

The 22nd Asia Pacific Retailers Convention & Exhibition

October, 2026

Tokyo, Japan



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The Asia Pacific Retailers Convention & Exhibition is scheduled to take place in Tokyo in October 2026.

The details of the "Tokyo Convention" will be decided by the Executive Committee as we move forward, but this slide shows the outline of what has now been decided.

1. What is the Asia-Pacific Retailers Convention & Exhibition ? ①

The world's leading biennial international conference that brings together top retailers from 18 member countries and regions of the Federation of Asia-Pacific Retailers' Associations (FAPRA) to discuss the latest industry trends and common issues.

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The conference is one of the world's leading international meetings where top retailers from 18 member countries and regions of the Federation of Asia-Pacific Retailers' Associations (FAPRA) to discuss the latest industry trends and common issues every other year.

The first conference was held in Tokyo in 1983 and has a long history of over 40 years.

The number of participants has recently expanded to very large conference, with more than 2,000 or 3,000 participants.

The 21st conference was held in Sri Lanka in September 2024, and the Tokyo conference will be held about two years later.

1. What is the Asia-Pacific Retailers Convention & Exhibition ? ②

FAPRA Member countries/regions.

China, Chinese Taipei, Fiji, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam

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The countries and regions that are members of FAPRA are shown here.

The region is one of the fastest growing mega-markets in the world, with further growth expected in the future.

2. Outline of the Tokyo Conference ①

▶ **Main theme:**

The Future of Retailing
~ Innovation Meets Tradition ~

▶ **Dates:** 7 - 10 October 2026

▶ **Venue:** Tokyo International Forum and
surrounding facilities

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This is an overview of the 2026 Tokyo Conference.

The main theme is “The Future of Retailing - Innovation Meets Tradition”.

The conference will be held from 7 to 10 October 2026 at the Tokyo International Forum, an international conference center near the Tokyo station and Imperial Palace, as well as at the surrounding facilities.

2. Outline of the Tokyo Conference ②

▶ Program

7 Oct (Wed): Welcome reception

8 Oct (Thu): Opening Ceremony / Keynote Speech /
Breakout Sessions / Exhibition Opening Ceremony

9 Oct (Fri): Special Lecture / Breakout Sessions / Exhibition /
Country & Regional Reports / Farewell Party

10 Oct (Sat): Retail Study Tours

▶ Number of participants (estimated):

Approx. 4,000 at convention, Approx. 10,000 at exhibition

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A welcome reception will be held on the 7th, followed by an international convention and exhibition on the 8th and 9th.

The International Convention will feature more than 70 prominent retail executives and experts from Japan and abroad as speakers, who will give presentations and Q&A sessions in four breakout sessions

We estimate approximately 4,000 participants to attend the convention and 10,000 to attend the exhibition.

The event will also offer a variety of occasions for participants to interact with each other, such as a welcome reception, a farewell party and a retail study tours.

3. Theme of the Tokyo Conference

The Future of Retailing

Innovation Meets Tradition

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Under the main theme of 'The Future of Retailing - Innovation Meets Tradition', preparations for the international convention and exhibition will be based on the following four perspectives.

4. Perspectives at the Conference (1)

► Innovation

AI, Robotics

Aartisan skills, Ingenuity on site

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The first perspective is innovation. The conference will discuss the changes in business models and new value that innovations such as AI (artificial intelligence) and robotics will bring to the retail industry and consumers. In addition to technology, we will also focus on the importance of the "artisan skills" and ingenuity cultivated by retailers on a daily basis, which we consider to be a type of innovation. We would like to provide you with opportunities to experience these things at the exhibition.

4. Perspectives at the Conference (2)

► Responses to Social Issues

Generation Z, Diversity and Inclusion
Urban issues, Climate changes,
SDGs and carbon neutrality

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The second perspective is 'Responses to Social Issues'.

The retail sector is under pressure to respond to various changes and social challenges, such as the rise of Generation Z, acceptance of diversity, rapid ageing in some countries, urban issues and global climate change issues.

4. Perspectives at the Conference (3)

▶ Challenges for Japanese Retail Sector

- Low birthrate and ageing population
- Labor shortages and rising labor costs
- Logistics issues
- Customer harassment
- Frequent natural disasters etc.

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The third perspective is "Challenges for Japanese Retail Sector".

Japan is experiencing a decline in birthrate and an ageing population, which is placing significant pressure on the retail industry. Key challenges include labor shortages and rising labor costs, logistics issues, customer harassment and the impact of frequent natural disasters.

We believe that Japan's retail initiatives can provide valuable insight and guidance to retailers in the Asia-Pacific region, enabling them to develop long-term strategies.

4. Perspectives at the Conference (4)

▶ Retail Business Philosophy

Customer-first

`Sanpo yoshi' (Benefit for all three sides)

`Jiri-rita' (Benefiting oneself and others)

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The fourth is “Retail Business Philosophy”.

No matter how retailers face innovation, various social challenges or business problems, there is a universal law in the Japanese retail industry: the customer comes first.

The Tokyo Conference will also focus on the importance of traditional Japanese business ethics such as “sampo yoshi” (good for the seller, buyer, and society) and Asian-derived philosophies such as “jiri-rita” (benefiting oneself and others).

5. Finally - Tokyo's attractiveness

- ▶ **(1) Japan is a huge and attractive market**
 - ✓ Record-high household financial assets
 - ✓ Number of high-net-worth individuals ranks second in the world after the US

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Finally, We would like to conclude our presentation by introducing some of Tokyo's attractiveness.

First and foremost, "Japan is an attractive huge market".

The balance of household financial assets reached a record high of 14.5 trillion US dollars at the end of March 2024. In addition, the number of high-net-worth individuals in Japan is 3.65 million, making it the second richest in the world after the United States.

5. Finally - Tokyo's attractiveness

► (2) Tokyo, an ever-developing metropolis

- ✓ History and tradition coexist with the cutting edge
- ✓ Numerous unique commercial and entertainment districts
- ✓ Numerous urban redevelopment projects

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Tokyo became the capital of Japan at the beginning of the 17th century and has developed over the four centuries since then.

It is a metropolis where history and tradition coexist with the cutting edge, and is home to numerous commercial and entertainment facilities.

Tokyo offers easy access to regional cities throughout Japan, so we invite you to come to Tokyo and enjoy the attractions of Tokyo and the rest of Japan.

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7-10 October 2026.

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We want the 22nd APRCE to bring together retailers and various stakeholders connected to the retail industry to share experiences and the current situation, learn from each other, deepen exchanges and explore business opportunities across national, regional, industry and business boundaries.

The call for participants will start in April 2026. Further details will be provided through the national retailers associations in your countries. We look forward to seeing you in Tokyo.