

**Governmental Decisions and Recommendations
in Iceland with respect to the Fukushima accident**

Question	Decision taken or Recommendation made	Applicable Date	Applicable Population
Recommendations concerning Icelandic citizens living in or visiting Japan	<p>The Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) issued a travel warning on March 11th because of the possible effects of the earthquake and the following tsunami in Japan. People were asked to try to be in contact with friends and relatives in areas possibly affected. The Consular Affairs Unit of the MFA stressed the availability of its call centre, whereby it can be contacted at all times by telephone (+354 545 9900) or e-mail (help@mfa.is). Icelanders in Japan were advised to follow closely the advice given by the Embassy, local authorities and media.</p> <p>In an update issued on March 13th the MFA informed on its web page that information and assessment of the radiological situation could be obtained from the web site of the Icelandic Radiation Safety Authority (IRSA), http://www.gr.is/</p> <p>The MFA issued a new travel warning on March 17th, advising against unnecessary travels to Japan. Those who would nevertheless be travelling were asked to inform the MFA about their plans. The Ministry advises Icelandic citizens in the area around or north of Tokyo to consider moving south until the situation has clarified. The ministry requested that it should be informed about all such movements. Icelandic citizens were advised not to get closer to the NPP than 80 km. There should not be a health risk due to radiation outside this region, but people were advised to follow information given at the IRSA web site. People were also advised to follow the travel advice given by other countries, especially other Nordic countries. It was explained that the updated recommendations were not only based on the uncertain conditions at the Fukushima NPP, but also potential societal effects caused by the earthquake(s) and tsunami.</p>	March 11 th , updated March 13 th , March 17 th	Icelanders living or travelling in Japan
Monitoring of passengers returning by air from Japan	There are no direct flights between Japan and Iceland. Travellers returning from Japan have not requested any screening for radioactivity, and none has been deemed necessary by the Icelandic Radiation Safety Authority.	March 17 th	Travellers returning to Iceland from Japan
Recommendations with respect to import of foods or goods from Japan.	The Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority announced on March 28 th the implementation of EU Regulation No 297/2011, imposing special conditions governing the import of feed and food originating in or consigned from Japan following the accident at the Fukushima nuclear power station. There is very limited direct import of food from Japan to Iceland and measurements of radioactivity will be conducted by the Icelandic Radiation Safety Authority, if and as required. The imported food is mainly soya souses, sea weed and rice	March 28 th	People staying in Iceland
Policies and plans with respect to KI distribution to Icelanders in Japan	The Icelandic Embassy in Tokyo made KI tablets available upon request, but with the instructions that they should only be used under special circumstances, that is if advice to use them was given by the Icelandic or Japanese authorities or if credible information had been received that a plume containing high levels of radioactive iodine was heading towards the persons concerned or had just arrived. Detailed instructions on sheltering and use of iodine tablets, prepared by the Icelandic Radiation Safety Authority and the Chief Epidemiologist at the Directorate of Health, were sent out by e-mail from the Icelandic Embassy in Tokyo on March 20 th by to all Icelanders staying in Japan.	March 20 th	Icelanders staying in Japan
Recommendations regarding screening of passengers, baggage and transport arriving from Japan	There are no direct flights between Japan and Iceland and thus no screening has been recommended at present. The Icelandic Radiation Safety Authority can begin screening in cooperation with the customs authorities at a short notice if needed or requested.	March 18 th	Passengers arriving from Japan
Monitoring of radioactivity in the environment.	<p>Routine monitoring of radiation and radioactivity by the Icelandic Radiation Safety Authority includes the operation of a high volume aerosol sampling station in Reykjavik and 4 gamma dose rate monitoring stations. Air is sampled for 24h at a rate of > 10 m³/minute. The filters are stored for decay of short lived radionuclides for 24h and then measured for 24h. Radionuclides in aerosols from the Fukushima NPP were first detected in Europe at the Reykjavik station during the March 19th – 20th sampling period. A summary of the radionuclides detected can be found at the web site: http://www.gr.is/english/</p> <p>The concentration have been very low, of no health concern and the I-131 values were less than 1/1000 of what was commonly seen in</p>	April 20 th	

	<p>western Europe after the Chernobyl accident. Real time results from the dose rate monitoring network can be seen on the web page: http://www.gr.is/gammastodvar/ As expected, no increase in gamma dose rate was detected that could be attributed to radionuclides from the Fukushima NPP.</p>		
<p>Activation of a call centre for information to the public</p>	<p>The Consular Affairs Unit of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) has a call centre in operation whereby it can be contacted at all times by telephone (+354 545 9900) or e-mail (help@mfa.is). The availability of this service was stressed on March 11th. Information was also given on the Ministry's web site: http://www.utanrikisraduneyti.is/ and via other channels such as Facebook. A meeting for Icelanders in Tokyo was held at the Icelandic Embassy on March 23rd to provide information on the current situation and answer questions. Expert advice was offered by the Icelandic Radiation Safety Authority (IRSA) as of March 11th in co-operation with the MFA and the Icelandic Embassy in Japan, via IRSA's web site, telephone and media coverage, which was extensive during the first week after the earthquake. This co-operation with the MFA and the Embassy later included contact by e-mail with Icelanders in Japan, offering to answer individual questions they might have concerning the radiological assessment of the situation.</p>	<p>March 23rd</p>	<p>Icelanders in Japan and their relatives and friends; the general public and the media</p>