Valid Foreign Driving License in Japan

Driving licenses issued by the authorities of Belgium, France, Germany, Monaco, Switzerland, and Taiwan are valid in Japan under the following conditions:

1. Your license is attached to a Japanese translation provided by the authorities that are stipulated by the applicable cabinet order.
   - The authorities stipulated by the cabinet order are as follows:
     1. The license-issuing authority, the embassy or consulates of the issuing country in Japan, and so on.
     2. The Japan Automobile Federation (JAF).
     3. The Japan-Taiwan Relations Association (for Taiwanese license holders).
     4. The German Automobile Federation (ADAC) (for German license holders).
     5. ZIPLUS Co., Ltd.

2. It is less than one year since the date of your entry into Japan.
3. You are not violating the so-called “three months rule”, which is stipulated in Article 107-2 of the Road Traffic Act.

If a person, who is registered in the Basic Resident Register （住民基本台帳, Jyumin Kihon Daicho), leaves Japan with a Confirmation of Departure or a Re-entry Permission, and re-enters after staying abroad for less than three consecutive months, the date of re-entry is NOT regarded as the starting date of the period you are allowed to drive with your domestic license.
* The same rule applies to those who travel with a Refugee Travel Document.

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