

tourism, life sciences, business in the green and environmental fields, promoting trade and investment, and forging sales channels in Japan. Various significant views were expressed. For instance, Victor Osumi, president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan, voiced hope that expo-driven tourism would be a boon for the economy; Richard Lyle, president of the British Chamber of Commerce in Japan, spoke of the need for countries and businesses to cooperate in areas of high importance, such as SDGs; and Marc Bolduc, chair of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Japan, expressed hope for cooperation between the OCCI and Canadian businesses during the expo period. The participants agreed to continue discussions on specific collaborative projects among the participating chambers.

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2. NEWS FROM O-BIC

~ O-BIC HOLDS SEMINAR & EXHIBITS TO PROMOTE OSAKA AS A PLACE TO DO BUSINESS ~

The Osaka Business and Investment Center (O-BIC) held an online seminar, “Support Activities for Foreign Missions and Economic Organizations for Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai” on October 21, 2024. The event served to highlight the variety of support services available for overseas companies looking to invest in Osaka and for overseas missions visiting the expo. The seminar attracted an audience of 92 people, and feedback showed that they were able to glean information about the Osaka-wide set up to ensure our readiness to welcome overseas visitors during the expo period.

If you are interested in investing in Osaka, O-BIC is your first port of call. Contact O-BIC as directed below

with any questions you may have.

O-BIC also had a booth at the Invest in Osaka Promotion Seminar in Tokyo on October 24, 2024, where it showcased the advantages of Osaka as a business location. In the run-up to the 2025 World Expo, O-BIC remains determined to use events like these to promote Osaka as a great place to do business by spreading the word throughout Japan and around the world about Osaka's business environment and projects. For more on O-BIC and how it can help your business invest in Osaka, check out the official website at:

<https://o-bic.net/>.

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3. OCCI FORGES STRONG TIES IN GLOBAL MEDTECH ECOSYSTEM

This July saw the OCCI hold Global Navigator 2024, a program of support for medtech and healthcare startups looking to go global. As part of the program, selected enterprises (8 from Japan, 7 from Spain, and 6 from Singapore) traveled to Melbourne, Australia, between October 7 and 11, 2024, where they had one-on-one meetings with local businesses and visited medical and healthcare institutions in their search for opportunities for global expansion.

The OCCI's participation in the Global Navigator program is part of the chamber's long-standing focus on supporting the development of the life sciences sector. The OCCI entered into a partnership agreement in March 2024 with Medtech Actuator, the medtech and healthcare startup accelerator and organizer of the Global

Navigator program. Through this partnership, Medtech Actuator is looking to strengthen its ties with the OCCI (beginning with establishing its Japanese office here in October), while the OCCI will strive to discover startups in the Asia-Pacific and around the world and provide further support for business development with a view to global expansion.

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4. ASEAN-JAPAN BUSINESS PROMOTION PLATFORM NEWS

~PHILIPPINE GREEN MISSION~

The OCCI sent its Philippine Green Mission to The Philippines from October 21 to 23, 2024, to learn about local initiatives in the environment and green sector, and to seek opportunities for participating businesses to cooperate with local companies interested in this sector. To that end, the delegation visited the Philippine Board of Investment and Japanese companies operating locally, and participated in a business matching event held in collaboration with the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry and other organizations.

The OCCI was represented on the mission by Hiromitsu Morishima, chairperson of the chamber's International Business Committee, and executive officer and general manager of the Osaka Branch of Marubeni Corporation, who strove to strengthen ties with Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry executives and local companies. Feedback from participants revealed that interacting with local companies was an excellent way to gain valuable information about the Philippine green sector.

Find out more (in Japanese) about the ASEAN Business Promotion Platform at:

<https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/abp/>

Phone: +81-6-6944-6400

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5. OSAKA & KANSAI ECONOMY UPDATES

The Asia Pacific Institute of Research (APIR) released its Kansai and the Asia Pacific, Economic Outlook 2023-2024 on October 1, 2024. In it, the institute forecasts GDP will increase in the Kansai region by 1.2% in FY2024 and 1.4% in FY2025, buoyed by rising wages, the recovery in inbound tourism, and the 2025 World Expo.

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

Kansai Culture Days

This year's Kansai Culture Days fall on November 16 and 17. Art galleries, museums, and similar institutions around the Kansai region will waive their admission fees and open their doors for free as a means of giving people an easy way to see and experience Kapan's vast wealth of art and culture. Naturally, the OCCI's Entrepreneurial Museum of Challenge and Innovation is participating, so take advantage of this golden opportunity to come and see what's on display - for free!

Find out more about Kansai Culture Days (in Japanese) at

<https://www.the-kansai-guide.com/ja/kansaibunkanohi/>

Read all about the Entrepreneurial Museum of Challenge and Innovation at

6. 2025 WORLD EXPO UPDATES

A variety of special events were held recently to mark the six-months-to-go milestone in the countdown to the expo.

On October 4, 2024, the OCCI held the second “All Osaka’s a Stage” networking event to promote the huge variety of off-site events planned to coincide with the expo. The Aqua Metropolis Osaka Consortium held its Osaka Aqua Metropolis Pavilion Week on October 12-14, 2024, featuring a range of performances and events at different venues connected by Osaka’s famous network of waterways. Also, the Japan Association for the 2025 World Exhibition held a special “six months to go” event on October 13, 2024, featuring musical acts and a spectacular drone show.

“KUUZO~Expo? More like Eatspo!”

In the run-up to the 2025 World Expo, the OCCI is showcasing Osaka many, many, oh-so-many dining options on Instagram. Whet your appetite at the OCCI Instagram account, and give us a follow while you’re there!

https://www.instagram.com/osaka_cci/

Tickets for Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai

- Firstly, you need to register yourself to Expo2025 website and get your Expo ID.

You can buy the ticket, reserve your entry date, and enjoy various services with EXPO ID

- Admission tickets will be e-tickets. You can purchase them with a smartphone or PC.
- In addition to the ticket, you need to reserve the entry date in advance. The detail information of entry reserve will be announced later.

[Click here to purchase admission tickets]

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/tickets-index/>

[Check out the OCCI' s 2025 World Expo website at]

<https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/expo2025/pavilion>

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7. <COURTESY VISIT (1ST OCTOBER-30 TH OCTOBER)>

(Chairman of Korea Hwaseong Chamber of Commerce and Industry)18 th October

-Mr. AHN SANG KYO

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And finally, some Osaka trivia. It's well known that various major businesses and brands made their start in Osaka, but did you know that Mister Donut began its domination of the Japanese market with a first store in Minoh of all places!?

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[O-BIC as one-stop service center for creating a foothold in Osaka]

<http://o-bic.net/>

[Information about scheduled events (in Japanese only)]

<https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/event/index.php>

[linkedin]

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/osaka-o-bic-2025/recent-activity/all/>



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<https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/e/emagazine/>



* Please contact us by email (intl@osaka.cci.or.jp)

to inform us of your change of e-mail address, or of your wishes not to receive OCCI e-Magazine.