

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 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).

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