## A message on prevention of COVID-19 outbreaks from Oshu City Mayor

Nationwide, the number of newly infected people exceeds 10,000 every day. Due to the medical system being at a critical level, especially in Tokyo, there is an increasing number of cases where some patients cannot find a hospital, who would otherwise be hospitalized, and are forced to undergo medical treatment at home. We are in a serious situation.

Due to the rapid spread of infection in Iwate prefecture, an "Iwate State of Emergency" was issued today. The number of newly infected people is increasing in Oshu as well, and we are facing a very difficult situation.

For this reason, we have determined that we will do our utmost to prevent the further spread of infection by doing things such as canceling city-sponsored events and curbing the flow of people by closing public facilities from August 13 to 31 during the State of Emergency.

As the number of infected persons is increasing rapidly, we ask for your further understanding and cooperation regarding the following matters so that each of us will raise our awareness of the crisis to protect ourselves, our loved ones, the community, and society.

- In principle, cancel or postpone unnecessary and unurgent homecomings and other travel that cross prefectural boundaries, and also refrain from going out when not necessary and not urgent even within the prefecture.
- Each person should be strongly aware about preventing infection, and in all places, please thoroughly implement basic measures to control infection by washing hands, disinfecting, and wearing a mask at all times.
- Strictly avoid the 3 Cs of Closed spaces, Crowded places, and Close contact.
- As infections have been confirmed even in those who have been vaccinated twice, please continue to take thorough measures to prevent infection even after vaccination.
- Firmly abstain from actions such as discrimination, prejudice, or besmirching infected persons, those in close contact with them, medical workers, and their families. Please act with compassion based on correct information.

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Masaki OZAWA, Mayor, Oshu City