

## **The Outline of the Radiation Effects Research Foundation Scientific Advisory Committee**

### 1. Objectives and composition of the Scientific Advisory Committee

- (1) The Scientific Advisory Committee is a mandatory advisory body established in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, and the Scientific Advisors are selected and appointed by the Board of Councilors. The committee reviews scientific research programs at RERF and makes recommendations to the Board of Directors and the Board of Councilors with respect to adoption of new research programs and/or continuation or alteration of programs under progress (Article 53, Articles of Incorporation).
- (2) The Scientific Advisory Committee consists of high-level experts having either Japanese nationality or U.S. nationality who are engaged in the fields of RERF's research. The committee currently consists of a total of 10 Scientific Advisors, five Japanese and five U.S. members (Article 53, Articles of Incorporation), and covers major fields of radiation effects research, including medicine, epidemiology, radiobiology, genetics, and statistics. The term of appointment of the Scientific Advisors is five years. The Scientific Advisors may be re-appointed to their post only when expressly deemed necessary, and the term of appointment of those reelected shall be one term only (Article 54, Articles of Incorporation). For operational reasons, one Scientific Advisor each from the Japan and U.S. sides is replaced with a new person every year.
- (3) The Scientific Advisory Committee performs its activities with due respect for the independence and neutrality of individual members under the leadership of the U.S. and Japanese co-chairpersons, who are chosen by the Scientific Advisors.

### 2. Scientific review by and recommendations from the Scientific Advisory Committee

- (1) In general, the Scientific Advisory Committee holds a three-day annual meeting in March, in which the members are informed of the research activities of RERF, visit individual research departments, hold hearings with research scientists, and thereby review the research programs. The review results are outlined to RERF on the last day of the meeting, followed by a press conference with the attendance of the co-chairpersons. At a later date, the review results are compiled into a detailed report, which consists of specific comments and recommendations for improvement.
- (2) The Scientific Advisory Committee report is presented at the meeting of the Board of Councilors in June of the same year. A co-chairperson of the Scientific Advisory Committee attends the board meeting and explains the content of the committee's recommendations in person. In addition, RERF submits and explains to the Board of Councilors a document regarding its responses to the aforementioned recommendations. The Board of Councilors discusses RERF's research activities report and research plans, taking these materials and explanations into due consideration.

### 3. Other issues

- (1) Provision of information to the Scientific Advisors

The Scientific Advisors are routinely provided with information about scientific papers and research activities of RERF. In some cases, copies of individual draft research protocols are sent to Scientific Advisors who have expertise in relevant areas so that their opinions may be taken into account.

(2) Intensive review of specific research departments and selection/appointment of Special Scientific Advisors

As a new protocol for annual meetings, the Scientific Advisory Committee focuses on selected research departments on a rotational basis. To this end, outside experts with knowledge relevant to subject research departments are sometimes invited to Scientific Advisory Committee meetings as additional members.