

## COVID-19 Update of April 14, SIKs & Co. in Japan

To our valued clients and friends,

Due to Spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the declaration of a state of emergency by the Government in the areas including Tokyo and its suburbs, we had shifted our working style from partial remote to almost complete remote from April 7, 2020 until it is safe for all of us to return to our offices. All of us are healthy and working as usual, and we have complete access to all of our clients and the JPO, and access to all of our files and records through VPN with high security.

The JPO has **not** announced to automatically extend the due date in view of the COVID-19 spread but announced that they would start remote work of the staff on April 8. If you and/or your client has a situation not enabling you to duly proceed your case by the officially set due date, please let us know to the effect as quick as possible.

In addition, please be informed that the Japan Patent Office and our office will be closed on April 29, May 4, 5 and 6, 2020 for Public Holidays.

Although the Government announced that the declaration is effective to May 6, the end of series national holidays from April 29 to May 6, it may extend in view of its global situation. Please send your communication via email or electrically as early as possible and do not send any paper documents to ensure immediate attention and avoid any possible delay that might be beyond our control during this difficult time.

We wish all of you good health, particularly through this trying time.

April 14, 2020

SIKs & Co.