spa	Zao Town	
Ishikawa Village		
Iitate Village		
<b>Iwaki City</b>		
Iwakichuo		
Iwakimiwa		
Iwakiyotsukura		
Iwanuma		
Izumizaki		
Izura		
Kagamiishi		
<b>Kakuda</b>		
Katsura Village		
Kawamata Town		
Kawauchi Village		
<b>Kitaibaraki</b>	<u>Ledger</u>	
Kori Town	<b>Bold city names</b> are larger urban centres (as appear on map)	
<b>Koriyama City</b>		
Kumimi		
M Haru Town		
Mamumori Town		
<b>Minamisoma</b>		
<b>Motomiya City</b>		
Nakajima Village		
Nakoso-no-seki-ato		
Nanko		
<b>Nihonmatsu City</b>		
Ogawara		
Ono Town		
Otama Village		
Samegawa Village		
Shibata		
Shinchi		
<b>Shirakawa</b>		
<b>Shiroishi City</b>		
<b>Soma City</b>		
<b>Sukagawa</b>		
Tamakawa Village		
<b>Tamura</b>		
Tanagura Town		
Tenei Village		
Watari		

Yabuki  
Yabukichuo  
Yamamoto Town  
Yamatsuri

## Acceptance of rescue teams of Australia and New Zealand

March 14, 2011

[Japanese](#)

1. In response to Tohoku district-off the Pacific Ocean Earthquake, teams of rescue of Australia and New Zealand have been dispatched.
2. Australian rescue team consists of 75 personnel and 2 rescue dogs. The rescue team arrived at Yokota Air Base in the early hours of March 14, 2011. The rescue team's areas of activity are being finalized.
3. New Zealand's rescue team consists of an advance team of 7 personnel and a main team of 45 personnel (without rescue dogs). The advance team arrived at Narita Airport in the afternoon of Sunday, March 13, 2011. The main team is scheduled to arrive at Narita Airport in the afternoon of Monday, March 14, 2011. The rescue teams' areas of activity are being finalized.
4. From the Government of Australia, condolences and sympathy were expressed and necessary assistance was offered from Prime Minister Gillard to Prime Minister Kan and from Foreign Minister Rudd to Foreign Minister Matsumoto respectively.
5. From the Government of New Zealand, condolences and sympathy were expressed and necessary assistance was offered from Prime Minister Key to Prime Minister Kan and from Foreign Minister McCully to Foreign Minister Matsumoto respectively.
6. The Government of Japan deeply appreciates the cooperation of the Government of Australia and the Government of New Zealand.



**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 30: Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** PP : Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei Acio, Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Response: Priority, Information Only**

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**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitep 30 on the 11 March earthquake in Japan.

**USAR Update**

We have secured a local supply of diesel and unleaded fuel for the USAR team. The providing company is called s22(1)(a)(ii). The business phone number is s22(1)(a)(ii) (not currently working) and mobile s22(1)(a)(ii) (working). The owner is called s22(1)(a)(ii). The payment arrangements are cash on delivery at the price of 200 yen per litre. And the company is delivering the fuel to our team.

s47E(d)

3. We are sharing this arrangement s22(1)(a)(ii). We believe the supply is adequate for both teams.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

*USAR back up team update*

5. The back up team at 10:35 said they have made it to near Yamagata Prefecture (they have crossed Shiroishigawa bridge), and they recently refuelled at Azunoazuma. ETA Minami Sanriku is 12:30.

6. Between Sukagawa and Nihonmatsu they will remain in the vehicle, windows up and aircon off. They said the road was bumpy due to earthquake damage and it was snowing lightly. They have snow tyres on the car and chains, but may encounter snow on the road

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

shortly. They were able to fill up at two service stations, 3000 yen at each, and now have a full tank of petrol.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Consular update***Sendai team*

9. The Sendai consular team is sending one bus from Sendai to Tokyo to carry Australians in the Sendai area. The total capacity is 50 seats. At this stage there are at least 17 confirmed Australians (s47E(d)) who want to travel on the bus, and they expect that to grow by a few throughout the day. The bus will depart at 1800 from Sendai City Government Offices (shiyakusho), arriving Tokyo approximately 2300. The team will probably have to arrange transport for some Australians to get to the shiyakusho. Seats will be offered to Australian citizens and families first, but the team expects to have some room available to carry other foreign nationals. The team is currently calling again all known Australians to inform them of the bus. Unless otherwise indicated the team has contacted all of these Australians at least once today to inform about the updated US and ARPANSA advice re Fukushima nuclear plants.

10. The people travelling on the bus will require accommodation in Tokyo.

11. The team is also coordinating with the s22(1)(a)(ii) to use their spare capacity and for them to use any spare capacity we have on buses travelling back to Tokyo.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

13. Commercial options: people are getting on buses out of Sendai towards Yamagata and then on to Niigata just by lining up, although it is very crowded. However, bus companies are saying all tickets booked until 22 March if rung. s22(1)(a)(ii) said that there are approximately 300 people waiting in line for buses from Sendai to Yamagata and that commercial forms of transportation out of Sendai is becoming pretty much impossible. He said most people waiting in line are Japanese.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 31: Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** PP : Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei Acio, Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Response: Priority, Information Only**

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**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 31 on the 11 March earthquake in Japan.

**USAR Update**

The USAR team currently has at its disposal 4x9-seat minivans, 1x50-seat bus, 2x4-tonne trucks, and 3 Embassy vehicles. s22(1)(a)(ii) has advised that they are using the 50-seat bus, two of the minivans and one of the trucks in movements to and from the Minamisanriku site. One of the minivans, the second truck and the Embassy cars are being kept in reserve. The fourth minivan has mechanical problems but is being repaired this afternoon.

2. We are supplying the USAR team today with 500 supplemental food rations (being delivered by s22(1)(a)(ii)); oxygen and other medical supplies, additional sleeping bags and mattresses, and additional cash (to be delivered by the Embassy replacement team travelling from Tokyo today); a further 3000L of water, and hot drink sachets and 30 pairs of cold-weather gloves requested because of the worsening conditions (to be delivered by two buses also travelling from Tokyo today - after making their delivery, these buses will be based in Sendai, on call for the use of either the USAR team or consular clients, from 18/03).

s22(1)(a)(ii)

*Sendai consular team*

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

4. The Australia consular team in Sendai is presently assembling as many known Australian residents of the Sendai region for an Australia evacuation bus to leave Sendai at 1800 this evening for a hotel in Tokyo. We have approximately 25 passengers registered for the bus and the number is increasing. The team has provided emergency transport for some Australians who were in inaccessible areas, including in the disaster zones. All known Australians are being contacted and offered a place on the bus. s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 32: Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** PP : Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei Acio, Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Response:** Priority, Information Only

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**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 32 on the 11 March earthquake in Japan.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Consular update**

*Sendai team*

2. The first evacuation bus (s22(1)(a)(ii)) left Sendai with the s22(1)(a)(ii). The larger Australian bus has arrived in Sendai and the team is obtaining a permit.

3. A team of consular officers has gone to pick up stranded Australians in the outskirts of Sendai, including in the disaster zone. The consular vehicle has been filled with petrol.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

#### **Nuclear reactors**

21. NHK news reported online at 12:38 that there was little difference in the levels of radiation on the premises of the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant before and after the helicopter water drop.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

#### **Radiation levels**

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

25. According to the Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Public Health (Shinjuku, Tokyo), on 17 March from between midnight and 14:00 radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.0485iGy/h to 0.0562iGy/h.

26. According to the Citizen's Nuclear Information website (Shinjuku, Tokyo), on 17 March from between 02:00 and 14:00, radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.07iGy/h to 0.09 iGy/h inside buildings and 0.09 to 0.11 outside of buildings.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 33: Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** PP : Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei Acio, Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 33 on the 11 March earthquake in Japan.

**USAR update**

At 17:30 we were advised that our USAR team has deployed to a different site within Minami Sanriku. The site was 4km in depth, and had many bodies. Water and food supplies (reported in Sitrep 31) have arrived. The USAR team has secured a source of fuel on site, and the generator is operational.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

*Sendai team*

4. The Australian evacuation bus from Sendai departed at 6:25 pm with the following groups of passengers:

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

5. The bus is now en route to Tokyo, with an expected arrival time of around midnight. Tokyo consular staff and Centrelink will meet the bus on arrival. Accommodation for all the Australians has been organised by the Embassy.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

A consular official will meet the bus, and accommodation has been organised by the Embassy.

8. As at 2100 tonight Japanese time we know there are still at least 9 Australians in the 80 kilometre zone, most of whom do not wish to relocate at this stage. Overall, our team is currently liaising 14 Australians, three of whom intend to head south by their own means and one of whom is expected to take a s22(1)(a)(ii). None of the others has at this time taken up our offer to relocate them. s22(1)(a)(ii)

*Narita Airport*

10. The Embassy Narita Team advised earlier this evening that Narita Airport was calm but getting busier as the departure times for flights approached. s47E(d)

A small number of Australians had turned up at Narita without tickets. No Australians appeared to have been stuck at the airport overnight. There was reportedly no traffic congestion on the road to Narita, and limousines buses were operating fully. s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Nuclear reactors**

13. NHK news reported online at 12:38 that there was little difference in the levels of radiation on the premises of the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant before and after the helicopter water drop.

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 34: Japan Earthquake \*Amended\*  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Tokyo  
**Cc:** PP : Beijing, Canberra, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei Acio, Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Response:** Priority, Information Only

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**Annotations:** Amendment - Infrastructure update attached  
**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 34 on the 11 March earthquake in Japan.

**USAR update**  
s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

6. On 18 March, the USAR team plans to carry out its mission from 07:30 to 16:30 in a new location. The USAR team will work together with s22(1)(a)(ii) from Kyoto.

7. s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Consular update**

8. The Australian evacuation bus from Sendai arrived in Tokyo at around midnight. The Australians on board have checked into the Villa Fontaine Annex hotel.

9. Over the past three days the DFAT consular and DIAC service counters, and the crisis centre switchboard, have dealt with a large number of inquiries from Australians displaying significant anxiety over the uncertain nuclear situation in Japan, and seeking advice and assistance to depart Japan as soon as possible. Post has issued 30 emergency passports in the first four days of this week, whereas post generally issues around 70 emergency passports per year. Osaka post has also reported issuing 30 emergency passports in the past few days, compared to an average total of 60 emergency passports per year.

10. Additionally, to meet clients requirements for urgent travel, DFAT and DIAC have facilitated many Australians and other country nationals (family members) to be uplifted to Australia travelling on expired Australian passports or foreign passports as required.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

*Narita Airport*

12. All departures from Narita Airport for Australia in the evening of 17 March went smoothly. All Australians who wanted to get on a flight for Australia were able to do so.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**



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s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Nuclear reactors**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

17. NHK reported on the levels of radiation measured by the SDF helicopters that dumped water over the No. 3 Reactor. The levels recorded were: approximately 250 millisieverts (mSv) at 100 feet (measured on 16 March); 87.7 mSv at 300 feet and 4.13 mSv at 1000 feet (both measured on 17 March).

18. NHK reported at 22:00 that on 17 March, the highest radiation recording outside the exclusion zone at ground level was 170 mSv, recorded 30km north-west from the plant. Readings of radiation in the Tohoku region were not at a level that would immediately affect human health. On the Japan Sea side of Tohoku radiation was at normal levels. Fukushima city recorded 14.8 mSv; Tokyo recorded 0.053 mSv.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Radiation Levels**

22. s47E(d)

23. According to the Citizen's Nuclear Information (Shinjuku, Tokyo) website, on 17 March between 14:00 and 20:00, radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.07iGy/h to 0.08iGy/h inside buildings and 0.09iGy/h to 0.11iGy/h outside of buildings.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 36 - Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** PP : Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei Acio, Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Response:** Priority, Information Only

+++ Personal information about individuals contained in this cable should not be disclosed unless authorised under the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth). Any unauthorised disclosure of personal information may constitute a breach of the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) +++

**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 36 on the 11 March earthquake in Japan.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**USAR update**

2. The USAR team departed Tome on 18 March at 07:30. They arrived at Minami Sanriku at 09:00 and started operations. Originally, as per the meeting with other prefectural SAR teams last night (17 March), they had planned to work with s22(1)(a)(ii)

. However, because the area they were working in was large, they did not see the s22(1)(a)(ii) and worked independently, operating close to the waterfront.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

4. At 15:30 all members of the USAR team will meet at the Minami Sanriku site to do a handover to the Kyoto prefectural rescue team. By 16:00 the USAR mission in Minami Sanriku will have concluded. The USAR team plans to pack up tomorrow (Saturday) and return to Tokyo. The USAR team leader is currently considering options for the route back to Tokyo.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

## CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE

s22(1)(a)(ii)

### Consular update

7. As at 16.00 the Embassy had received a total of three specific requests for financial assistance in arranging flights to depart Japan, resulting in two bookings for a total of ten people (s22(1)(a)(ii))

8. The team at the Narita Airport report that they received one request earlier today from a family of five about the availability of financial assistance. The family had already made their own bookings to return to Australia.

9. s22(1)(a)(ii)

### Situation in Sendai

From the Sendai consular team:

s22(1)(a)(ii)

13. We have advised known Australian citizens of these bus evacuations. s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

14. The rest of the Australians we are aware of either plan to stay in Sendai or will depart via their own means in coming days. We have two Australian officials at the bus stop to assist Australians s22(1)(a)(ii)

We are not aware of any further large scale evacuation plans although there are still regular bus services operated by commercial bus companies - including Miyage Kotsu and JR Bus, which we have reported previously. We will have consular officers at the Sendai City Hall checking for Australians s22(1)(a)(ii)

17. There has been a considerable amount of snow in Sendai City in the past 24 hours which has turned to ice overnight. This will make driving hazardous and slow, affecting our ability to drive any Australians requiring transport to the Sendai City Government Offices (as we did in several instances yesterday). At this stage, no one has asked us to pick them up.

Sendai consular operations:

18. The Sendai consular team is currently working on 10 cases involving 21 people. Many have elected to stay. Three are departing Sendai in the next few days by their own means. One will try to get on a government bus today.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**



**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Nuclear reactors**

24. s22(1)(a)(ii)

*Chief Cabinet Secretary Edano gave a press conference at 11:00 on 18 March (summary below):*

26. s22(1)(a)(ii)

28. Readings from environmental monitoring: overall no serious figures were recorded to impact human health. Few areas reported slightly high figures (at around 10 microsieverts) but no harm to human health. Today, monitoring on the surrounding area (30 km radius) will be enforced to increase the accuracy of monitoring.

29. Temperature levels at the No 5 and No 6 Reactors are not at a dangerous levels at the moment. Radiation levels around the 30km radius are around 100 microsieverts per hour. The Government does not intend to expand the evacuation area to 80km. Current measures are appropriate.

30. (NHK 0500) TEPCO announced the radiation level at the west gate of the Fukushima plant had dropped from 303 mSv to 289 mSv as a result of the water injection. s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

IAEA experts will check radioactive substances in the atmosphere in areas near the Fukushima plant.

32. (NHK 07:00) Radiation levels in Fukushima Prefecture are reportedly 300–500 times higher than normal levels. s22(1)(a)(ii)

37. NHK News reported around 14:00 s22(1)(a)(ii)

The radiation level at the West Gate of Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant, which is about 1 km west of Reactor 3, was 309 microsieverts per hour as of yesterday afternoon. The level detected at the same post this morning was 271 microsieverts per hour. Radiation levels are continuing to decline, but it is yet to be confirmed whether the watering down is the main contributing factor.

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**



**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Radiation levels**

38. According to the Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, radiation levels in Tokyo from 1100–11:59 EST ranged from 0.0465 – 0.0506 microsieverts per hour, with an average of 0.0486 microsieverts per hour.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 37 - Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** PP : Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei Acio, Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Response:** Priority, Information Only

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**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 37 on the 11 March earthquake in Japan.

**Consular update**

*Narita Airport*

s22(1)(a)(ii)

All Australians departed except for one Australian who arrived after hours and is staying overnight at the airport. He will fly out to Australia tomorrow. s22(1)(a)(ii)

*Sendai*

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

5. Three Australians departed on s22(1)(a)(ii) on morning of 18 March. About 30 passengers were on the bus. A second s22(1)(a)(ii) scheduled for 18 March will now leave on 19 March due to lack of demand.

6. The Sendai consular team is still dealing with 11 cases involving 19 people. Four plan to depart in the next few days by their own means. Five have places on s22(1)(a)(ii) on 19 March. We are working to get another three on s22(1)(a)(ii). Others have decided to remain.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Nuclear reactors**

23. s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

26. (TBS 23:35) TBS reported that a slightly higher radiation level was recorded near Unit 3 reactor at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant around 8pm on 18 March, suggesting that the SDF's water spraying operations on 18 March had only a limited impact.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

28. Mainichi News reported on 18 March comments by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) that radiation levels as high as 0.17 millisieverts per hour were recorded about 30 kilometres northwest of the plant on 17 March. MEXT measured radiation between 09:20 and 15:00 on 17 March at 28 locations between 20 to 60 kilometres from the plant. Radiation levels at most locations were between 0.0011 and 0.0183 millisieverts per hour.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**



**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

34. NHK reported at 18:00 and 18:44 that METI (Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency - NISA) announced shortly before 18:00 that it had upgraded the level of the accident at the Fukushima nuclear plant from level four to level five (on a 1-7 international scale), the same level as the Three Mile Island accident in 1979. The re-evaluation makes the accident the worst in Japanese history. The re-evaluation was made due to more than 3 per cent of the nuclear fuel at the plant being damaged and continuing leaks of radioactive material.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

35. NHK reported at 18:00 TEPCO comments that radiation readings fell slightly after water was discharged at the number three reactor of the Fukushima nuclear power plant. At about 500 meters northwest of the reactor, the level of radiation was 3,484 microsieverts per hour at 1350, before the operation began, but dropped to 3,339 microsieverts by 1450, shortly after the operation. Seven high-capacity fire engines were dispatched to inject a total of 50 tons of water into the storage pool of the No.3 reactor.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

*IAEA press conference, 1900 18 March (Jiji Press, 20:40)*

37. IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano reiterated at a press conference in Tokyo at 1900 on 18 March that he understood the radiation leak from the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant to be a serious incident. As a countermeasure, it was important to cool the reactor and restore power to the reactor's cooling systems. Amano noted there would be lower levels of radiation leaks if the fuel rods were covered by water. In order to cool the overheating spent fuel rods and to facilitate operations to restore power, it was extremely important to continue efforts to douse the reactors with water. s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Radiation levels**

41. According to the Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Public Health (Shinjuku, Tokyo), on 18 March between 1200 and 2100, radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.0443iGy/h to 0.0509iGy/h. According to the Citizen's Nuclear Information (Shinjuku, Tokyo) website, on 17 March between 14:00 and 20:00, radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.07iGy/h to 0.08iGy/h inside buildings and 0.09iGy/h to 0.10iGy/h outside of buildings.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 38 - Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra; Tokyo  
**Cc:**  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:**  
**Response:** Routine, Information Only

+++ Personal information about individuals contained in this cable should not be disclosed unless authorised under the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth). Any unauthorised disclosure of personal information may constitute a breach of the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) +++

**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 38 on the 11 March earthquake in Japan.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Radiation levels**

4. According to the Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Public Health (Shinjuku, Tokyo), between 2100 on 18 March and 0400 on 19 March, radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.0436iGy/h to 0.0505iGy/h.

5. According to the Citizen's Nuclear Information (Shinjuku, Tokyo) website, between 20:00 on 17 March and 00:00 on 19 March, radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.06iGy/h to 0.08iGy/h inside buildings and 0.06iGy/h to 0.10iGy/h outside of buildings.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**



s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

UNCLASSIFIED

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 39 - Japan Earthquake \*\* Ammended\*\*  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** RR : Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei Acio, Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Response:** Routine, Information Only

### Summary

Cable below contains Sitrep 39 on the 11 March earthquake in Japan.

### Consular update

*Sendai team*

s22(1)(a)(ii)

3. The Sendai team is handling 12 cases involving 26 Australians/Australian family members in the Sendai area. Of these, 21 plan to leave in the coming day. All have means to leave. We are continuing to contact all regularly to provide updates on transport options and other information. s47E(d)

4. s22(1)(a)(ii)

They have confirmed spaces are available in case any Australians wish to depart, but we are not aware of any who want to.

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UNCLASSIFIED

s22(1)(a)(ii)

*USAR update*

8. s22(1)(a)(ii)

10. Embassy officers (s22(1)(a)(ii)) will depart Sendai with the USAR team between 1200–1500 (Tokyo time) 19 March. s22(1)(a)(ii) USAR team will travel by road to Yokota Air Base. It is expected to take between 8 and 9 hours. Expected time of arrival at Yokota is 0000–0200 (Tokyo time) 20 March. Two Embassy officers (s22(1)(a)(ii)) will depart from the Embassy at 1700 (Tokyo time) and meet the team on arrival. We have confirmed accommodation and meals for 80 people on 20 and 21 March.

11. s22(1)(a)(ii)

12. The USAR team is expected to depart Yokota on Monday (time still be determined). They will arrive in Australia on either Monday evening or Tuesday morning, depending on their departure time from Yokota.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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UNCLASSIFIED

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Nuclear reactors**

21. NHK online reported at 09:00 that the World Health Organization has said radiation levels outside the evacuation zone in Japan are not harmful to human health. WHO spokesperson s22(1)(a)(ii) made the remarks at a regular news conference in Geneva on Friday (March 18). He said WHO finds no public health reason to avoid travel to Japan, except to the affected areas, or to recommend that foreign nationals leave the country. Referring to an examination of Japanese food imports by some countries, he said he cannot imagine that any food from the quake-damaged areas was able to have been delivered. He said he concludes there is no risk that exported Japanese foods are contaminated with radiation.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

s22(1)(a)(ii)

26. According to MSN Sankei News at 08:24 the radiation levels at Fukushima dropped from 3,611 mSv (8pm on 18 March) to 3,181 mSv (1.50am on 19 March) after the midnight water injection operations.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Radiation levels**

31. According to the Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Public Health (Shinjuku, Tokyo), on 19 March between 1000 and 1100 radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.0496iGy/h to 0.0445iGy/h.

32. According to the Citizen's Nuclear Information (Shinjuku, Tokyo) website, on 19 March at midnight, radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.07iGy/h to 0.08iGy/h inside buildings and 0.09iGy/h to 0.10iGy/h outside of buildings.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**UNCLASSIFIED**

**UNCLASSIFIED**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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UNCLASSIFIED



UNCLASSIFIED

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 40 - Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** RR : Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei Acio, Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

USAR Withdrawal Approval.pdf  
 APANSA Advice on USAR Travel Route.docx

**Response:** Routine, Information Only

### Summary

Cable below contains Sitrep 40 on the 11 March earthquake in Japan.

### Consular update

#### *USAR team*

The USAR team has ceased operations in accordance with Government direction, and is withdrawing by road to the Yokota Airbase (50 kilometres west of Tokyo), where it will conduct any needed decontamination and debriefing, prepare its equipment for flight, and depart via an Australian Defence Force C17 aircraft. At this stage, this departure is scheduled for 21 March, with arrival at Royal Australian Airforce Base Richmond late that evening.

2. Advice from the Attorney-General's Department that provided the go-ahead for a decision on the ground for the USAR team travel route is attached.

3. The USAR team left Tome at 14:10 for Yokota airbase. Before they left, the team distributed medicines and medical equipment to a hospital in Tome City. The team also participated in a handover ceremony with the Director of the Minamikata City Office and passed to the local authorities food, water and supplies, including tents and generators. The team had refuelled at their local supplier before their departure. They were advised that only 5 per cent of petrol stations were open for business in Miyagi Prefecture. Most shipments of fuel went straight to emergency vehicles rather than local citizens. The team had also been approached by local citizens asking for food, water, shoes and other supplies. The team gave what they could.

4. s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

5. As of 18:40, we were advised by a DFAT Liaison Officer to the USAR team that the convoy had passed the exclusion zone, taking the appropriate precautions. Radiation levels were not of concern - the levels would only cause harm to human health if exposed for 9 months continuously. The USAR team had met up with the Sendai team on the road at Nasukogen. ETA is before midnight 19 March. The DFAT Liaison Officers will debrief the Embassy on the afternoon of 20 March.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

10. The Osaka post assisted one Australian earlier in the day with a loan to fly from Osaka to the Gold Coast.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

UNCLASSIFIED

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**UNCLASSIFIED**

**UNCLASSIFIED**

UNCLASSIFIED

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Radiation levels**

22. According to the Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Public Health (Shinjuku, Tokyo), on 19 March between 15:00 and 15:59, radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.0489iGy/h to 0.0433iGy/h.

23. According to the Citizen's Nuclear Information (Shinjuku, Tokyo) website, between 12:00 on 18 March and 00:00 on 19 March, the radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.06iGy/h to 0.08iGy/h inside buildings and 0.06iGy/h to 0.10iGy/h outside of buildings.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

UNCLASSIFIED

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**UNCLASSIFIED**

**UNCLASSIFIED**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**UNCLASSIFIED**

**UNCLASSIFIED**



## Map of route to be taken





## ARPANSA RESPONSE ON USAR ROUTE

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From: s22(1)(a)(ii)

To: s22(1)(a)(ii)

Cc: Carl-Magnus Larsson <Carl-Magnus.Larsson@arpansa.gov.au>

Sent: Sat Mar 19 11:53:35 2011

Subject: Disregard last - qualification added RE: Route Dose Requirement  
[SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Looks good

1. Met data indicates the wind stays favourable (i.e from the East until 0500 March 20)
2. Realtime radiation data available on <http://www.bousai.ne.jp/eng/> shows a stable situation with highest dose below 1 microSv/hr everywhere outside Fukushima and Miyagi prefectures.
3. Latest data for the inner zone, i.e 20-80 km from Dai-ichi gives dose rates above 10 micro-Sv/hr only with 30 km on Dai-ichi. Proposed route is more tahn 70 km from Dai-ichi.

Summary: Looks favourable for travel.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

SECURITY-IN-CONFIDENCE



Australian Government

Attorney-General's Department

Sub No:

File No: 11/10241 Min No:

## ATTORNEY-GENERAL

## JAPAN: WITHDRAWAL ROUTE OF AUSTRALIAN URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE TASKFORCE

Deadline: 191600 AEDT March 2011

**Key Issues:** The Urban Search and Rescue Taskforce (USAR TF) in Minima-kata in the Miyagi prefecture has ceased operations in accordance with Government direction, and will shortly withdraw by road to the Yokota Airbase (50 kilometres west of Tokyo) where it will conduct decontamination and debriefing, prepare its equipment for flight, and depart via an Australian Defence Force C17 aircraft. s47E(d)

**AGD Analysis:** The route proposed by the USAR TF (attached, 'the direct route') would necessitate the convoy transiting through the outer extremities of the 80 km exclusion zone recommended by the Australian Government as set out in its current Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Travel Advice (DFAT TA). This TA reflects Australian Radiation and Nuclear Protection Safety Authority (ARPANSA) and Department of Health and Ageing (DOHA) advice and states: 'ARPANSA and DOHA have been continually assessing the nuclear situation in Japan and have recommended, as a precautionary measure, that Australians within an 80 kilometre zone from the Fukushima nuclear power plant move out of the area'. The DFAT TA also advises 'This recommendation is not based on any current danger in the zone, but is a precautionary measure as the situation in Japan is unstable'.

The direct route is far quicker and the road conditions likely to be more favourable than using the more circuitous route which would take the USAR TF convoy (three buses and three trucks) further to the west around the exclusion zone. The direct route would take the team approximately six hours; with the more circuitous western option lasting possibly up to 18 hours.

Advice from ARPANSA (attached) is that the direct route 'looks favourable for travel'. During the road trip all USAR TF members will wear personal dosimeters and record the actual reading for the duration of the trip to provide a record of possible exposure. The USAR TF will also take appropriate precautions when travelling through the exclusion zone (all windows closed and air-conditioning off) and conduct a thorough decontamination process on arrival at the Yokota base.

**Financial Implications:** Nil

**Recommendation:** That you approve the USAR TF to utilise the direct route to Yokota Airbase on the basis of ARPANSA advice.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Approved / Not Approved / Discuss

fU-Cam Darby  
Director-General  
19/3/2011

.....  
Attorney-General

/ / 2011

Action Officer: s22(1)(a)(ii)

SECURITY-IN-CONFIDENCE

## **Background**

In response to a formal request from the Government of Japan, Australia sent a 72-strong NSW-led USAR TF on 13 March, deploying to the Minima-kata in the Miyagi prefecture on 14 March to commence operations. This TF is supported by Liaison Officers and interpreters from DFAT and EMA, bringing the total contingent up to 76.

## **Consultation**

Internal: 191100 March Interdepartmental Taskforce, which included ARPANSA and DOHA representatives.

External: Commissioner Greg Mullins, Commissioner, FRNSW.

**Sensitivities and Media Implications.** Media event/announcement not recommended. There is likely to be substantial interest in this issue.



**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 43 - Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** RR : Beijing, Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei Acio, Vienna  
UN, Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Response:** Routine, Information Only

+++ Personal information about individuals contained in this cable should not be disclosed unless authorised under the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth). Any unauthorised disclosure of personal information may constitute a breach of the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) +++

**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 43.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Sendai update

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

6. We are currently dealing with 10 cases involving 22 Australians/family members. Of the 10 cases, 7 cases (12 individuals) involve people intending to stay and 3 cases (10 individuals) involve people planning to leave. All those planning to leave have advised they have means to do so.

7. Since yesterday we have removed two cases (6 people) from active Sendai consular cases (s22(1)(a)(ii)), since they have left the Sendai area (s22(1)(a)(ii)).

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Nuclear reactors**

10. Media has reported reactor No. 3 has been stabilized. On 19 March, according to measurements taken 500m northwest of reactor No 3, the radiation level dropped from 3443 millisieverts (mSv) at 14:00 to 2900 mSv at 21:00. s22(1)(a)(ii)

11. Media reported the Japanese Self Defence Force was preparing to inject water into the No. 4 reactor on the morning of 20 March. 80 tonnes of water would be injected into holes in the walls and roof of the building. Radiation levels around the reactor were high and officers engaged in the water injection operations would need to stay inside the water cannon trucks.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

16. Tokyo Fire Dept has announced that the radiation levels of the 139 fire fighters engaged in water injection operations at the nuclear plant was below the 30 millisieverts (mSv) standard level. The maximum level recorded was 27 mSv.

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Radiation levels in Japan**

18. According to the Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Public Health (Shinjuku, Tokyo), on 20 March between 0900 and 1000 radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.0462iGy/h to 0.0492iGyh/h.

**Miyagi Prefecture**

Sendai 020 mSv – not updated from 19 March

Shiraishi 0.79 mSv as at 1340 on 19 March

**Fukushima Prefecture as at 0900 on 20 March**

Minami Soma 2.55 mSv

Idate 18.90 mSv

Fukushima 9.17 mSv

Aizu Wakamatsu 0.35 mSv

Koriyama 2.47 mSv

Minami Aizu 0.09 mSv

Shirakawa 2.1 mSv

Iwaki 0.89 mSv

**Ibaraki Prefecture as at 0900 on 20 March**

Kita Ibaraki 0.821 mSv

Tokai Mura (various locations) 0.163 – 0.437 mSv

Takaogi 0.240 mSv

**Tochigi Prefecture as at 0900 on 20 March**

Nasu 0.80 mSv

**Gunma Prefecture as at 1000 on 20 March**

Maebashi 0.071

**Saitama Prefecture as at 1000 on 20 March**

Saitama 0.054 mSv

**Chiba Prefecture as at 1000 on 20 March**

Ichihara 0.033 mSv – unchanged

**Niigata Prefecture as at 1050 on 20 March**

Aga 0.038 mSv

**Kanagawa Prefecture as at 0900 20 March**

Kawasaki 0.0575 mSv

Yokosuka 0.0577 mSv

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Chigasaki 0.048 mSv

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**



s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

## CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 45 - Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Tokyo  
**Cc:** PP : Beijing, Canberra, Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei  
 Acio, Vienna UN, Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

### Response: Priority, Information Only

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### Summary

Cable below contains Sitrep 45.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

### Sendai update

2. s22(1)(a)(ii)

### USAR update

3. Assistant Defence Attache at the Embassy has been informed that the USAR team is at this stage scheduled to depart from Yokota Air Base during the morning of 22 March.

### Air transport update

4. At 2040, the Narita team reported that all scheduled flights to Australia departed on time. There were a number of empty seats on each flight, including: 30 seats on the 8025 JQ12 to the Gold Coast; 130 seats on the 2010 JQ26 to Cairns; 42 business class seats, 31 premium economy seats and 75 economy seats on the 2000 QF22 to Sydney; 13 business class seats, 26 premium economy seats and 61 economy seats on the 2000 JL771 to Sydney. There were a number of passengers that reserved seats but did not turn up for flights, including: 10 on each of JQ26 and JQ12, and 20 on QF22. s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

5. Our Consul General in Osaka has advised that there were no major issues with Australians departing Kansai airport on 20 March. s22(1)(a)(ii)

JQ16 Kansai to Cairns departed 2020 with 10 economy and 25 star class seats empty; and JQ20 Kansai to the Gold Coast departed at 20:50 with 10 economy seats and 13 star class seats empty. In addition, to the chartered flights detailed in sitrep 44, there was a Lufthansa flight 714/715.

6. On Singapore Airlines SQ619 which left at 11:00 there were no seats available; 2 economy are available on SQ619 leaving at 11:00 on 21 March; and 15 economy and 7 business seats available on SQ615 leaving at 23:30 on 21 March, all bound for Singapore. On Cathay Pacific flights to Hong Kong departing Kansai 20 March there were more than 9 seats on each of CX567 leaving at 9:30, CX503 leaving at 11:00 and CX507 leaving at 15:25.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Radiation levels**

13. According to the Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Public Health (Shinjuku, Tokyo), on 20 March between 2000 and 2300 radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.0405 microsievert per hour to 0.0524 microsievert per hour.

**Radiation levels in Japan****Miyagi Prefecture**

Miyagi Prefecture as at **2000** on 19 March

Sendai 0.20 microsieverts per hour

Shiraishi 0.79 microsieverts per hour

**Fukushima Prefecture as at 1800 on 20 March**

Minami-Soma City **3.01** microsieverts per hour

Iidate mura **12.40** microsieverts per hour

Fukushima City **8.54** microsieverts per hour

Aizu-Wakamatsu City **0.33** microsieverts per hour

Koriyama City **2.33** microsieverts per hour

Minami-Aizu cho **0.10** microsieverts per hour

Shirakawa City **1.80** microsieverts per hour

Iwaki City **0.75** microsieverts per hour

Tamagawa mura (Fukushima Airport) **0.11** microsieverts per hour

Funchiki, Tamura City **0.84** microsieverts per hour

Tokiwa, Tamura City **0.83** microsieverts per hour

**Ibaraki Prefecture as at 1400 on 20 March**

Kita Ibaraki 0.797 microsieverts per hour

Tokai Mura (various locations) 0.163 to 0.437 microsieverts per hour

**Tochigi Prefecture as at 1200 on 20 March**

Micro-Sieverts range from 0.11 to 0.75 microsieverts per hour

next update not until 22:00 due to power stoppages

**Gunma Prefecture as between 1200–1300 on 20 March**

0.099 microsieverts per hour

**Saitama Prefecture as at 1200 on 20 March**

Saitama 0.053 microsiervts per hour

**Chiba Prefecture as at 1200 on 20 March**

0.20 microsiervts per hour (20 Mar 2011, 20:00)

**Niigata Prefecture as at 1400 on 20 March**

Aga 0.038 microsievert per hour

**Kanagawa Prefecture as at 1300 on 20 March****CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

Kawasaki 0.0565 microsievert per hour  
Yokosuka 0.0568 microsievert per hour  
Chigasaki 0.047 microsievert per hour

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 48 - Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** RR : Beijing, Guangzhou, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Taipei Acio, Vienna  
 UN, Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Response:** Routine, Information Only

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**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 48 of the 11 March earthquake in Japan

**Consular update**

*Embassy consular and passports*

Post consular team has continued to contact Australians to follow up on the welfare of those who decided to remain in Japan and is offering assistance where required. s22(1)(a)(ii)

. Through this process, post has identified nine further Australians remaining in, or very close to, the 80km exclusion zone. Post has contacted eight this evening (21 March) and strongly advised them to consider leaving the area. Consular officers are seeking to contact the other to re-enforce the same advice. Consular officers emphasised that, should the situation deteriorate, their travel options may be seriously limited.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

*Narita team*

s22(1)(a)(ii)

The airport team also assisted the 76 members of the departing search and rescue team with immigration facilitation and with quarantine facilitation for the team's two dogs.

8. There appeared to be empty seats on the Qantas and Jetstar flights to Australia (exact numbers not available at time of drafting).

s22(1)(a)(ii)

*Osaka team*

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

11. It was a slow day at Kansai airport. Our team noticed few Australians prior to the Jetstar flights and there were no enquiries during the day. Two Jetstar customers required re-entry permits, which check-in staff handled. Check-in went smoothly. We saw fewer long term residents departing, mostly Australian holiday makers, although some shorter-term residents appeared to be leaving after pressure from relatives in Australia. s22(1)(a)(ii)

12. Jetstar JQ16 departed for Cairns with 63 open seats, JQ20 departed for Gold Coast with 80 open seats.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Nuclear reactors**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

17. The media has reported updated NISA radiation measurements at the Fukushima plant. Radiation levels 500 metres north-west of reactor 3 were as follows: 2,670 microsieverts at 06:30 on 20 March; 3,346 microsieverts at 14:50 on 20 March; and 2,319 microsieverts at 06:30 on 21 March. NISA reportedly assessed that radiation levels at this particular spot had increased because of a change in wind direction. It claimed that the drop of radiation levels on 21 March indicated that the water spraying operations appeared to be taking effect.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

19. s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Radiation levels**

- 21. According to the Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Public Health (Shinjuku, Tokyo), between 0500 on 21 March and 2200 on 21 March, radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.0553iGy/h to 0.1400Gy/h.(dose rate; iGy/h (microgray (=microsievert) per hour))
- 22. According to the Citizen's Nuclear Information (Shinjuku, Tokyo) website, between 2130 on 20 March and 2100 on 21 March, the radiation levels in Tokyo ranged from 0.08iGy/h to 0.26iGy/h inside buildings and 0.09iGy/h to 0.26iGy/h outside of the buildings. (dose rate; iGy/h (microgray (=microsievert) per hour))
- 23. The following prefectures updated their radiation levels on 21 March (other prefectures did not update their data as 21 March was a national holiday).

Sendai **0.19** microsievert as at 09:31 on 20 March  
 Shiraishi **0.59** microsievert as at 14:50 on 20 March

Fukushima Prefecture as at **1900** on **21** March:  
 Minami-Soma City **1.95** microsievert  
 Iidate mura **10.60** microsievert  
 Fukushima City **7.51** microsievert  
 Aizu-Wakamatsu City **0.32** microsievert  
 Koriyama City **1.94** microsievert  
 Minami-Aizu cho **0.10** microsievert  
 Shirakawa City **1.60** microsievert  
 Iwaki City **2.16** microsievert  
 Tamagawa mura (Fukushima Aiport) **0.47** microsievert

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

Funehiki, Tamura City **0.71** microsievert

Ibaraki Prefecture as at **1900** on **21** March:

Kita Ibaraki **1.770** microsievert

Tokai Mura (various locations) **0.132 – 2.197** microsievert (as at 0540 on 21 March)

Tochigi Prefecture as at **2100** on **21** March:

Utsunomiya **0.133** microsievert

Nasu **0.60** microsievert

Gunma Prefecture as between **2200–2300** on **21** March:

Maebashi **0.112** microsievert

Saitama Prefecture as at 1700 on 21 March:

Saitama **0.106** microsievert

Chiba Prefecture as at **1900** on 21 March:

Ichihara **0.083** microsievert

Niigata Prefecture as at 2200 on 21 March:

Niigata City **0.045** microsievert

Nagaoka City **0.048** microsievert

Kanagawa Prefecture as at **1700** on **21** March:

Kawasaki **0.1533** microsievert

Yokosuka **0.1473** microsievert

Chigasaki **0.083** microsievert

24. The Tokyo Metropolitan Government has set up an disaster emergency hotline for foreigners (English service available) which will be available from 22 to 23 March (10:00–17:00). The number is +81 3 5320 7662. There is also an emergency information website which can be found

at: <http://www.chijihon.metro.tokyo.jp/gaimuka/emergency/1emergency.htm>.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Food and water safety**

30. At 16:00, Chief Cabinet Secretary Edano advised at a press conference that the central government has ordered Gunma, Tochigi, Ibaraki and Fukushima prefectures to suspend shipments of spinach and kakina (a Japanese mustard green). He said that the central government had also ordered Fukushima prefecture to suspend shipments of milk. He said the government had ordered people residing in Iidate village to desist from drinking tap water. He stressed that that while radiation in these products was higher than regulated limits, consumption would not cause instant harm. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare will release further information on affected products in due course.

**USAR team**

31. The Ambassador farewelled the NSW Fire Brigade Urban Search and Rescue Team (USAR) at Narita Airport. News Ltd covered their departure.

3 2. The USAR team departed for Australia on QF22 at 20:00 21 March (Tokyo time), scheduled to arrive Sydney 1.25pm 22 March (Sydney time). Emergency Management Australia representative, s22(1)(a)(ii), has remained in Tokyo to return with the USAR equipment cache on 22 March on a RAAF C17.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Sitrep 51 - Japan Earthquake  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** PP : Beijing, Guangzhou, Hong Kong, London, Seoul, Taipei Acio, Vienna  
UN, Washington, Wellington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Response: Priority, Information Only**

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**Summary**

Cable below contains Sitrep 51 regarding the Japan earthquake and nuclear situation.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

*Embassy consular and passports*

4. Post consular team continues to contact Australians listed in our database. s22(1)(a)(ii)

5. Based on a number of new enquiries received today, some Australians remaining in Japan appear to believe that the Australian Government has a mass evacuation plan for Australians should the situation at the Fukushima plant worsen. We have referred these callers to the current travel advisory which advises that Australians in Tokyo and northern Honshu should, unless their presence in Japan is essential, make arrangements to leave – either to Southern Japan or elsewhere.

6. s22(1)(a)(ii)

*Narita update*

8. Narita was very quiet this evening. No Australians required consular or other assistance. JQ26 to Cairns (via Kansai) at 20:25 left with 161 empty seats. QF22 to Sydney at 20:00 left with 259 empty seats.

*Osaka update*

9. Kansai was also quiet this evening. There were few enquiries or requests for assistance. s22(1)(a)(ii). Jetstar JQ20 departed with 10 empty seats - all star class. Jetstar JQ12 (the flight changed to departure from Kansai, as advised in Sitrep 50) departed with 200 empty seats. Information collated by Consul-General on flights out of Kansai to regional airports indicated there was ample seating available on most flights.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Radiation levels**

16. According to the Citizen's Nuclear Information Website, as of 18:00 22 March, radiation levels in Shinjuku were 0.08–0.09  $\mu\text{Gy/h}$  (inside) and 0.25–0.26  $\mu\text{Gy/h}$  (outside).

17. According to the Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Public Health, between 21:00 and 21:59 on 22 March, radiation levels in Tokyo dropped from 0.155  $0\mu\text{Gy/h}$  to 0.146  $0\mu\text{Gy/h}$ . (dose rate;  $\mu\text{Gy/h}$  (microgray (=microsievert) per hour))

**Miyagi Prefecture:**

Sendai 0.16 microsieverts as at 10:11 on 22 March

Shiraishi 0.51 microsieverts as at 14:13 on 22 March

**Fukushima Prefecture as at 21:00 on 22 March:**

Minami-Soma City 1.72 microsieverts

Iidate mura 15.10 microsieverts

Fukushima City 6.12 microsieverts

Aizu-Wakamatsu City 0.47 microsieverts

Koriyama City 1.69 microsieverts

Minami-Aizu cho 0.09 microsieverts

Shirakawa City 1.50 microsieverts

Iwaki City 2.05 microsieverts

Tamagawa mura (Fukushima Airport) 0.73 microsieverts

Funehiki, Tamura City 0.82 microsieverts

Tokiwa, Tamura City – 0.96 microsieverts

**Ibaraki Prefecture as at 21:00 on 22 March:**

Kita Ibaraki 1.55 microsieverts

Takahagi 2.47 microsieverts

Tokai Mura (various locations) 232 – 1062 nGy/h (as at 22:10 on 22 March)

**Tochigi Prefecture as at 21 : 00 on 22 March:**

Nasu 0.52 microsieverts

**Gunma Prefecture as between 21:00- 22:00 on 22 March:**

Maebashi 0.113 microsieverts

**Saitama Prefecture as at 18 : 00 on 22 March:**

Saitama 0.114 microsieverts

**Chiba Prefecture as at 1000 on 22 March:**

Ichihara 0.082 microsieverts

**Niigata Prefecture as at 0520 on 22 March:**

Aga 0.038 microsieverts

**Kanagawa Prefecture as at 17 : 00 on 22 March:**

Kawasaki 0.1539 microsieverts

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

Yokosuka 0.1569 microsieverts

Chigasaki 0.093 microsieverts

18. At a press conference at 16:30, Chief Cabinet Secretary Edano was asked about the results of soil monitoring in the Fukushima area, which showed iodine-131 levels of 43,000 becquerel (Bq)/kg. Edano said airborne radiation was measured at only 5 microsieverts/hour, and that these levels were unlikely to have any immediate health effects. In response to questions about concerns over agricultural produce from the area, Edano said the government would continue to monitor the radiation level of crops before shipment. He noted that producers had been forbidden to ship spinach and other products which had registered radiation levels above regulated levels.

19. NHK news reported at 19:50 that the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare had announced the detection of over 100 Bq /kg of radioactive iodine-131 in tap water in five cities within Fukushima prefecture, but advised that radiation at these levels should not have any immediate health effects. The Ministry advised, however, that as a precaution, babies in these areas should not be given water to drink. The five cities were Date-city, Kooriyama-city, Tamura-city, Minami-Souma City and Kawamata-town

20. Media reported that TEPCO sampled seawater 330 meters south of the plant's drainage exit at 14:30 on Monday. It contained iodine-131 at a level 126.7 times the legal concentration. Cesium-134 was 24.8 times higher and cesium-137 was 16.5 times higher than the level set by law. A sampling at the same location at 6:30 on Tuesday showed levels of iodine were 29.8 times higher, and those of cesium-134 and cesium-137 were 2.5 times and 1.7 times higher, respectively. Seawater sampled at the mouth of the Tomioka River 8 kilometers south of the plant on Monday shortly after midnight contained 80.3 times the legal level of iodine-131 and 1.3 times that of cesium-134. Seawater sampled at 23:15 on Monday 10 kilometers south of the Fukushima Daiichi plant showed Iodine -131 at 27.1 times the legal concentration. Seawater sampled shortly before midnight on Monday near Iwasawa Beach 16 kilometers south of the plant contained Iodine-131 at 16.4 times higher than legal levels.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Title:** Japan: MFA Briefing on Fukushima No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant  
**MRN:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** Canberra  
**Cc:** RR : Beijing, Honolulu, London, Moscow, Paris EMB, Seoul, Vienna UN,  
Washington  
**From:** Tokyo  
**From File:**  
**EDRMS**  
**Files:**  
**References:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Response:** Routine, Information Only

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**Summary**

s33(a)(iii) + s33(b) + s47E(d)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s33(a)(iii) + s33(b) + s47E(d)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s33(a)(iii) + s33(b) + s47E(d)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**CONSULAR-IN-CONFIDENCE**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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