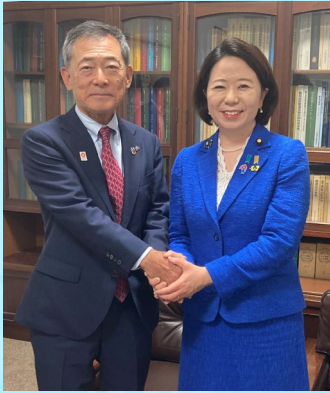


WORLD EXPO 2025 NEWS

「KIZUNA —絆— News letter」

“Kizuna” is the Japanese word for “bond.” Issued September 4, 2024, Vol.19



I decided to study architecture after visiting the Osaka Expo held in 1970, and later joined a construction company. I hope Expo 2025 will be an event that inspires young people, as it did for me, to work in the construction industry. The Grand Roof (Ring) and many other attractive structures are beginning to take shape, ensuring that admiration for the construction industry will become a lasting legacy of the Expo. Our association will continue to do our utmost to make it a successful Expo.

IMA Masanori, Chairman, National General Contractors Association of Japan



Mr. SAITO Ken, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, visiting the Grand Roof (Ring) and Japan Pavilion on an inspection tour



© EXPO 2025

Venue construction is well underway



Expo event commemorating the first port of call of the Italian Navy's sailing ship *Amerigo Vespucci* at Tokyo

In order from the fourth person on the left: Mr. Haneda, Commissioner General of the 2025 World Exposition in Japan; Mr. Kerkentzes, Secretary General, BIE; Mr. Benedetti, Italian Ambassador to Japan; Mr. Valentini, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy; Ms. Jimi, Minister for the World Expo 2025; Mr. Vattani, Representative of the Government of Italy; Mr. Ishige, Secretary General, Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition

【Contents of this week's report】

1. Overseas Pavilions Construction Status
August 29: Italy holds an Expo event commemorating the first port of call of the naval sailing ship *Amerigo Vespucci* at Tokyo

2. Last week's main events / Schedule for this week and beyond
August 29-30: Dimitri S. Kerkentzes, The Secretary General of the BIE has a meeting with Minister Jimi and Minister Saito
September 2: The Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition announces a disaster prevention action plan
August 28: A Future Life Expo temporary exhibition is announced
August 28: A summary of the "Future City" Pavilion Individual Exhibition is announced
August 30: Japan Post unveils New Year's postcards featuring a MYAKU-MYAKU design
August 26: Panasonic unveils its pavilion exhibition content
August 29: NTT announces performance of "CHO-KABUKI" at its pavilion
August 29: Capcom announces an interactive pavilion attraction inspired by the *Monster Hunter* series
August 27: Japanese band Kobukuro gives out theme song CDs and DVDs

3. Sales / Applications
Tickets sold: 4,611,925 (as of August 28)

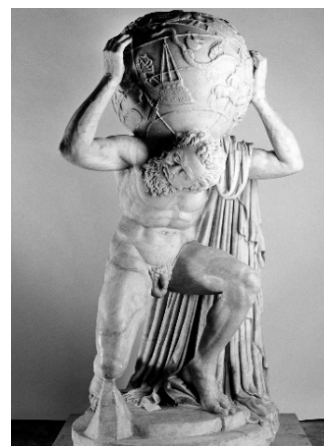
Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan Weekly Report (August 27– September 2)

~ 222 days to go!~



1. Official Participants

- August 29; The Italian Embassy in Japan held an event to commemorate the port call of the Italian Navy sailing ship Amerigo Vespucci, which is circumnavigating the world visiting 28 countries on five continents. The contents of the Italian Pavilion were introduced on this occasion. In addition to Caravaggio's The Burial of Christ courtesy of the Vatican, marble sculpture Farnese Atlas will be exhibited for the first time in Japan. Actor and singer Serena Aoutieri participated in the event and announced that she will participate in the pavilion inauguration in April 2025. BIE Secretary General Dimitri Kerkentzes and Minister Hanako Jimi took part in the event.



Farnese Atlas

<https://mann-napoli.it/en/farnese-collection/>



Status of official participants as of August 30

- Of 161 countries and 9 international organisations participations:

Those with official participation agreements:

126 countries and 6 international organisations

Individual pavilions (Type A and Type X) :

52 countries (47 Type A, 5 Type X)

Those with construction partners secured: 43 countries

Those who have started construction: 40 countries

Independent pavilions provided by the Association (Type B) : 17 countries

Shared pavilions provided by the Association (Type C) : 92 countries

2. Reports from the past week and plans for the upcoming week

- August 29; Minister Hanako Jimi held a meeting with Secretary General Dimitri Kerkentzes of the BIE and exchanged views on various issues, in particular promoting business-to-business interactions for participating countries.
- August 30; Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Mr Ken Saito, also held a meeting with Secretary General Kerkentzes. The two confirmed that they will work closely together to prepare for the success of the Expo, including coordinating with relevant parties to ensure that IR construction does not adversely affect the Expo.



[Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry press release](#)



- September 2; The Association released the Disaster Prevention Implementation Plan, following up on the Basic Plan for Disaster Prevention from December 2023. The Implementation Plan lays out response mechanisms for different disaster types.

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240902-01/>



- August 28; The Association announced the contents of the Future Life Experience exhibit, involving various private-sector companies and organisations under the theme of Future of Living. Individual exhibitors will be announced as they are confirmed.



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240828-01/>



- August 28; The Association announced the outline of individual exhibitions by the 12 sponsoring companies of the Future City pavilion. 15 future experience attractions will be held in the following 5 fields:



Society 5.0 and the Future City

- Sponsors: Hitachi, Ltd., KDDI Corporation
- Introduces the Future City from the perspective of people's daily lives. Promotes initiatives for citizen participation towards Society 5.0.



Environment and Energy

- Sponsors: Niterra Co., Ltd., Hitachi Zosen Corporation, IHI Corporation
- Showcases new possibilities for energy, including evolving initiatives for a sustainable planet,



Transportation and Mobility

- Sponsors: Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Ltd., Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, Kansai Electric Power Transmission and Distribution Co., Ltd.
- Highlights how values such as environmental contributions will emerge in the mobility scene, beyond moving people and goods from one place to another.



Manufacturing and Urban Development

- Sponsors: Kobe Steel Co., Ltd., Aoki Asunaro Construction Co., Ltd., Komatsu Manufacturing Co., Ltd., CP Concrete Consortium
- Showcases initiatives to face social issues with wisdom, in areas including CO2 reduction, recycling and disaster prevention, in order to achieve a symbiotic relationship with nature.



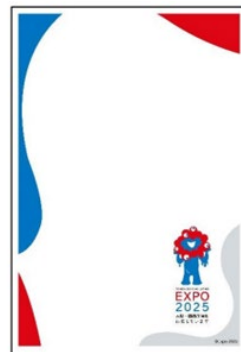
Food and Agriculture

- Sponsor: Kubota Corporation
- Introduces how the food value chain works to pass on the source of life from producers, retailers to consumers.

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20240828-02/>



- August 30; Japan Post released the design of a New Year's postcard for 20252. With a minor donation, buyers can obtain postcards designed with the official character Myaku-Myaku.



https://www.post.japanpost.jp/notification/pressrelease/2024/00_honsha/0830_02_01.pdf



- August 26; Panasonic Holdings announced the contents of its pavilion Nomo no Kuni. It will consist of an experience area and a surrounding exhibition area, named The Earth. Under the concept of creating a new relationship between people and nature, five cutting-edge technologies are exhibited in The Earth. The pavilion aims to allow children to touch and smell the exhibits, providing opportunity to experience a future where people and nature expand their possibilities for each other.

◆ Cyanobacteria (photosynthetic microorganisms)

- Introduces the power of cyanobacteria, a type of photosynthetic microorganism, that can combine the effective use of CO₂ with the improvement of food production, in what the exhibit calls the "720-degree cycle".



◆ Perovskite solar cells

- Showcases "glass that generates electricity", which delivers sunlight through the trees to plants and microorganisms on the earth's surface. Through artistic renderings of perovskite solar cells in the form of hanging objects and hands-on exhibits, visitors will be able to experience the high degree of design freedom that the technology allows.



- ◆ Biodegradable cellulose fiber (plant-derived molding material)
 - Introduces petroleum-derived plastics which utilises a new grade of biodegradable cellulose fiber "kinari" with increased biodegradability and strength. At the venue, various shapes of hands-on accessories and large objects made with 3D printers made from workshops with children were exhibited.



- ◆ Biolight (luminescent microorganisms)

- Accumulating experience in long-term cultivation technology of luminescent microorganisms, the exhibit will feature the application of light to colour our daily lives in the future and asks questions of the concept of light itself. It will also include a hands-on exhibit where visitors can observe how microorganisms emit light by sending oxygen into the exhibition tank where luminescent microorganisms are cultivated.



- ◆ Biosensory Dome

- Features a dome space that incorporates the concept of biophilic design, which allows visitors to feel the comfort of being surrounded by a natural environment through various sensory stimuli. In addition to light and sound technologies, mycelium with a natural scent and texture is used as a building material as a panel to create a space that comfortably stimulates the five senses. Visitors can experience a sense of unity with nature by sharpening their senses and sensibilities while feeling deep relaxation.
- Co-creation partner: BIOTA Co., Ltd. (mycelium panel production)



Press Release: [Panasonic Holdings Press Release](#)

“Nomo no Kuni” official site <https://the-land-of-nomo.panasonic/en/>



- August 29; Japan Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) will celebrate its Pavilion Day (May 24 and 25) with an extravagant entertainment programme Super Kabuki that combines classical kabuki and cutting-edge technology. It is inspired by the world view of the classical kabuki Yoshitsune Senbonzakura and Vocaloid Hatsune Miku's song Senbonzakura.

- ◆ NTT Pavilion Day Overview

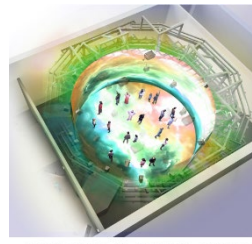
* Performance dates, times, locations, etc. are subject to change in the future.

- Title: CHO-KABUKI Powered by IOWN “Hanakurabe Senbonzakura Expo2025 ver.
- Date : May 24, 2025 (16:00 -), May 25, 2025 (14:00 -)
- Venue: Osaka-Kansai Expo Expo Hall "Shine Hat"
- Cast : Shido Nakamura, Hatsune Miku, etc.



<https://group.ntt/en/newsrelease/2024/08/29/240829b.html>

- August 29; Capcom announced that it will exhibit experiential content from the popular – Monster Hunter video game series at the Expo. The venue will be the cylindrical theater (XD HALL) in the Osaka Healthcare Pavilion at the EXPO.



内部設備 ※イメージ 提供：(公社)大阪パビリオン



『Monster Hunter Bridge』キーアート

<https://www.capcom.co.jp/en/news/html/e240829.html>



- August 27; The Association distributed CDs and DVDs of the official theme song Continuation of This Earth to over 1,200 elementary schools and kindergartens in Osaka Prefecture. Dance choreography and commentary videos are included in the DVDs. A message letter from singer-songwriter duo Kobukuro, Expo Special Ambassadors, is also enclosed.



「この地球の続き」は、「これからやっ2米る
未来は、今の僕達が持っている夢や希望が
一つずつ作り上げ、変えていくんだよ!」と
いうメッセージが込められています。

僕等が毎日のように口にする「こんにちわ!」
は、世界中で通じるとても有名なあいさつ。
人と人をつなぐ魔法の言葉です。

この歌の中に何度も出てくるので、是非
みんなが元気に歌って、踊って下さい。

大阪、関西を博愛、一緒に盛り上げて
いきましょう!!

コブクロ 小沢健太郎
里田 俊介



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20240827-02/>

3. Upcoming events

- September 10; Yomiuri EXPO Forum in Otemachi, Tokyo

4. Ticket sales

- Number of tickets sales: 4,611,925 as of August 28, 2024

5. Q&As

1) Facilities for Young Architects

Regarding Rest Area 2, one of the facilities designed by young architects, is it safe to use a pergola made of stone?

- i. From the planning stage, experts have made structural calculations to confirm safety, with the design then undergoing inspection by a publicly-designated inspection agency to confirm that the construction conforms to structural safety standards from the Building Standards Act. In addition, when the construction is completed, the structure is to further inspected by the inspection agency to ensure regulatory compliance. Safety will thus be ensured.

Image of rest area 2



https://www.expo2025.or.jp/wp/wp-content/uploads/2400530_wakate6_nishi2.pdf

2) IR construction during the Expo period

What was discussed during BIE Secretary-General Kerkenzes's visit to Japan, specifically in respective meetings with Minister Hanako Jimi in charge of Expo 2025 and Minister Ken Saito of METI?

- i. During a series of meetings with Secretary General Kerkenzes, views were exchanged on a wide range of topics for the smooth holding of the Expo.
- ii. The Japanese government considers both the Expo and IR to be important projects but believes that the success of the Expo is the highest priority during the Expo period. This direction is in line with the view stated from Secretary General Kerkenzes.
- iii. The Japanese government will continue to coordinate with the parties concerned so that the IR construction does not affect the smooth holding of the Expo.