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ICAO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **PIO 07/11**

CURRENT SITUATION FOR TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT TO AND FROM JAPAN

MONTRÉAL, 14 April 2011 – The United Nations organizations closely monitoring the effects of the damaged Fukushima Daiichi plant remain confident that current radiation levels do not present health or transportation safety hazards to passengers and crew.

On 18 March, based on the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES)*, the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry assessed the significance rating of the accident at the plant as Level 5. On 12 April, this assessment was revised to Level 7 following information obtained from estimations of the amount of radioactive material discharged to the atmosphere.

Radiation monitoring around airports and seaports in Japan continues to confirm that levels remain well within safe limits from a health perspective. In addition, monitoring of passengers, crew and cargo from Japan carried out to date in other countries, in accordance with their national policy, does not suggest any health or safety risk. Therefore, screening of radiation for health and safety purposes is currently considered unnecessary at airports and seaports around the world.

*Information concerning travel and transport to and from Japan by air or sea is not dependent on the INES rating.

For updates, travelers visiting Japan by air are advised to consult a dedicated website established by the Japanese Civil Aviation Bureau:
http://www.mlit.go.jp/koku/flyjapan_en/.

Further information covering all aspects of the response of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, as well as information regarding the radiation dose in Tokyo Bay and at sea in the region can be found on the following websites:
http://www.mlit.go.jp/page/kanbo01_hy_001411.html
http://www.mlit.go.jp/kowan/kowan_fr1_000041.html
http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime_fr1_000007.html

The UN agencies involved in the monitoring process are the World Health Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the World Meteorological Organization, the International Maritime Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the World Tourism Organization and the International Labour Organization.

Further information concerning health aspects is available on the website of the World Health Organization - www.who.int

ICAO Newsroom: http://www2.icao.int/en/newsroom/default.aspx

A specialized agency of the United Nations, ICAO was created in 1944 to promote the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation throughout the world. It sets standards and regulations necessary for aviation safety, security, efficiency and regularity, as well as for aviation environmental protection. The Organization serves as the forum for cooperation in all fields of civil aviation among its 190 Contracting States.

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Circular letter No.3175/Rev.2
15 April 2011

To: All IMO Members
United Nations and Specialized Agencies
Intergovernmental Organizations
Non-governmental Organizations in Consultative Status
Liberation Movements

Subject: **Navigation in the sea area surrounding Japan in the wake of the earthquake and tsunami of 11 March 2011**

1 Current radiation levels in Japan

1.1 In the wake of the earthquake and tsunami off the eastern coast of Japan on 11 March 2011 and the damage to the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in Japan, an updated joint press briefing was issued (14 April 2011) by the World Health Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the World Meteorological Organization, the International Maritime Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the World Tourism Organization and the International Labour Organization stating that they remained confident that current radiation levels do not present health or transportation safety hazards to passengers and crews.

1.2 On 18 March 2011, based on the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES)*, the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry assessed the significance rating of the accident at the plant as Level 5. On 12 April 2011, this assessment was revised to Level 7 following information obtained from estimations of the amount of radioactive material discharged to the atmosphere.

1.3 Radiation monitoring around airports and seaports in Japan continues to confirm that levels remain well within safe limits from a health perspective. In addition, monitoring of passengers, crew and cargo from Japan carried out to date in other countries, in accordance with their national policy, does not suggest any health or safety risk. Therefore, screening of radiation for health and safety purposes is currently considered unnecessary at airports and seaports around the world.

1.4 For updates, travellers visiting Japan by air are advised to consult a dedicated website established by the Japanese Civil Aviation Bureau:
http://www.mlit.go.jp/koku/flyjapan_en/.

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1.5 Further information covering all aspects of the response of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, as well as information regarding the radiation dose in Tokyo Bay and at sea in the region can be found on the following websites:
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http://www.mlit.go.jp/kowan/kowan_fr1_000041.html
http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime_fr1_000007.html.

1.6 Further information is available on the website of the World Health Organization http://www.who.int/en/.

2 NAVAREA warnings

2.1 NAVAREA warnings including designated dangerous area around the Plant have been issued by the NAVAREA XI Coordinator (Japan) and also other precautionary warnings have been issued by other NAVAREA Coordinators.

3 Action required

3.1 Member Governments and organizations are invited to bring this circular to the attention of shipowners and shipmasters and advise them to comply with the latest navigational warnings issued by the NAVAREA XI Coordinator (Japan), taking into account further precautionary advice issued by other NAVAREA Coordinators, in the wake of the damage to the Plant.

Radiation Measurement on Containers and Ships in Ports (Outline)

MLIT

MLIT has developed the guideline on radiation measurement for export containers and ships in ports in response to the need for the information on radiation dose rate for containers and ships from Japan. Radiation measurement on containers and ships is due to start at Yokohama Port and Tokyo Port.

1. Framework

Based on MLIT guideline, port authorities or shipping companies measure the dose rate of radiation for containers and ships, and **public institutions(government of Japan, port authorities, or Class NK) issue the attestation for radiation dose measurement** on the request from shipping companies.

2. Method

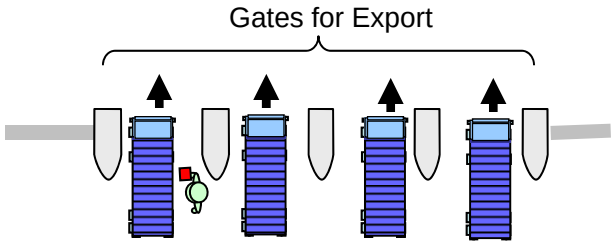
Radiation measurement will be conducted at container terminal gates and decks of ships, **using mobile-type radiation meters.**

3. Indicative Criteria

According to the standard value developed by international bodies (IAEA, IMO), **criteria for decontamination is defined on the guideline**. If the measured dose rate exceeds the criteria, decontamination will be taken.

The dose rate of radiation on the surface of containers and ships is measured by mobile-type radiation meters.

Measurement at container terminal gate (image)



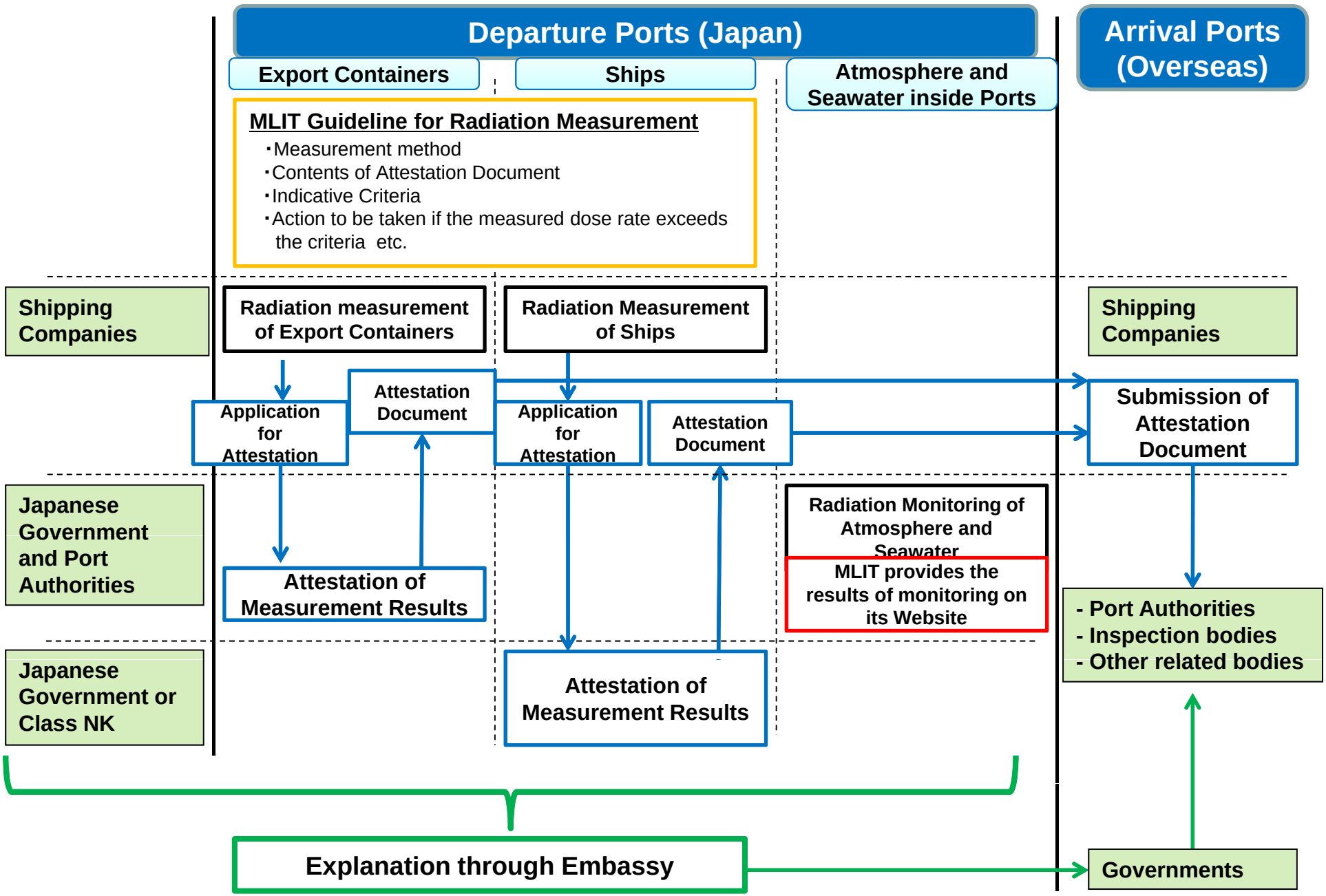
Measurement by radiation meter(γ-ray)

Radiation Measurement of Containers

Radiation Measurement of Vessel Bodies

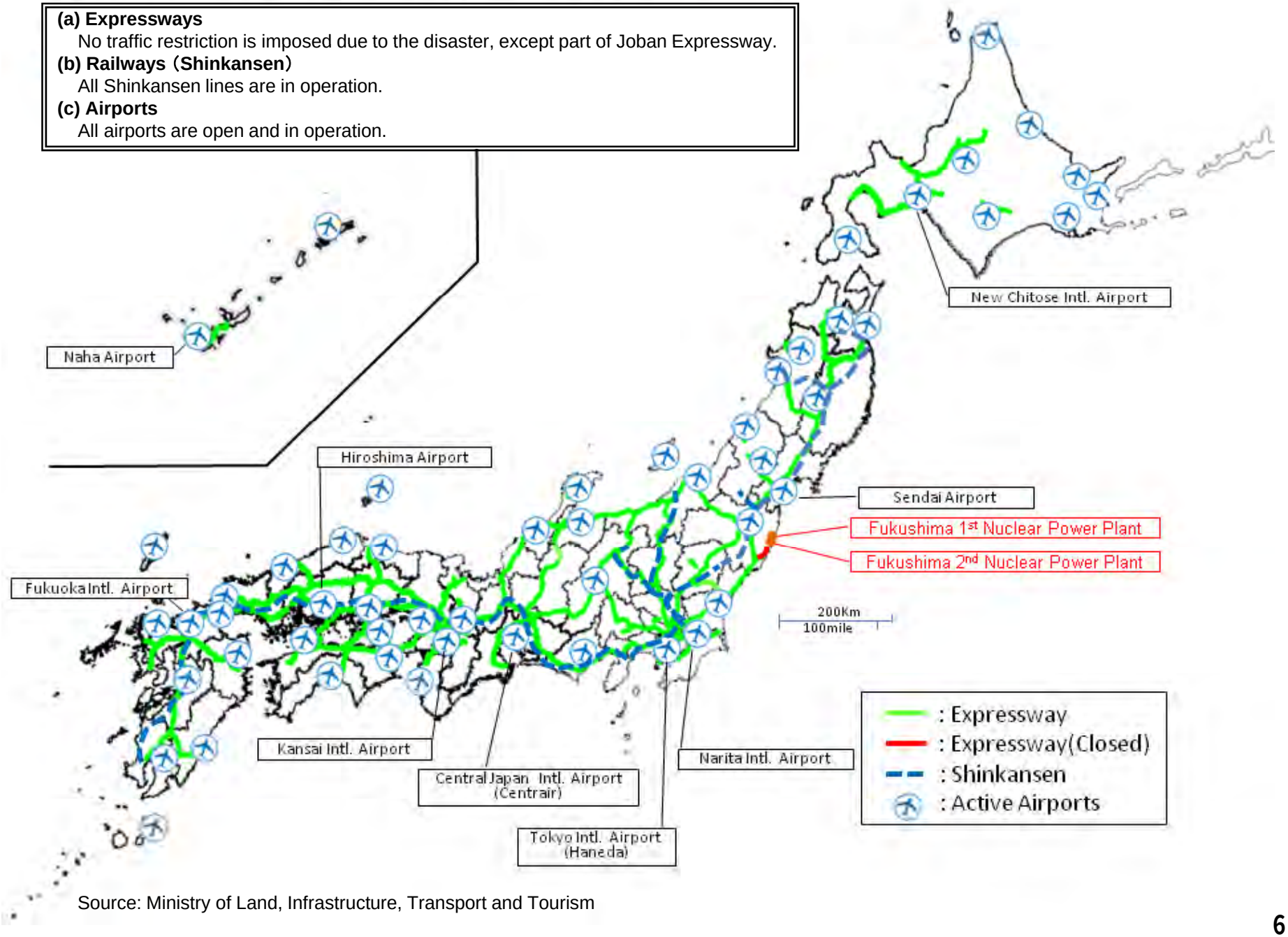
Radiation Measurement in Ports in Japan (Outline)

MLIT



Major Transportation Network in Japan

(a) Expressways
No traffic restriction is imposed due to the disaster, except part of Joban Expressway.
(b) Railways（Shinkansen）
All Shinkansen lines are in operation.
(c) Airports
All airports are open and in operation.



Source: Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism