Press release: May 4, 2020

Requests for the residents in response to extension of the state of emergency (Ver. 6) <Extension of the emergency measures, etc.>

Today, the Novel Coronavirus Response Headquarters of the national government decided to extend the state of emergency until May 31.

In response, Wakayama Prefectural Government will also extend the emergency measures under Article 24, paragraph 9 of the Act on Special Measures for Pandemic Influenza and New Infectious Diseases Preparedness and Response, and continue other requests for cooperation not based on the Act. The residents are requested to make continued efforts accordingly.

These measures and requests will be reviewed in consideration of situations of epidemiological control of infections, number of newly confirmed cases, medical care systems of Wakayama and other prefectures.

1. Extension of the emergency measures, etc.

The emergency measures, etc. which are supposed to be effective until May 6 under the Act on Special Measures for Pandemic Influenza and New Infectious Diseases Preparedness will be extended until May 31. As for the request for closures, etc., the following revisions will be made.

(1) Among the facilities that have been requested to close, "museums, etc." (museums, art museums, libraries, science museums, memorial museums, aquariums, zoos and botanical gardens) will be removed from "Facilities legally requested for a self-restraint in business operation" and added to "Facilities strongly requested to refrain from accepting visitors from other prefectures" from May 7.

For specific information on applicable facilities, please refer to the website of Wakayama Prefectural Government.

(2) The duration of the request for closures, etc. will be extended until May 15. Further extension and other update on the request will be determined in consideration of the status of the outbreak in Osaka and other neighboring prefectures on May 15.

2. Extension of school closures

- (1) Prefectural schools will remain closed until May 31 under Article 24, paragraph 9 of the Act.
- (2) Municipal schools (kindergartens excluding day-care facilities, elementary schools, junior/senior high schools, and schools for Special Needs Education) will be requested to remain closed for the same period.