

WORLD EXPO 2025 NEWS

「KIZUNA –絆– News letter」

“Kizuna” is the Japanese word for “bond.”

Issued October 23, 2024, Vol.26



Construction status of the Expo site (as of September 20, 2024)



Minister ITO (left) and Secretary General ISHIGE (right)
(Expo site inspection, October 5)



We have six months to go to the Expo's opening. Venue construction is largely proceeding as scheduled, and we will communicate with the relevant parties to ensure that preparations are completed by the opening. We will advance preparations in intangible areas too, such as establishing a seamless transportation network for people and goods both in and outside the venue, as well as securing and training operational staff, security personnel, and other team members to ensure a safe and secure environment for all customers. We will continuously share information so that people can feel the slogan of “Where fun exceeds your imagination!” We will continue to carry out preparations together with everyone involved with a renewed sense of determination.

ISHIGE Hiroyuki, Secretary General, Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition

*****_***** 【Contents of this week's report】 *****_*****

1. Movements of Participating Countries
 - October 13: “Half a Year to Go EXPO2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan” event held in Bahrain
 - October 13: Monaco unveils its pavilion mascot “Leeloo”
 - October 17: Italy announces construction completion of the wooden section of its pavilion structure
2. This week /last week's main events
 - October 15: Joining ceremony for Guest Service Attendants held in Osaka City
 - October 15: MIZUTANI Tetsu newly appointed as Deputy Secretary General and Executive Board Member of the Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition
 - October 16: Departure ceremony for the Yamanote Line Expo AD Train held at JR Osaki Station
 - October 17: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry unveils dedicated uniform for Japan Pavilion attendants
 - October 17: Announced the results of methane gas concentration measurements conducted in certain areas of the planned venue site (for July and August)
 - October 18: Announced detailed information on 27 restaurants and stores to operate at the Expo site
 - October 18: Kintetsu Group begins service of specially wrapped “Dialogue Train”
3. Ticket Sales Update
 - Tickets sold: 7,200,113 (as of October 16)



Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan Weekly Report (October 15- October 21) ~ 173 days to go!~



1. Official Participants

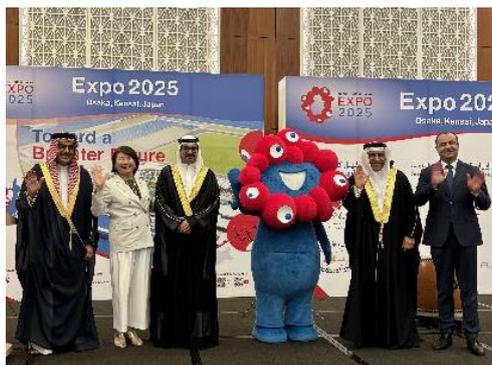
- October 17; Italy announced the completion of the wooden structures of the pavilion.



https://www.ansa.it/english/news/lifestyle/arts/2024/10/17/italy-pavilion-structures-completed6-months-before-opening_d4e51127-ce6e-497c-96d5-dfe695261450.html

<https://x.com/ItalyExpo2025/status/1846848140940382421?t=4L4nSteWqPx0zIVNOeZmSQ&s=19>

- October 13; An event marking six months before the Expo was held in Bahrain, organised by the Japanese Embassy. The event was attended by His Highness Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa, Governor of the Southern Governorate and Honorary President of the Bahrain-Japan Business and Friendship Society, Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, President of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities and Ambassador Asako Okai of Japan. The Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau and the Japan National Tourism Organization had booths at the event. Myaku-Myaku participated in the event and appeared in the shopping mall as well.



October 13; Monaco unveiled the mascot character for the country's pavilion named Lilou, wearing Mocado's traditional dress.



https://www.instagram.com/p/DBDj_qwonSX/?igsh=MXB6MWRnaHRmajA1

Status of official participants as of October 17

- Of 161 countries and 9 international organisations:

Those with official participation agreements:

132 countries and 6 international organisations

Countries where construction has not yet started: 2 countries

Countries with no construction contractor: 2 countries

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

- October 17; The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry released the uniform for the Japan Pavilion attendants. The design makes use of the blank space referred from the structure of the kimono. It can be worn in a variety of styles, regardless of age or gender. Approximately 270 attendants have been provisionally selected from a total of 2,695 applicants includes people age from 18 to 70 years old.



<https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/10/20241017004/20241017004.html>

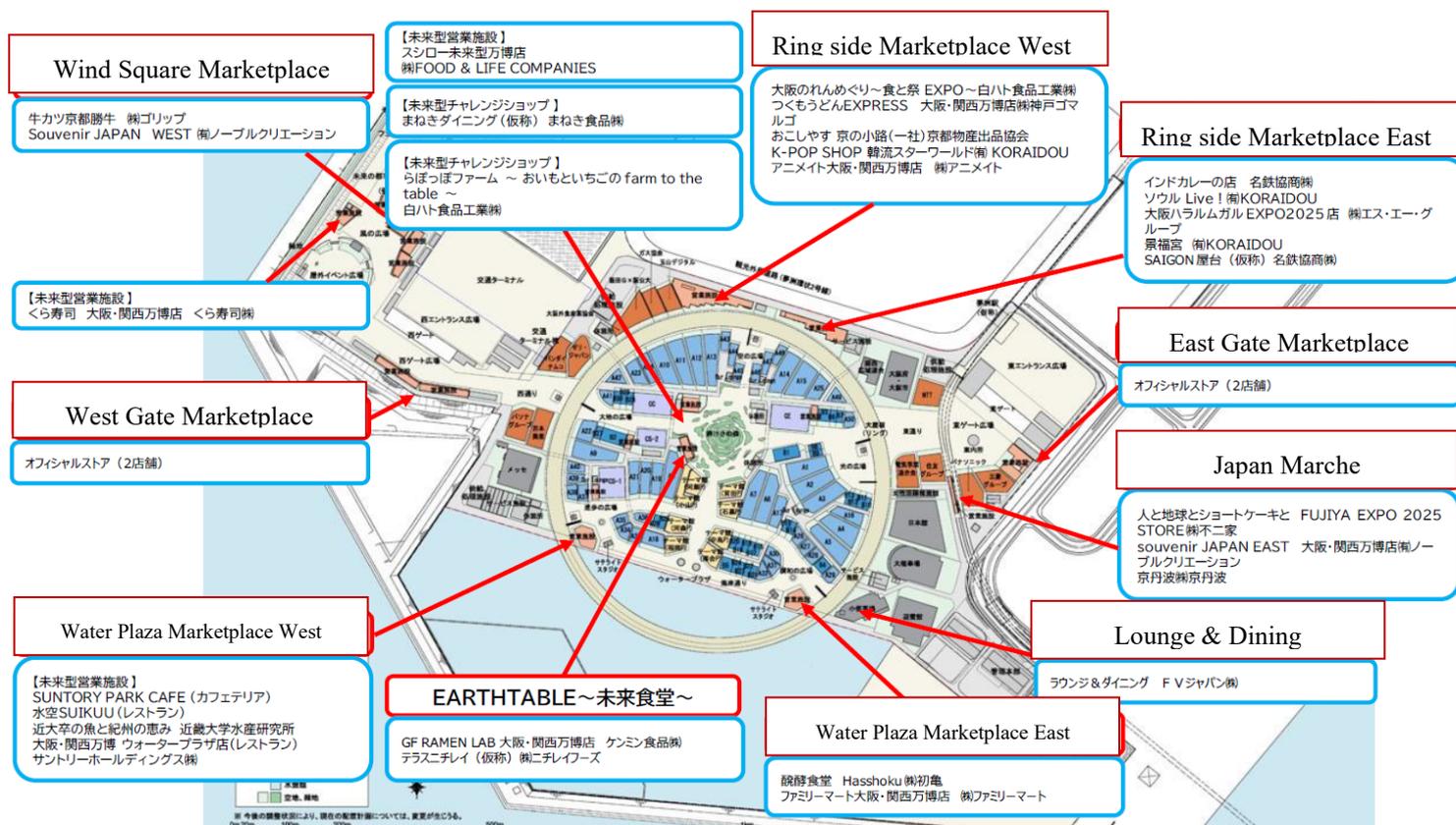
- October 15; The induction ceremony for Guest Service Attendants was held in Osaka City. During the event, they were part of the management staff and were responsible for providing various guidance services to visitors in the venue. Around 1,000 people were hired, with over 800 of them participating in the induction ceremony.



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20241015-01/>

- October 18; The Association has published detailed information on 27 restaurants and shops on the official app EXPO 2025 Visitors. Additional information will be published as it becomes available. There are plans to open food and drink outlets such as food courts, restaurants, fast food shops and cafes, retail stores selling goods and products from all over Japan, and convenience stores that meet a wide range of needs.

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20241018-02/>



- October 11; The Association has appointed Mr Toru Mizutani, former Managing Executive Officer of Suntory Holdings and communications expert, as a Dputy Secretary General.

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20241015-05/>



- October 17; The Association has announced the detailed results of July and August measurements of methane gas levels at the site of the planned venue. This is part of the information provided based on the safety measures announced on 24 June.

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20241017-04/>



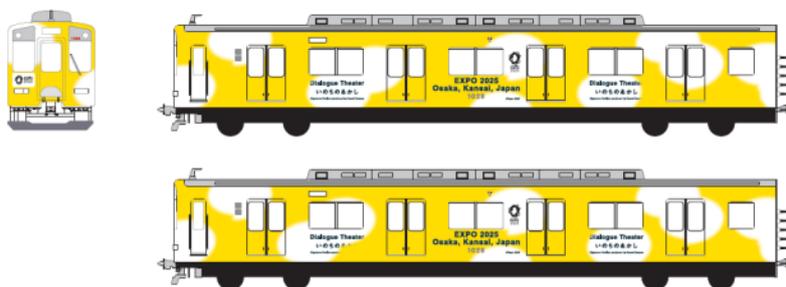
- October 16; The Association held a ceremony for the Expo Yamanote Line Advertising Train at JR Osaki Station. One train per hour on the Yamanote Line, wrapped in Myaku-Myaku advertising, will be in service up to October 31, 2024.



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20241016-01/>



- From October 18; The Kintetsu Group has started operating the wrapping train, called Dialogue Train. The main visual of the Dialogue Theater, the signature pavilion produced by producer Naomi Kawase, has been wrapped around the train. It is scheduled to run between Kintetsu Nara Station and Kobe Sannomiya Station until the closing day of the Expo.



「Dialogue Train」(イメージ)

3. Ticket sales

Number of tickets sales: 7,200,113 as of October 16, 2024