

Hello. This is Hideyasu Kiyomoto, the mayor of Himeji City.

As you already know, the Japanese government declared a State of Emergency over coronavirus infections, covering prefectures 9 including Himeji City, and will continue until at least May 6th.

During this period, I strongly ask for even more cooperation from you to avoid contact with each other to reduce infection as much as possible. Everybody, please stay home and refrain from going outdoors for nonessential reasons. Particularly, please avoid all unnecessary travel from these 9 prefectures to other areas.

If you absolutely need to go out, avoid places with poor ventilation where large groups of people cluster and communicate in close contact.

Again, these acts reduce infection to yourself as well as others.

There are floods of information about COVID-19 on the internet, but not all of it is accurate. Please look for official information from the World Health Organization, embassies, cities, and so on.

Unfortunately, there have been cases of slander against medical professionals and their families. We express our deep respect to the people struggling hard to reduce infection and prevent overwhelming hospitals.

Finally, whether we can overcome these difficulties is a true test of what we are made of. I truly appreciate your cooperation.