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Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Important Notice on Visa Restrictions
for Strengthening Border Security Measures
to prevent the spread of Novel Coronavirus

On 1 April 2020, the Government of Japan decided to further strengthen the border security measures against the spread of Novel Coronavirus infections by introducing additional measures as follows;

1. The validity of single entry visa and multiple entry visa, including diplomatic and official entry visa of Japan, which have been issued by Embassies, Consulates-General and Consulates of Japan in countries and regions other than Albania, Armenia, Israel, Indonesia, United Kingdom, Ecuador, Egypt, Australia, Canada, Republic of Korea, North Macedonia, Cyprus, Greece, Croatia, Kosovo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Singapore, Slovakia, Serbia, Thailand, Taiwan, Czech, China (including Hong Kong and Macau), Chile, Dominica, Turkey, New Zealand, Panama, Hungary, Bahrain, Philippines, Finland, Brazil, Bulgaria, Brunei, United States, Vietnam, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bolivia, Poland, Malaysia, Moldova, Morocco, Montenegro, Mauritius, Latvia, Lithuania and Romania on or before April 2, 2020, will be temporarily suspended.

note: temporary suspension of visa for UAE includes seal of "visa waiver registration certificate"

2. The application of visa exemption arrangements for relevant countries and regions except those stated in 1 will also be temporarily suspended.

3. Validity of Pre-Clearance granted to APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC) issued by any relevant country or region other than those stated in 1 will be temporarily suspended.*

*Already-implemented visa restrictions, which have been notified on March 19 and 26 respectively, will remain in place until the last day of April.

4. The foregoing measures of 1 and 2 will enter into force at 0:00am (JST) on April 3, 2020 until the end of April, 2020. The period can be renewed.
5. For the time being, the permission to land in Japan to the foreigners who have stayed in any of the 49 countries and regions stated in 1* will be denied, unless the circumstances are exceptional.**

* As a consequence of the designation above, a total of 73 countries are subject to the entry ban in total.

** Foreigners with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident”, “Spouse or Child of Japanese National”, “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” or “Long Term Resident”, who have departed Japan with Re-entry Permission by April 2, are treated, in principle as persons in special circumstances. This, however, is not applicable to foreigners who depart Japan on or after April 3. The “Special Permanent Resident” is not in the scope of the entry ban.

6. The foregoing measure of 5 will be implemented from 0:00am (JST) on April 3, 2020, and remain in place for a period. The measures will also be applied to those who will depart before the launch of these measures and arrive in Japan after their introduction.

We would appreciate it very much if your Team could notify all related airlines that they should inform all concerned passengers of those measures in order for them to avoid arriving in Japan without proper documents.

[End]

New measures to strengthen border measures

April 1, 2020

1. Additional designation of areas subject to the entry ban

Designating the entire areas of 49 countries and regions listed below* as areas subject to the entry ban. Banning the entry of foreigners who have visited the areas within the last 14 days unless there are special circumstances.

*Albania, Armenia, Israel, Indonesia, United Kingdom, Ecuador, Egypt, Australia, Canada, Republic of Korea, North Macedonia, Cyprus, Greece, Croatia, Kosovo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Singapore, Slovakia, Serbia, Thailand, Taiwan, Czech, China (including Hong Kong and Macau), Chile, Dominica, Turkey, New Zealand, Panama, Hungary, Bahrain, Philippines, Finland, Brazil, Bulgaria, Brunei, United States, Vietnam, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bolivia, Poland, Malaysia, Moldova, Morocco, Montenegro, Mauritius, Latvia, Lithuania and Romania

Note 1: As a consequence of the designation above, 73 countries are subject to the entry ban in total.

Note 2: Foreigners with the status of residence of "Permanent Resident", "Spouse or Child of Japanese National", "Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident" or "Long Term Resident", who have departed Japan with Re-entry Permission by April 2, are treated, in principle, as persons in special circumstances. This, however, is not applicable to foreigners who depart Japan on or after April 3. The "Special Permanent Resident" is not in the scope of the entry ban.

2. Strengthened quarantine

- (1) Conducting PCR tests for arrivals who have visited the countries and regions listed in paragraph 1 above within 14 days prior to their entrance into Japan. It should be noted that arrivals who have visited the countries which had been already designated as areas subject to the entry ban within 14 days prior to their entrance into Japan also need to undergo PCR tests as they are required now.
- (2) Calling upon arrivals from any country to wait 14 days at a location designated by a quarantine station chief and to refrain from using public transportation.

3. Reducing the number of passengers

Requesting airlines concerned to curb the number of arrival passengers to Japan by such measures as reducing the number of passenger arrival flights in order to ensure the appropriate implementation of quarantine measures. In order to securing smooth return to Japan of Japanese citizens or overseas travelers wishing to return, a proper care, including providing information and sending advisories, will be taken.

4. Visa restrictions

- (1) Suspending validity of single or multiple-entry visa issued by April 2 at Japanese Embassies or Consulates General located in any country or region except the countries and regions listed in paragraph 1 above.
- (2) Suspending visa exemption measures for any relevant country or region except the countries and regions listed in paragraph 1 above.
- (3) Suspending validity of Pre-Clearance granted to APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC) issued by any relevant country or region except the countries and regions listed in paragraph 1 above.

Note 3: Ongoing visa restriction measures, which were decided at the 20th and 23rd Meeting of the Novel Coronavirus Response Headquarters held on March 18 and 26 respectively, will remain in place until the last day of April.

*The measures described in paragraphs 1 and 2 (1) above will be implemented from 0:00 am on April 3 (Japan Standard Time (JST)) and remain in place for a period. The measures will also be applied to those who will depart before the launch of these measures and arrive in Japan after their introduction.

**The measures described in paragraph 2 (2) above will be applied to the passengers of aircrafts and ships which will arrive in Japan after 0:00 am on April 3 (JST), and be implemented until the last day of April. The period can be renewed.

***The measures described in paragraphs 3 and 4 above will be implemented from 0:00 am on April 3 (JST) until the last day of April. The period can be renewed.

End

March 26, 2020

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Important Notice on Visa Restrictions
for Strengthening Border Security Measures
to prevent the spread of Novel Coronavirus

On 26 March 2020, the Government of Japan decided to further strengthen the border security measures against the spread of Novel Coronavirus infections by introducing additional measures as follows;

1. The validity of single entry visa and multiple entry visa, including diplomatic and official visa of Japan, which have been issued by Embassies, Consulate-Generals and Consulates of Japan in the Republic of Indonesia (note), the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Republic of the Philippines, Brunei Darussalam, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Malaysia, the State of Israel, the State of Qatar, Kingdom of Bahrain, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo by March 27, 2020, will be temporarily suspended.

note: including seal of “visa waiver registration certificate”

2. The application of visa exemption arrangements for Indonesia (note 1), Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Viet Nam (note 2), Malaysia, Israel and Qatar (note 2) will also be temporarily suspended.

note 1: visa waiver for Indonesian nationals based on a system of e-passport registration will likewise be temporarily suspended.

note 2: for diplomatic and official passport holders

3. The validity of Pre-Clearance (i.e. visa exemption) granted by the Government of Japan to Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Business Travel Card issued by Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, the Republic of Korea, the People's

Republic of China, including residents of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Philippines, Brunei, Viet Nam, and Malaysia will be temporarily suspended.

4. The foregoing measures of 1, 2 and 3 will enter into force on March 28, 2020, 0:00am (JST) until the end of April, 2020. The period can be extended.
5. Additionally, the ongoing measures which have entered into force on March 9, 2020, regarding temporary suspension of the validity of single entry visa and multiple entry visa which have been issued by Embassies, Consulate-Generals and Consulates of Japan in the Republic of Korea and PRC (including Hong Kong Special Administrative Region) as well as temporary suspension of visa exemption agreements for the Republic of Korea, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (both HK SAR and BNO passport holders) and Macau Special Administrative Region of PRC will be also extended until the end of April, 2020.
6. For the time being, the permission to land in Japan to the foreigners who have stayed in any of the 21 European countries (note) or the Islamic Republic of Iran within 14 days prior to the application for landing will be denied, unless the circumstances are exceptional.
note: Ireland, Principality of Andorra, Italian Republic, Republic of Estonia, Republic of Austria, Kingdom of the Netherlands, Swiss Confederation, Kingdom of Sweden, Kingdom of Spain, Republic of Slovenia, Kingdom of Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Kingdom of Norway, Vatican City State, French Republic, Kingdom of Belgium, Portuguese Republic, Republic of Malta, Principality of Monaco, Principality of Liechtenstein, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
7. The foregoing measures of 6 will enter into force on March 27, 2020, 0:00am (JST).

[End]

New measures to strengthen border measures

March 26, 2020

1. Additional designation of areas subject to the entry ban

Designating the entire areas of 21 European countries listed below* and Iran as areas subject to the entry ban. Banning the entry of foreigners who visited the areas within the last 14 days unless there are special circumstances.

*Ireland, Andorra, Italy, Estonia, Austria, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Sweden, Spain, Slovenia, Denmark, Germany, Norway, Vatican, France, Belgium, Portugal, Malta, Monaco, Liechtenstein and Luxemburg

2. Strengthened quarantine

Calling upon people arriving from 7 countries in South East Asia listed below*, Israel, Qatar, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Bahrain to wait 14 days at a location designated by the quarantine station chief and to refrain from using public transportation.

*Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, Brunei, Vietnam and Malaysia.

3. Visa restrictions

- (1) Suspending validity of single or multiple-entry visa issued by March 27 at Japanese Embassies or Consulates General located in the countries listed in paragraph 2 above.
- (2) Suspending visa exemption measures for the countries listed in paragraph 2 above.
- (3) Suspending validity of Pre-Clearance granted to APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC) issued by the countries listed in paragraph 2 above, as well as China, including Hong Kong, and the Republic of Korea (the ROK)

4. Continuation of the measures currently being implemented in relation to China and the ROK

Renewing the period of strengthened quarantine, restriction on airports/ports for arrival from China or the ROK and visa restrictions to be implemented until the last day of March, which was decided at the 17th meeting of Novel Corona Virus Response Headquarters held on March 5, and implementing them until the last day of April. The period can be renewed.

5. After 26 March, it will take longer than usual to examine visa application, including those that have already been applied

*The measures described in paragraph 1 above will be implemented from 0:00 am on March 27 (Japan Standard Time (JST)) and remain in place for a period. However, the measures will not be applied to those who have departed before their implementation and arrived in Japan after their implementation.

**The measures described in paragraph 2 above will be applied to the passengers of aircrafts and ships which have departed those places after 0:00 am on March 28 (JST), and be implemented until the last day of April. The period can be renewed.

***The measures described in paragraph 3 above will be implemented from 0:00 am on March 28 (JST) until the last day of April. The period can be renewed.

March 19, 2020

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

**Additional Important Notice on Visa Restrictions
for Strengthening Border Security Measures
related to the spread Novel Coronavirus**

On 19 March 2020, the Government of Japan decided to drastically strengthen the additional border security measures against the spread of Novel Coronavirus infections as follows;

1. The validity of single entry visa and multiple entry visa, including diplomatic and official visa of Japan, which have been issued by Embassies, Consulates-General and Consulate of Japan in following 38 countries such as *Schengen member States, Ireland, Andorra, Iran, United Kingdom, Egypt, Cyprus, Croatia, San Marino, Vatican, Bulgaria, Monaco, and Romania by March 21, 2020, will be temporarily suspended.
2. The application of visa exemption arrangements for *Schengen member States, Ireland, Andorra, Iran, United Kingdom, Cyprus, Croatia, San Marino, Vatican, Bulgaria, Monaco, and Romania will be temporarily suspended.
3. The foregoing measures of 1 and 2 will enter into force on March 21, 2020. 0:00am (JST) until the last day of April 2020.

*Schengen member States :26 countries

Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland

[End]

March 6, 2020

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Important Notice on Visa Restrictions
for Strengthening Border Security Measures
related to the spread Novel Coronavirus

On 6 March 2020, the Government of Japan decided to drastically strengthen the border security measures against the spread of Novel Coronavirus infections as follows;

1. The validity of single entry visa and multiple entry visa, including diplomatic and official visa of Japan, which have been issued by Embassies, Consulates-General and Consulate of Japan in the People's Republic of China, including Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and the Republic of Korea by March 8, 2020, will be temporarily suspended.
2. The application of visa exemption arrangements for Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (both SAR and BNO passport holders), Macau Special Administrative Region of PRC and the Republic of Korea, will be temporarily suspended.
3. The foregoing measures of 1 and 2 will enter into force on March 9, 2020. 0:00am (JST) by March 31, 2020.

[End]

New measures to drastically strengthen border measures

1. Continual review of areas subject to the entry ban

Enabling entry ban measures to be applied comprehensively to the Republic of Korea (hereinafter referred to as “ROK”) and the Islamic Republic of Iran (hereinafter referred to as “Iran”), and designating additional areas listed below* of these countries as areas subject to the entry ban.

*RoK: Gyeongsangbuk-do (7 cities and counties: Gyeongsan, Andong, Yeongcheon, Chilgok, Uiseong, Seongju, and Gunwi)

*Iran: Qom Province, Tehran Province, and Gilan Province

2. Strengthened quarantine

Calling upon people arriving from China (including Hong Kong and Macau, the same applies hereinafter) and the ROK to wait 14 days at a location designated by the quarantine station chief and to refrain from using public transportation.

3. Restriction on airports/ports for arrival from China or the ROK

- (1) Aircraft: restricting arrival airports for passenger flights from China or the ROK to Narita International Airport and Kansai International Airport only (requesting the airlines concerned to conform this restriction)
- (2) Ship: suspending passenger transportation departing from China or the ROK (requesting related companies to conform this suspension)

4. Visa restrictions

- (1) Suspending validity of single or multiple-entry visa issued by Japanese Embassies or Consulates General in China or the ROK
- (2) Suspending visa exemption measures for Hong Kong and Macau, and the ROK.

5. Enhanced international cooperation on border measures including among Japan, China and the ROK.

*The measures described in paragraph 1 above will be implemented from 0:00 am on March 7 and remain in place for a period. However, they will not apply to those who have departed those places before their implementation and arrived in Japan after their implementation.

**The measures described in paragraph 2 to 4 above will be implemented from 0:00 am on March 9 until the last day of the month. The period can be renewed.