NEWS RELEASE

19 November 2026
Japan Association for the International
Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama

Progress Report and Promotion of the International Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama, Japan (GREEN×EXPO 2027) at the 179th BIE General Assembly

The GREEN×EXPO Association (Official Name: Japan Association for the International Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama, Chairperson: TSUTSUI Yoshinobu, Office: Naka-ku, City of Yokohama) participated in the 179th General Assembly of the BIE (Bureau International des Expositions), held on November 17, 2026 (Tuesday), at Le Palais des Congrès d'Issy in Paris, France.

Taking advantage of this final BIE General Assembly before the opening of the International Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama, Japan (GREEN×EXPO 2027), the Association, in collaboration with the Commissioner of the International Horticultural Expo 2027, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Kanagawa Prefectural Government, and the City of Yokohama, presented a progress report on preparations for the Expo and conducted promotional activities to build momentum toward its opening.



〈BIE General Assembly Overview〉

Title: 179th BIE General Assembly
Date: Tuesday, 17 November 2026
Venue: Le Palais des Congrès d'Issy
Program: A progress report on preparations for the International Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama, Japan (GREEN×EXPO 2027) and promotional activities, conducted in close collaboration with the national government, Kanagawa Prefectural Government, and the City of Yokohama.

Reference: Bureau International des Expositions (BIE) and the 179th BIE General Assembly
The BIE is an intergovernmental organisation established in 1928 under the Convention Relating to International Exhibitions. Headquartered in Paris, France, the BIE oversees the organisation of international exhibitions to ensure that they are held in accordance with the Convention, and is responsible for registering and recognising exhibitions.
GREEN×EXPO 2027 is an A1-class International Horticultural Exhibition approved by the International Association of Horticultural Producers (AIPH) and subsequently recognised by the BIE.
In total, approximately 200 people from 115 Member States attended the General Assembly. This General Assembly marks an important milestone as GREEN×EXPO 2027 approaches its opening.

■Greetings and Promotional Remarks (Honorifics Omitted)

●KUSAMA Tsuyoshi, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism



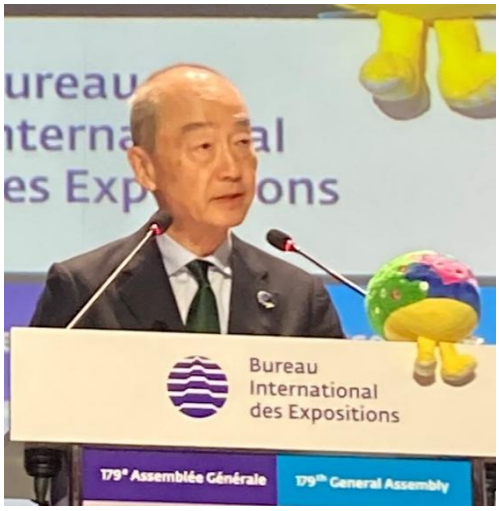
Yokohama, the host city of GREEN×EXPO 2027, is the city where I was born and raised and where I continue to live. As someone who has been involved in efforts to bring the Expo to Yokohama, I would like to express my great joy and anticipation at welcoming people from around the world in 2027. As a new type of International Horticultural Exhibition, GREEN×EXPO 2027 will focus not only on flowers and greenery, agriculture and food, but also on global environmental challenges such as climate change and biodiversity. Through the diverse food cultures and local specialties of regions across Japan, the Expo will promote exports of Japanese agricultural, forestry and fishery products and food, while showcasing Japan's strengths in green technologies. Working closely with all relevant stakeholders, I am committed to making GREEN×EXPO 2027 a great success.

● TAKEBE Arata, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Video Message)



GREEN×EXPO 2027 will serve not only as an opportunity to showcase the appeal of flowers and horticulture, but also as a platform to demonstrate our commitment to determining what kind of natural environment and global environment we will pass on to future generations. Through the Japan Pavilion and Garden, we aim to showcase traditional Japanese culture, including bonsai and Japanese cuisine, and share with the world our vision for a sustainable future of food and agriculture. We also hope that the Expo will provide a valuable opportunity to further deepen exchanges between Japan and participating countries and regions through exhibits that draw on their rich cultures and knowledge of agriculture and horticulture. We will continue preparations for the successful hosting of the Expo in close cooperation with all stakeholders.

● SHIMMI Jun, Commissioner of the International Horticultural Expo 2027,Yokohama, Japan



GREEN×EXPO 2027 is an international horticultural exhibition that aims to realize a sustainable society by sharing the knowledge, technologies, and diverse cultures of countries around the world, and promoting a society in which people and nature coexist in harmony. Domestically numerous exhibits by private companies and local governments are planned. Internationally, more countries and international organisations than the government's initial target have announced their participation. Preparations are also underway for a wide range of cultural events hosted by participating countries, including National Days. Through distinctive exhibits and opportunities for exchange, the Expo aims to promote mutual understanding and international cooperation. The Government of Japan, in collaboration with the GREEN×EXPO Association, will continue working toward the successful hosting of the Expo.

●KUROIWA Yuji, Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture (Video Message)



As the governor of the host prefecture, he is committed to promoting the appeal of GREEN×EXPO 2027 both in Japan and internationally to the fullest extent, and will further accelerate these efforts going forward. Under the theme “Vibrant INOCHI” or a vision that “Everyone’s life sparkles,” Kanagawa Prefecture will present the “Vibrant INOCHI Forest Kanagawa Pavilion,” featuring an integrated garden and exhibition facility. The prefecture will also stage an original musical. With the aim of providing visitors with wonderful and memorable experiences, Kanagawa Prefecture will continue making thorough preparations for the opening of the Expo.

●KOMURA Masato,

Secretary-General of the Japan Association for the International Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama



Construction of the Expo site is progressing steadily, with key facilities currently under development, including the Theme Pavilion “NEKKO” and the Horticultural Culture Pavilion “IROHANIWA.” Building on the legacy of Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan, efforts are being made to promote the reuse of materials, foster inclusive initiatives that enable participation and active engagement by all people, and utilise operational expertise gained from previous expos. Official participation has reached 80 countries and international organisations, surpassing the Government of Japan’s target of 70 participants. Preparations for the opening are being advanced through the organisation of International Participants Meeting and support for participating countries, as well as through plans for events such as National Days, ticket sales, and promotional activities featuring the official mascot “Tunku Tunku.” With the opening scheduled for March 19, 2027, preparations are being accelerated to ensure the successful delivery of the Expo.

●HARASAWA Atsumi, Mayor of Yokohama



As the host city, Yokohama is moving forward responsibly with preparations and looks forward to welcoming people from around the world. The City of Yokohama will present the "CIRCULAR LINK YOKOHAMA Hub," showcasing a monument created in collaboration with approximately 3,000 citizens, as well as cutting-edge environmental technologies developed by companies, and the "CIRCULAR LINK YOKOHAMA Field," an approximately 10,000-square-meter space created together with citizens. Yokohama will also share the city's appeal through events such as parades and musical performances. Following the Expo, the former Expo site will be developed into a park as part of the Expo's legacy. In the surrounding areas, the city will promote the development of hubs for tourism, agriculture, logistics, and other sectors, aiming to create a new model of urban development that coexists in harmony with the environment.

Contact

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Overview of the GREEN×EXPO 2027

Name	International Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama, Japan
Abbreviation	GREEN×EXPO 2027
Site	City of Yokohama, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan
Duration	Friday, 19 March 2027 – Sunday, 26 September 2027
Theme	Scenery of the Future for Happiness
Expo Site	Approx. 100 hectares (Exhibition Area is 80 hectares)
Expo Class	A1 (Highest) (AIPH Approval and BIE Recognition)
Participants	15 million (Admission Paying Visitors: over 10 million)
Website	https://expo2027yokohama.or.jp/en/



Official Mascot
Tunku Tunku