

This newsletter is being sent to current and former The Nippon Foundation fellows, and persons who have asked to be added to the mailing list or have been introduced by The Nippon Foundation staff.



[The Nippon Foundation News] Marine Month



Exterior views of the two most recently opened Nagisa-no-Koban beach facilities – Nagisa-no-Koban Toda Aya Lake Base (left) and Nagisa-no-Koban Ishinomaki Moriumius Marine & Food (right)

Greetings from The Nippon Foundation. The Marine Day national holiday, intended to give thanks for and remind people of the blessings the island nation of Japan receives from the ocean, is observed on the third Monday in July, making this a popular time for visiting the seaside, rivers, and lakes. The Nippon Foundation's *Nagisa-no-Koban* (Seaside Patrol Stations) project has opened 19 facilities across Japan that provide beachside hubs for community-focused marine activities. The two newest facilities are Nagisa-no-Koban Ishinomaki Moriumius Marine & Food, which opened in Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture, in 2025, and Nagisa-no-Koban Toda Aya Lake Base, which opened in Toda City, Saitama Prefecture, earlier this year.

[Nagisa-no-Koban project page](#)

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News

1. Cosplay de UMIGOMI Zero Challenge! (June 19, 2026)
2. Update on MEGURI2040 Fully Autonomous Ship Program's Progress to International Maritime Organization (June 3, 2026)

Cosplay de UMIGOMI Zero Challenge!

Roughly 300 people participate in trash collection activity to raise awareness of ocean debris

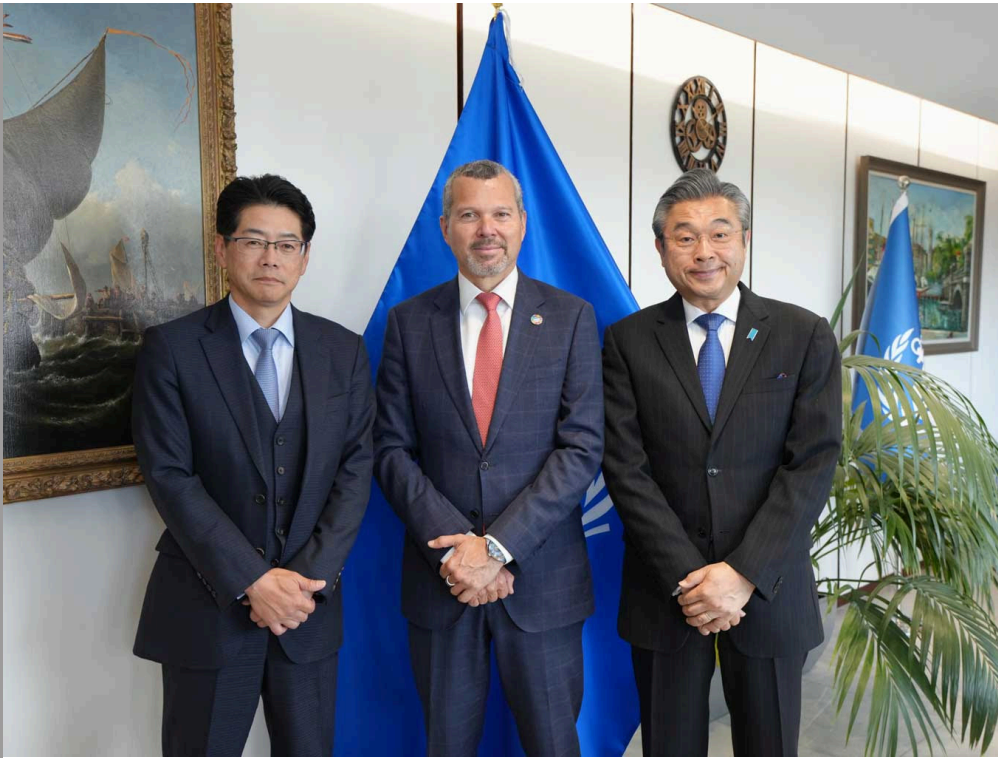


Cosplay de UMIGOMI Zero Challenge 2026 in Ikebukuro was held on May 30 at Higashi-Ikebukuro Central Park in Toshima, Tokyo. The event marked the kickoff of UMIGOMI Zero Week 2026, a nationwide cleanup campaign to reduce ocean debris. Roughly 300 people, including cosplayers, the general public, and representatives of cooperating companies and organizations, participated.

[Full Article](#)

Update on MEGURI2040 Fully Autonomous Ship Program's Progress to International Maritime Organization

Formulation of rules also marks acceleration toward social implementation



On May 15, a presentation on the MEGURI2040 Fully Autonomous Ship Program's Stage 2 (social implementation) progress was made at the 111th meeting of the Maritime Safety Commission of the U.N.'s International Maritime Organization at the IMO's headquarters in London. Roughly 300 delegates from around the world were updated on the project's achievements to date including overall progress, inspection frameworks for autonomous vessels, and crew training.

[Full Article](#)

Honorary Chair Yohei Sasakawa Receives Honorary Doctorate From Gallaudet University

In recognition of years of continuous promotion of education and social participation for deaf and hard-of-hearing people



The Nippon Foundation Honorary Chair Yohei Sasakawa was awarded a Doctor of Humane Letters by Gallaudet University in the United States on May 15, 2026. The

honorary degree was in recognition of his work over many years to support education and social participation for deaf and hard-of-hearing people.

[Full Article](#)

In Depth

Articles and analyses on themes related to areas in which the Foundation has a special interest.



[【Field Notes】 Expanding the Role of Business in Social Change](#)
(June 11, 2026)



[【Field Notes】 Collaboration and Connection: Reimagining the Global Nikkei Community](#) (July 6, 2026)

Yohei Sasakawa Blog

Honorary Chair of The Nippon Foundation



[The Nippon Foundation Hosts Inaugural Island States Ocean Summit to Inspire Coordinated Global Action to Combat Rising Sea Levels \(1\)](#) [June 25, 2026]



[Meeting with Philippine President Marcos During His State Visit to Japan](#) [June 16, 2026]



[42nd Sasakawa Health Prize Awarded to Banconi Community Health Association of Mali](#) [June 10, 2026]

[Yohei Sasakawa Blog Top Page](#)

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