The impact of the COVID-19 is formidable. Since the first case was reported on 1/15/2020 in Japan, it has been spreading throughout Japan. In response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, Japan employed a task force designed to facilitate collaboration between governmental and non-governmental experts. This close collaboration is redesigning how the Japanese government and academics collaborate during health-related emergencies. Experts supported the Ministry’s efforts toward the early detection of and appropriate care for severe cases, early identification of and response to case clusters, and promotion of behavioral change to reduce disease transmission. Avoiding “Three Cs or sanmitsu” was the one of the fruitful products that was born out of such collaboration. On the other hand, the government is keeping plans to reopen the economy to boost activities despite a spike of the number cases, which is derived from attempting to maintain a fine balance between keeping the transmission suppressed while allowing life to carry on more “normally”. More inclusive and transparent decision-making with envisioning its downstream impact from the decision is the key for all to thrive during the current unprecedented outbreak.