



Yoshiaki Nishimura  
Minister in charge of Economic Revitalization /  
Office of for Pandemic Influenza and  
New Infections Diseases Preparedness and Response,  
Cabinet Secretariat

1-6-1 Nagata-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo  
108-8968

March 26, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for  
Essential IT Functions**

Dear Minister Nishimura:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (**BSA**)<sup>1</sup> seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.

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It is important that mandatory stay-at-home or self-quarantine orders and related policies limiting business operations exclude individuals who are necessary to maintain vital functions performed by information technology (**IT**) and IT infrastructure in order to meet such needs. It is also extremely important that definitions of exclusions be consistent both among and within countries; inconsistencies make it more difficult for our members to provide the continuity of services that are needed for stay-at-home and related policies to work effectively.

BSA's members operate, develop, and handle the maintenance of cloud services, software and hardware platforms, and other IT infrastructure that support functions that are vital, particularly in the unique circumstances that the spread of COVID-19 entails. These functions enable effective public health responses, support and maintain economic continuity, and underpin many essential personal needs of individual citizens. Health care providers, first responders, the vendors of food and essential supplies and their supply chains, business and government enterprises, critical infrastructures like utilities and financial services, and numerous other

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functions are reliant on IT and IT infrastructure. Without the necessary exclusions, stay-at-home orders and similar policies that cause substantial disruptions to IT and IT infrastructure providers could cripple these functions.

As you consider implementing mandatory stay-at-home or similar policy responses, we urge you to ensure the continuity and stability of these services by **including IT and IT infrastructure in essential business exemptions that would not be subject to movement or lock-down restrictions. Such exemptions should include: global and local IT and IT infrastructure companies, cloud service providers, communications and web-based services providers as well as their vendors, manufacturers and suppliers.** In order to provide continuous service to critical infrastructure companies in Japan, it is necessary to exempt the above vendors. It is also critical to allow the on-going construction and installation of new facilities and infrastructure of such companies to ensure they are able to meet the rapidly growing demand for such essential services.

Globally, software and other IT companies are taking significant measures to improve the public health response to COVID-19, and our members are eager to continue working with government and non-governmental stakeholders to confront this crisis together. As you further consider policy responses, BSA and its members are eager to serve as resources to help make these policies as effective as possible. Thank you for your leadership during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
BSA | The Software Alliance



Naokazu Takemoto  
Minister in charge of Information Technology  
1-6-1 Nagata-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo  
108-8968

March 26, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Minister Takemoto :

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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
BSA | The Software Alliance



Takuya Hirai  
Member of House of Representatives,  
Chairperson of Digital Nation LDP Special Committee

2-2-1 Nagata-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo  
108-8981

March 26, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Hirai-sensei:

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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
BSA | The Software Alliance



Sanae Takaichi  
Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications  
2-1-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo  
108-8926

March 26, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Minister Takaichi:

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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
BSA | The Software Alliance





Katsunobu Kato  
Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare  
1-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo  
108-8916

March 26, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Minister Kato:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (**BSA**)<sup>1</sup> seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.

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Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
BSA | The Software Alliance



Masaaki Taira  
State Minister of Cabinet Office

1-6-1 Nagata-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo  
108-8914

March 26, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Minister Taira:

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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
BSA | The Software Alliance



Hiroshi Kajiyama  
Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry  
1-3-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo  
100-8901

March 26, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Minister Kajiyama:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (**BSA**)<sup>1</sup> seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.

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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
BSA | The Software Alliance



Toshizo Ido  
Governor of Hyogo Prefectural Government

5-10-1 Shimoyamate St., Kobe,  
650-8567  
Hyogo Prefectural Government Office

March 30, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Governor Ido:

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Country Manager – Japan  
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Kensaku Morita  
Governor of Chiba Prefectural Government

1-1 Ichiba-cho, Chuo-ku, Chiba City,  
260-8667  
Chiba Prefectural Government Office

March 30, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Governor Morita:

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BSA | The Software Alliance



Kazuhiko Oigawa  
Governor of Ibaraki Prefectural Government

978-6 Kasahara-cho, Mito, Ibaraki  
310-8555  
Ibaraki Prefectural Government Office

March 31, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Governor Oigawa:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (**BSA**)<sup>1</sup> seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.

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It is important that mandatory stay-at-home or self-quarantine orders and related policies limiting business operations exclude individuals who are necessary to maintain vital functions performed by information technology (**IT**) and IT infrastructure in order to meet such needs. It is also extremely important that definitions of exclusions be consistent both among and within countries; inconsistencies make it more difficult for our members to provide the continuity of services that are needed for stay-at-home and related policies to work effectively.

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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
BSA | The Software Alliance



Takatoshi Nishiwaki  
Governor of Kyoto Prefectural Government

Yabunouchi-cho, Nishiiru, Shinmachi, Shimodachiuri-dori,  
Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto City  
Kyoto Prefectural Government Office  
602-8570

March 30, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Governor Nishiwaki:

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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
BSA | The Software Alliance



Shogo Arai  
Governor of Nara Prefectural Government

30 Noboriojicho, Nara City  
Nara Prefectural Government Office  
630-8501

March 30, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Governor Arai:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (**BSA**)<sup>1</sup> seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.

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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
BSA | The Software Alliance





Hirofumi Yoshimura  
Governor of Osaka Prefectural Government

2-Chome, Otemae, Osaka-shi, Osaka  
Osaka Prefectural Government Office  
540-8570

March 30, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Governor Yoshimura:

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Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
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Heita Kawakatsu  
Governor of Shizuoka Prefectural Government

9-6 Ote-machi, Aoi-ku, Shizuoka City,  
420-8601  
Shizuoka Prefectural Government Office

March 31, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Governor Kawakatsu:

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Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
BSA | The Software Alliance



Yuriko Koike  
Governor of Tokyo

2-8-1 Nishi Shinjuku, Tokyo, 163-8011  
Tokyo Metropolitan Government Office

March 30, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Governor Koike:

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Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
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Yuji Kuroiwa  
Governor of Kanagawa Prefectural Government

1, Nihon-odori, Naka-ku, Yokohama,  
Kanagawa Prefectural Government Office  
231-8588

March 30, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

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