

Information Circular

INFCIRC/549/Add.1/27

Date: 6 September 2024

General Distribution

Original: English

Communication Received from Japan Concerning its Policies Regarding the Management of Plutonium

1. The Secretariat has received a note verbale dated 30 August 2024 from the Permanent Mission of Japan to the IAEA in the enclosures of which the Government of Japan, in keeping with its commitment under the Guidelines for the Management of Plutonium (contained in INFCIRC/549¹ of 16 March 1998 and hereinafter referred to as the “Guidelines”), and in accordance with Annexes B and C of the Guidelines, has made available annual figures for holdings of civil unirradiated plutonium and the estimated amounts of plutonium contained in spent civil reactor fuel as of 31 December 2023.
2. In light of the request expressed by the Government of Japan in its note verbale of 1 December 1997 concerning its policies regarding the management of plutonium (INFCIRC/549 of 16 March 1998), the note verbale of 30 August 2024 and its enclosures are attached for the information of all Member States.

¹ A modification to this document was issued on 17 August 2009 (INFCIRC/549/Mod.1).

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The Permanent Mission of Japan to the International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency and, in accordance with Annexes B and C of the Guidelines for the Management of Plutonium (INFCIRC/549), has the honour to enclose herewith an annual statement of the national holdings of civil unirradiated plutonium and of plutonium contained in spent civil reactor fuel in Japan as of 31 December 2023.

The Government of Japan requests the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency to circulate this note and its attachments to all Member States for their information.

The Permanent Mission of Japan to the International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency the assurances of its highest consideration.



30 August 2024
Vienna
To the Director General
of the International Atomic Energy Agency

ANNEX B**ANNUAL FIGURES FOR HOLDINGS OF CIVIL UNIRRADIATED PLUTONIUM**National Totals

as of 31 Dec. 2023.
 (Previous year's
 figures in brackets)
 Rounded to 100kg
 plutonium with
 quantities less than
 50kg reported as such

[tonnes Pu]

1. Unirradiated separated plutonium in product stores at reprocessing plants.	<u>3.8</u>	(<u>3.8</u>)
2. Unirradiated separated plutonium in the course of manufacture or fabrication and plutonium contained in unirradiated semi-fabricated or unfinished products at fuel or other fabricating plants or elsewhere.	<u>3.4</u>	(<u>3.4</u>)
3. Plutonium contained in unirradiated MOX fuel, including that loaded into a reactor core prior to use, or other unirradiated plutonium in fabricated products at reactor sites or elsewhere.	<u>1.4</u>	(<u>1.9</u>)
4. Unirradiated separated plutonium held elsewhere	<u>0.1</u>	(<u>0.1</u>)

Note:

(i) Plutonium included in lines 1-4 above belonging to foreign bodies.

	<u>0</u>	(<u>0</u>)
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(ii) Plutonium in any of the forms in lines 1-4 above held in locations in other countries and therefore not included above.

	<u>35.8</u>	(<u>35.9</u>)
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(iii) Plutonium not included in lines 1-4 above which is in international shipment prior to its arrival in the recipient State.

	<u>0</u>	(<u>0</u>)
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ANNEX C**ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF PLUTONIUM CONTAINED IN SPENT CIVIL
REACTOR FUEL**National Totals

as of 31 Dec. 2023.
(Previous year's
figures in brackets)
Rounded to 1000kg
plutonium with
quantities less than
500kg reported as such

[tonnes Pu]

1. Plutonium contained in spent fuel at civil reactor sites.	<u>158</u>	(<u>156</u>)
2. Plutonium contained in spent fuel at reprocessing plants.	<u>27</u>	(<u>27</u>)
3. Plutonium contained in spent fuel held elsewhere.	<u>less than 500kgPu</u>	(<u>less than 500kgPu</u>)

Note:

i) The treatment of material sent for direct disposal will need further consideration when specific plans for direct disposal have taken concrete form.

ii) Definitions:

- Line 1: covers estimated amounts of plutonium contained in fuel discharged from civil reactors
- Line 2: covers estimated amounts of plutonium contained in fuel received at reprocessing plants but not yet reprocessed