

Dear members of AORI, UTokyo

It is expected to lift the national declaration of emergency and Tokyo's emergency measures to COVID on 25 May. Responding to the lift, the headquarters UTokyo informed about the activity policy.

UTokyo will gradually relax the activity restrictions. We use this week (May 26-30) for the period for preparation to the restart of laboratory activities (a checklist for the research restart will be provided) with preparing infection prevention measures. It is scheduled that the current Activity Restrictions Index of UTokyo will be relaxed from Level 3 to Level 2 from next week (June 1-). Then, after 2 weeks (3 weeks from now), the level will be further relaxed to Level 1. If the infection is steadily suppressed after that, it will be relaxed to level 0.5 at the earliest 2-weeks later. However, the transition from Level 1 to Level 0.5 depends on the status of infection and society. It is planned to provide checklist to judge the transition from Level 2 to Level 1.

AORI will conduct a survey, targeting each Section and staff of the Center for Cooperative Research Promotion, to find a way to restart research activities with infection control measures. AORI will notice the new rule to restart activities at Level 2. For staff of Administration Office, the General Manager will notice the rule.

Even if the Level is lowered, working from home is kept as a main work style. I'm asking the chiefs of laboratories to maintain communication of the members by means on internet meeting systems. In order to perform accounting processing at home, we are constructing of computer networking system.

I would like to proceed with the resumption of research and educational activities while taking measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection again.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience.

Director, Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute
Tomohiko Kawamura