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[date]

To Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry

Europe Division, Trade Policy Bureau

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**RE: REQUEST FOR RELAXATION OF TRAVEL BAN**

We praise the most recent relaxation of travel bans on certain conditions for foreigners who left Japan before April 3, 2020. It is certainly a step in the right direction; however, it is nowhere close to a satisfactory level for the groups of people who are not covered by it.

We are saddened to see that the Japanese rules still make some permanent and long-term residents ineligible for travel privileges granted to citizens. The Japanese officials repeatedly uttered the necessity of such rules to protect Japan from a possible larger-scale outbreak. However, Japanese nationals are allowed to travel. With this fact in mind, the permanent and long-term residents of Japan find it difficult to grasp the logic behind the travel ban and feel some sense of discrimination against them.

In particular, [please provide your specific reasoning or enumerate specific cases, in which way your company has been negatively impacted]

Consequently, we kindly request a reevaluation and further relaxation of the travel ban in a fashion that it will also allow permanent and long-term resident businesspersons who have left Japan after April 3, 2020 to return. We believe that the nature of the request is based on both humanitarian and commercial reasoning which makes it a serious issue to address.

We trust that METI will give this matter the utmost attention and will assist stranded permanent and long-term residents who are wishing to return to Japan as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

[Name]

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