Overview of National Institute of Radiological Sciences Review (NIRS) (Draft)

August 21, 2015
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology
Research Promotion Bureau
(1) **Medium to Long-Term Objective Period**
This is set to be 7 years.

(2) **Review of administrative and business operation**
1. **Clarification of role and concrete objective setting**
   To maximize R&D achievements, the Agency shall clearly describe the role to be played, and set up a concrete objective to be accomplished through R&D activity but also industry-academia-government collaboration, equipment sharing, and development of human resources.

2. **Reinforcement of industry-academia-government collaboration**
   The Agency shall consider a cross appointment system with universities and companies in order to put R&D achievements into practical use, develop young human resources, revitalize research activity, maximize R&D achievement, and create new innovations.

(3) **Review of organization**
To enhance the effect of integration with other divisions, the Agency should unite all human and technological resources, use them actively and reciprocally, and manage the organization flexibly. Hence, the headquarters should strengthen management and internal control to carry out new research assignments effectively and efficiently.

(4) **Management efficiency**
1. **Accelerating computerization**
   Considering increasing management bases from one to several following the integration in 2016, the Agency shall introduce an electronic conference system to improve operation and management.

2. **Implementation of joint procurement**
   The Agency shall consider the possibility of joint procurement of commodities and joint work of indirect tasks with neighboring Incorporated Administrative Agencies.
(5) Review regarding the improvement of financial matters

1. Review of holdings
   The holdings shall be constantly checked for necessity within a range of not making trouble in operation, such as the degree of usage, efficient use for intended purposes, effective disposition, and economic rationality.

2. Increase of own income
   The Agency shall make efforts to earn its own income by obtaining external funds and collecting facilities' rental fees in accordance with a benefit principle.
Comments on the items to be reviewed (draft)

1. Clarification of role and concrete objective setting
   - Clarification and embodiment of the role that the Agency plays
   - Objectives should be set taking into consideration not only R&D activity but also industry-academia-government collaboration, equipment sharing, and development of human resources.

2. Reinforcement of industry-academia-government collaboration
   - A cross appointment system with universities and companies should be considered and expanded.

3. Making operation efficient and reviewing organization
   - To maximize the operational efficiency by taking advantage of integration with part of the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (National Research and Development Agency), human and technical resources should be actively shared, and the organization should be managed flexibly by mobilizing the total power of researchers from different fields. For these purposes, the headquarters should strengthen management and internal control so that new research assignments are effectively addressed.

Comments from the Evaluation Committee
- Should a concrete objective be set by specifying a research theme and purpose, the achievements to be fulfilled, and how the process will be expedited?

- Should a cross appointment system be considered and utilized to collaborate with other research institutes and maximize research achievements?

- Following a transfer of operation and management, should the headquarters urgently consider the measures for strengthening governance and streamlining management?
  - Do the headquarters need to build mechanisms to reorganize research units, rearrange researchers, and revitalize shared human resources, equipment and research seeds?
The items to be reviewed (draft)

[4. Management efficiency]
1. Accelerating computerization
   - Electronic conference systems should be introduced to connect the bases.

2. Implementation of joint procurement
   - Joint procurement should be considered and introduced.

[5. Improvement in financial matters]
1. Review of holdings
   - The holdings should be checked for necessity, such as the degree of usage, efficient use for intended purposes, effective disposition, and economic rationality.

2. Increase of own income
   - The Agency shall make efforts to earn its own income through acquisition of external funds in accordance with a benefit principle.

Comments on the items to be reviewed (draft)

[Review related to integration]
- Related to the integration scheduled for 2016, the headquarters will be set up in Chiba Prefecture, adding to the management bases located in Rokkasho, Takasaki, Naka and Kizugawa.

[Comments from the Evaluation Committee]
- To make operations more efficient, do the headquarters need to take measures to increase shared indirect tasks (accounting, bookkeeping, accounting administration, etc.) and procure office supplies and services (building maintenance, cleaning, etc.) jointly with other Incorporated Administrative Agencies?

[Cabinet decision in 2007]
- The assets shall be constantly checked for necessity, such as the degree of usage, efficient use for intended purposes, effective disposition, and economic rationality. Even if the assets are needed for routine clerical work and operation, spending on assets should be curtailed.

[Cabinet decision in 2010]
- In any project carried out by a particular person with his/her burden of inspection fees, such fees should be reviewed in accordance with a benefit principle.
- Own incomes should be increased by utilizing intellectual property, etc.