What We Must Do Now to Help Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

The list of Japanese prefectures for which a State of Emergency was declared under the *Act* on Special Measures Against Pandemic Flu (2012) has now grown to cover all parts of Japan. The Japanese government concurrently designated Hokkaido as a "High Risk Prefecture". This state action was followed by the "State of Emergency Measures to Control the Spread of the Coronavirus in Hokkaido" proclaimed by the Governor of Hokkaido in compliance with Articles 45 and 24 of the said Act.

It was only a few days ago when Hokkaido University announced Coronavirus Alert Level 2 (Restriction – medium level) as defined in the "Hokkaido University Business Continuity Plan During Coronavirus Outbreak (BCP)". However, in response to the government directives and advice, we have now heightened the alert level to Level 3 (Restriction – high level). Please read the BCP and follow the guidance provided.

Hokkaido University Business Continuity Plan During Coronavirus Outbreak (BCP)

It is much to our regret that our activities are limited to a large extent, but the priority remains the health and safety of all members of the University community and to contain the spread of coronavirus. We would like to ask you for your understanding and cooperation to get through these difficult times.

Thank you for your continued efforts to support and safeguard the University community.

April 20, 2020

Masanori Kasahara Acting President Head of COVID-19 Task Force Hokkaido University