

# WORLD EXPO 2025 NEWS

## 「KIZUNA – 絆 – News letter」

“Kizuna” is the Japanese word for “bond.” Issued July 31, 2024, Vol.15

The 10th Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting Welcome Reception Hosted by Chief Cabinet Secretary Mr. Hayashi and Dr. Hayashi that was held in Japan served as an opportunity for us, together with MYAKU-MYAKU, to deepen our bonds with leaders and other stakeholders from many participating countries. I express my gratitude to all those who are involved in preparations for the Expo around the world. Let's make it an Expo in which we can learn about the culture and history of countries and regions we did not know about, deepen our mutual understanding, and share our excitement.

JIMI Hanako Minister for the World Exposition 2025



Mr. Surangel S. WHIPPS, Jr., President of the Republic of Palau and Mrs. Whipps.



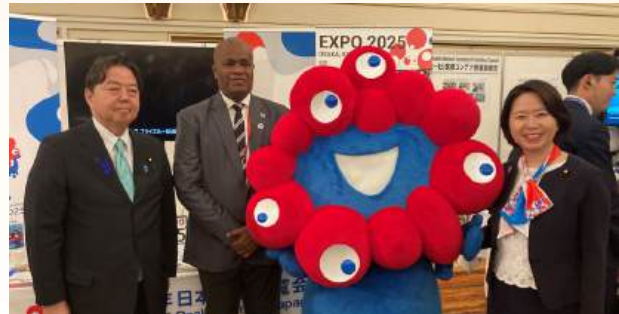
Dr. Hilda C. Heine, President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands



Mr. David ADEANG, President of the Republic of Nauru



Mr. Wesley W. Simina, President of the Federated States of Micronesia



HAYASHI Yoshimasa Chief Cabinet Secretary  
Mr. Sitiveni Ligamamada RABUKA, Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji



Mr. Charlot SALWAI Tabimamas, Prime Minister of the Republic of Vanuatu



Feleti Penitala TEO, Prime Minister of Tuvalu



Let's enliven  
the Expo  
together!

### 【The week's report】

- Overseas Pavilions Construction Status  
July 24: The Philippines holds a pavilion unveiling event
- Last week's main events / Schedule for this week and beyond  
July 24: Identity verification method for entry ticket purchases changed  
July 26: The Mayoral Alliance for Expo 2025 holds an Expo venue inspection tour  
July 27: Producer Shinichi Fukuoka hosts a book club

July 28: Producer Sachiko Nakajima hosts a talk event for the Exploring Life Meeting

July 26: Takenaka Corporation announces its sponsorship of the “Forestry Architecture”

July 26: Collaboration product of MYAKU-MYAKU and Yomiuri TV's Shinoby released

July 29: 4th Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan Budget Execution Monitoring Committee held

3. Sales / Applications

Tickets sold: 3,561,635 (as of July 24)

**Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan Weekly Report (July 23 – July 29)**

~ 257 days to go !

**1. Official Participants**

- July 24; The Philippines held a pavilion concept presentation in Osaka, following the presentation held in Manila last week. The pavilion will express diversity and human connections using traditional Philippine textiles. The exterior of the pavilion will be designed to resemble rattan crafts, and over 200 hand-woven items will be on display.



[https://www.facebook.com/bieparis/?locale=ja\\_JP](https://www.facebook.com/bieparis/?locale=ja_JP)

**Status of official participants as of July 25**

- Of 161 countries and 9 international organisations participations:

Those with official participation agreements:

119 countries and 4 international organisations

Individual pavilions (Type A and Type X) :

52 countries (47 Type A, 5 Type X)

Those with construction partners secured: 43 countries

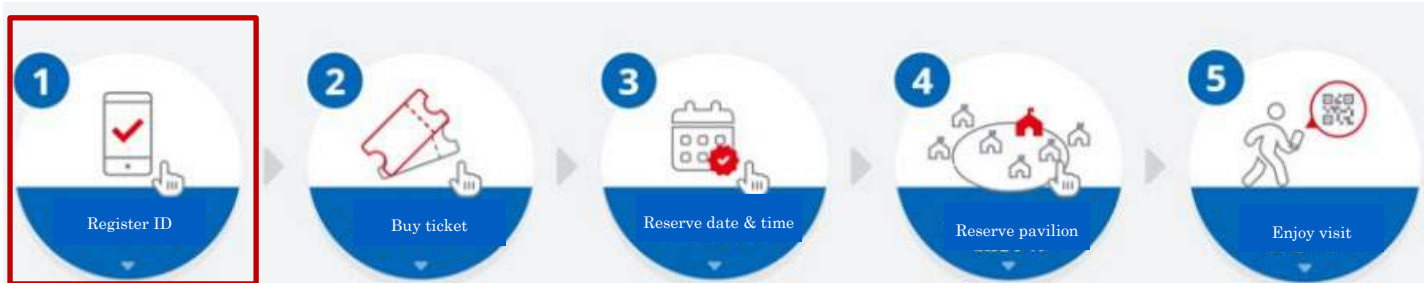
Those who have started construction: 37 countries

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

- July 24; To simplify Expo ID registration, the Association is now adopting a one-time password authentication, making it easier to verify identity. A one-time password is sent to the email address registered to the Expo ID.



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240724-01/>



- July 26; The Expo Mayors Union (Chairman: Mr Hirofumi Sawai, Mayor of Matsubara, Osaka Prefecture), visited the Expo site. Of the 664 local governments from all over Japan, around 100 heads of municipalities participated, climbed the Grand Ring and taking in the views of pavilions under construction. Afterwards, the members held an exchange meeting with ambassadors and consuls general from 20 participation countries at the Domyouji Tenmangu Shrine in Fujiidera, Osaka Prefecture. Minister Hanako Jimi and signature pavilion Producer Sachiko Nakajima also participated.



- July 27, A reading session was held in Kitakami, Iwate Prefecture, by biologist and signature pavilion producer Prof Shinichi Fukuoka, whose pavilion will feature under the theme "Dynamic Equilibrium of Life". Minister Hanako Jimi also participated the event and read a picture book together with local high school students. Participants learned the importance of life and nature while deepening their understanding of the Expo.



- July 28, Ms Sachiko Nakajima, producer of the signature pavilion "Playground of Life: Jellyfish Pavilion," launched the Society for Thinking about Life and held the first talk session at the National Museum of Ethnology in Suita, Osaka Prefecture. Fellow signature pavilion producer Prof Hiroshi Ishiguro and others also took stage.



[https://www.expo2025.or.jp/overview/expo\\_pll\\_talks/posts/no\\_0112/](https://www.expo2025.or.jp/overview/expo_pll_talks/posts/no_0112/)

- July 26; Takenaka Corporation, one of Japan's largest construction companies, announced that it will be sponsoring Foresting Architecture domes as a showcase project for the Expo. The domes will feature biodegradable, light-transmitting cellulose acetate as structural material and handmade *washi* paper and recycled plant materials for the exterior. The concept is that of architecture of the future that "becomes a forest when it is no longer in use." The domes will be used as a resting area in the venue.



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20240726-03/>

- July 26; The official character of the Expo, Myaku-Myaku, and the Yomiuri TV character Shinobi have started collaboration, trying their hand at manzai (a Japanese comedy genre performed by a duo) under the stage name Shinomyaku.

<https://expo2025mlo.jp/news/531>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CBX74zSRjFk>



- July 29; The 4th meeting of the Expo Budget Execution Monitoring Committee was held at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). The Association and the METI briefed the committee on the costs of repurposing Type X and the reuse of the Grand Ring, as well as ticket sales promotion measures.

### **3. What's coming up this week**

- July 31; Type B Pavilion will hand over to Mozambique
- August 5 and 6; Information session for school officials

### **4. Ticket sales**

Number of tickets sales: 3,561,635 as of July 24, 2024

### **5. O&As**

#### **1) Fake SNS account**

- There was news of fake Association social media accounts regarding grant disbursement. What are the facts and how is the Association dealing with this matter?
  - i. The Association discovered a large number of accounts impersonating the official X account of the Expo, as well as posts falsely claiming to be from the Association purporting to provide financial support. The Association immediately reported the incident to X and requested that the fake accounts be removed.
  - ii. In addition, a warning was posted on the Association's official website and on the official Expo X account on July 24.
  - iii. No damage has been confirmed at this time.



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240724-03/>

#### **2) Lightning protection for the Grand Ring**

- There have been reports that if lightning is expected around the venue, visitors will be prevented from approaching the Grand Ring. Is this true?

- i. In the event of a risk of lightning, measures will be taken to prevent visitors from climbing onto the Grand Ring, and visitors will be guided inside the pavilion facilities or underneath the ring to ensure their safety.
- ii. As for underneath the Grand Ring, lightning current will be safely conducted to the ground through down conductors from the lightning-receivers on the circumference of the ring, ensuring safety on a par with that of ordinary buildings.
- iii. The article initially mentioned incorrectly that, in addition to preventing people from climbing onto the Grand Ring upon risk of lightning, measures will also be taken to keep them at a distance from the Grand Ring. The Association pointed out this error, and the article was revised to read that in the event of a risk of lightning, measure will be taken to prevent people from climbing onto the Grand Ring.