

## To prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus —Please observe the following—

In order to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus, it is important to take proper actions upon understanding the features of the virus. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

### Protect yourself

#### [Features of infection]

- Clusters of cases occur through the overlap of the three following conditions
- Infection by hand also occur

A close space with poor ventilation

Close gathering of many people

Speaking, etc. at close range

#### Key Points

Regularly wash your hands

Adopt flextime/telecommuting

Frequently air out the room

Avoid crowds

Avoid speaking, etc. at close range

### Protect those around you

#### [Features of infection]

Infection is mainly spread by droplets from coughing or sneezing

Can infect other people even with mild symptoms

#### Key Points

Practice cough etiquette

Do not go to school or work if you have symptoms

### Call before visiting a hospital

#### [Features of infection]

Can also be infected at a medical institution

Senior citizens and those with underlying conditions are at high risk

#### Key Points

First consult with your family doctor over the phone

Senior citizens and those with underlying conditions should consult as soon as possible

## **Policy on Events Held by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government**

The novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak is currently in its early stage in Tokyo, making this an important time to prevent transmission of the virus. The Tokyo Metropolitan Government will thus take various measures by positioning the next three weeks (Feb. 22 – March 15) as a crucial period to prevent COVID-19 from spreading.

Based on this policy, the following guidelines will apply for all events scheduled to be held by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government during this period.

### **Three week response by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government**

- Regarding indoor events, those that are large-scale events or providing food will, as a general rule, be postponed or cancelled.
- However, even if the event is a large-scale indoor event, if it needs to be held during this period and will be difficult to reschedule (e.g. school entrance tests, graduation ceremonies, licensing tests), it can be held after taking necessary precautions against infection.
- Regarding outdoor events, those events providing food will, as a general rule, also be postponed or cancelled.
- The holding of other indoor and outdoor events will be determined after a risk assessment. If it has been assessed that the event can be held, it will be held under the condition that necessary measures will be fully taken to prevent the risk of infection. If this condition cannot be met, the event will be postponed or cancelled.

### **Events that will be held by the Tokyo Government will be taking the following measures.**

- People who have a fever or other symptoms will be requested to refrain from participating.
- Participants will be requested to practice cough etiquette and frequent hand washing.
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizers will be available at the hall entrance and locations in the hall, and participants will be requested to use them.
- Indoor event halls will be regularly aired out.
- The event contents may be subject to change to reduce mutual contact and opportunities for close face-to-face conversation to all possible extent.

## New Policies of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government (March 23<sup>rd</sup>)

### 1. Regarding schools

In the three weeks of school closure, Tokyo had no new infections originating in schools. It could be said that this was the accomplishment of measures to prevent infection, such as guidance given to the children, proper handwashing, ventilation, and cleaning, which were carried out at schools before their closure.

Schools will (1) strengthen cooperation with households, (2) reduce the risk of infection through ventilation and avoiding close gatherings and close conversation, and (3) be prepared to respond to an outbreak of infection.

Metropolitan schools will be notified to prepare for the holding of entrance ceremonies and the start of the new school year while being attentive to the situation and after establishing measures to prevent infection. The municipalities will also be informed of this.

The national government will soon be announcing its guidelines. Based on this, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government will, around March 26<sup>th</sup>, release its guidelines for preventing the spread of infection.

### 2. Regarding large-scale events

Although Tokyo has not seen a rapid increase in infections to date, if a large cluster of cases occur in the capital, the infection will spread throughout Japan. We are thus still at an important stage.

From the standpoint of preventing infection from spreading through events and curbing the increase of infected patients, in line with national policy and expert views, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government will keep to its current policy (sent on March 12) of not hosting large-scale events up to April 12<sup>th</sup>.

### 3. Future actions

Taking into consideration the national government's policy to establish emergency economic measures, and while listening closely to the views of experts and the urgent wishes of those facing harsh circumstances, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government will respond properly to the situation as it develops, and along with utilizing emergency funds for measures that must be quickly implemented, we plan to announce our next full round of emergency measures (4<sup>th</sup> Round) sometime in April.