

To all stakeholders

June 2, 2025

Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International (ATR)

Invitation to the Avatar Ride-Share Tour

—Experience the Pavilion from anywhere in the world through Avatar Robots!—



Key Points:

- The Moonshot R&D Program, Goal 1 “Avatar-Symbiotic Society Project” (Project Manager: Prof. Hiroshi Ishiguro, Osaka University) will offer a live streaming service titled “**Avatar Ride-Share Tour**” at the Signature Pavilion “*Future of Life*” during Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, starting on June 6, 2025. (For the full schedule, please visit our website.)

Tour Dates:

- Japanese-language tours: June 15 (Sun), 16 (Mon), 27 (Fri), August 10 (Sun), September 3 (Wed), 18 (Thu), 30 (Tue)
- English-language tours: June 6 (Fri), 21 (Sat), 30 (Mon), July 8 (Sat), August 9 (Sat), September 10 (Wed), 26 (Fri), October 9 (Thu)
- The Avatar Ride-Share Tour is a live-streamed experience that allows participants from around the world—who cannot visit the Expo in person—to explore the Future of Life Pavilion from the point of view of an avatar robot, via its onboard camera.
- Participation is available via registration on our website: <https://expo2025fol-avatartour.com/>. In the case of high demand, priority will be given to applicants organizing public viewings at schools, museums, cultural institutions, or companies.

Tour Overview:

Under the Moonshot R&D Program, Goal 1: “Realization of an Avatar-Symbiotic Society where Everyone Can Freely Participate” (Project Manager: Prof. Hiroshi Ishiguro, Graduate School of Engineering Science, Osaka University), we are currently conducting a large-scale field experiment at the Future of Life Pavilion during Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai. In this experiment, multiple avatar robots are deployed throughout the pavilion to interact with visitors—guiding, assisting, and engaging them as part of the overall operation.

As a part of this initiative, we will begin the **Avatar Ride-Share Tour** on **June 6, 2025**, as listed above. During the tour, avatar robots such as **Petra** (see Figure 1) will travel through the pavilion in place of remote participants. The video and audio from Petra’s onboard camera will be streamed in real time via Zoom Webinar, accompanied by brief narration.

Participants can register online by choosing their preferred date and time. To accommodate different time zones around the world, sessions are scheduled as early as 7:30 AM and as late as 9:30 PM (JST). Separate sessions will be held in Japanese and in English with a capacity of up to 1,000 simultaneous participants per session. While individuals are welcome to register, we especially encourage public viewing events hosted by schools, museums, or companies. Priority will also be given to participants from the Global South.

We look forward to your participation and would greatly appreciate it if you could help spread the word among relevant institutions and communities.

Web URL:

For more information and registration, please visit: <https://expo2025fol-avatartour.com/>



Contact Information

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Figure 1: Avatar Robot “Petra”