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OECD

Press Release

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KUNIHICO UEMATSU IS NAMED NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE NUCLEAR ENERGY AGENCY

The Secretary General of the OECD, Mr. Jean-Claude Paye, today announced the appointment of Dr. Kunihiro Uematsu as Director General of the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA), succeeding Mr. Howard K. Shapar, who is returning to Washington D.C. to practise law.

Dr. Uematsu, who has been Executive Director of the Japanese Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corporation (PNC), will take up his duties on 10th October 1988.

In his former position, Dr. Uematsu was in charge of development activities related to plutonium fuel, waste management and advanced technology. He has been involved in a number of international nuclear activities and is currently Chairman of the NEA Committee for Technical and Economic Studies on Nuclear Energy Development and the Fuel Cycle (FCC). Dr. Uematsu is also Chairman of the Japanese Section of the American Nuclear Society (ANS). He has published numerous papers on technical and policy issues in the field of nuclear energy.

Dr. Uematsu was born in Kochi, Japan in 1931. Following graduation from Kyoto University, he completed graduate school at the University's School of Engineering. He received a Doctorate degree in 1961 from the Department of Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He joined the PNC in 1968 as Head of Fuel and Materials Development for the Fast Breeder Reactor Project, became Director of the Fuel Development Division in 1982 and was named Executive Director in 1983. He also taught at the main Japanese Universities.

Dr. Uematsu is married and has three children. A photo of Dr. Uematsu is available upon request.

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THE OECD NUCLEAR ENERGY AGENCY

The OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) was established in 1957 under the name of the OEEC European Nuclear Energy Agency. It received its present designation on 20th April, 1972, when Japan became its first non-European full Member. The 23 NEA Member countries include all European Member countries of OECD as well as Australia, Canada, Japan and the United States. The Commission of the European Communities takes part in the NEA's work and a co-operation agreement has been concluded with the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The purpose of the NEA is to further the development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy by sponsoring economic, technical and scientific studies and projects, and by increasing the compatibility of the safety and regulatory policies and practices of its Member countries.