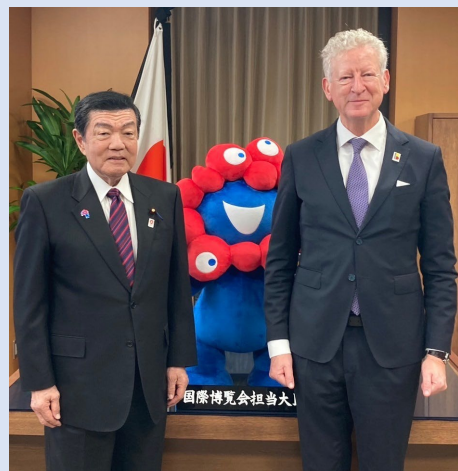


WORLD EXPO 2025 NEWS 「KIZUNA –絆– News letter」

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

Issued November 27, 2024, Vol.31



On November 15, 2024, I had the honor of meeting H.E. Minister Yoshitaka Ito to discuss the progress of the Belgian pavilion, which is advancing remarkably well. We shared our plans for showcasing Belgium's contributions to Saving Lives and highlighted the importance of seamless collaboration to ensure a successful Expo for all participants. I extend my gratitude to Minister Ito for his support in fostering this shared vision of innovation and unity.

Pieter De Crem
Belgian Commissioner-General for Expo Osaka 2025

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

1. Movements of Participating Countries
November 19: Chile announces that it will be unveiling *Makun*, traditional fabrics of indigenous Chileans, at its pavilion
2. This week /last week's main events
November 13: Mr. HARAIKAWA, Commissioner of the Japan Tourism Agency, promotes the Expo at the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Tourism (November 13–15)
November 18: Dr. Oussouby Sacko delivers an Expo visiting lecture at Nagasaki City Municipal Sakurababa Junior High School
November 20: Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition runs an Expo promotion booth at the “Autumn Exchange Meeting” hosted by the Embassy of Japan in China
November 20: Cabinet Secretariat hosts an Expo symposium in Nagoya City
Mr. ITO, Minister for the World Expo 2025; Mr. OMURA, Governor of Aichi Prefecture; and Mr. SHIMAO, Chairman of the Federation of Aichi Prefecture Chamber of Commerce and Industry, deliver a welcome speech
November 20: Dr. OCHIAI Yoichi delivers an Expo visiting lecture at Saitama Prefectural Asaka High School
November 21: Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition conducts a trial illumination of the Grand Roof (Ring)
November 22: Expo promotion booth opened at China International Travel Mart 2024 (CITM2024) (November 22–24)
November 22: MYAKU-MYAKU appears on stage at the lighting ceremony of Sapporo White Illumination
November 25: Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition launches a collaborative project with the JNTO for digital art-based overseas promotion
November 28: Expo Classroom in Morinomiya University of Medical Sciences
November 30: EXPO PLAYPARK at Aeon Mall Tokushima (November 30–December 1)
December 5: 30 Manga Barcelona in Barcelona, Spain (December 5–8)
3. Ticket Sales Update
Tickets sold: 7,362,828 (as of November 20, 2024)



Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan Weekly Report (November 19 - November 25)

~ 138 days to go!~



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1. Official Participants

- November 19; Chile unveiled the traditional fabric Macun, which will be exhibited in the pavilion. These indigenous textiles were made by over 200 weavers in Chile and are scheduled to be shipped to Japan before the end of the year.



<https://www.prochile.gob.cl/noticias/detalle-noticia/2024/11/19/tejedoras-mapuches-entregan-el-manto-de-chile-para-participaci%C3%B3n-en-expo-osaka-2025>

Status of the 170 official participants as of November 21

- 161 countries and 9 international organisations:

Those with 144 official participation agreements:

138 countries and 6 international organisations

Individually-allocated pavilions (71): 68 countries and 3 international organisations

Shared pavilions (99) : 93 countries and 6 international organisations

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

- November 21; The Association has performed a trial of night-time lighting of the Grand Ring, lighting up the entire circumference on a trial basis. The Grand Ring shone fantastically in the darkness. The lighting is scheduled for every night during the opening period, from sunset until the closure of the venue.



https://x.com/expo2025_japan/status/1859568525914099969?s=46&t=5Qn-2LhLb1GEHGIQYAhIXw

- November 13; Japan's Commissioner for Tourism Naoya Haraikawa participated in the G7 Tourism Ministers' Meeting held in Firenze, Italy, and promoted the Expo during the plenary session. Mr Haraikawa also presented Myaku-Myaku plush toys during individual meetings with the G7 ministers.



- November 20 - 24; The Association actively promoted the Expo in China.

- November 20; The Association exhibited a PR booth at the Autumn Exchange Party hosted by the Embassy of Japan held in Beijing. Ambassador Kenji Kanasugi and Myaku-Myaku promoted the Expo to 540 invited guests.



- November 22 – 24; The Association exhibited a PR booth at the China International Travel Fair (CITM2024), the largest event in the Chinese travel industry, held in Shanghai. The city remains strongly attached to Expos since its hosting in 2010 and has relatively easy access Osaka by air.



- November 20; The Cabinet Secretariat held a symposium on the Expo in Nagoya. After a video message from the Expo Minister Yoshitaka Ito, Governor of Aichi Prefecture Hideaki Omura and the head of the local business federation gave their opening addresses. In addition to introducing Expo 2025 and initiatives in Aichi Prefecture, a panel discussion was held on the legacy of the Expo 2005 Aichi.



- November 22; Myaku-Myaku took the stage to promote the Expo at the Sapporo White Illumination, one of the three major illuminations festivals in Japan and visited by about 1.7 million people every year.



- November 18 - 20; The Cabinet Secretariat is holding the EXPO School Caravan throughout Japan. It will continue to be implemented throughout the country.

- November 18, Professor Oussouby Sackou, Senior Advisor to Association, gave a lecture on the Expo at Sakuraba Junior High School in Nagasaki. The students learned about universal design with the theme of creating a city where everyone can live comfortably.



- November 20, Mr Yoichi Ochiai, one of the Signature Pavilion producers, gave a lecture at Asaka High School in Saitama Prefecture. Introducing them to the sound of synthesizers and dialogues with AI, Mr Ochiai raised awareness of barriers between ‘play’ and ‘learning’.



- November 25; The Association launched a collaborative project with the Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) to promote the Expo through digital art. Ink painting of the regional attractions related to the theme of the Expo will be shown to travelers from around the world.



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20241125-01/>

3. Upcoming events

- November 30 - December 1; "It's more than you can imagine! Turn! EXPO PLAYPARK" at Aeon Mall in Tokushima

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20241122-04/>



- November 28; Expo Classroom in Morinomiya Medical University in Osaka

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20241113-01/>



- December 5 - 8; The 30th Manga Barcelona in Barcelona, Spain

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20241122-00/>



Schedule of the EXPO School Caravan

Date	Name of school / Organiser
November 25	Ota Ward Omori No. 7 Junior High School (Tokyo) / Bandai Namco Holdings
	Kagawa Prefectural Shodoshima Chuo High School (Kagawa) / FOOD & LIFE COMPANIES
November 26	Amagasaki City Joyo Junior High School (Hyogo) / Kobe Steel
	Yamagata Prefectural Nanyo High School (Yamagata) / Mitsubishi Research Institute
November 27	Nitta Elementary School, Anjo City (Aichi) / Federation of Electric Power Companies of Japan
	Sokai Junior and Senior High School (Hyogo) /Kubota
	Nara City Higashi-Tomigaoka Elementary School (Nara) / Nichirei Foods
November 28	Shinagawa Ward Ebara No. 5 Junior High School (Tokyo) / Fukuoka Producer
	Tokyo Metropolitan Jindai High School (Tokyo) / Kinden
November 29	Kitazawamata Elementary School, Fukushima City (Fukushima) /Federation of Electric Power Companies of Japan
	Ichikawa City Futamata Elementary School (Chiba) / Maeda Road Construction
	Nishinomiya Municipal High Age West Elementary School (Hyogo) /Kawasaki Heavy Industries
December 2	Kawashima Tsubasa-ninami Elementary School (Saitama) / Panasonic Holdings
	Oshima Sakura Elementary School (Tokyo) / Mitsui O.S.K Lines
	Nakafurano Elementary School (Hokkaido) / KDDI and Hitachi

4. **Ticket sales**

Number of tickets sold; 7,362,828 as of November 20, 2024

For further information on Expo 2025:

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/>



5. **Q & As**

- 1) There have been reports that Ukraine will participate in the Expo, but what are the facts?
 - i. Japan welcomes Ukraine's participation in the Expo.
(Revised as of November 29).