

Speech by H.E. SUZUKI Kazuhiro, Ambassador of Japan to Australia
at the Launch Event hosted by the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and
Trade for the Australian Pavilion at Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan
on Monday 10 February 2025

Before I begin my remarks, I would also like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land upon which we meet today and pay my respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging.

Mr Andrew Barr, Chief Minister of the ACT,

The Honorable Don Farrell, Minister for Trade and Tourism,

The Honorable Madeleine King, Minister for Resources and Northern Australia,

Ms Jan Adams, Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade,

Distinguished guests,

I am truly honored to be invited here today for the official launch event of Australia's participation in Expo 2025 in Osaka, Kansai, Japan.

It is also a great pleasure to be joined by Myaku-Myaku, whose popularity is vividly felt across the social media platforms of every Japanese embassy worldwide.

Well, Myaku-Myaku is much more popular than I am, but I am not jealous of that.

And I harbor a small hope that my selfie with Myaku-Myaku will contribute to a big increase in the number of likes on our Embassy's social media accounts.

Ladies and gentlemen, the World Expo serves as a vital platform where wisdom, technology, and culture from around the globe converge. In this context, Australia's vision and leadership are essential in paving the way toward sustainable development for the future.

The Australian Pavilion, embodying environmentally friendly technologies, innovative ideas, and a commitment to diversity and harmony, is sure to leave a lasting impression on many visitors.

Furthermore, the dedication of Nancy Gordon, Australia's Commissioner General over there, who has now embraced Osaka as her temporary home, and her daily efforts towards the success of both the Expo and the Australian Pavilion, serve as testament to Australia's enthusiasm for this event. So thank you, Nancy, for your great contribution.

Japan has also been diligently preparing for the Expo.

Under the theme "Designing Future Society for Our Lives," we are pursuing a fusion of technological innovation with its rich traditional culture.

The economic tie between Japan and Australia, enormously built around resources and energy sectors, has entered into a new era, evidenced by the expansion of new business sectors and the conspicuous increase in the exchange of people.

One of the Expo's thematic catchwords is "serendipity," and amid the strong momentum of our bilateral relations, this event will offer everyone present the opportunity to forge new connections with wonderful people, discover new business opportunities, and create unforgettable family memories.

And in its centre, the Australian Pavilion is poised to inspire individuals and attract business from around the world.

I therefore fervently hope that the success of Expo 2025 and the Australian Pavilion will elevate the Japan-Australia relationship to new heights.

Thank you.