Governor's Message to Hyogo citizens and Hyogo-based business operators: Preventing a possible second wave of COVID-19 infections

Since a new case of COVID-19 was confirmed in Hyogo Prefecture for the first time in 34 days on June 19, twenty-one cases have been reported as of July 8. It has been confirmed that many of these cases derived from travels to/from Tokyo and Osaka; however, regarding approximately 20% of the patients, we have not been able to specify their infection routes.

As more and more people are traveling around the country, we must maintain a high level of precaution in order to prevent the spread of infections. I strongly request Hyogo citizens and Hyogo-based business operators to take heed of the following:

1. Taking caution when going out, especially when visiting nighttime entertainment quarters

- If you have a fever or other symptoms, avoid going out, and of course, do not travel across prefectural borders.
- You are required to exercise extreme caution if you do visit host and hostess bars and other
 eating and drinking establishments at entertainment quarters that provide individual
 customer services during nighttime, and where clusters of infections have been recently
 detected.
- Please refrain from unnecessary and non-urgent travels to crowded areas or areas where resurgence of infections has been observed, such as the Tokyo metropolitan area.

2. Thorough infection prevention measures at business operations

- Please practice thorough infection prevention measures at your business premises using each industry's guidelines, and also consider using Hyogo's subsidy for SMEs and sole proprietors to fund costs incurred for infection preventions. In particular, I request cooperation from eating and drinking establishments at entertainment quarters that provide individual customer services during nighttime.
- Please register for the "Hyogo new coronavirus tracing system" that will be launched on July 10, so that we can all use facilities with a peace of mind.

3. Promotion of "Hyogo Style"

- Please stay vigilant of COVID-19 in your everyday life by avoiding the Three Cs (confined spaces, crowded places, and close contact) and being careful of heat strokes while wearing face masks.
- Please encourage working styles to prevent the spread of infections through measures such as telecommuting, staggering work hours, and avoiding the Three Cs in the workplace.

[Hyogo Style]

- A new lifestyle for preventing the spread of infections
- A new working style for preventing the spread of infections
- Preparation for possible compound emergencies (natural disasters and infections)

I would like to ask all of you for your continued understanding and cooperation in order to prevent a possible second wave of infections.