



The Foreign Relations
Yearbook 2019
Republic of China
(Taiwan)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Preface

Preface

During National Day celebrations on October 10, 2019, President Tsai Ing-wen delivered an address entitled *Nation of Resilience, Forward into the World*. She explained that despite significant changes in the global landscape and the threats, diplomatic offensives, and military coercion that Taiwan faced from China, Taiwan had grown even stronger and more determined to safeguard national sovereignty. President Tsai emphasized that the government's future path was clear, as were its goals: first, to ensure that the people continued to remain united under the banner of freedom and democracy to defend Taiwan's sovereignty; second, to continue to build a stronger Taiwan and bolster its economic capabilities to create a prosperous society and powerful country; and third, to actively engage with the world and overcome challenges so that the Republic of China (Taiwan) could hold its head high on the international stage with courage and confidence.

The year 2019 was a fruitful one filled with numerous accomplishments. Taiwan continued to promote the Taiwan Model of bilateral cooperation with diplomatic allies and increased momentum for collaboration with like-minded nations. It deepened exchanges with the United States, Japan, members of the European Union, and other countries, aligning our collective strategic focus and elevating Taiwan's status. Taiwan also forged strategic regional alliances by building on the remarkable achievements of its New Southbound Policy. Meanwhile, efforts to expand participation and make Taiwan's voice heard in the international arena produced notable success, garnering Taiwan greater affirmation and recognition worldwide.

In 2019, President Tsai made state visits to seven diplomatic allies—to Palau, Nauru, and the Marshall Islands on the Oceans of Democracy tour; and to Haiti, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Saint Lucia on the Journey of Freedom, Democracy, and Sustainability. These trips further cemented high-level friendships between Taiwan and its allies. Taiwan prioritized joint endeavors that directly benefited the people of its diplomatic allies, enhancing their welfare and promoting sustainable socioeconomic development. To meet allies' needs, Taiwan provided comprehensive support for agriculture, fisheries, medicine, healthcare, education, and vocational training, as well as funds for startup loans, all of which strengthened substantive bilateral cooperation as we

worked together to realize the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The Taiwan Model earned recognition from the United States, and together we actively pursued new opportunities to assist Paraguay and Saint Lucia, drawing international attention to our diversified cooperation based on the principles of steadfast diplomacy and mutual assistance for mutual benefit. Looking ahead, Taiwan will establish a similar form of transnational cooperation with its Pacific allies, sharing the values of freedom, democracy, and sustainability to fill a crucial role in international development and cooperation.

Relations with the United States advanced further in June 2019 when the Coordination Council for North American Affairs was renamed the Taiwan Council for US Affairs. In July, President Tsai received high-level courtesies during her two US transit stops of the Journey of Freedom, Democracy, and Sustainability. Her total transit stay set a record for the longest transit stay in the United States by an ROC (Taiwan) head of state. It also marked the first time that an ROC (Taiwan) president hosted a reception for the press corps and attended a public event at one of Taiwan's offices in the United States. High-level interactions between Taiwan and the United States continued to increase throughout the year. While attending the Pacific Islands Forum in August, I held a bilateral meeting with the US Secretary of the Interior. The US Congress continued to pass laws and resolutions, write joint letters, hold hearings, and issue statements staunchly supporting high-level mutual visits, easing restrictions on bilateral engagement, bolstering military and security cooperation, promoting bilateral economic and trade agreements, and endorsing Taiwan's participation in international organizations and its efforts to consolidate diplomatic ties. The United States gradually normalized arms sales to Taiwan, reinforcing its commitment to Taiwan's security. It publicly lauded Taiwan's contributions to the Indo-Pacific Strategy, highlighting Taiwan's important role in this policy and incorporating Taiwan into the *Indo-Pacific Strategy Report*, published by the Department of Defense, and *A Free and Open Indo-Pacific: Advancing a Shared Vision*, published by the Department of State. US Vice President Mike Pence and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo repeatedly praised Taiwan as a democratic success story, a reliable partner, and a force for good in the world. Taiwan-US relations continue to reach new heights.

Relations with Japan also progressed as the Japanese Diet and administration showed unprecedented support for Taiwan. More than 20 members of the Japan-ROC Diet Members' Consultative Council attended Taiwan's 2019 National Day

celebrations. From 2018 to 2019, the council passed five resolutions in support of Taiwan, backing its participation in the World Health Organization and opposing Chinese pressure exerted on Japanese airlines to change Taiwan's designation. The Japanese administration also took concrete actions to endorse Taiwan's bids to participate in the United Nations, World Health Assembly, International Civil Aviation Organization, INTERPOL, and other international organizations. Minister of Foreign Affairs Taro Kono publicly advocated Taiwan's participation in the WHA on his personal Twitter account. These developments were a testament to the strong and steadfast support extended to Taiwan by the Japanese Diet and administration in 2019. Meanwhile, institutionalized cooperation between Taiwan and Japan has become more comprehensive with the signing of numerous agreements and memorandums of understanding in recent years covering maritime rescue operations, customs cooperation, entrepreneurial support, product certification, patent reviews, environmental protection, and academic and cultural exchanges. In addition to existing dialogue frameworks such as the Taiwan-Japan Economic and Trade Conference, other negotiation mechanisms were established, including the Taiwan-Japan Maritime Affairs Cooperation Dialogue and the Taiwan-Japan Committee on Cooperation in Third Country Markets, further bolstering bilateral relations. In 2019, the number of Japanese tourists visiting Taiwan rose above the two million mark, and Taiwan became the top choice for overseas educational tours for Japanese high school students, leading to a steady increase in the number of organized tours to Taiwan.

Taiwan-Europe relations experienced phenomenal growth in 2019. In May, the national parliaments of a number of European countries, including the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Slovakia, expressed support for Taiwan. In June, I delivered a keynote address at the Copenhagen Democracy Summit in Denmark, where I emphasized that Taiwan upholds the core values of freedom, human rights, and democracy. This was the first time that an ROC (Taiwan) foreign minister had spoken at such a prominent public event in Denmark. In October, the chairpersons of the Taiwan friendship groups from the European Parliament and the French, German, and UK parliaments jointly established the Formosa Club, a European interparliamentary platform designed to consolidate support for Taiwan. That same month, the House of Representatives of the Netherlands passed for the first time—by an overwhelming majority—a motion backing Taiwan's participation in international organizations. In December, the European Parliament's Committee

on Foreign Affairs approved two key resolutions reaffirming support for Taiwan's participation in international organizations. At a time when China was ramping up its suppression of Taiwan in the international arena, European parliamentarians stood firm in their support of Taiwan. Deputy Speaker of the Danish Parliament Pia Kjaersgaard and Vice President of the French Senate Thani Mohamed-Soilihi each showed their strong commitment by visiting Taiwan. Taiwan also engaged in exchanges and cooperation with the European Union and individual European countries at multiple levels and in multiple domains. Taiwan concluded an agreement on legal cooperation in criminal matters with Poland, the first of its kind with a European country, setting a major milestone in related bilateral initiatives. It also signed an agreement on prisoner transfer with Denmark. These accords underscored Taiwan's progress in combating transnational crime alongside European nations. Furthermore, Taiwan signed an MOU for a youth working holiday program with the Netherlands, making it the 12th country in Europe and the 17th worldwide to reach such an agreement with Taiwan. Taiwan-EU relations advanced steadily in both breadth and depth as the two sides established platforms for human rights, labor, and digital economy consultations. Furthermore, in recognition of the reforms and progress Taiwan had made, the European Commission announced the lifting of the yellow card it had previously issued to Taiwan for illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing. This brought Taiwan in line with international standards for distant water fishing and strengthened protections of the rights and interests of Taiwanese fishermen.

In an effort to promote the New Southbound Policy, Taiwan developed a cooperation model based on mutual benefit and win-win outcomes for all. In 2019, Taiwan's trade with its 18 New Southbound Policy partners rose by 3.4 percent, with exports growing by US\$2.4 billion and trade totaling US\$111.9 billion. Major initiatives for the year included the signing of a new version of an investment protection pact with Vietnam; an exhibition of National Palace Museum collections in Australia, the first ever in the Southern Hemisphere; and the continued implementation of the One Country, One Center program for healthcare by the Ministry of Health and Welfare. Taiwan's joint endeavors with New Southbound Policy partner countries yielded enormous success in such areas as trade, education, environmental protection, science, technology, medicine, and agriculture. The fact that the New Southbound Policy is closely aligned with the United States' Indo-Pacific Strategy, Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy, and India's Act East

Policy has allowed Taiwan to carve out a strategic niche in the global community.

Regarding public diplomacy and international outreach, I gave 41 international media interviews and met with 198 journalists from 147 foreign media outlets in 2019. More than 140 news reports were issued in relation to these interviews, effectively disseminating information about Taiwan's diplomatic achievements across the globe. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and its overseas missions employed new media platforms to enhance exchanges with and seek the support of the international community and host countries. Taiwan's embassies and representative offices created Facebook and Twitter accounts, which have proven successful in promoting public diplomacy and making Taiwan's voice heard globally. MOFA also produced short films in coordination with its efforts to expand Taiwan's international presence. The films—*Taiwan: A True Friend* for its UN bid, and *Riding the Wind* for its UN Framework Convention on Climate Change bid—elicited warm responses worldwide, receiving more than 10 million views and being shared in Taiwan by the representative offices of Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States. And Taiwan's bids for international participation continue to receive widespread recognition and affirmation.

To address the challenges presented by a dynamic geopolitical and economic landscape, Taiwan's diplomatic work requires close cooperation between the government and the private sector. I am pleased that despite the adversity and pressure that Taiwan faced in 2019, the country was able to achieve excellent results. This edition of the *Foreign Relations Yearbook* provides a detailed record of the concrete advancements Taiwan made last year and serves as a testimony to the determined efforts of the government and people. I wish to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the government agencies, scholars, experts, and citizens who have participated and assisted in our diplomatic work. My colleagues at MOFA and I will continue to persist in these efforts to maintain Taiwan's position as a beacon of democracy in Asia and an indispensable member of the international community.

Minister of Foreign Affairs
Jaushieh Joseph Wu

December 2020

Foreword

Foreword

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs first published the *Foreign Relations Yearbook 1988 of the Republic of China* in 1989. Thirty editions have since been published in Chinese (Yearbooks 1989 and 1990 appeared together in a joint edition). In coordination with the Bilingual 2030 Policy, this English version is based on the *Foreign Relations Yearbook 2019* and made available online.
2. The yearbook has three parts: main text, photographs of diplomatic events, and appendixes. The main text encompasses foreign policy agenda and planning, as well as foreign relations. The photographs have been selected and captioned to illustrate Taiwan's diplomatic work. The appendixes include excerpts and summaries of important foreign policy addresses made by President Tsai Ing-wen, Premier Su Tseng-chang and Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu, as well as other materials related to Taiwan's diplomatic operations.
3. The national designations, personal names and special terms used in this yearbook follow official practice, official websites, or individual preference when known; in most cases, when international activities, organizations, or agencies appear for the first time, they are written in full and then abbreviated when they appear again.
4. The contents of this yearbook focus on Taiwan's diplomatic operations and activities in 2019. Other relevant information has also been included when needed for clarity.

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Portraits of Top Leadership and Foreign Service Officers



President Tsai Ing-wen



Vice President Chen Chien-jen



Premier Su Tseng-chang
(Appointed on January 14, 2019)



Premier Lai Ching-te
(Resigned on January 14, 2019)



**Minister of Foreign Affairs
Jaushieh Joseph Wu**



**Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs
Kelly Wu-chiao Hsieh**



**Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs
Hsu Szu-chien**



**Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs
Miguel Li-jey Tsao**

Chapter 1

Photographs of

High-level Diplomatic

Engagement



President Tsai Ing-wen welcomes Nauruan President Baron Divavesi Waqa and Mrs. Waqa during their state visit. (January 8, 2019)



As part of her Oceans of Democracy tour, President Tsai Ing-wen attends a state banquet hosted by Palauan President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. and witnesses the signing of an agreement on coastguard cooperation. (March 22, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen holds bilateral talks with Haitian President Jovenel Moïse during her Journey of Freedom, Democracy, and Sustainability. (July 14, 2019)



During her Journey of Freedom, Democracy, and Sustainability, President Tsai Ing-wen attends a state banquet hosted by Saint Lucian Governor-General Sir Emmanuel Neville Cenac. (July 18, 2019)



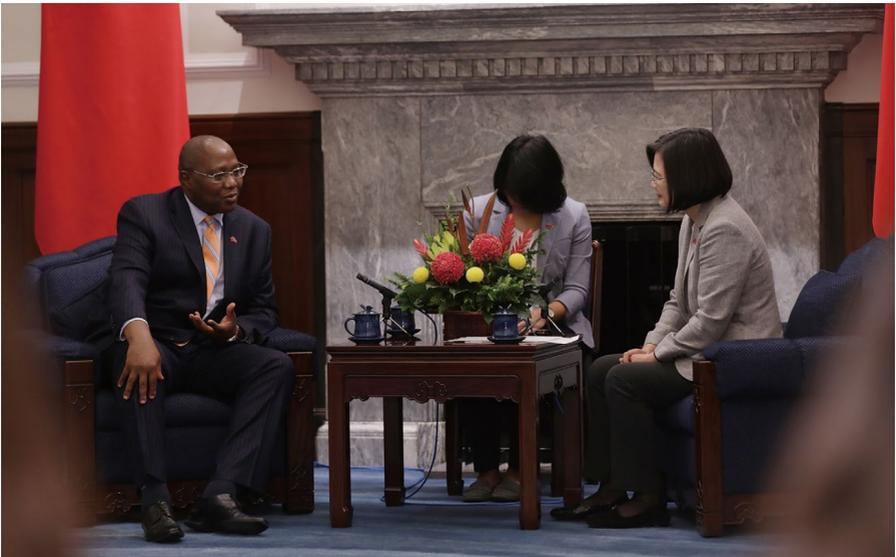
During her Journey of Freedom, Democracy, and Sustainability, President Tsai Ing-wen joins Saint Christopher and Nevis Prime Minister Timothy Sylvester Harris in witnessing the signing of a bilateral agreement on technical and vocational education and training. (July 15, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen visits the US National Center for Atmospheric Research and its Earth Observing Laboratory during her Journey of Freedom, Democracy, and Sustainability. (July 21, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives a delegation led by Hiroyuki Onishi, a Liberal Democratic Party member of Japan's House of Representatives. (October 2, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Eswatini Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini. (October 8, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives a delegation led by Saint Lucian Prime Minister Allen Chastanet. (October 8, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Guatemalan Vice President Jafeth Ernesto Cabrera Franco. (October 9, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Paraguayan Vice President Hugo Adalberto Velázquez Moreno. (October 10, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives American Institute in Taiwan Chairman James Moriarty. (October 16, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Guatemalan President-elect Alejandro Eduardo Giammattei. (October 21, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives a delegation from the Parliament and think tanks of the Netherlands. (October 24, 2019)



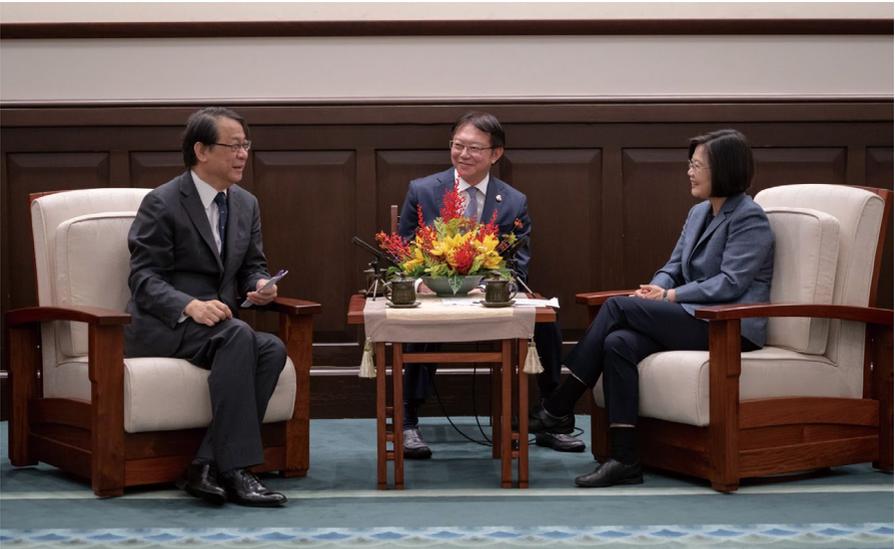
President Tsai Ing-wen receives a delegation from the Luxembourg Parliament. (October 28, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives a delegation led by European Parliament-Taiwan Friendship Group Chair Michael Gahler. (October 29, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives a delegation from the National Committee on American Foreign Policy. (November 11, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Hiroyasu Izumi, new Chief Representative of the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association, Taipei Office. (November 14, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Tuvaluan Minister of Justice, Communication and Foreign Affairs Simon Robert Kofe. (November 20, 2019)



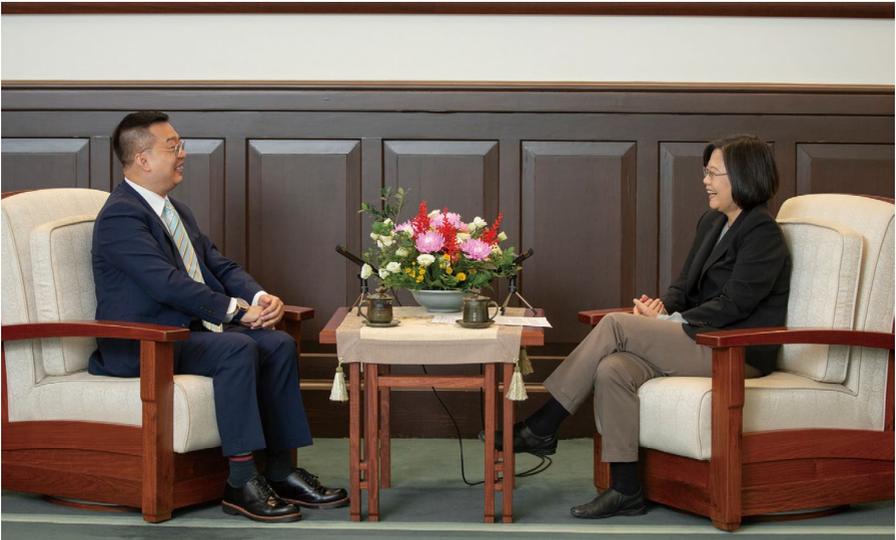
President Tsai Ing-wen receives a delegation led by US Congressmen Bill Flores and Guy Reschenthaler. (November 26, 2019)



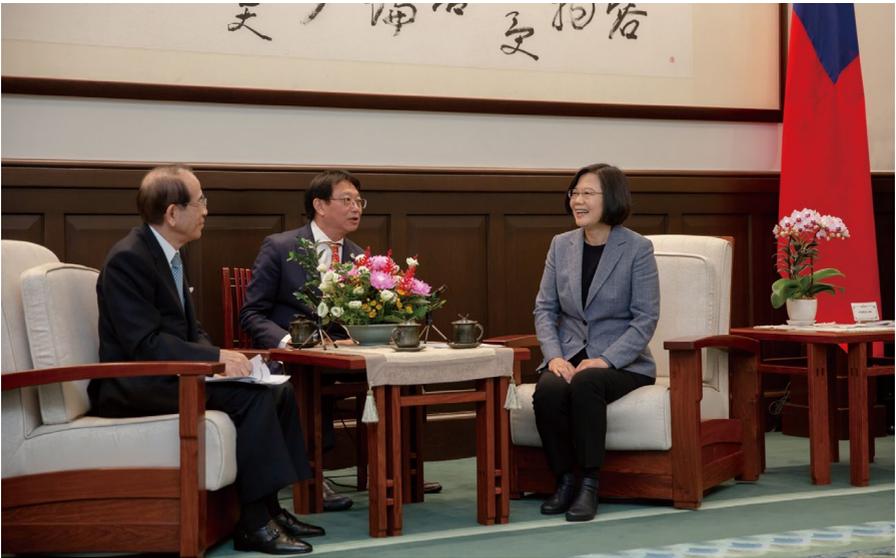
President Tsai Ing-wen receives Paraguayan Minister of Defense Bernardino Soto Estigarribia. (November 27, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives French Office in Taipei Director Jean-François Casabonne-Masonnave. (November 29, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Singapore Trade Office in Taipei Trade Representative Simon Wong Wie Kuen. (December 2, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association Chairman Mitsuo Ohashi. (December 3, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives US Assistant Secretary for Global Markets Ian Steff. (December 9, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen accepts the credentials of new Honduran Ambassador Eny Yamileth Bautista Guevara. (December 19, 2019)



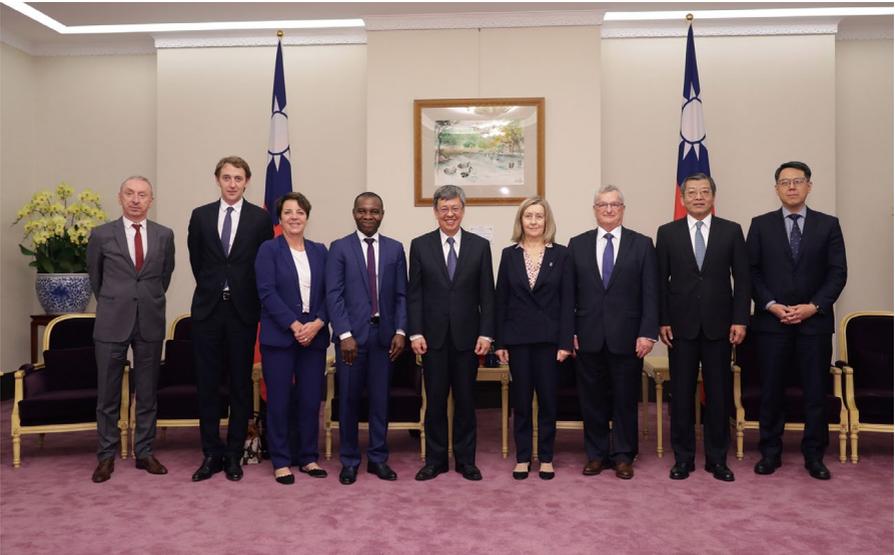
Vice President Chen Chien-jen receives a delegation from the Belgian Chamber of Representatives and Wallonia Parliament. (November 25, 2019)



Vice President Chen Chien-jen receives participants in the 2019 Pacific Islands Leadership Program. (November 26, 2019)



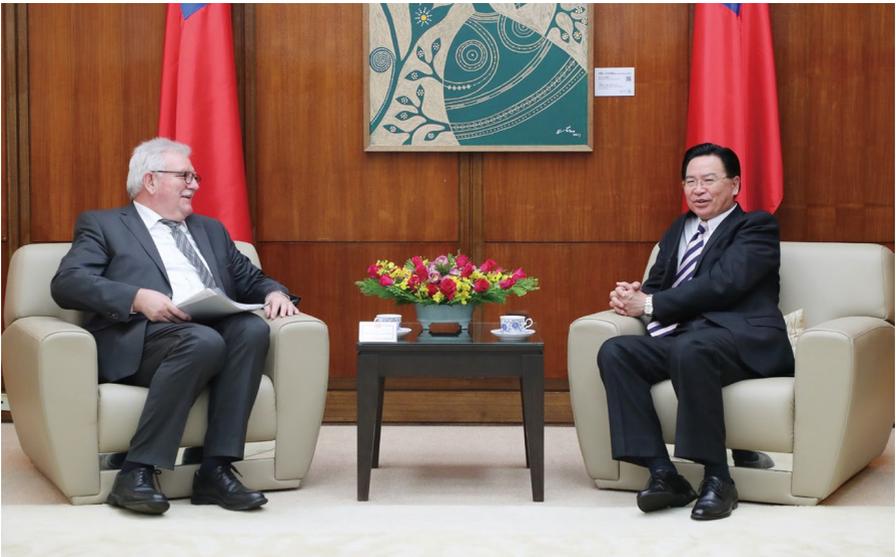
Vice President Chen Chien-jen receives a delegation from the Italian Parliament. (November 26, 2019)



Vice President Chen Chien-jen receives French Senate Vice President Thani Mohamed-Soilihi. (December 13, 2019)



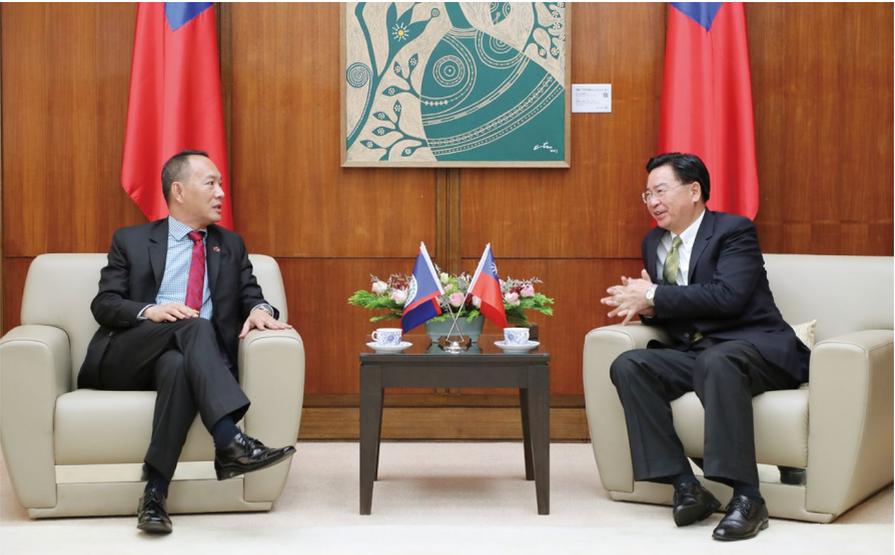
Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu meets with President of the Paraguayan Congress and Senate Silvio Ovelar. (January 30, 2019)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu meets with European Parliament-Taiwan Friendship Group Chair Werner Langen. (February 18, 2019)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu meets with Marshall Islands Nitijela (Parliament) Speaker Kenneth A. Kedi. (March 6, 2019)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu meets with Belizean Senate President Lee Mark Chang. (April 22, 2019)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu meets with Tuvaluan Prime Minister Enele Sosene Sopoaga. (May 2, 2019)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu welcomes Palauan Vice President Raynold Oilouch. (July 9, 2019)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu toasts Mikio Numata, Chief Representative of the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association, Taipei Office, who has been conferred the Grand Medal of Diplomacy. (September 27, 2019)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu attends the opening of the Pacific Islands Dialogue together with US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Sandra Oudkirk and other dignitaries. (October 7, 2019)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu welcomes Marshall Islands President Hilda C. Heine. (October 25, 2019)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu attends the closing ceremony of a vocational training program for participants from Latin American allies. (November 8, 2019)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu celebrates with the recipients after conferring the Friend of Foreign Service Medal on Chiayi Christian Hospital and Dr. Wei Fu-chan of Chang Gung Memorial Hospital. (December 19, 2019)



Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Kelly Wu-chiao Hsieh attends a press conference for the 2019 Teen Diplomatic Envoys English Language Team selection. (August 29, 2019)



Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Kelly Wu-chiao Hsieh addresses the meeting for the founding of the Formosa Club, advocated by the Taiwan friendship groups of the European Parliament and the national parliaments of Germany, France, and the United Kingdom. (October 16, 2019)



Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien attends the closing ceremony of the 2019 Taiwan Muslim Youth Exchange Program. (August 30, 2019)



Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Miguel Li-jeY Tsao attends Turkey's Hacettepe University Children and Youth Folk Dance Group performance. (August 2, 2019)

Chapter 2

Foreign Policy Objectives and Plans

Chapter 2 Foreign Policy Objectives and Plans

I. Foreign policy objectives

1. Implement the principles of steadfast diplomacy and mutual assistance for mutual benefit; uphold the universal values of peace, freedom, democracy, and human rights; consolidate relations with diplomatic allies; enhance substantive ties with other important like-minded nations; seek further opportunities for international participation; create an international environment friendly to Taiwan; and bolster Taiwan's international status and image.
2. Continue to promote the New Southbound Policy and build closer connections with New Southbound Policy partner countries; make every effort to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) and other regional economic and trade integration mechanisms; negotiate and sign economic and trade agreements, such as bilateral economic cooperation agreements, to increase Taiwan's international competitiveness.
3. Safeguard Taiwan's membership and rights and strengthen its substantive participation in international organizations of which it is already a member; seek participation in important functional international organizations of which Taiwan is not yet a member; employ pragmatic and creative approaches to overcome obstacles and make positive contributions to the international community.
4. Leverage the strengths, resources, and experience of civil society to establish partnerships with important domestic and foreign nongovernmental organizations and enhance Taiwan's soft power through these partnerships in such domains as humanitarian aid, medical assistance, disease prevention and control, food security, green energy, agricultural technology, and digital governance. This will allow Taiwan to further contribute to the realization of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

II. Foreign policy plans

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, putting Taiwan first for the benefit of the people, upholds the core values of peace, freedom, democracy, and human rights. By actively promoting steadfast diplomacy, MOFA is committed to safeguarding national sovereignty, ensuring mutual assistance for mutual benefit when cooperating with diplomatic allies and consolidating diplomatic

relations, deepening substantive relations with other friendly nations, and creating an international environment friendly to Taiwan. Employing a practical, agile, flexible, and autonomous approach, MOFA seeks to promote Taiwan's participation in functional and specialized international organizations which help comprehensively advance national development, benefit the people, and increase Taiwan's international presence. Working jointly with civil society, MOFA is expanding international humanitarian assistance to make substantive contributions to the world, garner support of international public opinion, enhance Taiwan's image, and bolster its international status.

2. Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2019 policy plans and goals

(1) Consolidate diplomatic ties

- A. Continue to promote high-level mutual visits and exchanges with diplomatic allies to deepen friendships with dignitaries of those countries.
- B. Follow the principle of mutual assistance for mutual benefit to provide aid that meets the economic and social development needs of diplomatic allies, as well as introducing appropriate industry and market elements, to promote bilateral and multilateral cooperation programs.

(2) Strengthen substantive ties with friendly countries with which Taiwan does not maintain diplomatic relations

- A. Promote mutual visits between Taiwan dignitaries and their counterparts in countries with which Taiwan does not maintain diplomatic relations to enhance substantive bilateral ties.
- B. Negotiate and sign bilateral agreements to build the foundation for future substantive exchanges between Taiwan and countries with which Taiwan does not maintain diplomatic relations and seek to gradually expand areas of cooperation in order to promote the comprehensive development of substantive bilateral ties.
- C. Strengthen cooperation programs with countries with which Taiwan does not maintain diplomatic relations to promote sustainable bilateral development.

- D. Promote the people-centric New Southbound Policy to deepen comprehensive relations with partner countries.
 - E. Actively cooperate with the international community and establish communication channels with overseas counterparts to jointly combat cross-border crime.
- (3) Pragmatically participate in intergovernmental organizations to increase the quality and quantity of Taiwan's participation
- A. Request support via bilateral channels from diplomatic allies and friendly nations in international organizations of which Taiwan is an official member. This includes seeking support for Taiwan's participation in elections for important decision-making positions so as to safeguard Taiwan's member status and participatory rights.
 - B. Develop and utilize bilateral communication channels to urge other countries to support Taiwan's participation in intergovernmental organizations so as to consolidate and strengthen Taiwan's status and rights in international organizations.
 - C. Deepen participation in major World Trade Organization meetings and multilateral and plurilateral negotiations to enhance relations with the WTO Secretariat and delegations of member countries.
- (4) Assist domestic NGOs with international participation to enhance their contributions to the international community
- A. Support domestic NGOs seeking to actively participate in international meetings and activities so as to enhance their contributions to the international community.
 - B. Strengthen domestic NGO participation in international cooperation efforts, including international relief and assistance, for regions and countries in need and promote foreign aid programs with humanitarian objectives.
- (5) Leverage Taiwan's soft power, public diplomacy, and international communication to garner public support and elevate Taiwan's image
- A. Combine advanced communications technology, resource integration,

- and planned international communication to achieve synergy in order to create an international environment more favorable to Taiwan and continue to enhance Taiwan's image worldwide.
- B. Generate further publicity for Taiwan's foreign policy objectives and achievements through promotional methods such as receptions, concerts, speeches, and advertisements, as well as via dissemination channels including multimedia, websites, videos, and interviews.
 - C. Issue press releases and hold press conferences to announce important MOFA policies and respond to issues of public interest.
- (6) Effectively use diplomatic resources to boost the efficiency and quality of services provided to the public
- A. Enhance the convenience and dignity of ROC (Taiwan) nationals traveling overseas.
 - B. Streamline visa procedures.
 - C. Simplify the visa application process for foreigners visiting Taiwan.
 - D. Improve document authentication service quality.
- (7) Appropriately allocate resources to increase budget implementation efficiency
- A. Improve budget allocations to increase capital budget implementation efficiency.
 - B. Allocate resources according to the medium-term administrative plan, review the current plan and ensure efficient use of resources, and carefully implement appropriate annual expenditure estimates under MOFA's medium-term plan, approved by the Executive Yuan.
 - C. Continue to purchase office space for overseas missions, as well as residences for heads of missions to solve the problem of joint offices, increase the percentage of properties overseas owned by the ROC (Taiwan) government, and significantly reduce rental expenditures.

Chapter 3

Foreign Relations

Chapter 3 Foreign Relations

Section 1 Overview of foreign relations

Item 1 Taiwan's relations with Asia-Pacific countries

I. Introduction

The Asia-Pacific region extends southward from Japan and the Korean Peninsula to Australia and New Zealand, from India and Sri Lanka eastward through Bangladesh and Southeast Asia to the island nations in the North and South Pacific. The peoples, histories, cultures, religions, and societies of this vast area are extremely diverse. The Asia-Pacific region comprises 37 countries and is an important global politics and diplomacy center. In the region, Taiwan has official diplomatic relations with the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, and Tuvalu, and close and substantive ties with most other nations. Based on geopolitical factors, the Asia-Pacific region is generally divided into Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia and the Oceania.

II. Relations with individual countries

1. Relations with the Republic of the Marshall Islands

- (1) Background: Taiwan and the Republic of the Marshall Islands established diplomatic relations on November 20, 1998, and Taiwan opened an embassy in the capital Majuro on December 5 of the same year. In July 1999, the Marshall Islands dispatched officials to establish an embassy in Taiwan, and accredited an ambassador in May 2002.
- (2) Technical cooperation: Taiwan and the Marshall Islands have signed the agreements of cooperation regarding agricultural technology, fisheries and the International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF) volunteers. Currently, Taiwan has one technical mission leader, one senior specialist, one specialist and two assistant technicians in the country, where they assist with the promotion of agriculture development projects. Major projects on which Taiwan and the Marshall Islands are cooperating include the Micro Credit Scheme, loans under the Home Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Project, and the Vocational Training Project for the Marshall Islands.

- (3) Medical cooperation: Taiwan and the Marshall Islands cooperate closely in the field of healthcare, having already signed an agreement on cooperation in health and a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on Taiwan Health Center. In addition, Shuang Ho Hospital under the Ministry of Health and Welfare has signed a sister hospital MOU with Majuro Hospital; both National Taipei Hospital and Shuang Ho Hospital have signed a memorandum of cooperation on patient referral service program with the Ministry of Health and Human Services of the Marshall Islands (MOHHS). Shuang Ho Hospital has also signed contracts for a training program for medical interns and residents, an international master's program in nursing, and the purchase of hospital information systems with the MOHHS. Taiwan has established the Taiwan Health Center at Majuro Hospital staffed by one stationing nurse and two medical assistants engaged in youth overseas service. Taiwan also sends mobile medical missions yearly and on average one or two short-term resident physicians to visit the Marshall Islands monthly. In addition to providing quality medical care and training, they also help the MOHHS train local medical staff. Taiwan's embassy and the Taiwan Health Center in the Republic of the Marshall Islands have both donated supplies to help the country combat dengue fever and influenza.
- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: President Tsai Ing-wen, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu, Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung, Minister of the Council of Indigenous Peoples Icyang Parod, Member of the Legislative Yuan (Legislator) Liu Chao-hao, Ambassador-at-large Fan Yun, Deputy Secretary-general of the National Security Council Tsai Ming-yen, Deputy Minister of the Ocean Affairs Council and Director-general of the Coast Guard Administration Chen Kuo-en, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien, the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) Market Survey Delegation, and the 2019 Taiwan Trade and Investment Delegation to Palau, the Marshall Islands and Nauru.

B. Visits from the Republic of the Marshall Islands were made by: President Hilda C. Heine and her husband Thomas Kijiner, Jr.; Minister of Culture and Internal Affairs Amenta Matthew; Speaker of the Nitijela Kenneth A. Kedi; Minister of Education, Sports and Training Wilbur Heine; Assistant Secretary of Culture and Internal Affairs Wallace Peter; Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade John M. Silk and Mrs. Silk; Minister of Natural Resources and Commerce Dennis Momotaro and Mrs. Momotaro; and Senators Daisy Alikmomotaro, Casten Nemra, and Wisely Zackhras.

2. Relations with Nauru

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with Nauru on May 4, 1980, and opened a consulate general, which was upgraded to an embassy on August 17, 1990. On July 23, 2002, diplomatic relations were severed, and then restored on May 14, 2005. On August 8 of the same year, Taiwan's embassy was reopened. On March 27, 2007, Nauru opened an embassy in Taiwan.
- (2) Bilateral relations
 - A. Agricultural technical cooperation: Taiwan's technical mission in Nauru continues to promote the Fruit and Vegetable Production and Nutrition Enhancement Program and the Chicken Egg Production Program.
 - B. Medical cooperation: In accordance with the memorandum of understanding on medical cooperation renewed with Nauru on October 10, 2016, the Taichung Veterans General Hospital dispatched two mobile medical teams, one specialist medical team and four resident doctors to the country in 2019.
 - C. Human resources training: In 2019, nine outstanding Nauruan students were awarded with Taiwan Scholarship to study in Taiwan and Nauruan elites were recommended for participation in the National Development Course, Asia-Pacific Mosaic Taiwan, and various professional seminars held by the TaiwanICDF.

(3) Mutual visits by dignitaries

- A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: President Tsai Ing-wen, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu, Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung, Minister of the Council of Indigenous Peoples Icyang Parod, and Legislator Liu Chao-hao.
- B. Visits were made from Nauru by: President Baron Divavesi Waqa and the First Lady; President Lionel Aingimea and the First Lady; Minister of Justice David Adeang; Minister of the Republic of Nauru Phosphate Corp. (RONPHOS) Reagan Aliklik; Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Asterio Appi; Deputy Minister of Land Management Jason Agir; Minister for Health, Home Affairs and Education Charmaine Scotty; Deputy Minister for Education Richard-Khyde Menke; Speaker of Parliament Cyril Buraman; and Members of Parliament Milton Dube and Shadlog Bernicke.

3. Relations with Palau

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with Palau on December 29, 1999, and set up an embassy on February 17, 2000, which commenced official operations on March 5, 2000. Palau opened an embassy in Taiwan on October 4, 2001.
- (2) Bilateral relations
 - A. Development cooperation: The two countries cooperate in the fields of infrastructure construction, farming, animal husbandry, aquaculture, clean energy, information technology, transportation, medical care, education, and human resources training.
 - B. Human resources training: Taiwan provides Taiwan Scholarship, the International Higher Education Scholarship Program and Naval Academy Scholarship. The Palau government selects outstanding candidates to attend these programs and recommends exceptional individuals from all sectors for participation in seminars and training programs held in Taiwan. In addition, as part of efforts to assist diplomatic allies in cultivating medical professionals, Taiwan's

Executive Yuan approved the establishment of the special program for International Students at the medical school at I-Shou University in September 2013.

- C. Medical cooperation: Taiwan has helped Palau build its medical care and public health capabilities. For example, Taipei Municipal Wanfang Hospital and Shin Kong Wu Ho-Su Memorial Hospital established sister relations with Belau National Hospital (BNH). From August 2006 to 2010, Wanfang Hospital sent medical missions to Palau every year. In 2008, after Shin Kong Hospital signed a medical referral agreement with BNH, Shin Kong Hospital sent short-term and long-term medical personnel to the country. In 2011, the hospital signed a five-year memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Palau Ministry of Health, which in August 2016 was replaced by an unlimited MOU, under which Shin Kong implemented the Taiwan Medical Program. In addition, Taiwan's E-Da Healthcare Group, Taiwan Adventist Hospital, Cheng Hsin General Hospital and Shuang Ho Hospital have also signed medical referral MOUs with Palau (the Cheng Hsin General Hospital and Shuang Ho Hospital MOUs have yet to go into effect).
- D. Agricultural technical cooperation: Taiwan has sent technical missions to Palau to conduct the Horticulture Extension Project. In addition to holding cultivation and planting of fruit and vegetable seminars, and supporting healthy diets and health education, the project has also promoted school campus farms and a nutritious school lunch program.

(3) Mutual visits by dignitaries

- A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: President Tsai Ing-wen, Vice President Chen Chien-jen, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu, Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung, Council of Indigenous Peoples Minister Icyang Parod, and Legislator Liu Chao-hao.
- B. Visits from Palau were made by: President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., Vice President Raynold Oilouch, Minister of State Faustina

Rehuher-Marugg, Senate Vice President Mark Rudimch, Floor Leader of the Senate Kerai Mariur, House of Delegates Vice Speaker Lucio Ngiraiwet, and House of Delegates Representative Yutaka Gibbons, Jr.

4. Relations with Tuvalu

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with Tuvalu on September 19, 1979, with official business conducted first by Taiwan's embassy in the Kingdom of Tonga and then by the embassy in the Solomon Islands. In December 1998, chargé d'affaires was appointed at the embassy in Funafuti, and in April 2004, an ambassador was accredited to Tuvalu. In March 2013, Tuvalu opened an embassy in Taiwan.
- (2) Bilateral cooperation
 - A. Agricultural cooperation: Taiwan dispatched agricultural technical missions to establish the Happy Friendship Farm and the Hope Garden on Funafuti and the outlying island of Vaitupu, carrying out a horticulture, crop, fruit, and vegetable production program in an effort to help Tuvalu increase its output of fruit and vegetables, while promoting cultivation technology on outlying islands and nutritious, healthy dietary habits to improve national health of Tuvalu. In 2019, in response to an increase in demand for fruit and vegetables in Tuvalu, Taiwan's technical mission to the country planned an additional fruit and vegetable growing area on the islet of Funafala.
 - B. Medical cooperation: Taiwan and Tuvalu established a Taiwan Medical Program, with Chung Shan Medical University Hospital sending project coordinators, short-term resident doctors, nurses, information officers, and medical volunteers to work in the country and help upgrade Tuvalu's medical capabilities. The hospital also holds regular oral health care projects in Tuvalu to provide dental checkups and treatments for Tuvaluan children, while promoting dental hygiene knowledge.
 - C. Clean energy cooperation: Since 2010, Taiwan has been conducting annual Clean Energy Cooperation Programs, donating small solar

appliances and solar-powered street lights to Tuvalu, thereby making a substantive contribution to improving the quality of life enjoyed by Tuvaluans.

- (3) Human resources development cooperation: Outstanding students from Tuvalu are selected to apply for Taiwan Scholarship to study in Taiwan, and elite Tuvaluans from various fields are recommended for participation in the National Development Course, Indo-Pacific Mosaic Taiwan, and the TaiwanICDF training classes.
- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Foreign Minister Jaushieh Joseph Wu and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien.
 - B. Visits from Tuvalu were made by: President Enele Sosene Sopoaga and the First Lady, Minister of Foreign Affairs Taukelina Finikaso and Mrs. Finikaso, Minister for Communications and Transport Monise Laafai and Mrs. Laafai, Minister of Works and Natural Resources Puakena Boreham, Parliamentarian Mackenzie Kiritome, Minister of Foreign Affairs Simon Kofe and Mrs. Kofe, as well as Minister of Health Isaia Taape and Mrs. Taape.

5. Relations with Australia

- (1) Background: On December 22, 1972, Taiwan severed diplomatic relations with Australia. On January 22, 1991, the Australian government agreed to the establishment of Taipei Economic and Cultural Offices in Canberra, Sydney, and Melbourne. On April 30, 1991, Taiwan renamed the offices in Sydney and Melbourne to establish them as official branch offices, with a Representative Office in the capital city of Canberra. On December 9, 2005, Australia agreed to the opening of another branch office in Brisbane. On October 30, 1981, Australia opened the Australian Commerce and Industry Office in Taipei, which was renamed the Australian Office Taipei in March 2012.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade between Taiwan and Australia amounted to US\$13.384 billion, making it Taiwan's 11th-

largest trading partner, 15th-largest export market, and 6th-largest source of imports. In October, the 16th Taiwan-Australia Agricultural Working Group met in Taipei, and in August, the 24th Taiwan-Australia Joint Energy and Minerals, Trade and Investment Cooperation Meeting and the 33rd meeting of the private-sector Australia-Taiwan Business Council were held in Brisbane. In October, the bilateral Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation and Information Exchange on Food Safety was revised.

(3) Mutual visits by dignitaries

A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Overseas Community Affairs Council Minister Wu Hsin-hsing; Overseas Community Affairs Council Deputy Minister Kao Chien-chih; Securities and Futures Bureau, Financial Supervisory Commission Wellington Koo; Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Tseng Wen-sheng; and Taiwan High Prosecutors Office Chief Prosecutor Wang Tien-sheng.

B. Australia's former Minister of Defense Christopher Pyne visited Taiwan.

(4) Other

A. Cultural and educational exchanges: Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade approved the New Colombo Plan scholarship program, which provides funding for 193 Australian university and college students to attend short-term study and intern programs in Taiwan. Currently, 18,791 students from Taiwan study in schools at all levels in Australia. Taiwan's Ministry of Education (MOE) and the Australian Capital Territory Government extended their Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) for one year, while the MOE signed a separate MOC with the Queensland State Department of Education. Thereby sending Chinese language teaching assistants to middle schools in both the Capital Territory and Queensland, and conducting Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL) exams in the Capital Territory, Brisbane and other areas.

B. Technological cooperation: In February 2019, Australian National Fabrication Facility Chief Operating Officer Jane Fitzpatrick signed

a cooperative agreement with the National Applied Research Laboratories in Taiwan. In October 2019, National Computational Infrastructure Director Sean Smith came to Taiwan to deliver a speech at the Taiwan Computing Cloud Summit. In October 2019, Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering President Hugh Bradlow and Australian Academy of Science member Frances Separaovic came to Taiwan to attend the Global Science and Technology Leaders Forum held by the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST). In October, an Australian National University delegation visited Taiwan and signed a science and technology MOU with the National Applied Research Laboratories.

- C. Working holidays: In July 2004, Taiwan and Australia signed a working holiday visa MOU. Since then, Taiwanese youth have traveled to Australia for working holidays via this program. During 2018-2019, 6,693 young Taiwanese received working holiday visas, including second-year visas, for Australia.

6. Relations with Brunei

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Far East Trade and Cultural Center in Brunei Darussalam in Bandar Seri Begawan on June 27, 1978. The center was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Brunei Darussalam on July 1, 1996. It was closed on April 17, 2006, but resumed operations on March 1, 2007.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
 - A. In 2019, the bilateral trade between Taiwan and Brunei amounted to US\$170.03 million, with the value of Taiwan's exports reaching US\$11.90 million and its imports US\$158.13 million.
 - B. Eve Yi, president of FairHoster Expo Ltd., put together a team of 10 companies to take part in the 23rd Brunei Consumer Fair June 26-30. On August 28, the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) led a team to participate in the 2019 Brunei Technology Expo.

(3) Cultural, tourism, and medical exchanges

- A. Tourism: On August 1, a group led by the Tourism Bureau under the Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC) took part in the Sabre Brunei Travel Fair 2019.
- B. Medical exchange: Legislator Chung Chia-pin led a medical team for a four-day visit to Brunei starting June 10.
- C. Human resources development cooperation: Government officials and outstanding individuals from Brunei were recommended for participation in the Muslim Youth Exchange Program and Taiwan-US Global Cooperation and Training Framework study sessions.

7. Relations with Fiji

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Trade Mission of the Republic of China to the Republic of Fiji in Suva on May 15, 1971. Renamed the East Asia Trade Center on February 29, 1976, the center reverted back to its old name Trade Mission of the Republic of China to the Republic of Fiji on December 21, 1987. And on July 31, 2019, the center renamed as the Taipei Trade Office in Fiji. Fiji set up the Fiji Trade and Tourism Representative Office in the ROC on December 1, 1997, which was closed in May 2017 due to considerations of public finance and effectiveness.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: The bilateral trade between Taiwan and the Republic of Fiji in 2019 totaled US\$43.994 million, with the value of Taiwan's exports reaching US\$41.793 million, and imports from Fiji reaching US\$2.201 million.
- (3) Bilateral cooperation
 - A. Agricultural technical cooperation: The government of Taiwan dispatched the Taiwan Agricultural Technical Mission to Fiji in 1978. At the moment, the partnership between the two countries is based on the agreement on technical cooperation signed on August 23, 2013. Headquartered in Sigatoka, the Technical Mission offers assistance in the production and marketing of fruit and vegetables.

- B. Fisheries cooperation (aquaculture): The TaiwanICDF sent technicians to assist Fiji in formulating aquaculture development plans while sharing relevant technologies in September 2017.
- (4) Humanitarian assistance: As part of the International Medical Cooperation Program, the Taiwan Mobile Medical Service in Fiji is operated by Cathay General Hospital. In 2019, the hospital conducted two medical missions to Fiji for surgeries, diagnosis and treatment, public health education, and training of Fijian medical staff at Labasa Hospital.
- (5) Mutual visits by dignitaries
- A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Minister of Finance Su Jain-rong with a delegation of 21 persons, and President of the Legislative Yuan Su Jia-chyuan.
- B. Visits from Fiji were made by: Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Fisheries Atelaite Usa Rokosuka, and Chief Fisheries Development Officer George Madden.

8. Relations with India

- (1) Background: India set up the India-Taipei Association in Taiwan in July 1995. In September 1995, Taiwan set up the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in New Delhi, which was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in India in February 2012. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in Chennai was established the same year.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: The bilateral trade between Taiwan and India in 2019 totaled US\$5.797 billion, with the value of Taiwan's exports reaching US\$3.282 billion and its imports reaching US\$2.515 billion. Taiwan's cumulative investment in India totaled US\$789 million.
- (3) Technological cooperation: Taiwan and India signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Scientific and Technological Cooperation on April 18, 2007, with Taipei and New Delhi alternatively hosting bilateral meetings every two years. As of 2019, 86 joint research projects had been funded and 25 seminars had been held by the two countries. Between 2009 and 2019, scholars from both sides published more than 200 papers in Science

Citation Index journals and the proceedings of international seminars.

- (4) Educational cooperation: Taiwan has worked with 18 universities and educational institutions such as the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay by dispatching 18 Mandarin teachers to promote Mandarin education in India. So far, the initiative has attracted enrollment of more than 7,000 Indian students in Mandarin classes. Taiwan further provides scholarships to Indian students, with a total of 79 Indian students awarded the Taiwan Scholarship and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship in 2019. Over the years, the two scholarships have been awarded to 390 recipients from India.
- (5) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Legislator Hsiao Bi-khim, Legislator Yu Mei-nu, TAITRA Chairman James C. F. Huang, the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) Deputy Minister Hsu You-chin, Director-general Yang Jen-ni of the Bureau of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA), and Chairman of the Prospect Foundation Mark Chen.
 - B. Visits from India were made by: Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Anup Wadhawan; Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Ramesh Abhishek; Secretary of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology Ajay Prakash Sawhney; Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Sanjay Chadha; Executive Director of Heritage, Railway Board, Ministry of Railways, Vinita Srivastava; Executive Director of the Punjab State Council for Science & Technology Dr. Jatinder Kaur Arora; Member Secretary of the India Council of Social Science Research V. K. Malhotra; Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Institute of Chinese Studies in New Delhi Shivshankar Menon; Executive Director of the National Maritime Foundation Gurpreet S. Khurana; Chairman of All India Council for Technical Education Anil D. Sahasrabudhe; former India Ambassador to China Gautam Bambawale; and Director at the Society for Indian Ocean Studies Vice Adm. (Retd) Anup Singh.

9. Relations with Indonesia

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Taiwan Chamber of Commerce in Jakarta on July 4, 1972, which was renamed the Taipei Economic and Trade Office in Indonesia on January 19, 1990. In December 2015, the Taipei Economic and Trade Office in Surabaya was established. The Indonesian Chamber of Commerce in Taipei was established in Taipei on June 1, 1971, and renamed the Indonesian Economic and Trade Office to Taipei in January 1995.
- (2) Trade and economic relations: Bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Indonesia in 2019 totaled US\$7.6 billion, with the value of Taiwan's exports reaching US\$2.92 billion and its imports US\$4.68 billion. According to statistics from Badan Koordinasi Penanaman Modal (the Indonesian Investment Coordinating Board, BKPM), Taiwan undertook 667 investment projects in 2019 amounting to US\$180 million, making it the 15th-largest source of foreign capital in Indonesia. Statistics from the Taipei Economic and Trade Office (TETO) in Indonesia show that Taiwan has a total of 4,148 investment projects in Indonesia, with a cumulative investment of US\$18.03 billion. In 2019, the office accomplished industry talks, relief efforts, think tank exchanges, and programs for the direct hiring of migrant workers from Indonesia. Important bilateral talks included the Second Annual Meeting on the Agreement on Geodetic and Geomatic Cooperation, attended by Wang Ching-hsiu, Director of the Ministry of the Interior's Department of Land Administration, in November. From December 9 to 10, Deputy Ministers of the Coordinating Ministry of Economic Affairs Wahyu Utomo and Rizal Lukman, together with Harjanto, Director General of Metal, Machinery, Transportation Equipment and Electronics (ILMATE) Ministry of Industry, attended the 2019 Taiwan-Indonesia Industrial Collaboration Forum in Taipei.
- (3) Agricultural cooperation: Taiwan has dispatched a Jakarta-based technical mission to Indonesia since 1976, and established an agribusiness center, in Surabaya, East Java. Since 2018, Taiwan has carried out several projects such as the Karawang Comprehensive Agricultural Demonstration Zone

Flagship Project and the Bandung Reinforced Agricultural Enterprise Development and Cultivation Project in West Java, as well as the Quality Rice Seed Development Project at Hasanuddin University in South Sulawes.

- (4) Educational cooperation: The Taiwan government offers several scholarships for Indonesian students, such as the Taiwan Scholarship, Taiwan Fellowship, Huayu Enrichment Scholarship, and APEC Postdoctoral Scholarship, as well as the TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarship. Based on the framework of the Taiwan-Indonesia MOU on cooperation in technical and vocational education and training signed in 2019, 255 Indonesian students were selected to come to Taiwan for the 2+i Industry-Academia Collaboration Program. In 2019, a total of 13,907 students from Indonesia studied in Taiwan, making Indonesia the fourth-largest source of international students in Taiwan.
- (5) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Minister without Portfolio John Deng, Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin, Members of the Control Yuan Wang Mei-yu and Wang You-ling, and Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua.
 - B. Visits from Indonesia were made by: Tahir, Member of the Presidential Advisory Council; Deputy Ministers of the Coordinating Ministry of Economic Affairs Wahyu Utomo and Rizal Lukman; Chief Advisor to the Vice President Sofjan Wanandi; Minister of Trade Enggartiasto Lukita; Ministers of Industry Airlangga Hartarto (in office from 2016 to 2019) and Agus Kartasasmita; Deputy Minister of Maritime and Energy Sovereignty Purbaya Sadewa; Chairman of the Indonesian Ombudsman Amzulian Rifai; a six-person delegation led by Meutya Viada Hafid, Vice Chairman of Commission I of the People's Representative Council; a four-person delegation headed by Member of Parliament Muhammad Syafrudin; and Sukoso, head of the Halal Product Assurance Organizing Agency.

(6) Other

- A. Jakarta and Surabaya each has a Taipei School and a Taiwan Education Center. In July 2019, a third Taiwan Education Center was opened in Yogyakarta. In addition, eight Indonesia Taiwan Chambers of Commerce and 10 Federations of Alumni of Taiwan have been founded in some major cities.
- B. In 2019, the Taipei Economic and Trade Representative Office in Indonesia issued a total of 30,981 migrant worker visas, and the Surabaya office also issued 29,869 migrant worker visas. As of the end of December 2019, there were 276,411 Indonesian migrant workers in Taiwan. In addition, there were 156,060 Taiwanese travelers visiting Indonesia, and 234,968 Indonesians visiting Taiwan in 2019.

(7) Major events

A. Industry talks

- (A) The Second Annual Meeting on the Agreement on Geodetic and Geomatic Cooperation between Taiwan and Indonesia was held in November 2019.
- (B) The 2019 Taiwan-Indonesia Industrial Collaboration Forum took place in Taipei in December 2019.

B. Relief efforts

- (A) In April 2019, the government of Taiwan made a donation for Sulawesi Island Earthquake Relief Efforts.
- (B) In June 2019, Taiwan Representative in Indonesia John C. Chen attended the groundbreaking ceremony for a school building and Islamic activity center in Palu, Central Sulawesi.
- (C) In August 2019, the government of Taiwan donated funds for water tankers and ambulances, and attended the handover ceremony held by the government of West Nusa Tenggara and the Indonesian Red Cross Society.
- (D) In November 2019, the government of Taiwan donated funds to the Indonesian Ulema Council to construct an Islamic activity

center in Central Sulawesi.

- (E) In November 2019, representatives from Taiwan attended the Opening Ceremony for the Quality Rice Seed Development Program Greenhouse Facilities of Southern Sulawesi and the Ceremony for the fund disbursement of the Second Phase of the Cooperation Program.

C. Think tank exchanges

- (A) The Marine Plastic Litter and Circular Economy Seminar was jointly hosted by the government of Taiwan and Indonesia's Center for Southeast Asian Studies in September 2019.
- (B) In October 2019, Chuang Jen-hsiang, Deputy Director-general of the Taiwan Centers for Disease Control, the Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW), and others attended the Progress of Indonesia-Taiwan Dengue Control and Prevention Cooperation Program Seminar at the Bandung Institute of Technology.

10. Relations with Japan

- (1) Background: The diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Japan were resumed in 1952 and severed on September 29, 1972. In December of the same year, the Association of East Asian Relations and the Interchange Association were established for the two countries to maintain substantive relations. The former has offices in Tokyo and Osaka (with a branch in Fukuoka), while the latter has offices in Taipei and Kaohsiung. In 1992, the Tokyo Office was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan, with Yokohama, Naha and Sapporo Branch Offices. The Osaka Office was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Osaka and now has a Fukuoka Branch Office. There are six offices in total. In 2017, the above-mentioned associations were renamed the Taiwan-Japan Relations Association and Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association, respectively.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
 - A. The bilateral trade between Taiwan and Japan totaled US\$67.33 billion

in 2019 with an increase of 0.55 percent over 2018. Taiwan's exports to Japan totaled US\$23.29 billion in 2019, with an increase of 2.13 percent over 2018. Taiwan's total imports from Japan amounted to US\$44.04 billion, with a decrease of 0.26 percent compared to 2018. Japan is Taiwan's third-largest trading partner and main source of machinery, key components and raw materials, while Taiwan is Japan's fourth-largest trading partner.

- B. Investment: In 2019, Taiwan's foreign direct investments in Japan consisted of 45 cases, with a total of US\$71.924 million, a decrease of 88.4 percent over 2018. From 1952 to 2019, Taiwan had a cumulative investment of about US\$9.219 billion, with 839 cases. In 2019, Japan's foreign direct investment in Taiwan consisted of 434 cases, with a total of US\$1.271 billion, constituting a decrease of 16.68 percent from 2018. From 1952 to 2019, Japan had a cumulative investment of about US\$22.506 billion in Taiwan, with 10,922 cases.
- C. Taiwan-Japan Economic and Trade Conference and memoranda: The 44th Taiwan-Japan Economic and Trade Conference was held by the governments of Taiwan and Japan on October 29 and 30, 2019. The two sides have successively signed four memoranda to deepen bilateral economic and trade cooperation—namely, the Memorandum Between the Taiwan-Japan Relations Association and the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association for the Mutual Cooperation in the Field of Patent Prosecution Highway, the Memorandum Between the Taiwan-Japan Relations Association and the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association for the Mutual Cooperation in the Field of Industrial Priority Document Exchange, the Memorandum Between the Taiwan-Japan Relations Association and the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association for the Mutual Exchange and Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection, and the Memorandum of Promoting Cooperation Between the Taiwan-Japan Relations Association and the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association on the Import-Export Organic Foods.

(3) Science and technology exchanges

Ho Mei-yueh, Minister of the Science and Technology Interchange Committee of the Taiwan-Japan Relations Association (hereinafter the Committee), headed the Taiwan-Japan High-Level Policy Exchange Delegation to Japan from November 8 to 13. The delegation met with Hiroshi Kajiyama, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, and Yasutoshi Nishimura, Minister of State for Economic and Fiscal Policy, to discuss cooperation on political and economic affairs, science and technology, energy and talent exchanges.

The Committee held a seminar on intelligent medical technology and its applications in Taipei on July 23. A total of 259 experts from industries, government, education, and research institutes such as Asahikawa Medical University, CYTLIMIC Inc., National Cancer Center Japan, Institute of Advanced Biomedical Engineering and Science, Tokyo Women's Medical University, Taiwan Bio Industry Organization, and Taipei Medical University attended the seminar. Topics relevant to intelligent medical technology, including telemedicine, AI immunotherapy, AI medical applications, and smart hospitals, were discussed.

In order to strengthen exchanges between the young and middle-aged generations of both sides, the Committee proposed to the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, with the help of the Penglai Society of retired officials from that Ministry, the establishment of the Taiwan-Japan Industrial and Technology Cooperation and Innovation Policy Research Group to serve as a platform where young officials can share their experience in policymaking and technology. From August 25 to 31, members of the Research Group from Taiwan representing eight agencies, including the Department of Industrial Technology, the Bureau of Energy, and the Industrial Development Bureau of the MOEA and the Department of Industrial Development of the National Development Council, visited officials from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry in Japan for exchanges on policies. They also attended activities such as networking events, establishing the groundwork for subsequent exchanges and substantive cooperation.

The Committee held the Taiwan-Japan Science and Technology Forum in Taichung on September 24 and 25. The forum featured digital innovation and smart manufacturing, covering topics such as next-generation AI and robotics technology, quantum computing, data-sharing platforms, industrial networking standards and digital innovation, new applications of data to develop new markets, and smart manufacturing solutions. Seven Japanese policymakers, practitioners, and cutting-edge industrial researchers gave talks and held discussions with relevant institutes in Taiwan. The forum was attended by 212 participants from industries, academia, and government. Japan shared strategies and practices on promoting data-sharing platforms and industrial networking standards.

(4) Cultural and educational exchanges

- A. Higher education exchanges: The Taiwan Studies Project was set up in cooperation with three renowned Japanese universities—Osaka University, Kyushu University and Waseda University—to offer courses for young Japanese students to familiarize with Taiwan. Tokyo University, Niigata University, and Tokoha University co-organized the Taiwanese Scholars Seminar to promote exchanges between the Japanese academic community and Taiwan. Presidents of prominent Japanese universities, including Shigeru Kohno, President of Nagasaki University; Kei Satoh, President of Hirosaki University; and Kayoko Hayashi, President of Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, were invited to visit Taiwan in order to establish new communication channels for higher education.
- B. Scholarships: Taiwan provided Taiwan Scholarship and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship for 36 students, and organized three short-term visits for 45 Japanese youths to learn Mandarin in Taiwan so as to encourage young Japanese students to study in Taiwan.
- C. Secondary education exchanges: Taiwan invited 30 Japanese secondary and elementary school teachers to visit Taiwan for discussion and exchange of experiences in order to learn more about the current development of secondary and elementary education in Taiwan.

- D. Youth: A total of 7,227 teachers and students from 224 high schools and vocational schools in Taiwan conducted educational trips to Japan. As many as 38,287 Japanese teachers and students from 388 high schools visited Taiwan on educational trips, making Taiwan the most popular educational trip destination for Japanese high schools.
- E. Sports: In all, 25 local townships and municipalities in Japan were set to serve as host cities for Taiwan in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, making Taiwan the most popular country with the most Japanese-hosting cities. In addition, the Sports Administration of the Ministry of Education (MOE) and the Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee organized two pre-Olympic delegations to visit the Japanese Cabinet Secretariat, the Tokyo Organizing Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and the Japanese National Training Center to bolster sports exchanges and cooperation between Taiwan and Japan.
- F. Arts: In collaboration with the Setouchi Triennale in Japan, Taiwan artists Wang Wen-chih, Lin Shuen-long, and Vocal Asia were invited to exhibit or perform at the art festival. In association with Roppongi Art Night in Japan, Taiwan artist Chuang Chih-wei was invited to exhibit in Japan. In collaboration with the International Committee for University Museums and Collections under ICOM Japan, the Museum of National Taipei University of Education was invited to participate in the seminar University Museums and Collections as Cultural Hubs: The Future of Tradition. Taiwan artist Wang Hong-kai was also invited to Japan to put on the workshop This Is No Country Music for Theater Commons Tokyo.
- G. Film and media: Taiwan held the Taiwan Film Screening and Salon in Tokyo; worked with the Osaka Asian Film Festival to organize a special program for Taiwan films, Taiwan Cinema Renaissance 2019, which featured seven films, including *More Than Blue* and *Father*; and cooperated with the 2019 Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival to hold Living with Disasters: Documentary Film Practices Over the Years in Taiwan and Japan, which featured seven Taiwanese documentaries. A lecture on the films of Tsai Ming-liang in relation to art and literature was also held. In the area of publishing, the Taiwan

Culture Festival and the Taiwan Book Fair were held for the first time in collaboration with Eslite Spectrum Nihonbashi, and Kadokawa Publishing House published a special collection of Taiwan monster culture in *Kwai & Yoo magazine*.

H. Other cultural exchanges: Challenges for the Universal Value of Human Rights, a seminar commemorating the 40th International Federation for Human Rights Congress, was co-organized with the French Embassy's Institut Français du Japon; and the *Taiwan Impressions* photographic exhibition was held to showcase the Taiwan Lantern Festival, railway and landscape photos. In collaboration with the Okinawa Prefectural Museum and Art Museum, *TAIWAN: Our neighboring islands connected to us* by the Kuroshio Current was organized to help the people of Japan get an in-depth understanding of the history and culture of Taiwan.

(5) Tourism

According to figures from the Tourism Bureau, MOTC, 2,167,952 Japanese travelers visited Taiwan in 2019, and 4,911,681 Taiwanese visited Japan, for a record-high two-way total of 7,079,633 visits. In addition to publicizing Taiwan through various promotional activities, promotion of Taiwan was undertaken in cooperation with local tourism organizations in Japan and through participation in Japanese festivals. The 12th Taiwan-Japan Tourism Summit Forum was held in Toyama Prefecture May 23 to 26, with more than 200 participants from Taiwan and Japan.

(6) Media exposure

A. Media visits between Taiwan and Japan: The Japanese media and foreign media in Japan were invited to send correspondents to report on Taiwan. These included the Tourism and Culture Press Group I, Japanese Press Group, and National Day Press Group, and resulted in the publication of 10 news stories about Taiwan's push for greater international participation. A Taiwan press group was organized to cover the 2019 Taiwan-Japan Tourism Summit Forum in Japan, which resulted in 94 news reports in Mandarin and Japanese. Japanese and

foreign media in Japan were assisted in applying for interviews with heads of government agencies and ministries in Taiwan, including an interview by the *Sankei Shimbun* of President Tsai in March, NHK News Watch 9's interview with President Tsai broadcasted on August 2, and coverage of Taiwan's presidential election in January 2020.

- B. Promotion of Taiwan through Japanese media: In collaboration with the *Mainichi Shimbun*, ice sculptures of the old Kaohsiung railway station and Yushan (Mt. Jade) were showcased at the Sapporo Snow Festival from February 4 to 7 to promote Taiwan tourism. In association with the *Sankei Shimbun*, the 16th Taiwan-Japan Cultural Exchanges Teenager Scholarship Travel to Taiwan event was held, inviting 12 Japanese teenagers who were the winners of Mandarin and Taiwanese essay and speech competitions to visit Taiwan in March and meet with Vice President Chen. Taiwan commissioned Sankei Advertising Inc. to produce a series of 12 Taiwan posters from September to November, introducing tourism and culture in Taiwan, as well as the story of Taiwan-Japan sports exchanges for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Taiwan also worked with 36 local TV stations across Japan to telecast 75 episodes of programs introducing cities in Taiwan. The Chiba Television Broadcasting Corporation and Radio Nikkei produced annual programs on Taiwan's politics, economy, and culture to promote Taiwan tourism and appeal to the Japanese public to support Taiwan's participation in the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership. The Sankei News website, the Fuji Sankei Business I website, the *SekaiNippo* and *The Japan Times* newspapers were also commissioned to carry a National Day special report.
- C. Academic seminars jointly held with Japanese media: Taiwan invited Japanese media such as Jiji Press Ltd., the *Mainichi Shimbun*, and Fiscal Intelligence to co-organize international seminars, also inviting scholars and experts to advocate for Taiwan on specific issues.
- D. Media report collection: A total of 814 Japanese media reports pertaining to Taiwan were collected, including President Tsai Meets with Overseas Media, President Tsai Holds Video Conference with US

think-tank, President Tsai Visits Diplomatic Allies in the South Pacific, President Tsai Visits Diplomatic Allies in the Caribbean, President Tsai's National Day Address, 2019–20 Hong Kong Protests, ASEAN Summit, and Pope Visits Japan. In May, Facebook and Twitter accounts for Taiwan's Representative Office in Japan were set up to share the latest information about Taiwan and exchanges between Taiwan and Japan in Mandarin and Japanese, in order to augment international publicity channels. In cooperation with NHK, the NHK Chinese website will share pertinent information with Taiwan citizens in Japan during any disaster.

(7) Mutual visits by dignitaries

A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: former Vice President Lu Hsiu-lien; Secretary-general to the President Chen Chu; President of Academia Sinica James C. Liao; Legislators Lim Tshiong-tso, Wang Yu-min, Chuang Jui-hsiung, Wu Kuen-yuh, Chiu Yi-ying, Kuo Kuo-wen, Lo Ming-tsai, Chiang Chi-chen, Liu Chien-kuo, Liu Shyh-fang, Yu Meinu, Lin Ching-yi, Chiu Tai-yuan, Tseng Ming-chung, and Chen Ching-min; Members of the Control Yuan Chang Wu-shou, Tsai Pei-tsuen, Lee Yueh-te, Yin Jeo-chen, Fang Wan-fu, Yang Fang-wan, Lin Sheng-fong, Chen Hsiao-hung, and Tien Chiu-chin; former Premier Lai Ching-te; Ministers without Portfolio Wu Tsung-tsong, Audrey Tang, and Wu Tze-cheng; Minister of Transportation and Communications (MOTC) Lin Chia-lung; Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung; Minister of National Development Chen Mei-ling; Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Wu Hsin-hsing; Chairman of the Taiwan Transportation Safety Board Yang Hong-tsu; Member of the National Communications Commission Teng Wei-chung; Minister of Agriculture Chen Chi-chung; Deputy Minister of Agriculture Huang Jing-cheng; Deputy Minister of Transportation and Communications Huang Yulin; Deputy Ministers of Science and Technology Shieh Dar-bin and Hsu Yu-chin; Deputy Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Kao Chien-chih; Deputy Minister of Hakka Affairs Fan Tso-ming; Deputy Minister of National Development Guo Fei-yu; Director General of the

Civil Aeronautics Administration Lin Kuo-shian; Director General of the Railway Bureau, MOTC, Allen Hu; Deputy Director General of the Health Promotion Administration You Li-hui; Chairman of the Taiwan-Japan Relations Association Chiu I-jen; Taipei Mayor Ko Wen-je; Keelung Mayor Lin Yu-chang; Chiayi County Magistrate Weng Chang-liang; Taoyuan Mayor Cheng Wen-tsan; Hsinchu County Magistrate Yang Wen-ke; Yunlin County Magistrate Chang Li-shan; Hualien City Mayor Wei Chia-hsien; and Taitung County Magistrate Rao Ching-ling.

- B. Visits from Japan were made by: Chairman Mitsuo Ohashi of the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association; President Yasuaki Tanizaki of the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association; Members of the House of Representatives Manabu Sakai, Katsuyuki Kawai, Akihisa Nagashima, Hirofumi Ryu, Toshitaka Ooka, Shigeki Kobayashi, Hajime Sasaki, Shunsuke Takei, Taimei Yamaguchi, Mio Sugita, Masanobu Ogura, Fumiaki Kobayashi, Keiji Furuya, Seishiro Eto, Minoru Kihara, Shigeyuki Tomita, Takashi Nagao, Yasuko Komiyama, Masuo Kaneko, Kosaburo Nishime, Konosuke Kokuba, Shuichi Takatori, Asahiko Mihara, Jin Matsubara, Yoshihiro Seki, Hideo Onishi, Takaki Shirasuka, Yukinori Nemoto, Yoshiaki Wada, Hiromi Mitsubayashi, Kazuya Kondo, Yamato Aoyama, Kentaro Gemma, Kenichiro Seki, Takeshi Saiki, Shohei Okashita, Hiroyuki Onishi, Kazuhide Okuma, Kouichi Munekiyo, Mito Kakizawa, Yoichiro Aoyagi, Kazuhiko Shigetoku, Go Shinohara, Kouichi Matsudaira, Yoko Wanibuchi, Kozo Yamamoto, Hiroyuki Miyazawa, Takeru Yoshikawa, Yasutaka Nakasone, Kazunori Tanaka, Masaharu Nakagawa, and Katsuhito Nakajima; Members of the House of Councilors Hirofumi Takinami, Masayo Tanabu, Takae Ito, Iwao Horii, Kentaro Asahi, Shinya Fujiki, Taichiro Motoe, Kei Sato, Toshiyuki Adachi, Katsumi Ogawa, Satoshi Nakanishi, Masahisa Sato, Kusuo Oshima, Nobuhiro Miura, Hanako Jimi, Yasuyuki Sakai, Tsuneo Kitamura, Akira Ishii, Yuumi Yoshikawa, Kimi Onoda, Hiroyuki Kada, Yasushi Miura, and Masato Shimizu; Governor of Ehime Prefecture Tokihiro Nakamura; Governor of Yamagata Prefecture Mieko Yoshimura; Governor of Kagawa

Prefecture Keizo Hamada; Governor of Kumamoto Prefecture Ikuo Kabashima; Governor of Kochi Prefecture Masanao Ozaki; Governor of Mie Prefecture Eikei Suzuki; Governor of Okinawa Prefecture Denny Tamaki; Governor of Ibaraki Prefecture Kazuhiko Ooigawa; Governor of Okayama Prefecture Ryuta Ibaragi; Governor of Aomori Prefecture Shingo Mimura; Governor of Shiga Prefecture Taizo Mikazuki; and Governor of Miyazaki Prefecture Shunji Kouno.

11. Relations with the Republic of Korea

- (1) Background: The diplomatic relations between Taiwan and the ROK were severed on August 24, 1992. The Taipei Mission in Korea was established on October 2, 1993, and inaugurated on January 25, 1994. The Taipei Mission in Korea, Busan Office, was established on December 28, 2004, and began operation on January 31, 2005. On November 25, 1993, the Korean Mission in Taipei was established in Taipei.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade between Taiwan and the ROK totaled US\$34.68 billion. Taiwan's exports to the ROK totaled US\$16.95 billion, while total imports from the ROK amounted to US\$17.73 billion. The ROK is Taiwan's fifth-largest trading partner, while Taiwan is the ROK's sixth-largest trading partner.
- (3) Tourism: In 2019, 1,209,062 Taiwanese visited the ROK, and 1,245,144 Koreans visited Taiwan.
- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: former Vice President Lu Hsiu-lien; Members of the Control Yuan Wang Mei-yu and Wang You-ling; President Lin Te-fu of Republic of China (Taiwan) – Korea Parliamentary Friendship Association, Legislative Yuan; Legislators Lu Yu-ling, Wang Yu-min, Lin Li-chan, and Lin Ching-yi; Director General of the Tourism Bureau Chou Yung-hui; TAITRA President James C. F. Huang; Chairman of the Taiwan Visitors Association Yeh Chu-lan; Acting Chairman of the Transitional Justice Commission Yang Tsui; Chairman of the Foundation on Asia-Pacific Peace Studies

Hsu Hsin-liang; President of the Institute for National Policy Research Tien Hung-mao; and Chairman of the Prospect Foundation Mark Chen.

B. Visits from Korea were made by: President of the Korea-Taiwan Parliamentarian Friendship Association Cho Kyoung-tae; Members of the National Assembly Cho Bae-Sook, Baek Jae-hyun, Kim Sung-chan, Lee Jung-hyun, Chong Jong-sup, Yoo Min-bong, Jung Tae-ok, Yoo Jae-joong, Song Hee-kyung, Lee Eun-jae, Jung Yang-seog, Kim Kyu-hyuan, and Lee Sang-heon; Chairman of the Trade, Industry and Energy Committee Hong Il-pyo; and Minister of Unification Kim Yeon-chul.

12. Relations with Malaysia

- (1) Background: On August 3, 1974, Taiwan established the Far East Trade and Tour Centre in Malaysia as its Representative Office in Malaysia. It was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center on September 22, 1988, and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Malaysia on August 17, 1992. Malaysia has a Malaysian Friendship and Trade Centre in Taipei.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade between Taiwan and Malaysia totaled US\$19.78 billion. Malaysia is Taiwan's seventh-largest trading partner, while Taiwan is Malaysia's sixth-largest. Taiwan has cumulative investment of about US\$14.833 billion in Malaysia, making it the fourth-largest source of foreign investment in Malaysia after Japan, the United States, and Singapore.
- (3) Bilateral agreements: The two countries signed an investment protection agreement on February 18, 1993, and an agreement on the avoidance of double taxation and tax evasion on July 23, 1996.
- (4) Tourism: In 2019, 299,959 travelers from Taiwan visited Malaysia, and 537,692 Malaysians visited Taiwan.
- (5) Cultural and educational relations: There are about 7.41 million ethnic Chinese in Malaysia, and the country has a complete Chinese-language education system. Currently, there are 1,299 Chinese-language elementary

schools and 61 Chinese-language independent high schools in Malaysia. In 2019, 15,741 Malaysian students were studying in universities and colleges in Taiwan, and over the years more than 70,000 Malaysians have studied in Taiwan. In 2019, 151 students from Taiwan attended Malaysian colleges and universities.

(6) Mutual visits by dignitaries

A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: President of the Legislative Yuan Su Jia-chyuan; Legislators Chiang Chi-chen, Lin Ching-yi, and Lin Li-chan; Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs (MOEA) Wang Mei-hua; Deputy Director General of the Bureau of Foreign Trade, MOEA, Lee Guann-jyh; Deputy Minister of Education Liu Meng-chi; Deputy Minister of Culture Hsiao Tsung-huang; Deputy Ministers of Overseas Community Affairs Kao Chien-chih and Leu Yuan-rong; Deputy Ministers of Agriculture Chen Jun-ji and Chen Tian-shou; Commissioner of the National Communications Commission Teng Wei-chung; Director of the Office of Homeland Security Huang Jun-tai; Deputy Director-general of the Investigation Bureau Huang Di-xi; Kaohsiung Mayor Han Kuo-yu; and Kinmen County Magistrate Yang Cheng-wu.

B. Visits from Malaysia were made by: Vice President of the People's Justice Party Chua Tian Chang; President of the Malaysian People's Movement Party Dominic Lau Hoe Chai; President of the Sarawak United Peoples' Party Sim Kui Hian; Director of the Maritime Institute of Malaysia Martin Sebastian; Selangor State Legislature Assemblyman Ng Sze Han; Deputy Ministers of International Trade and Industry K. Talagavithi (in charge of industry) and Norazman Ayob (in charge of trade); Director-general of the Narcotics Crime Investigation Department, Royal Malaysia Police, Mohd Khalil Bin Kader; Deputy Director-general of the Commercial Crimes Investigation Department Azizan Bin Abu Taat; Director of the Islamic Tourism Centre of the National Department for Culture and Arts Abdul Khani Bin Daud; Chief Commissioner of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission

Zamri bin Yahya; Selangor Police Chief Noor Azam bin Jamaludin; Melaka Police Chief Raja Sharom bin Raja Abdullah; and Chairman of the National Anti-Financial Crime Centre Mustafar bin Ali.

13. Relations with New Zealand

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relation between Taiwan and New Zealand were severed on December 22, 1972. In May 1973, Taiwan set up the East Asian Trade Center in Auckland, and in July 1980, the Center was moved to Wellington. In 1982, the Auckland Branch was established, and in 1987, New Zealand established the New Zealand Commerce and Industry Office in Taiwan. In November 1991, the East Asian Trade Center was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
 - A. In 2019, bilateral trade between Taiwan and New Zealand totaled US\$1.35 billion. Taiwan's exports to New Zealand totaled US\$579 million, while total imports from New Zealand amounted to US\$770 million. Taiwan is New Zealand's seventh-largest export market and its fourteenth-largest source of imports.
 - B. Taiwan and New Zealand signed a dairy implementing arrangement in September this year, promoting bilateral trade. In addition, the Joint New Zealand-Taiwan Business Conference was held in Wellington on November 29.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: In September 2019, Taiwan's Ministry of Economic Affairs and Victoria University of Wellington signed a talent exchange MOU. Charles Ngaki, Policy Manager for Economic Wealth of the Ministry of Māori Development, led a delegation to attend the Indigenous Cooperation Coordination Meeting held in Taiwan in June. In August at the Executive Yuan, Premier Su Tseng-chang and spokesperson Kolas Yotaka met a visiting group of Maori youths from northern New Zealand seeking their ancestral roots in Taiwan.

- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by Minister of Examination Hsu Shu-hsiang, Deputy Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Council Kao Chien-chih, Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua, and Deputy Minister of Ocean Affairs Chuang Ching-ta.
 - B. Visits from New Zealand were made by Members of Parliament Tim Macindoe, Ian McKelive, Todd Muller, Chris Bishop, Agnes Loheni, and Alfred Ngaro.

14. Relations with Papua New Guinea

- (1) Background: On February 12, 1990, Taiwan set up a trade mission in Papua New Guinea, which was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Papua New Guinea on May 17, 2018. On May 20, 1990, the Office of the Honorary Representative of Papua New Guinea was established in Taipei. In August 1994, its name was changed to Honorary Consulate-General; the appointment was suspended in August 2014. On December 31, 2015, the Papua New Guinea Trade Office in Taiwan was established in Taipei.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
 - A. Overall exports and imports: Trade between Taiwan and Papua New Guinea totaled US\$849.3 million. Taiwan's exports to Papua New Guinea totaled US\$27.356 million, while its imports from that country totaled US\$821.9 million.
 - B. Fishing access fee: The Taiwan Tuna Purse Seiners Association signed a fishing agreement with the National Fisheries Authority of Papua New Guinea under which it purchased 950 days of operation, licensed 27 fishing vessels, and agreed to a fishing access fee of US\$9.975 million.
- (3) Agricultural cooperation: The farmer training program is currently in its fifth year. The program selects excellent farmers and growers in Port Moresby, the capital, and in two promotion centers in the commercial hub

Lae. It also collaborates with the Department of Agriculture and Livestock and the National Agricultural Research Institute to conduct breeding of maize and cassava, and field-test planting of drought- and heat-tolerant varieties. In addition, 18 primary courses, two intermediate courses, and two advanced courses provided training to 500 farmers.

- (4) Medical cooperation: In 2019, Changhua Christian Hospital sent 13 medical volunteers to Nonga General Hospital in Rabaul, East New Britain, Papua New Guinea, where the volunteers carried out more than 10 orthopedic surgeries, gave 10 lectures to share new knowledge and experiences in medicine, and donated medical supplies valued at about US\$46,610. The volunteers also held special seminars in nearby church hospitals and nursing schools. Three healthcare practitioners from Nonga General Hospital and Port Moresby General Hospital visited Changhua Christian Hospital for short-term study.
- (5) Visits from Papua New Guinea were made by Deputy Speaker of the National Parliament of Papua New Guinea Jeffery Komal and Director of Investigations Joseph Molita.

15. Relations with the Philippines

- (1) Background: The Republic of China and the Philippines established diplomatic relations on April 18, 1947, and severed diplomatic relations on June 9, 1975. On July 28, 1975, the Pacific Economic and Cultural Center in Manila was established, officially opening on October 8 that year. It was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in the Philippines on March 7, 1990. The Philippines established the Asian Exchange Center in Taipei on March 16, 1976, which was renamed the Manila Economic and Cultural Office on December 20, 1989.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade between Taiwan and the Philippines totaled US\$8.27 billion. Taiwan's exports totaled US\$6.157 billion and its imports stood at US\$2.114 billion. Taiwanese companies have about 600 factories in the Philippines, with cumulative investment of about US\$2.144 billion from 1952 to 2019.

- (3) Cultural and educational relations: The Ministry of Education of Taiwan commissioned National Sun Yat-sen University to set up a Taiwan Education Center at Trinity University of Asia in the Philippines to promote Taiwan and the Chinese language in higher education. Guang Ming College hired two Chinese language teachers selected and recommended by the MOE in August 2019.
- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: former President Ma Ying-jeou; President of the Legislative Yuan Su Jia-chyuan; Legislators Chen Ting-fei, Wu Chi-ming, Hsu Yu-jen, and Tung Hui-chen; Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin; Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua; Commissioner of the Civil Service Education Protection and Training Commission and President of the National Academy of Civil Service Kuo Fang-yu; Deputy Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Kao Chien-chih; and Deputy Minister of Agriculture Huang Jing-cheng.
 - B. Visits from the Philippines were made by: Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment Silvestre H. Bello III; Deputy Speakers of the House of Representatives of the Philippines Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas, Evelina Escudero, and Deogracias Victoria “DV” B. Savellano; Undersecretary in the Department of Trade and Industry Ceferino S. Rodolfo; Undersecretaries in the Department of Science and Technology Renato U. Solidum Jr. and Rowena Cristina L. Guevara; Undersecretary in the Department of Education Alain Del B. Pascua; and Undersecretary in the Department of Labor and Employment Claro A. Arellano.
- (5) Other
 - A. Tourism: In 2019, 509,519 travelers from the Philippines visited Taiwan, and 331,792 travelers from Taiwan visited the Philippines.
 - B. Labor: A total of 157,487 Filipinos worked in Taiwan in 2019.
 - C. Overseas community affairs: Most of the nearly 1.5 million ethnic Chinese living in the Philippines reside in Metro Manila, Cebu, Davao,

Zamboanga, Bacolod, or Iloilo. In recent years, approximately 7,000 Taiwan nationals have traveled to the Philippines to conduct business, work, or invest.

16. Relations with Singapore

- (1) Background: The Trade Mission of the Republic of China was established in Singapore on March 6, 1969, and renamed the Taipei Representative Office in Singapore on September 30, 1990. The Singapore Trade Representative Office in Taipei was established on August 1, 1979, and renamed the Singapore Trade Office in Taipei on September 30, 1990.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Taiwan's bilateral trade with Singapore this year totaled US\$26.105 billion. Taiwan's exports to Singapore amounted to US\$18.188 billion, and imports from Singapore stood at US\$7.917 billion, resulting in a trade surplus of US\$10.271 billion for Taiwan. Singapore is Taiwan's sixth-largest trading partner. The Agreement between Singapore and the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu on Economic Partnership (ASTEP), signed on November 7, 2013, officially came into effect on April 19, 2014. Singapore is the only country in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to have signed a free trade agreement (FTA) with Taiwan.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations
 - A. For the past 36 years, mutual visits by 80 senior high school students and host families have been organized every year. A total of 5,640 senior high school students have participated in this exchange program. Taiwan Scholarship and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship have been awarded outstanding young Singaporeans wishing to obtain a degree or study Mandarin in Taiwan. The Taipei Representative Office in the Republic of Singapore also established the Taiwan Studies Thesis Scholarship to encourage Singaporean students to conduct research on Taiwan.

- B. Arts and cultural groups from Taiwan have performed in Singapore many times with wide acclaim. The Department of Dance, National Taiwan University of Arts, participated in the annual River Hongbao event for the Lunar New Year in Singapore. Story Works, M.O.V.E. Theatre, Won Fu, Bulareyaung Dance Company, Cloud Gate Dance Theater, Godot Theatre Company, and Guoguang Opera Company performed at the Huayi-Chinese Festival of Arts.
- (4) Visits from Taiwan were made by: Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin, Minister of Agriculture Chen Chi-chung, Legislators Yu Meinu and Tung Hui-chen, Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Hsu Yu-chin, Member of the Control Yuan Tien Chiu-chin, Chiayi County Magistrate Weng Chang-liang, and Kaohsiung Mayor Han Kuo-yu.
 - (5) People-to-people visits: A total of 460,635 Singaporeans visited Taiwan in 2019.

17. Relations with Thailand

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between The Republic of China and Thailand were established on May 7, 1946, and terminated on July 1, 1975. Taiwan and Thailand established offices in Bangkok and Taipei respectively. After several changes, the names of the two offices are now the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Thailand and the Thailand Trade and Economic Office.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: According to Thailand's Ministry of Commerce, bilateral trade between Taiwan and Thailand in 2019 totaled US\$12.061 billion. Taiwan's exports to Thailand totaled US\$8.049 billion and its imports from Thailand stood at US\$4.011 billion. According to the Board of Investment of Thailand, the number of Taiwanese investments in Thailand in 2019 comprised 44 cases, with an investment value of about US\$319 million. Taiwanese companies have invested in 2,470 projects in Thailand over the years, with a cumulative investment of about US\$15 billion.

- (3) Labor: Thai workers have been permitted to work in Taiwan since 1994, resulting in a close labor force relationship between the two countries. The 20th Taiwan-Thailand Labor Committee Meeting was held in Taipei in August. As of December 2019, there were 59,445 Thai migrant workers in Taiwan.
- (4) Agricultural cooperation: Taiwan and Thailand have held agricultural cooperation meetings every two years since signing an agreement on agricultural cooperation between Taiwan and Thailand in 2003. The 6th Taiwan-Thailand Agricultural Cooperation Meeting was held in Bangkok on March 16, 2017. Based on the meeting resolutions, the two sides have worked closely on agricultural cooperation and study. In addition, the agricultural technical cooperation program between Taiwan and Thailand Royal Project Foundation has been ongoing since 1970. It has proven to be a long and fruitful program of country-to-country cooperation.
- (5) Tourism: In 2019, 830,166 Taiwanese visited Thailand, and 413,926 Thais visited Taiwan.
- (6) Cultural and educational relations: Thailand Museum Siam and the National Taiwan Museum jointly organized the exhibition Tattoo Color, Tattoo Honor: Indigenous Tattoos in Taiwan and Thailand. In 2019, 17 Thai students were awarded Taiwan Scholarship and 33 were awarded Huayu Enrichment Scholarship by the Ministry of Education. Three Mandarin Chinese teaching assistants and 26 teachers from Taiwan are working in Thai schools.
- (7) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Vice Minister of Economic Affairs Lin Chuan-neng; Deputy Education Minister Liu Meng-chi; Commissioner of the Civil Service Education Protection and Training Commission Kuo Fang-yu; Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Wu Hsin-hsing; Minister without Portfolio Audrey Tang; Deputy Minister of Mainland Affairs Chiu Chui-cheng; Legislators Chao Tien-lin, Chen Ming-wen, Kuan Bi-ling, Su Chih-fen, Chen Ting-fei, Tsai

Shih-ying, Hung Tsung-yi, and Wu Yu-chin; and President of Academia Sinica James C. Liao.

- B. Visits from Thailand were made by: former President of the Taiwan Friendship Group in the National Assembly of Thailand Prasert Prakoonsuksapan; Members of Parliament Klai Kong Vaidhyakarn, Woraphop Viriyaroj, Natthaphong Ruengpanyawut, Pakornwut Udompipatskul, and Somkiat Thanomsin; Advisor to the Minister of Commerce Pornchai Tarkulwaranont; and former Minister of Transport Chadchart Sittipunt.

18. Relations with Vietnam

- (1) Background: On November 15, 1992, in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, respectively, Taiwan established the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Vietnam and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Ho Chi Minh City. On July 10, 1993, Vietnam established the Vietnam Economic Cultural Office in Taipei.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
 - A. Bilateral trade between Taiwan and Vietnam in 2019 amounted to US\$19.564 billion, with Vietnam's exports to Taiwan totaling US\$4.392 billion and its imports from Taiwan reaching US\$15.173 billion, leaving Taiwan with a surplus of US\$10.781 billion. Taiwan is Vietnam's fifth-largest trading partner.
 - B. Investment: By the end of 2019, Taiwan's cumulative investment in Vietnam totaled US\$32.367 billion in 2,692 cases, making it the fourth-largest source of foreign investment in Vietnam. Taiwan invested US\$860.62 million in 152 projects in Vietnam in 2019.
- (3) Tourism: In 2019, 926,744 travelers from Taiwan visited Vietnam, while 405,396 Vietnamese visited Taiwan.
- (4) Bilateral agreements: A new version of a bilateral investment agreement, a memorandum of understanding on sanitary and phytosanitary cooperation, and an agreement on mutual recognition of diplomas and training courses were signed in 2019 between Taiwan and Vietnam.

(5) Mutual visits by dignitaries

A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Minister of National Development Chen Mei-ling, Deputy Minister of Agriculture Huang Jing-cheng, Political Deputy Ministers of Education Fan Sun-lu and Lio Mon-chi, Vice Minister of Science and Technology Tsou Yu-han, Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection Tsai Hung-teh, Legislator Wu Kuen-yuh, and Member of the Control Yuan Chang Wu-shou.

B. Chairman of the Committee for Taiwan Affairs Vu Tien Loc visited from Vietnam.

(6) Other: There are about 80,000 Taiwanese businessmen in Vietnam. The Council of Taiwanese Chambers of Commerce in Vietnam has 14 branches covering major cities, provinces, and industries.

19. Relations with Myanmar

(1) Background: In 2014, a TaiwanICDF office was established in Yangon. In 2015, the Myanmar Trade Office was established in Taipei. With the establishment of relevant institutions in both countries, bilateral relations have become increasingly close. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Myanmar was approved to be established by the government of Myanmar on March 28, 2016.

(2) Economic and trade relations

A. Since Myanmar opened its market to foreign companies in 2011, more than 270 Taiwanese companies have invested US\$1 billion in apparel, optics, agriculture, footwear, travel agency, restaurant, aviation, and finance industries in the country.

B. Taiwan has made 39 cases of investment in Myanmar totaling US\$224 million. At the same time, Myanmar has made 23 cases of investment in Taiwan totaling US\$2.348 billion. Total trade volume in 2019 was US\$312 million. Taiwan's exports to Myanmar amounted to US\$242 million and its imports from the country stood at US\$70 million, a decline of 8.77 percent compared to the total trade volume of US\$342 million in 2018.

(3) Other

- A. The Myanmar government is working toward greater openness and innovation. The nearly 2 million ethnic Chinese in Myanmar provide a strong niche for interaction between the two countries. In 2016, the number of business trips to Myanmar from Taiwan reached 25,190. Since the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Myanmar was established in March 2016, the number of Myanmar nationals coming to Taiwan has grown substantially, making bilateral exchanges and interactions more frequent.
- B. Taiwan is currently conducting the Taiwan Digital Opportunity Center Project and the TaiwanICDF Lights up Rural Myanmar Project in Myanmar, as well as providing humanitarian assistance for individual cases.

Asia-Pacific diplomatic events in photographs



President Tsai Ing-wen (middle) and President Hilda C. Heine of the Republic of Marshall Islands (middle-right) pose with representatives at the first Pacific Women Leaders Coalition Conference. (March 26, 2019)



President Hilda C. Heine of the Republic of Marshall Islands (third left), Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade John M. Silk (second left), ROC Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Szu-chien Hsu (third right), Ambassador to the Republic of Marshall Islands Jeffrey S. C. Hsiao (second right), and Rear Admiral Wang Kuo-chiang (first right) at the onboard reception for the 2019 Midshipmen Cruising and Training Squadron of the Republic of China (Taiwan). (April 30, 2019)



President Lionel Aingimea of Nauru is welcomed with full military honors on his state visit to Taiwan. (December 13, 2019)



President Lionel Aingimea of Nauru signs the Air Services Agreement during his visit to Taiwan. (December 13, 2019)



On the Oceans of Democracy state trip, President Tsai Ing-wen (middle-left) holds a bilateral meeting with President Tommy E. Remengesau Jr. (middle-right) of Palau, together with their cabinet officials. (March 22, 2019)



Foreign Minister Jaushieh Joseph Wu (middle-left) and Vice President of Palau and Minister of Justice Raynold Oilouch (middle-right) sign the Sea Patrol Cooperation Pact. (March 22, 2019)



Prime Minister of Tuvalu Kausea Natano meets with Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Szu-chien Hsu. (November 6, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Tuvaluan Minister of Justice, Communication and Foreign Affairs Simon Robert Kofe. (November 20, 2019)



The Asia-Pacific Group on Money Laundering holds its 22nd annual meeting in Canberra, Australia. Taiwan earns a promotion to the regular follow-up list, the most successful result among member countries in the Asia-Pacific region. (August 22, 2019)



Redland City and Logan City of the state of Queensland and MiTAC Information Technology Corporation sign a letter of intent on smart city cooperation at the welcome dinner for the 33rd Joint Conference of the ROC-Australia and Australia-Taiwan Business Councils, witnessed by Representative to Australia Elliott Chang (back-right) and Representative Gary Cowan of the Australian Office in Taipei (back-left). (August 29, 2019)



The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Brisbane, Australia, hosts a reception for the Queensland Parliamentary Friends of Taiwan. Director General Bruce Chen-jung Hung (front, third left) poses with Queensland Government cabinet members and state legislators. (September 17, 2019)



Director General Bruce Chen-jung Hung of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Brisbane, Australia, (front, fourth left), and Lord Mayor of Brisbane Adrian Schrinner and Mrs. Schrinner (front, fourth and third right) celebrate the 108th National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan) at a reception held jointly with the overseas Taiwan community of Queensland. (November 5, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen addresses the third Yushan Forum. (October 8, 2019)



Vice President Chen Chien-jen (third left), Minister without Portfolio John C. C. Deng (first left), Chairman of the Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation Michael Hsiao (first right), US Senior Official for APEC and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands Sandra Oudkirk (third right), Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Institute of Chinese Studies in New Delhi Shivshankar Menon (second left), and former Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Korea Park Tae-ho (second right) participate in the third Yushan Forum “Asia Outlook” discussion session. (October 9, 2019)



Director General Chi-wen Lin of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Melbourne, Australia, hosts the 108th National Day Reception of the Republic of China (Taiwan). (October 9, 2019)



Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Wu Hsin-hsing attends the opening ceremony of the 2019 Fun Taiwan Festival in Melbourne, Australia. (October 26, 2019)



Representative to Australia Elliott Charng; Director General Hsueh-hong Wang of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Sydney; and New South Wales dignitaries pose for a group photo at the 2019 Sydney Chinese Community Spring Festival Dinner. (February 3, 2019)



Director General Hsueh-hong Wang (front, fourth left) poses with dignitaries from New South Wales at the 108th Republic of China (Taiwan) National Day Reception held by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Sydney. (October 9, 2019)



Representative to Brunei Andrew Lee and Mrs. Lee pose with members of the Brunei-Taiwan Chamber of Commerce and the Taiwan Alumni Association in Brunei Darussalam at the 108th Republic of China (Taiwan) National Day dinner. (October 5, 2019)



Representative to Brunei Andrew Lee and his colleagues welcome Deputy Magistrate of Kinmen County Huang Yi-kai and a travel delegation arriving in Brunei on the first chartered flight from Kinmen. (November 23, 2019)



Representative to Fiji Jessica C. Lee (fourth right) celebrates the 108th National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan) with Fiji MP Sitiveni Rabuka (former Prime Minister and leader of the Social Democratic Liberal Party) (fifth left); MP Biman Prasad (National Federation Party) (third right); the Assistant Minister for Agriculture (first left); Marshall Islands Ambassador to Fiji (second left); Tuvalu's High Commissioner in Fiji (third left); the Assistant Minister for Youth and Sports (fourth left); Assistant Minister for Indigenous People (second right); and the Speaker of Parliament's spouse (former First Lady). (October 8, 2019)



TAITRA Chairman James C. F. Huang (third right), Representative to India Tien Chung-kwang (sixth left), and Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India, Shri Praveen Bonigala (fourth right) attend the opening ceremony of the 2019 Taiwan Expo in New Delhi. (May 16, 2019)



At the 10th Taiwan-India Joint Conference on Science and Technology Cooperation, Representative to India Tien Chung-kwang (front, fifth left) poses for a photo with Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Hsu Yu-chin (front, sixth left), and Deputy Minister Ashutosh Sharma of the Department of Science and Technology, India (front, seventh left). (July 25, 2019)



MOFA East Asian and Pacific Affairs Director General Baushuan Ger (third right), Representative to India Tien Chung-kwang (second left), Director General in Chennai Li Chao-cheng (first left), and Member of the State Assembly of Tamil Nadu Dr. R. Nataraj (third left) pose for a photo. (April 12, 2019)



Officials pose for a photo at the 2019 Taiwanese Film Festival, co-organized by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in Chennai and the Indo Cine Appreciation Foundation at the Alliance Francaise of Madras. (October 14, 2019)



MOFA East Asian and Pacific Affairs Director General Baushuan Ger (second right), Director General in Chennai Li Chao-cheng (right), and Head of the Department of Politics and Public Administration at the University of Madras Dr. Ramu (left) attend the European Union Research Seminar at the University of Madras. (October 14, 2019)



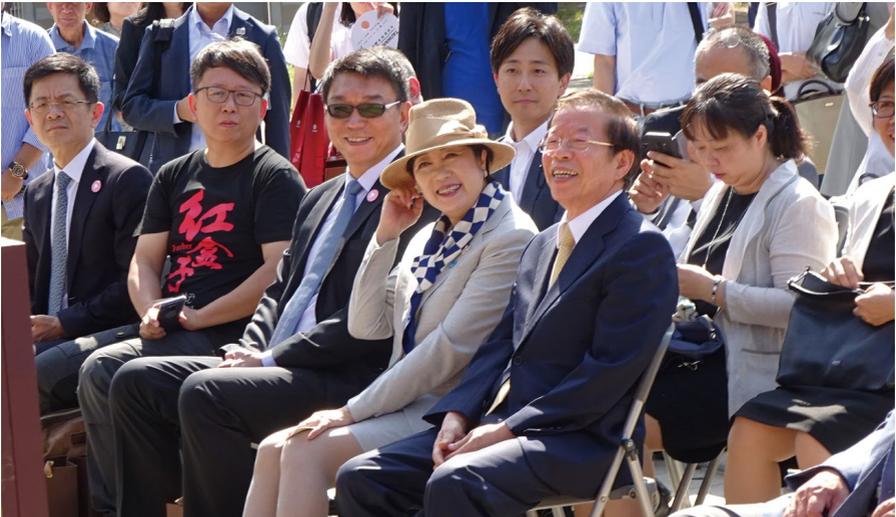
Representative to Indonesia John C. Chen (right), presents a donation to the Indonesian Red Cross on behalf of the Ministry of Health and Welfare, Republic of China (Taiwan), for the Tsunami and Earthquake Relief Project in Central Sulawesi Province, Indonesia. (April 30, 2019)



Representative to Indonesia John C. Chen (right) and Representative of the Indonesia Economic and Trade Office to Taipei Didi Sumedi (left) show the 4th Agricultural Cooperation Consultations Proceedings Book. (September 18, 2019)



(R-L) Chair of the Taiwan Visitors Association Yeh Chu-lan, Representative to Japan Hsieh Chang-ting, Director General of the Taiwan Tourism Bureau Chou Yung-hui, and Governor of Toyama Prefecture Takakazu Ishii prepare to cut the ribbon for trams painted with scenes of Taiwan to promote the Toyama-Taipei flight route and sightseeing in Taiwan. (May 23, 2019)



Representative to Japan Hsieh Chang-ting (front, first right) and Governor of Tokyo Yuriko Koike (second right) enjoy a puppetry performance at the opening of the Taiwan Plus 2019 Taiwan Shin Kankaku cultural event. (September 28, 2019)



Representative to Japan Hsieh Chang-ting (center) and Mrs. Hsieh (left) chat with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's mother, Yoko Abe (right). (October 18, 2019)



Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung (front, fifth left) attends dinner hosted by the Fukuoka Overseas Chinese Community in support of Taiwan's participation in WHA. (May 11, 2019)



2019 Taipei-Osaka Higher Education Conference (October 24, 2019)



Member of the Control Yuan Tsai Pei-tsun (third left) leads a delegation to Hokkaido, Japan, to study rural-area and mixed-age education. (June 17, 2019)



Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Wu Hsin-hsing (third right) attends the groundbreaking ceremony for renovations at Yokohama Overseas Chinese School, accompanied by Representative to Japan Hsieh Chang-ting (second right). (March 30, 2019)



Taipei Mayor Ko Wen-je (eighth right), leading a delegation to Japan for a four-day visit, tours the J-POWER Isogo Power Station, accompanied by Chang Shu-ling (ninth right), Director General of the Yokohama Branch, Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan. (May 24, 2019)



Minister of Public Construction Wu Tze-cheng (center) and his delegation visit Enoshima Electric Railway Co., Ltd., accompanied by Chang Shu-ling (third right), Director General of the Yokohama Branch, Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan. (September 4, 2019)



Legislator Lin Ching-yi (center), member of the Legislative Yuan Foreign Affairs and National Defense Committee, attends the annual conference of the Shirayuri Association of the Kanagawa Prefectural Assembly Women's League, accompanied by Chang Shu-ling (left), Director General of the Yokohama Branch, Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan, and Kuroiwa Yuji (right), Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan. (November 6, 2019)



Representative to Korea Tang Diann-wen delivers remarks at the 108th National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan) Dinner. (October 7, 2019)



TAITRA Chairman James C. F. Huang (center) hosts the 2019 Computex International Press Conference during his visit to the Republic of Korea. (April 18, 2019)



Taipei Deputy Mayor Tsai Ping-kun (sixth left) visits Busan, Republic of Korea, to sign a Cruise Tourism MOU with Busan Vice Mayor Byeon Sung-wan (sixth right). (July 10, 2019)



Hualien City Mayor Wei Chia-hsien (fifth right), heading a delegation on the first chartered Hualien-Ulsan flight, helps cut the ribbon in the Korean city to celebrate. (October 17, 2019)



Representative to Malaysia Anne Hung (center) poses with Malaysian dignitaries and honored guests at the 108th National Day Reception of the Republic of China (Taiwan). (October 9, 2019)



Representative to Malaysia Anne Hung (sixth left), Deputy Minister of Agriculture Chen Tian-shou (fifth left), Member of the Parliament of Malaysia Wong Shu-qi (fourth left), and political and business leaders from both sides attend the first Malaysia Taiwan Agricultural Machinery & Materials Exhibition. (November 22, 2019)



Deputy Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Kao Chien-chih (front, fifth left) and Representative to New Zealand Chen Keh-ming (front, fourth left) attend the 3rd Board Meeting and 21st Annual Conference of the Taiwanese Chambers of Commerce in Oceania. (June 29, 2019)



Representative to New Zealand Chen Keh-ming (back, second left), and Yu Cheng-wei (back, first left), Director General of the Bureau of Energy, MOEA, witness the signing of a cooperation agreement between the Industrial Technology Research Institute and New Zealand's GNS Science for resource assessment in the hydrothermal system of the Tatun Volcano Group. (July 24, 2019)



Deputy Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Kao Chien-chih addresses members of the Auckland overseas Taiwan community. (July 1, 2019)



New Zealand firefighters receive certificates of appreciation at the National Day Ceremony held by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Auckland. (October 4, 2019)



Representative to the Philippines Michael Pei-yung Hsu (second left) and Chen Jun-ji (first right), Director of the Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute, Council of Agriculture, help break ground for a demonstration mushroom farm at Baguio City, Philippines. (March 15, 2019)



Representative to the Philippines Michael Pei-yung Hsu and delegation leader James Chi-ping Chang celebrate Taiwan Night at the University of Santo Thomas with Taiwan's International Youth Ambassadors. (August 19, 2019)



Representative to the Philippines Michael Pei-yung Hsu (center) poses with Philippine Tourism Association President Ritchie B. Tuano (fifth left) and Abe Chou (fifth right), Director of the Taiwan Visitors Association, Kuala Lumpur Office, at the Taiwan Small Town & Shopping Promotion Fair held by the Taiwan Visitors Association. (April 13, 2019)



Representative to the Philippines Michael Pei-yung Hsu (front, fourth right) helps kick off the opening ceremony of the 2019 Taiwan-Philippines Industrial Collaboration Summit and the 25th PCBC-CPBC Joint Meeting in Manila, along with Chairman of the Manila Economic and Cultural Office Angelito Tan Banayo (front, fourth left) and Chairman of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry Sergio R. Ortiz-Luis Jr. (back, fourth left). (October 30, 2019)



Representative to Singapore Liang Kuo-hsin (third left), Singapore's Senior Minister of Culture, Community and Youth Sim Ann (fourth left), and other distinguished guests attend the joint performance of the Singapore Chinese Orchestra and Taiwan's Contemporary Legend Theatre. (October 12, 2019)



Representative to Singapore Liang Kuo-hsin (second right) meets with director Chang Yi (second left), artist Loretta Hui-shan Yang (third right), and curator Foo Tee Tuan (first right) ahead of the "Filmmaker in Focus: Chang Yi" session at the Singapore Chinese Film Festival. (April 21, 2019)



Representative to Singapore Liang Kuo-hsin (third right) and Singapore Member of Parliament Seah Kian-peng (second left) promote Taiwan agricultural products at the opening ceremony of “Taste Taiwan.” (March 21, 2019)



The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Thailand inaugurates its new office building. (July 24, 2019)



Participants pose for a photo at the “Taiwan Week” Thailand-Taiwan Excellence Gaming Cup Finals. (September 21, 2019)



Representative to Vietnam Richard R. C. Shih (second left) and Representative Nguyễn Anh Dũng (second right) of the Vietnam Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei give the thumbs up after signing the Agreement on Mutual Recognition of Diplomas and Training Courses between Taiwan and Vietnam. (December 20, 2019)



Representative to Vietnam Richard R. C. Shih (second right) and Representative Nguyễn Anh Dũng (second left) of the Vietnam Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei show the newly signed bilateral investment agreement between Taiwan and Vietnam. (December 18, 2019)



Representative to Vietnam Richard R. C. Shih (second right) holds the award presented by Nguyễn Nguyệt Nga (third right), wife of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Phạm Bình Minh, after the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Vietnam ranked first in the 2018 International Food Festival. (December 8, 2019)



Ambassador of Israel to Vietnam Nadav Eshcar and his wife (first and second right) visit the Taiwan booth managed by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Vietnam, at the annual charity bazaar held by the Hanoi International Women's Club. (November 17, 2019)



2018 Teen Diplomatic Envoys get into the spirit of their visit to Vietnam, donning traditional Vietnamese Ao Dai. (January 25, 2019)



Representative to Vietnam Richard R. C. Shih (center) joins in the applause at the opening ceremony of the 2019 Taiwan Higher Education Fair hosted by Vietnam National University, Hanoi. (March 30, 2019)



Political Deputy Minister of Education Fan Sun-lu (center) and her delegation join educators at the 20th Joint Conference of Overseas Taiwan School Chairmen, Principals, Presidents, and Parents Associations held in Vietnam. (December 10, 2019)



Deputy Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Kao Chien-chih (standing, center) addresses the opening ceremony for the 20th Council of Taiwanese Chambers of Commerce in Vietnam, 3rd Board Meeting, 2nd General Meeting, and election of the President and Managing Supervisor of the 21st Council, before meeting with the local Taiwanese community. (September 18, 2019)



Director General of the Taiwan Tourism Bureau Chou Yung-hui (second left) leads a delegation to the 8th Taiwan-Vietnam Tourism Cooperation Conference in Vung Tau, Vietnam. (October 18, 2019)

Item 2 Taiwan’s relations with West Asian countries

I. Introduction

The West Asia region includes the Middle East, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Ukraine, Georgia, and Mongolia, with a total of 29 countries plus the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). It covers an area of more than 30 million square kilometers and has a population of more than 750 million. There are 16 countries in the Middle East—Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen—plus the PNA. The CIS nine member states are Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. Turkmenistan is an associate member.

Taiwan maintains substantive ties with 10 West Asian countries, namely, Bahrain, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Mongolia, Oman, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and United Arab Emirates, and Taiwan has a Representative Office or Office in all the above-mentioned countries. Israel, Jordan, Mongolia, Oman, Russia, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey also have Representative Offices in Taiwan.

II. Relations with individual countries

1. Relations with Bahrain

- (1) Background: The Republic of China (Taiwan) established the Trade Mission of the Republic of China in Manama, Bahrain on April 15, 1977. It was renamed the Trade Mission of Taiwan to the Kingdom of Bahrain on January 28, 2005, and later the Taipei Trade Office in the Kingdom of Bahrain in July 2017.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Bahrain was US\$269.99 million. Taiwan’s exports volume to Bahrain amounted to US\$38.38 million, and imports volume from Bahrain came to US\$231.6 million. Taiwan thus registered a trade deficit of US\$191.61 million with Bahrain. The main imports are copper scrap, petroleum, and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, and the principle exports are machinery and transportation products. Taiwan and Bahrain signed the Agreement of Agricultural Technical Cooperation in February

1987. Presently, Taiwan's technical advisors assist Bahrain in improving its agriculture and fishery techniques. In addition, Taiwan provides several opportunities for Bahrainis to study in Taiwan every year to enhance cooperation and exchanges in vocational training and research.

- (3) Bilateral cooperation: In April 2019, an 18-member delegation of the Small and Medium Enterprise Administration from the Ministry of Economic Affairs visited Bahrain to attend the Global Entrepreneurship Congress. In September, the 2019 Middle East Trade and Investment Arrangement Delegation comprising 30 manufacturers and 37 managers from Taiwan visited Bahrain and held a trade fair at the Convention Centre of the Gulf Hotel.

2. Relations with Israel

- (1) Background: Taiwan set up the Taipei Economic and Trade Office in Tel Aviv on March 29, 1993. Israel established the Israel Economic and Trade Office in Taipei in July of the same year. On September 11, 1995, the two countries agreed to rename their offices: the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Tel Aviv and the Israel Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Israel was US\$1.77 billion. Taiwan's exports volume to Israel was valued at US\$782.52 million and imports volume from Israel totaled US\$990.92 million. Taiwan's main exports to Israel were integrated circuits, plastic materials, and wired communications equipment. Taiwan's imports from Israel include optical measuring instruments, integrated circuits, and wafer fabrication equipment.
- (3) Cultural and educational exchanges: The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Tel Aviv held an exhibition and seminar on the history of Taiwan's democratic movement with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and presented a lecture on Taiwan with Tel Aviv University.
- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Legislators Chen Yi-ming and Tung Hui-chen, Taipei Mayor Ko Wen-je, Taiwan External Trade

Development Council (TAITRA) Chairman James Chih-fang Huang, and Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare Ho Chi-kung.

- B. Visits from Israel were made by: Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, and Social Services General Director Avigdor Kaplan; Meron Medzini, professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Chief Executive Officer of the Israel Innovation Authority Aharon Aharon; and Director General of the Israel Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development Shlomo Ben Eliyahu.

3. Relations with Jordan

- (1) Background: The Republic of China (Taiwan) established diplomatic relations with Jordan on August 12, 1957. On April 14, 1977, the diplomatic relations were severed. On May 15 of the same year, Taiwan set up the Far East Commercial Office in Amman. On April 16, 1992, it was renamed the Commercial Office of the Republic of China (Taiwan), and on April 7, 2018, it was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office. Jordan established the Jordanian Commercial Office on November 25, 1977.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Jordan was US\$368.05 million. Taiwan's exports volume to Jordan came to US\$302.06 million and imports volume from Jordan amounted to US\$65.98 million. Currently, six manufacturers from Taiwan have factories in Jordan, including three for garment processing and export, one for fabric repair, one for LED lighting products, and one for information education equipment importation.
- (3) Business activities: Companies from Taiwan took part in a national pavilion at Jordan's International Machinery and Electro-mechanical Exhibition 2019. Taiwan's Circular Economy Business Mission Delegation visited Jordan. The Tourism Bureau promoted tourism exchanges, and TAITRA conducted Pioneer Project to investigate the Jordanian market and prospects for business opportunities. Jordan's leading aquatic products companies and retailers participated in the 2019 Taipei International Food Show.

- (4) Cultural, educational, and sports exchanges and cooperation: Taiwan offered six Huayu Enrichment and Taiwan scholarships to applicants of Jordan, and the Jordanian government provided three scholarships to Taiwan's applicants for the Arabic language, Master's and PhD programs. Twenty-one Jordanian officials participated in training courses organized by the International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training and the International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF) in Taiwan. A teacher was sent by the TaiwanICDF to offer Mandarin Chinese language courses in traditional script. Taiwan's National Taekwondo Team went to Jordan to compete in the 10th Asian Junior Taekwondo Championships. The Taiwan Men's National Football Team traveled to Jordan to participate in the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar & 2023 AFC Asian Cup Qualification round, and the Youth Fencing Team took part in the 2019 Asian Junior and Cadet Fencing Championships in Jordan.
- (5) Humanitarian assistance: Taiwan has worked with relevant Jordanian authorities and charities to carry out projects assisting Syrian refugees and vulnerable groups in Jordan, including running care programs for youth in Syrian refugee camps, boosting student enrollment among underprivileged Jordanian children, providing educational aids for disadvantaged children in rural areas, and administering care programs for disabled people in Jordan. The TaiwanICDF, Taiwan Fund for Children and Families, Taiwan Root Medical Peace Corps, and Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation were also involved in poverty alleviation, education, free medical treatment, rural development, and infrastructure improvement projects in Jordan.

4. Relations with Kuwait

- (1) Background: The Republic of China (Taiwan) established diplomatic relations with Kuwait on November 21, 1963, but these were severed on March 28, 1971. On April 23, 1986, the Commercial Office of the Republic of China to the State of Kuwait was established, and on August 26, 1996, it was renamed the Taipei Commercial Representative Office

in the State of Kuwait. Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) has run a Taiwan Trade Center in Kuwait City since 2012. In addition, the Institute for Information Industry set up the Liaison Office in the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) in 2015. The Kuwait-Taiwan Friendship Group was jointly established by the Kuwaiti business community and the Representative Office on December 30, 2019, to promote bilateral cooperation in the areas of economy, trade, tourism, and culture. Senior Member of Parliament Saleh Ashour is the Honorary Chairman, and business leader Dr. Mustafa Behbehani is the President.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Kuwait was US\$4.46 billion. Taiwan's exports volume to Kuwait totaled US\$156.51 million, and imports volume from Kuwait was valued at US\$4.3 billion. As for economic and trade exchanges in 2019, a Taiwan Invention Association delegation visited Kuwait to participate in the 11th International Invention Fair of the Middle East; MOTC's Tourism Bureau held the Taiwan Tourism Roadshow in Kuwait for the first time; TAITRA organized the Taiwan Halal Trade Mission to exhibit and sell halal food in Kuwait; the Kuwait Tourist Industry Delegation visited Taiwan; and Fresh Fruits Company of Kuwait visited Taiwan to participate in the 2019 Taiwan International Food Show. In addition, ATE Energy International Company, a listed energy company in Taiwan, undertook the Kuwait Liquefied Natural Gas Import Cooling System Project in 2019, marking it the first time an engineering company from Taiwan has taken part in a large-scale construction project in Kuwait in recent years.
- (3) International participation: To promote Taiwan's participation in the World Health Assembly in 2019, the Representative Office cooperated with the Kuwait Central Blood Bank and Kuwaiti social media celebrity Abdul Kareem Al-Hendal to organize a blood drive and related activities with the theme Health for All, Taiwan Can Help, which were viewed and liked by more than 4 million Instagram users around the world.

- (4) Technical cooperation: Director Feng Wen-sheng of the Computational Intelligence Technology Center of the Industrial Technology Research Institute was invited by the Kuwait Supreme Council for Planning and Development (SCPD) to give a speech in Kuwait. The SCPD also commissioned the Institute for Information Industry in Taiwan to assist the Kuwaiti government in planning its ICT industry development blueprint, and to aid Kuwait in developing innovative industries. The Institute for Information Industry (III) took a group of science and technology experts to Kuwait in October of 2019 for the KISR-III Symposium on Space Technology, Internet of Things, and Cybersecurity, held jointly with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR). The group also held talks with the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences and the Arab Planning Institute to promote cooperation in financial security, the establishment of healthcare databases, and SME innovation.
- (5) Cultural and educational relations: Kuwait University provides scholarships every year to students of National Chengchi University and National Taiwan University for the study of Arabic. In 2019, a Kuwaiti student was for the first time awarded the Taiwan Scholarship by the Ministry of Education to study for a master's degree in business management at Ming Chuan University. Humoud Al-Qashan, Dean of the College of Social Science, Kuwait University, visited National Taiwan University in April with Sahar Al- Ali, Director of the Kuwait University Asian Studies Unit, and two graduate students. Representative to Kuwait Mou Hua-wei gave a lecture on Taiwan and its culture to more than 100 teachers and students at College of Social Science, Kuwait University, in early October 2019.
- (6) Sports exchanges: In 2019, Chen Shyh-kwei, Vice President of the Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee, and Kuo Chung-hsing, Honorary President of the Chinese Taipei Shooting Association, participated in the Asian Shooting Confederation Executive Committee meeting in Kuwait. President Kuo was elected Vice President of the Asian Shooting Confederation.

- (7) Media publicity: On May 4, 2019, the Times Kuwait, a mainstream English-language news weekly in Kuwait, published Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-Chung's article Taiwan's Advances in Digital Healthcare, which appealed to the Kuwaiti people to support Taiwan's participation in the WHA. The Times Kuwait also published Building an Inclusive United Nations with Taiwan on Board by Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu on September 14, with a photo of Minister Wu included. Kuwaiti social media celebrity Abdul Kareem Al-Hendal posted a promotional video for Taiwan's participation in the WHA and UN in 2019 on his Instagram account, attracting nearly 2.5 million viewers. The Representative Office held a press conference to promote the importation of custard apples from Taiwan to Kuwait.
- (8) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Prospect Foundation Chairman Mark Chen, Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee Vice President Chen Shyh-kwei, and Chinese Taipei Shooting Association Honorary President Kuo Chung-hsing.
 - B. Visits from Kuwait were made by: Bader Malallah, Director General of the Arab Planning Institute; Dr. Hasan Ali Kamal, Member of the Municipal Council of Kuwait and Chairman for the Capital Governorate Committee; business leader Dr. Mustafa Behbehani; Ahmad Al-Adwani, Manager of the General Department for Criminal Adjudication, Kuwait Ministry of the Interior; and Ali Al-Merri, Assistant Manager of the General Department of Sentences Enforcement, Kuwait Ministry of the Interior.

5. Relations with Mongolia

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Taipei Trade and Economic Representative Office in Ulaanbaatar on September 1, 2002, and Mongolia established the Ulaanbaatar Trade and Economic Representative Office in Taipei on February 17, 2003.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Mongolia was US\$29.46 million. Taiwan's exports volume to Mongolia amounted to US\$4.94 million and imports volume from Mongolia came to US\$24.52 million. The main export products were mechanical equipment, consumer electronic products and components, and precision inspection and medical equipment, while the main imported products were copper and copper products, and precious metals. The 18th Joint Meeting between the Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association and the Mongolian National Chambers of Commerce and Industry was held in Taiwan at the end of March 2019, together with the Smart City Summit & Expo for the first time. The Mongolian delegation numbered nearly 80 members, setting a record high and helping promote economic and trade relations between Taiwan and Mongolia. In September, a delegation representing nine Taiwan companies participated in the Ulaanbaatar Partnership-2019 International Trade Fair in Mongolia. The Representative Office in Ulaanbaatar promoted the relending facility of the Export-Import Bank of the Republic of China and used multiple channels to promote high-quality Taiwanese products and assisted with exchanges between Taiwan and Mongolia enterprises.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan and Mongolia have signed a memorandum on educational cooperation. The Taiwan government and public and private universities offer a number of scholarships yearly for Mongolian students to study for a degree or to study Mandarin Chinese in Taiwan. In 2019, more than 1,600 Mongolian students studying in Taiwan. The two sides had close educational exchanges in 2019. The main activities included: Ming Chuan University and Mongolia Otgontenger University co-organized the 9th Chinese Speech Contest and the 12th Taiwan-Mongolia International Forum on Teaching Chinese as a Second Foreign Language in mid-April. The two universities also co-hosted the 9th Taiwan Film Festival and participated in the 26th International Education Exhibition in Mongolia in mid-October. A working group delegation from 15 universities in Taiwan and the Steering Committee for the Test of

Proficiency-Huayu participated in the 11th Taiwan Education Exhibition in Ulaanbaatar in mid-May. On the cultural front, the National Central Library of Taiwan organized the Memories of the Mongol Empire and Marks of Chinese Civilization exhibition with the National Library of Mongolia in Ulaanbaatar in early September, and assisted the National University of Mongolia in establishing the Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies.

- (4) Humanitarian assistance: The Representative Office actively assisted NGOs in Taiwan in providing humanitarian assistance to Mongolia. In 2019, guide canes, water purification equipment, wheelchairs, medical vehicles and other equipment were donated to people in rural areas. The Representative Office also cooperated with the Mongolian National Gerontology Center in mid-April to provide elderly care services. In addition, the Mongolia Branch Office of the Taiwan Fund for Children and Families has been assisting underprivileged children in Mongolia for many years, providing daily living necessities, scholarships, and vocational training. To date, it has helped more than 21,300 Mongolian children, of which more than 8,000 have gotten out of poverty and become self-reliant.
- (5) Medical cooperation: Medical cooperation between Taiwan and Mongolia produced fruitful results in 2019. The Representative Office donated surgical lamps, surgical instruments, and first aid kits to medical institutions under the central government and local governments, and assisted in the construction of rudimentary medical stations in the rural provinces of Mongolia. The Representative Office also helped facilitate donations by the Taiwan government and private organizations of medical equipment such as beds, ultrasonic detectors, and clinical carts to Mongolia's National Cancer Center, the Ulaanbaatar Metropolitan Hospital, and other provincial hospitals. National Taiwan University Hospital and Tri-Service General Hospital dispatched physicians to major public hospitals in Mongolia to provide clinical guidance, and together with Taipei Hospital under the Ministry of Health and Welfare and Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, trained more than 50 Mongolian specialists and nursing staff.

The Taiwan Dental Association, Taiwan Anti-Tuberculosis Association, Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, Noordhoff Craniofacial Foundation, National Defense Medical Center Volunteer Group, Taiwan Root Medical Peace Corps, and other medical or volunteer groups visited Mongolia to provide free clinics or dental hygiene education, or hold professional meetings and exchanges.

- (6) Technological cooperation: Under the Memorandum of Understanding on Science and Technology Cooperation signed with the Foundation for Science and Technology, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sciences and Sports of Mongolia, Taiwan's Ministry of Science and Technology has so far sponsored more than 30 cooperative research projects. The China Productivity Center of Taiwan and the Mongolian Productivity Organization signed a memorandum in July 2019 to strengthen productivity cooperation in and promote smart agriculture and smart industry. The Representative Office also assisted the Environmental Protection Administration, Executive Yuan, in donating a mercury monitoring sampler to the Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism of Mongolia under the framework of the Asia Pacific Mercury Monitoring Network, part of the International Environmental Partnership between Taiwan and the United States.
- (7) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Fair Trade Commission Chairperson Huang Mei-ying; Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare Su Li-chiung; Director General of the National Central Library Tseng Shu-hsien; Hsu Kui-hsiang, Director of the Mongolian & Tibetan Cultural Center, Ministry of Culture; TAITRA Secretary General Yeh Ming-shui; and Foundation on Asia-Pacific Peace Studies Chairman Hsu Hsin-liang.
 - B. Visits from Mongolia were made by: Baasankhuu Oktyabri, Member of the State Great Khural of Mongolia; Lkhagva Byambasuren, Chairperson of the Mongolian Authority for Fair Competition and Consumer Protection; Erdenebat Gendendaram, Director of the Department of Culture and Art, Ministry of Education, Culture,

Sciences and Sports; and Sukhbaatar Tsedenjav, Secretary for Foreign Relations and Cooperation of the Democratic Party of Mongolia.

6. Relations with Oman

- (1) Background: The Republic of China (Taiwan) set up the Trade Mission of the Republic of China, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on January 11, 1977, which came into operation on March 31, 1977. The Trade Mission was renamed the Representative Office, Far East Trade Service, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on September 6, 1979, and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Muscat, Oman, on July 1, 1991. Oman established the Commercial Office of the Sultanate of Oman-Taiwan in Taipei on October 1, 1991.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Oman was US\$1.53 billion. Taiwan's exports volume to Oman totaled US\$132.51 million and imports volume from Oman was valued at US\$1.4 billion. Chung Chia-fu, general manager of the Overseas Investment & Development Corp., and three company representatives met with the National Bank of Oman and Said Al-Shahry & Partners on February 9 to consult on legal issues regarding foreign investment and financing in Oman. The Taiwan Healthcare Marketing Delegation to the Middle East, organized by TAITRA, visited Oman on November 4. The delegation participated in business meetings and visited the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Apollo Hospital, and Starcare Hospital and Medical Association to promote Taiwan's smart hospital system and cooperation between hospitals in Taiwan and Oman.
- (3) Sports exchanges: The 2019 International Table Tennis Federation Challenge Plus, Oman Open was held in Muscat on March 20. The Taiwanese team took first place in the men's singles, men's doubles and mixed doubles, and second place in the women's singles. The 2019 ITTF World Junior Circuit Premium was held in Oman on October 21, with the Taiwanese team winning nine golds, three silvers, and three bronzes. Taiwan's national field hockey team participated in the Junior AHF Cup 2019 in Oman on December 10.

7. Relations with Russia

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Taipei-Moscow Economic and Cultural Coordination Commission in Moscow on July 12, 1993. Russia set up the Representative Office in Taipei for the Moscow-Taipei Economic and Cultural Coordination Commission in Taipei on December 15, 1996.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Russia was US\$4.26 billion. Taiwan's exports volume to Russia came to US\$1.12 billion, while imports volume from Russia amounted to US\$3.14 billion. In 2019, 18 Taiwan industrial and commercial groups representing 174 manufacturers and comprising 397 people visited Russia to take part in exhibitions and expand their business in the country. More than 400 Russian companies visited Taiwan to purchase or seek investment and cooperation opportunities. In 2019, Taiwan organized its first ever promotion activities in Russia for high-quality agricultural and fishery products.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: The Ministry of Labor led a delegation to Kazan to compete in the 2019 World Skills Competition, taking fourth place. Works from the collection of the National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts were exhibited in four Russian cities. B. Dance, Legend Lin Dance Theatre, and Cloud Gate Dance Theater also toured in Russia. The Ministry of Education selected 14 teachers to teach Mandarin Chinese at eight key Russian universities and colleges and continued to promote a Chinese-Russian language exchange scholarship program.
- (4) Technological relations: The Ministry of Science and Technology has long co-funded 73 long-term bilateral research projects with the Russian Foundation for Basic Research, Russian Science Foundation, Siberian Division of the Russian Academy of Sciences and Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The Industry Liaison Office of National Taiwan University and Skolkovo Innovation Center signed a memorandum of cooperation. The 2019 Russian Science Foundation and Ministry of Science and Technology Bilateral Annual Meeting was held in

Taipei. For the first time, Taiwan held the Project to Link Global Scientific Research Networks — Taiwan-Russia Scientific Research Cooperation and Talent Recruitment Seminar to promote bilateral cooperation in scientific research.

- (5) Media publicity: Editors and journalists from Russia's *Nezavisimaya Gazeta*, *Kommersant*, and Lenta.ru visited Taiwan at the invitation of the government.
- (6) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Minister of Labor Hsu Ming-chun; TAITRA Chairman James Chih-fang Huang; Hsu Kui-hsiang, Director of the Mongolian & Tibetan Cultural Center, Ministry of Culture; Superintendent of the Tri-Service General Hospital Tsai Chien-sung; and Su Fong-chin, Executive Vice President of National Cheng Kung University and former Deputy Minister of Science and Technology.
 - B. Visits from Russia were made by: Deputy Governor of Tomsk Andrey Antonov; Russian Science Foundation Vice President Andrei Blinov; Senior Vice President for External Communications and Advertising of the Skolkovo Innovation Center Alexander Chernov; ITMO University Rector Vladimir Vasilyev; and President of the International Society for Trace Element Research in Humans Anatoly Skalny.

8. Relations with Saudi Arabia

- (1) Background: The Republic of China established diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia on November 15, 1946. On July 22, 1990, the diplomatic relations were severed. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Jeddah Office were established on February 13, 1991 and both offices began operation on the same day. Saudi Arabia set up the Saudi Arabian Trade Office in Taiwan on October 14, 1992. The Jeddah Office was merged into the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on July 28, 2017.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Saudi Arabia amounted to US\$8.64 billion. Taiwan's exports volume to Saudi Arabia totaled US\$914.73 million, and imports volume from Saudi Arabia reached US\$7.73 billion. Saudi Arabia is Taiwan's 13th-largest trading partner and largest supplier of crude oil. In 2019, Saudi Arabian companies came to Taiwan to participate in business events such as COMPUTEX, Taiwan Innotech Expo, the 22nd Taipei International Furniture Show, and the 2019 West Asia Business Day (Middle East, Central Asia, and Turkey).
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Saudi Arabia continued to send staff to participate in academic, cultural, and sports activities held in Taiwan. In addition, a Hajj delegation of the Chinese Muslim Association of Taiwan visited the Islamic holy city of Mecca for pilgrimage rites and engaged in cultural exchange events in August 2019.
- (4) Visits from Taiwan were made by: Legislators Wu Kuen-yuh, Yu Mei-nu, and Chen Man-li; and TAITRA Chairman James Chih-fang Huang.

9. Relations with Turkey

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Ankara, Turkey, on August 21, 1989, which was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Mission in Ankara on November 16, 1993. Turkey established the Turkish Trade Mission in Taipei on November 12, 1993, and changed its name to the Turkish Trade Office in Taipei in early 1994. In March 2019, Representative Yaser Tai-hsiang Cheng of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Mission in Ankara and Representative Murat Baklaci of the Turkish Trade Office in Taipei signed two Taiwan-Turkey MOUs, one on police cooperation and the other on audit cooperation.
- (2) Economic and Trade Relations:
 - A. In 2019, the bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Turkey was US\$1.36 billion. Taiwan's exports volume to Turkey came to US\$1.02 billion, and imports from Turkey reached US\$336.51 million. Exports were mainly precision machinery and instruments, while imports were primarily raw materials and processed products.

- B. Economic and trade activities: Zuhtu Bakir, Secretary General of the Turkish Machinery Federation, visited Taiwan in March to sign an MOU with the Taiwan Association of Machinery Industry and attend the 2019 Taipei International Machine Tool Show. The New Taipei City Industrial Association signed MOUs with the Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkey and the Istanbul Chamber of Commerce in June, and held a number of bilateral trade talks. The Importers and Exporters Association of Taipei signed an MOU with the Ankara Trade Chamber in September and held a number of trade talks. The Representative Office and the Istanbul Taiwan Trade Center organized a Turkey-Taiwan Business Day in November, featuring three professional forums on smart machinery, digital healthcare, and green energy, as well as one-on-one purchasing meetings. A total of 21 Taiwan companies went to Turkey to expand business opportunities during the event, approximately 300 people and 172 Turkish companies in attendance.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Each of the two governments offers scholarships to students from the other country. Taiwan offers Turkish students Huayu Enrichment and Taiwan Scholarships to study Mandarin Chinese or pursue advanced studies in Taiwan. The Turkish government provides scholarships to Taiwanese students for advanced studies in Turkey. Higher education institutions in Taiwan and Turkey have signed a number of academic cooperation MOUs and agreements on the exchange of professors and scholarships for exchange students. Twelve higher education institutions, including National Taiwan University, have signed cooperation agreements with 14 Turkish higher education institutions, including the University of Ankara. Hacettepe Technopolis and the Hsinchu Science Park signed an MOU on scientific and technological cooperation. In June, the Scientific & Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) invited a 10-member delegation from the National Applied Research Laboratories, Academia Sinica, Industrial Technology Research Institute, and National Chiao Tung University to attend the 1st Taiwan-Turkey Technology Industry Seminar in Turkey. That same

month, Academia Sinica and the National Applied Research Laboratories signed separate MOUs with TUBITAK on research and development cooperation between the two countries. Su Hui-chen, President of National Cheng Kung University, led a 13-member delegation to Turkey in July for working meetings with the Turkish Council of Higher Education and TUBITAK, and to discuss academic cooperation with six Turkish universities. In October 2019, Kaohsiung Veterans General Hospital signed an MOU with Hacettepe University.

- (4) Humanitarian assistance cooperation: In June 2019, the Representative Office and the Turkish Middle East Foundation jointly held the International Forum on Reconstructing Syria: Perspectives of Taiwan, Turkey and Syria, highlighting Taiwan's contributions to international humanitarian assistance. In September, the Representative Office, Turkish parliamentarians, and local politicians co-hosted the groundbreaking ceremony for the Syrian Refugee Vocational Training Center that would be built by Taiwan. In October, Taiwan donated 50 computers made in Taiwan to local elementary and secondary schools in Turkey. In November, the Representative Office, the Taiwan Alliance for Architectural Modernity, and architecture institutes in Germany and Portugal organized the Taiwan Prize — Architecture for People, attracting teams from 25 countries to participate in the competition.
- (5) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Legislators Wu Kuen-yuh, Yu Meinu, Chen Man-li, Chen Yi-ming, and Tung Hui-chen; Deputy Auditor General of the National Audit Office Wang Li-jen; and New Taipei City Deputy Mayor Chen Chwen-jing.
 - B. Visits from Turkey were made by: Members of Parliament Ali Özkaya, Serkan Bayram, Orhan Kircali, and Zeynep Yildiz; and Mayor of Reyhanli Mehmet Hacıoglu.

10. Relations with the United Arab Emirates

- (1) Background: The Republic of China (Taiwan) recognized the United Arab Emirates on December 2, 1971. The Honorary Consulate of the Republic

of China in Dubai, UAE, was established in May 1979. The Consulate was renamed the Honorary Consulate-General of the Republic of China in Dubai, UAE in July 1980, and Commercial Office of the Republic of China in Dubai, United Arab Emirates in May 1988, and most recently the Commercial Office of Taipei, Dubai, UAE in May 2017.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and the UAE was US\$6.1 billion. Taiwan's exports volume to the UAE amounted to US\$1.51 billion, while imports volume from the UAE totaled US\$4.59 billion. Dubai is an important hub for conventions and exhibitions in the Persian Gulf Region, attracting over one thousand Taiwanese companies to participate in events every year.
- (3) Academic exchanges: In 2019, four students from Taiwan were studying at the United Arab Emirates University, New York University Abu Dhabi, and the Emirates Academy of Hospitality Management.
- (4) Cultural and public diplomacy: Sharjah Heritage Days 2019 was held at Sharjah Heart from April 13 to 20, 2019, with the Mei-Chiang Folk Dance Troupe from Taiwan performing by invitation.

West Asia
diplomatic events in
photographs



Members of the MOEA's Small and Medium Enterprise Administration delegation attend the Global Entrepreneurship Congress in Bahrain. (April 14, 2019)



Members of TAITRA's 2019 Taiwan Investment and Trade Mission to the Kingdom of Bahrain pose at the mission's trade fair in the International Conference Center of the Gulf Hotel in Bahrain. (September 18, 2019)



Representative to Israel Chang Kuo-boug (center) visits the Jerusalem Chamber of Commerce to introduce business opportunities in Taiwan, and is welcomed by Member of the Knesset Osna Hila Mark (left) and President of the Chamber of Commerce Dror Atari (right). (June 17, 2019)



Representative to Israel Chang Kuo-boug (third left), member of the Knesset Hava Atia (fourth left), and former Israeli representatives to Taiwan Simona Halperin (second right), and Asher Yarden (first left) celebrate ROC National Day together. (October 7, 2019)



Representative to Jordan Ismail Mae (second left) inspects the site of the TaiwanICDF's Improvement of Solid Waste Management for Host Communities and Syrian Refugees in Azraq Town Project. (March 18, 2019)



Representative to Jordan Ismail Mae (center) attends the launch ceremony for the TaiwanICDF's Rainwater Catchment Systems for Schools and Community Centers in Jordan Project. (April 22, 2019)



Prospect Foundation Chairman Mark Chen (second left) visits Kuwait and meets with experts and scholars from the Arab Planning Institute. (November 12, 2019)



Representative to Kuwait Mou Hua-wei (third right) has a photo taken with Sheikh Duajj Al-Sabah (fourth right) and Kuwait-Taiwan Friendship Group President Mustafa Behbehani (fourth left) in celebration of the group's founding. (December 30, 2019)



Representative to Mongolia Huang Kuo-jung (right) presides over a ceremony marking the donation of wheelchairs to the General Office for the Development of the Disabled in Mongolia. (February 12, 2019)



Director General of the National Central Library Tseng Shu-hsien (center) and Counselor Yan Chu-lian (second right) host the opening ceremony of the Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies at the National University of Mongolia. (September 10, 2019)



Legislators Wu Kuen-yuh (third left), Chen Man-li (third right), and Yu Mei-nu (second right) visit Oman. (September 10, 2019)



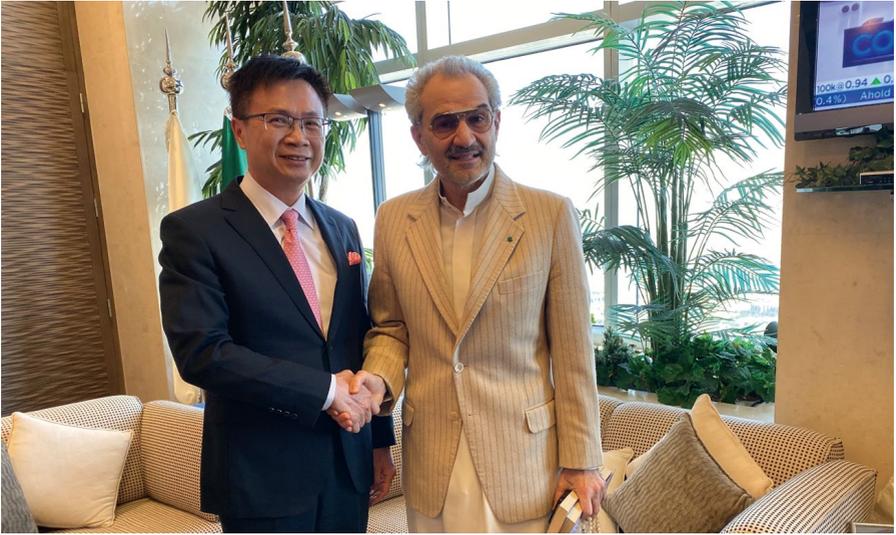
TAITRA's Taiwan Healthcare Marketing Delegation to the Middle East and other participants mark the opening of the Taiwan Healthcare Industry Seminar in Oman, organized by the delegation. (November 7, 2019)



Representative to Russia Keng Chung-yung (right) addresses at the reception celebrating the 108th National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan). (October 9, 2019)



Representative to Russia Keng Chung-yung (center) welcomes participants to the opening ceremony of the Taiwan Agricultural and Fishery Products Promotion Event. (August 22, 2019)



TAITRA Chairman James Chih-fang Huang (left) visits Prince Al Waleed Bin Talal Al Saud of Saudi Arabia at the headquarters of the Kingdom Holding Company. (December 4, 2019)



Representative to Turkey Yaser Tai-hsiang Cheng (10th left), Turkish parliamentarians, and local politicians co-host the groundbreaking ceremony of the Syrian Refugee Vocational Training Center to be built by Taiwan. (September 19, 2019)



Representative to Turkey Yaser Tai-hsiang Cheng (third right) has a photo taken with TAITRA Secretary General Yeh Ming-shui (third left) and Member of the Turkish Parliament Mustafa Elitas (fourth left) at Turkey-Taiwan Business Day. (November 11, 2019)



Jerry S. K. Yang (third right), Director General of the Commercial Office of Taipei, Dubai, UAE, visits the i-Auto team from Taiwan participating in the Dubai World Self-Driving Transport Challenge at the Dubai World Trade Center. (October 15, 2019)

Item 3 Taiwan's relations with African countries

I. Introduction

There are 54 countries in Africa. Taiwan has official diplomatic relations with the Kingdom of Eswatini. Taiwan and Eswatini have an embassy in the other's country, and Eswatini has appointed an honorary consul in Taipei.

As for African countries with which Taiwan currently has no formal diplomatic relations, Taiwan has representative offices in South Africa and Nigeria. In addition to the representative office in South Africa's capital Pretoria, Taiwan also has an office in Cape Town. Moreover, the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) has established Taiwan Trade Centers in Algeria, Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, and South Africa to promote economic and trade relations with African countries. South Africa and Nigeria have offices in Taiwan to handle substantive relations with Taiwan.

II. Relations with individual countries

1. Relations with the Kingdom of Eswatini

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with the Kingdom of Swaziland on September 6, 1968, the same day Swaziland became independent, and established its embassy in Mbabane, the capital, on November 21 of the same year. The Embassy of the Kingdom of Swaziland in the Republic of China (Taiwan) officially opened in Taipei on January 26, 2000. The Kingdom of Swaziland changed its name to the Kingdom of Eswatini on April 19, 2018.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Eswatini was US\$10.67 million. Taiwan's exports volume to Eswatini amounted to US\$9.83 million and imports volume from Eswatini came to US\$840,000. Eswatini Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Manqoba Khumalo signed the Functions and Rules of Procedure for the Joint Committee with Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin on May 22, 2019, to provide the basis for consultations and regular meetings for the implementation of the economic cooperation agreement

between the two countries. Minister Shen led a delegation to Eswatini on September 5 to co-chair the 22nd Taiwan Economic and Technological Cooperation Conference with Eswatini. In order to strengthen the implementation of the agreement, the Bureau of Foreign Trade under the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) and Eswatini's Investment & Trade Promotion Authority signed the first MOU between the two authorities on November 5.

- (3) Cultural and educational exchanges: In 2019, a total of 16 Eswatini youth were awarded the Taiwan Scholarship by MOFA, and another 15 were awarded the International Higher Education Scholarship by the TaiwanICDF. Currently, more than 370 Eswatini students are studying in Taiwan. In addition, the TaiwanICDF organizes a range of short-term seminars every year for Eswatini officials and people from many fields.
- (4) Youth exchanges: The Taipei Medical University Dental Volunteer Service and TMU FLYoung International Service went to Eswatini with the Taiwan Medical Team to provide free clinics for people in rural areas. In addition, the Catholic Diocese of Taichung and Providence University also provided pro bono healthcare services in Eswatini.
- (5) Overseas community: There are about 500 ethnic Chinese residing in Eswatini, of which more than 50 are from Taiwan. The Chinese Association in Eswatini and the Eswatini Chinese Golf Association are the main overseas community groups.
- (6) Technical cooperation: Under the Agreement of Agricultural Technical Cooperation between the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Kingdom of Eswatini, Taiwan technical missions stationed in Eswatini are carrying out the Fruit Tree Production and Marketing Project, Seed Potato Production Project, Technical and Vocational Education and Training Enhancement Project, Eswatini Electronic Document and Records Management System Development Project, Maternal and Infant Health Care Improvement Project (Phase II) and Pig Industry Enhancement Project. Taiwan also dispatches technical experts to Eswatini and selects Eswatini officials to receive training in Taiwan. Other key technical cooperation projects in 2019 included

technical cooperation projects in 2019 included the Reconstruction Plan for the Outpatient Department and Emergency Complex at Mbabane Government Hospital; Rural Electricity Project; Collaboration between the Institute for Information Industry, Industrial Technology Research, and Eswatini's Advanced School of Information Technology; Early Diagnosis and Treatment Program for Cancer Patients; Youth Entrepreneurship Enhancement Project; Certification, Accreditation, Standardization and Measurement Project; and Competition Commission Enhancement Program.

(7) Mutual visits by dignitaries

A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joesph Wu, and Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin.

B. Visits from Eswatini were made by: Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini; Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Thulisile Dladla; Minister of Economic Planning and Development Thambo Gina; Minister of Health Lizzie Nkosi; Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Manqoba Khumalo; Minister of Information and Communication Technology HRH Princess Sikhanyiso Dlamini; Minister of Public Works and Transport Chief Ndlaluhlaza Ndwandwe; Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg; and Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Peter Bhembe.

2. Relations with Nigeria

- (1) Background: The Trade Mission of the Republic of China (Taiwan), Lagos, Federal Republic of Nigeria was established on February 21, 1991, and officially opened on May 18 of the same year. On September 1, 2001, it was moved to Abuja, which had replaced Lagos as the capital on December 12, 1991. On December 7, 2017, it was moved back to Lagos, then became the largest commercial city of Nigeria, and renamed the Taipei Trade Office in the Federal Republic of Nigeria. In November 1992, the Nigeria Trade Office in Taiwan (ROC) was established in Taipei City and moved to Banqiao District, New Taipei City, in March 2018.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Nigeria was US\$356.83 million. Taiwan's exports volume to Nigeria amounted to US\$236.52 million, and imports volume from Nigeria totaled US\$120.31 million. In June 2019, TAITRA organized 2019 Taiwan Trade Mission to Africa (II) West Africa, visiting Nigeria and Ghana for trade talks. In September, the Taiwan-Africa Business Association organized a delegation to attend Propak West Africa 2019. In November, TAITRA led a delegation to participate in the Lagos International Trade Fair 2019. From November 19 to 25, Taiwan-Africa Business Association (TABA) visited Cross River State and met with the Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture.
- (3) Medical exchanges: The Medical Device Innovation Center of National Cheng Kung University and Bayero University in Kano State, Nigeria, signed a cooperation MOU on November 8, 2019..
- (4) Cultural and educational exchanges: In 2019, more than 10 officials from relevant ministries in Nigeria attended seminars in Taiwan on economy and trade, science and technology, agriculture, and healthcare organized by the TaiwanICDF, and workshops on land use and development organized by the International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training. Taiwan also offers Taiwan Scholarship and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship for Nigerian students and Taiwan Fellowships for Nigerian scholars to conduct research in Taiwan.
- (5) Visits of Nigerian dignitaries: Governor of Cross River State Ben Ayade led a delegation to visit Taiwan in May 2019.
- (6) Overseas community: There are about 100 Taiwan nationals living in Nigeria, most of them live in Lagos, the largest city and an important commercial hub. They are engaged in trade or investing in Nigeria to set up manufacturing facilities. There are approximately 30 Taiwan firms in Nigeria, with investments of nearly US\$200 million. The Taiwanese Chambers of Commerce in Nigeria (TCCN) was established in Lagos on October 9, 2016. In December 2019, Ms. Chen Shu-fang was elected as the 3rd President of the TCCN. In May 2019, the representative office visited

the Missionaries of Charity orphanage with the President of TCCN and Taiwanese citizens in Nigeria to perform charitable activities and held a Walk with Taiwan march calling for support of Taiwan's participation in the World Health Assembly.

3. Relations with South Africa

- (1) **Background:** Taiwan has a long-standing relationship with South Africa. The two countries established diplomatic relations at an ambassadorial level on April 26, 1976. Relations were severed on December 31, 1997. On January 1, 1998, the Taipei Liaison Office in the Republic of South Africa was established, while in Taipei South Africa opened the Liaison Office of South Africa. Taiwan also has a Taipei Liaison Office in Cape Town.
- (2) **Economic and trade relations:** In 2019, the bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and South Africa was US\$1.15 billion. Taiwan's exports volume to South Africa amounted to US\$580.24 million, and imports volume from South Africa came to US\$566.14 million. South Africa, accounting for 0.18 percent of Taiwan's total trade volume, was Taiwan's 41st-largest trading partner. About 450 Taiwan companies have invested in South Africa, with an investment of about US\$2 billion.
- (3) **Bilateral meetings:** In 2019, the South Africa-Taiwan Agri-Biotech Workshop was held in South Africa.
- (4) **Culture, educational and media exchanges:** In May 2019, the Taipei Liaison Office in South Africa and the Taipei Liaison Office in Cape Town jointly organized the Festival of Taiwan Culture and Walk with Taiwan activities in Pretoria and Cape Town, respectively, to foster greater understanding of Taiwan's diverse culture and call for support for Taiwan's participation in the World Health Assembly. The Overseas Community Affairs Council hosted the 2019 Taiwan Food Tour in August, inviting two lecturers to South Africa for 11 days to promote Taiwanese food. In 2019, the National Day Cultural Delegation toured Cape Town, Ladybrand, Newcastle, and Johannesburg from September 6 to 13 to promote cultural exchanges between the two countries. The Taipei Liaison Office awarded

eight Taiwan Scholarships and seven Huayu Enrichment Scholarships to students from South Africa and other countries in its jurisdiction to facilitate bilateral cultural, educational, technical, and vocational exchanges. In addition, Timothy Paul Mostert, a freelance writer for South Africa's City Press, came to Taiwan in February to join the Tourism and Cultural Press Corps. Trevor Stevens, the editorial director of The Citizen, visited Taiwan in October to join the National Day Press Corps.

- (5) Overseas community: There are about 8,000 Taiwanese compatriots living in South Africa, and a long-standing ethnic Chinese community of around 2,000.
- (6) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: National Policy Advisor to the President Chang Fu-mei; Convener of the Legislative Yuan Foreign and National Defense Committee Wang Ting-yu; Legislators Tsai Shih-ying, Chiu Chih-wei, and Wu Kuen-yuh; Deputy Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Leu Yuan-rong; TAITRA Vice Chairman Chuang Suo-hang; and Deputy Director General of the Bureau of Foreign Trade Liu Wei-lian.
 - B. Visits from South Africa were made by: Major General Dumisani Patrick Mbotho, Head of the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation in Free State; Colonel Pravesh Khelawanlall and Colonel Nndoweni Mulaudzi of the South African Police Service; Brenthurst Foundation Director Greg Mills; Acting Chief of Police of Johannesburg Khanyile Maxwell Thulane; International Association of Women Police Vice Chairperson Audrey Leah Mofomme; Michael Sun, City Councillor and Member of the Mayoral Committee for Public Safety, Johannesburg, and Brigadier Angelica Matlabe, Head of the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation in Limpopo; Interim Leader of the Democratic Alliance John Steenhuisen, eight members of the National Assembly of South Africa, and party officials; President of the Inkatha Freedom Party Velenkosini Hlabisa and five other high-ranking party officials.

Africa

diplomatic events in photographs



Presidential envoy Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (fourth right) and members of the delegation attend celebrations for the 51st birthday of HM King Mswati III (fourth left) of Eswatini and the 51st anniversary of the country's independence. (April 26, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Prime Minister of Eswatini Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini and Mrs. Dlamini, leading a delegation to Taiwan in celebration of 108th National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan). (October 8, 2019)



Representative to South Africa Matthew Wei-chung Chou (middle, with sunglasses) and other participants show the folding umbrellas donated by Taiwan, along with copy paper, to elementary schools in Mpumalanga Province, in a ceremony presided over by ruling party parliamentarian Grace Kekulu Tseke. (October 3, 2019)



Representative to South Africa Matthew Wei-chung Chou (center) and Mrs. Chou (third right) have a photo taken with South African parliamentarians (first right, second right) and other distinguished guests to celebrate the ROC's National Day. (October 7, 2019)



Lin Yin-tso, Director General of the Taipei Liaison Office in Cape Town (third left) celebrates at the National Day reception with Member of Parliament Fanie Du Toit of Freedom Front Plus (first left), Inkatha Freedom Party Deputy President Elphas Buthelezi (second left), Western Cape Minister of Agriculture Ivan Meyer (first right), and Interim Leader John Steenhuisen of the Democratic Alliance (second right).

Item 4 Taiwan's relations with European countries

I. Introduction

Taiwan has 27 embassy, mission and offices in the 42 countries of Europe. The Holy See has an embassy in Taiwan, and the 17 countries of the European Union, including Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom (former EU member) also have their representative offices in Taiwan.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has long promoted close cooperation with the EU and European governments, parliaments, nongovernmental organizations, and think tanks, and working to broaden and strengthen functional collaboration between Taiwan and European countries. Consequently, substantive relations with the main European countries are excellent, with multiple areas of exchange and collaboration in economics and trade, academia, culture, science and technology, education, tourism, and shipping. Moreover, since Taiwanese obtained visa-waiver treatment for travel in the Schengen Area in 2011, the country's diverse relations with European countries have broadened and deepened.

II. Relations with individual countries and the European Union

1. Relations with the Holy See

- (1) Background: On October 23, 1942, *L'Osservatore Romano* announced the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Holy See and the Republic of China. On July 4, 1943, Taiwan established a legation at the Holy See, which was upgraded to an embassy on June 12, 1959. The Vatican opened a legation in ROC on July 4, 1946, promoting it to an embassy on December 24, 1966. In 2019, Vice President Chen Chien-jen and Mrs. Chen led a delegation to the Holy See, where on October 11 they attended the canonization of five Catholic forefathers including Cardinal John Henry Newman, while also extending their best wishes to Pope Francis.

- (2) Promotion of humanitarian aid: To strengthen the ties of the friendship between Taiwan and the Vatican, and in response to calls from Pope Francis, in 2019, Taiwan's embassy in the Holy See joined the Vatican in encouraging collaboration between the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development and similar institutions to provide international humanitarian assistance. Examples include Taiwan's donation of domestically made small solar-powered radios with siren and lighting functions to Bulgaria, India, Italy, Jordan, and Uganda. In addition, the Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation donated book bags made from recycled materials, shuttle buses, rice, and ultrasound instruments.
- (3) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Vice President Chen Chien-jen and Mrs. Chen; Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Kelly Wu-chiao Hsieh; Ambassador Victor Chin of the Institute of Diplomacy and International Affairs; and Michael Tsai of the Taiwan United Nations Alliance (former Minister of National Defense).
 - B. Visits from the Holy See were made by: Under-Secretary of the Migrants & Refugees Section Father Fabio Baggio; Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples Cardinal Fernando Filoni and Archbishop Giampietro Dal Toso, Assistant Secretary of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples and President of the Pontifical Mission Societies; International Director of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network Father Frederic Fornos; former senior official in the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development Archbishop Silvano Tomasi; General-Secretary of the International Christian Maritime Association Jason Zuidema; President of Caritas Internationalis Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, and Secretary-General of Caritas Internationalis Aloysius John.

2. Relations with the European Union

- (1) Background: On March 10, 2003, the European Commission established the European Economic and Trade Office in Taipei, and on June 20, 2005, Taiwan reorganized the Taipei Representative Office in Belgium, renaming it the Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium, with responsibility for all business relating to the EU, Belgium, and Luxembourg. Taiwan's relations with the EU continued to broaden and deepen. Under the framework of Taiwan- EU Annual Consultations, Taiwan and the EU held the 31st Annual Consultation and 5th Taiwan-EU Industry Policy Dialogue in 2019, while also holding the first dialogue on the digital economy and the 2nd Human Rights Consultations and Labor Consultations. On October 16, 2019, core members of Taiwan Friendship Groups in the European Parliament, Germany, the United Kingdom, and France jointly presided over a meeting to establish the multinational Formosa Club at the European Parliament. Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Kelly Wu-chiao Hsieh attended the gathering and expressed appreciation on behalf of Taiwan's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jaushieh Joseph Wu. Almost 100 people attended the ceremony, including First Vice-President of the European Parliament Mairead McGuinness, former President of the European Parliament Antonio Tajani, and 26 other MEPs from different party caucuses. In addition, the EU annual reports on the implementation of the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Common Security and Defense Policy, published in December 2019, contained wording favorable to Taiwan, expressing concerns on the security situations in the East China Sea, South China Sea, and Taiwan Strait. The reports also reiterated EU support for meaningful participation by Taiwan in international organizations and made particular mention of the threat to Asian democracy posed by foreign authoritarian regimes using fake news and cyberattacks to interfere in the elections of other countries.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, bilateral trade totaled US\$58.72 billion, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$27.65 billion and importing goods valued at US\$31.08 billion. In 2019, EU member countries invested US\$3.84 billion in Taiwan, while Taiwan invested US\$762.96 million in the EU. On February 19, the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade held its first public hearing on EU-Taiwan trade relations, where calls were made to start an impact assessment and official talks on an EU-Taiwan bilateral investment agreement as soon as possible to expand bilateral investment and deepen economic and trade relations.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: In August, an official 36-member EU delegation attended a week-long Taiwan studies seminar held by National Chengchi University and a two-week Mandarin training program at Fu Jen Catholic University. A total of 10 recipients of the EU Scholarship through the Ministry of Education took part in master's degree programs on geographic information science, adult education, law and economics, and public policy in France, Germany, and Denmark.
- (4) Technological cooperation: A delegation led by the Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee visited the EU, Sweden, the Netherlands, and Belgium. Minister of the National Development Council Chen Meiling visited Brussels and co-chaired the 1st Taiwan-EU Dialogue on Digital Economy with the Directorate General of Communications, Networks, Content, and Technology at the European Commission. The Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) also became a member of the European Active and Assisted Living Programme. Taiwan also took part in 41 projects under the multinational framework research and innovation program funded by Horizon 2020.
- (5) Fishing industry cooperation: Due to the comprehensive achievements of Taiwan's action against illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, on June 27, the EU lifted the yellow card it had previously issued to Taiwan.
- (6) Environmental cooperation: On December 9, Chang Tzi-chin, Minister of Environmental Protection Administration under the Executive Yuan, and

Director-General Timo Pesonen at the European Commission's Directorate General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs co-chaired over the EU-Taiwan Circular Economy Seminar.

- (7) Human rights cooperation: On May 14, Taiwan and the EU held their second annual Human Rights Consultations in Brussels. After the meeting, both parties issued a joint press release lauding the fundamental values of human rights and rule of law shared by Taiwan and the EU and affirming Taiwan's diverse democracy.
- (8) Labor cooperation: On May 5, the 2nd Taiwan-EU Labor Consultation was held in Taipei. The European delegation was headed by the Deputy Director General of European Commissions Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion Andriana Sukova. From May 6 to 7, the Taiwan-EU Workshop on Working and Living Conditions for Fishers was held in Kaohsiung, with Sukova's delegation in attendance.
- (9) Public diplomacy: From February 4 to 8, the Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium and Member of the European Parliament Agustin Diaz de Mera jointly organized the Taiwan Temple Festival Exhibition at the European Parliament. Hundreds of people, including 30 MEPs and others, attended the opening ceremony and visited the exhibition. On April 2, the Representative Office was invited by MEP Jose Inacio Faria to team up with the North Norway European Office to organize the Sea+You=Tomorrow: Oceans of Inspiration event in the European Parliament. It showcased gastronomic specialties from the Minho region of Portugal, as well as North Norway and Taiwan, while promoting Taiwan's circular economy and environmentally sustainable development. More than 100 EU officials, MEPs, guests, journalists, and art and cultural figures attended. The Representative Office also held seminars on Why Taiwan Matters, Sharp Power: China's Growing Influence in Europe, the US, and Asia, and Taiwan's Achievements in AI, as well as the 2019 Emerging Leaders Conference.
- (10) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: President of the Control Yuan

Chang Po-ya; Members of the Control Yuan Dr. Peter Wushou Chang, Chiang Chi-wen, Lin Sheng-feng, and Chen Hsiao-hung; Ministers without Portfolio Luo Ping-cheng and Kung Ming-hsin; Legislators Tsai Shih-ying, Yu Mei-nu, Chen Man-li, and Wu Kuen-yuh; Secretary-General of the Legislative Yuan Lin Chih-chia; Minister of National Development Council Chen Mei-ling; Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin; Minister of Environmental Protection Administration Chang Tzi-chin; Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee; Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Kelly Wu-chiao Hsieh; Deputy Minister of Education Liu Meng-chi; Deputy Minister of Mainland Affairs Council Chiu Chui-cheng; and Vice Minister of Labor Lin San-quei.

- B. Visits from the European Union were made by: Deputy Director General of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Trade Helena König; Deputy Director-General of the European Commission's Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion Andriana Sukova; Director of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation and Director for International Cooperation Maria-Christina Russo; Chairman of the European Parliament – Taiwan Friendship Group Werner Langen and Honorary Chair Georg Jarzembowski; Members of the European Parliament Bas Belder, Eduard Kukan, and Cristian Dan Preda; President of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for the Europe Party and Member of the European Parliament Hans van Baalen; Member of the European Parliament Csaba Sogor; European Parliament-Taiwan Friendship Group Chair Michael Gahler; Members of the European Parliament Ralf Seekatz, Brando Benifei, Bert-Jan Ruissen, Engin Eroglu, and Emmanouil Fragkos.

3. Relations with Austria

- (1) Background: Taiwan severed diplomatic relations with Austria on May 28, 1971, and currently is represented there by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, which is also responsible for Taiwan's dealings with the International Atomic Energy Agency; Austria has established the Austrian Office Taipei and Austrian Commercial Office in Taiwan.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: The bilateral trade totaled US\$1.19 billion, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$404.59 million and importing goods valued at US\$789.57 million.
- (3) Bilateral agreements: On May 27, Taiwan's Representative to Austria Vanessa Y. P. Shih and Austrian Office Taipei Director Roland Rudorfer signed an MOU on industrial cluster cooperation between Taiwan and Austria.
- (4) Cultural and educational relations: In January, the Ministry of Education and the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research of Austria signed the Taiwan and Austria Higher Education Science and Research Seed Funding MOU. In May, the Association of Private Universities and Colleges of Technology in Taiwan, Association of National Universities of Science and Technology of Taiwan, and the Association of Universities of Applied Sciences, Austria signed an agreement to continue an MOU on mutual recognition of academic qualifications and expanding exchanges between vocational and technical colleges. In September, the University of Vienna introduced a Taiwan Research Program which is partly sponsored by Taiwan's Ministry of Education, including the opportunity for a Taiwan national to teach Mandarin in the East Asian Studies/Sinology program.
- (5) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Vice Minister of Science and Technology Tsou Yu-han; and Minister without Portfolio Luo Ping-cheng.
 - B. Visits from Austria were made by: Member of the Austrian Ombudsman Board and Secretary General of the International Ombudsman Institute Werner Amon.

4. Relations with Belgium

- (1) Background: After Taiwan severed diplomatic relations with Belgium on October 25, 1971, it established the Centre Culturel Sun Yat-sen in Brussels. On January 23, 1990, this was renamed the Office Economique et Culturel de Taipei and became the Taipei Representative Office on November 1, 1995. It was renamed the Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium in June 2005, and was responsible for all matters relating to the European Union, Belgium, and Luxembourg. In August 1979, Belgium established the Belgium Trade Association Taipei, which in June 2004 was renamed the Belgium Office Taipei.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$2.05 billion, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$1.41 billion and importing goods worth US\$640.72 million. On October 15, the Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association, Taiwan BIO Industry Organization, and the Belgium-Wallonia Export-Investment Agency jointly held the Taiwan-Belgium Biotechnology Industry Seminar in Taipei.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: On September 17, Deputy Minister of Education Lio Mon-chi held a meeting on education policy with Secretary-General of the Flemish Department of Education and Training Ann Verhaegen and the General Director of the Flemish Department of Education and Training Koen Pelleriaux. On December 25, the Ministry of Education and Wallonia Brussels International signed an agreement regarding the exchange of language teaching assistants between Taiwan and the Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles.
- (4) Technological cooperation: On August 28, the Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee signed separate updated cooperation MOUs with the scientific research funds of the Flemish and Walloon governments in Belgium. The IBM Q Hub at National Taiwan University and MOST's Silicon Photonics and Integrated Circuits Research Program also undertook exchanges with Belgium's Interuniversity Microelectronics Centre.

- (5) Medical cooperation: On January 29, Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare Ho Chi-kung signed an MOU on health care with Secretary-General of the Department of Welfare, Public Health and Family of the Flemish Community Karine Moykens and General Administrator, Flanders Agency for Care and Health Dirk Dewolf.
- (6) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: President of the Control Yuan Chang Po-ya; Chief of the Criminal Department at the Judicial Yuan Su Su-o; Minister of the Directorate-General of Personnel Administration Jay N. Shih; Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee; Deputy Interior Minister Chiu Chang-yueh; Deputy Minister of Transportation and Communications Chi Wen-jong; Vice Minister of Health and Welfare Hsueh Jui-yuan; Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare Ho Chi-kung; Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection Administration Shen Chih-hsiu; Deputy Minister of Education Lio Mon-chi; Deputy Minister of National Development Council Kao Shien-quey; and Vice Chairman of the Financial Supervisory Commission Huang Tien-mu.
 - B. Visits from Belgium were made by: President of the Senate of Belgium Jacques Brotchi; Co-chair of the Belgium-Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group Wouter Raskin; Members of the Belgium Chamber of Representatives Kristien Van Vaerenbergh, Egbert Lachaert, Michel De Maegd, and Samuel Cogolati; member of the Walloon Parliament and Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee Charles Gardier; and Secretary-General of the Department of Welfare, Public Health and Family of the Flemish Community Karine Moykens.

5. Relations with the Czech Republic

- (1) Background: On August 7, 1991, Taiwan established the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Prague. On November 18, 1993, the Czech Republic established the Czech Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei. In recent years, bilateral relations between Taiwan and the Czech Republic,

including economic, trade, cultural, academic, scientific, technological, and tourism exchanges, have been frequent, substantive, and stable.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$819.06 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$454.42 million and importing goods valued at US\$364.64 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: In 2019, the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports provided Taiwan with 10 scholarships for study or research visits and 15 scholarships for the Summer School of Slavonic Studies; Taiwan's Ministry of Education provided the Czech Republic with nine Taiwan Scholarships and nine Huayu Enrichment Scholarships. About 249 Taiwan nationals are international or exchange students in the Czech Republic, while Czech has 166 international or exchange students in Taiwan.
- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. A visit from Taiwan was made by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien.
 - B. Visits from the Czech Republic were made by: Mayor of Prague Zdeněk Hřib; Governor of the Vysočina Region of the Czech Republic Jiří Běhounek; President of the Czech Science Foundation Alice Valkárová; Chair of the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic Petr Konvalinka; and CEO of the Investment and Business Development Agency CzechInvest Patrik Reichl.

6. Relations with Denmark

- (1) Background: In 1980, Taiwan established the Free China Information Office and Far East Trade Office in Denmark. On August 7, 1991, these were merged to become the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Denmark, which on February 15, 1995, was renamed the Taipei Representative Office in Denmark. On October 28, 1983, Denmark established the Trade Council of Denmark in Taipei.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$645.96 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$347.9 million

and importing goods worth US\$298.06 million.

- (3) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Deputy Minister of Education Fan Sun-lu; Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Wu Hsin-hsing; and Mayor of Hsinchu City Lin Chih-chien.
 - B. Visits from Denmark were made by: Deputy Speaker of the Danish Parliament Pia Kjærsgaard; and Chairman of Denmark's Export Credit Agency Christian Frigast.

7. Relations with Finland

- (1) Background: On April 19, 1990, Taiwan established the Taipei Trade and Cultural Office, which on December 1, 1992, was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office and on December 1, 2004, renamed the Taipei Representative Office in Finland. On February 1, 1991, Finland established the Office of Finnish Industry and Transport, renamed the Finland Trade Center on July 1, 1995, becoming Finpro Taiwan, Finland's Trade and Innovation Office in October 2014 and the Finland Trade Center on January 1, 2019.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$625.66 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$261.65 million and importing goods valued at US\$364.01 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: In 2019, nearly 100 Taiwanese students went to Finland to pursue postgraduate or university degrees or as exchange students to study.
- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Legislators Wu Kuen-yuh, Yu Meinu, and Chen Man-li; Deputy Minister of Education Fan Sun-lu; and Mayor of New Taipei City Hou Yu-ih.
 - B. Visits from Finland were made by: Members of the Finnish Parliament Inka Hopsu (Green League), and Kimmo Kiljunen (Social Democratic Party) and Mrs. Kiljunen.

8. Relations with France

- (1) Background: On August 12, 1972, Taiwan established the Association pour la Promotion des Echanges Commerciaux et Touristiques avec Taïwan in Paris, and on May 2, 1977, the Centre asiatique pour la Promotion économique et commerciale. On May 15, 1995, these were merged into the Bureau de Représentation de Taipei en France. In 1978, France established the Association française pour le Développement économique avec l'Asie, and in 1980 added the Association Française pour le Développement culturel et scientifique en Asie. In 1994, these became a joint office called the Institut français à Taipei. In 2011, its official appellation in French was changed to Le Bureau français de Taipei (BFT).
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$4.75 billion, with France being Taiwan's fourth-largest trading partner in Europe and 19th globally. Taiwan exported goods worth US\$1.5 billion and imported goods valued at US\$3.2 billion. During this period, Minister of Finance Su Jain-rong, Vice Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua, Minister without Portfolio Kung Ming-hsin and Financial Supervisory Commission Chairman Wellington Koo headed separate delegations to France to deepen bilateral economic, trade, and industry cooperation, while also signing a Financial Technology Cooperation Agreement with the French Prudential Supervision and Resolution Authority. In October, the 8th Taiwan-France Trade Meeting and 26th Taiwanese-French Industrial Cooperation Consultation were held, with exchanges on a range of issues, including the development of individual and regional economies, multilateral economic and trade issues, smart transportation, and the circular economy.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations
 - A. Culture: The Taiwan Cultural Center, under the Taipei Representative Office in Paris, is responsible for all exhibitions and other events relating to Taiwan's visual arts, performing arts, literary publishing, culture creative design, cultural technology, film/television and music in France, as well as in Andorra, Belgium, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg,

Monaco, the Netherlands, and Switzerland. In 2019, 1,079 activities were held as part of 32 events, with about 595,613 visitors. In July, Deputy Minister of Culture Hsiao Tsung-huang visited France to jointly preside over the 23rd Taiwan-France Cultural Award presentation ceremony. In October, Minister of Culture Cheng Li-chun and Permanent Secretary of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences, Institut de France Jean-Rober Pitte signed an agreement extending the Taiwan-France Cultural Award Agreement for five more years (2021-2025), the fifth extension of the agreement.

- B. Education: France provides Taiwan with 15 Science and Technology Scholarships annually, and Taiwan's Ministry of Education provides 18 Huayu Enrichment Scholarships and five Taiwan Scholarships, with 2,173 French students studying in Taiwan or engaged in short-term exchange programs. Since 2008, Taiwan and the French government have exchanged Mandarin and French teaching assistants. In 2019, each side sent 19 teaching assistants to help with language teaching at senior high schools and universities. The Taiwanese teachers also continued to conduct the Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language and Children's Chinese Competency Certification.
- (4) Technological cooperation: Taiwan's Ministry of Science and Technology signed bilateral scientific research cooperation agreements with the French National Research Agency, Academy of Sciences, French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), French National Cancer Institute, National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Automation, French National Institute of Health and Medical Research, and the BFT, so that scientific researchers on both sides may apply for cooperative programs and exchange funding via multiple channels. In 2019, Taiwan and the CNRS signed a new cooperative agreement in lieu of extending the existing contract and cooperation. In order to promote Taiwan's talent recruitment policy, in April Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee led a delegation to France, including eight representatives from Taiwan's top universities, holding an overseas talent recruitment seminar and taking part in several visits. The 21st Franco-Taiwan Scientific Grand Prize

Evaluation Meeting and awards ceremony were held in Paris in September and November, with MOST Deputy Minister Shieh Dar-bin and Vice Minister Tsou Yu-han leading delegations to preside on behalf of the Taiwan government. In addition, MOST Deputy Minister Hsu Yu-chin headed a new venture delegation for its first visit to VivaTech in France, and to set up a Taiwan National Pavilion to showcase Taiwan's technological innovation strengths on the European and international stage.

(5) Mutual visits by dignitaries

A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: President of Academia Sinica James C. Liao; Ministers without Portfolio Kung Ming-hsin and Luo Ping-cheng; Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee; Deputy Ministers of Science and Technology Hsu Yu-chin and Shieh Dar-bin; Supreme Court Chief Justice Cheng Yu-shan; Member of the Control Yuan Dr. Peter Wushou Chang; Chairman of the Financial Supervisory Commission Wellington Koo and Deputy Chairman Huang Tien-mu; Minister of Finance Su Jain-rong; Legislators Lo Chih-cheng, Hsu Yu-jen, Tung Hui-chen, and Wang Yu-min; Minister of the Directorate- General of Personnel Administration Jay N. Shih; Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua; Deputy Minister of Culture Hsiao Tsung-huang; Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection Administration Shen Chih-hsiu; Deputy Minister of National Development Council Kao Shien-quey; and Deputy Minister of Ocean Affairs Chuang Ching-ta.

B. Visits from France were made by: Ambassador at Large for Human Rights François Croquette; Chairman of the France-Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group Jean-François Cesarini and Deputy President Eric Bothorel; Deputy Speakers of the French Senate Thani Mohamed-Soilihi and Héléne Conway-Mouret; Vice President Conseil Général Economie at the Ministry for the Economy and Finance Luc Rousseau; President of the Asia Centre Jean-François Di Meglio; President of the Synopia think tank Alexandre Malafaye; Head of International Innovation Programs at Bpifrance Johann Faure; and the CEO of Paris & Co Loïc Dosseur.

9. Relations with Germany

- (1) Background: On October 20 1980, Taiwan established the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Bonn (then the Western German capital), which on September 23, 1992, was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in the Federal Republic of Germany and became the Taipei Representative Office in the Federal Republic of Germany on July 1, 1997. It was relocated to Berlin on October 4, 1999. Taiwan also has offices in Hamburg, Frankfurt, and Munich, as well as the Bonn-based Science and Technology Division, Taipei Representative Office in the Federal Republic of Germany. The Taiwan External Trade Development Council has Taiwan Trade Centers in Dusseldorf and Munich. Germany has established the German Institute Taipei, German Trade Office Taipei, and Goethe-Institute Taipei in Taiwan.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, bilateral trade totaled US\$15.92 billion, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$6.52 billion and importing goods worth US\$9.39 billion. Germany is Taiwan's seventh-largest source of imports and ninth-largest export market, making it the nation's no. 1 trading partner in Europe. There are about 250 German companies in Taiwan and Taiwan has around 320 firms in Germany, mainly clustered concentrated in the North Rhine area, primarily in the computer and electronics sectors. In September, Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin and Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua visited Germany to attend the Taiwan-Germany Wind Power Industry Dialogue Seminar, 4th Taiwan-Germany Smart Machinery Forum, and 18th Taiwan-Germany Economic Cooperation Council.
- (3) Major agreement signings: Taiwan's representative to Germany Shieh Jhy-wei and Acting Director General of the German Institute Taipei Sabrina Schmidt-Koschella signed two joint declarations of intent to cooperate on self-driving vehicle technology and road safety. In addition, letters of intent regarding mutual recognition of driver's licenses and cooperation on transitional justice (a first for Taiwan) were also signed with Director General of the German Institute Taipei Dr. Thomas Prinz.

- (4) Technological cooperation: In 2019, 20 projects were undertaken as part of the Taiwan-Germany Project-Based Personnel Exchange Program for technical personnel, with MOST and Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft funding 14 joint research projects. The Ministry of Science and Technology also funded six projects as part of the Project-Related-Mobility Program and provided funding to 43 German academics and researchers to conduct research in Taiwan, while related German institutions provided funding for 68 Taiwanese academics and researchers to conduct research in Germany. In October, the 2nd Taiwan- Germany Environmental Forum was held in Taipei, deepening bilateral cooperation in energy and environmental engineering.
- (5) Cultural and educational relations: In 2019, the Ministry of Education provided German students with four Taiwan Scholarships and 19 Huayu Enrichment Scholarships. A total of 2,782 Taiwanese students studied in Germany while 1,428 German nationals studied in Taiwan. The University of Regensburg in Germany also signed MOUs with Soochow University and National Chung Hsing University. In addition, Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg signed cooperative agreements with National Chung Hsing University and National United University, and the Taiwan-Germany Higher Education Policy Forum was also held in Taiwan.
- (6) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Vice President of the Judicial Yuan Tsai Chiung-tun; Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin; Minister of Justice Tsai Ching-hsiang; Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee; Minister without Portfolio Audrey Tang; Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Wu Hsin-hsing; Deputy Foreign Ministers Kelly Wu-chiao Hsieh and Hsu Szu-chien; Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua; Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection Administration Shen Chih-hsiu; and Mayor of Hsinchu City Lin Chih-chien.

B. Visits from Germany were made by: Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure Steffen Bilger; Senior advisor to Chancellor Angela Merkel on Climate Change Policy Hans Joachim Schellnhuber; Chairman of the University Joint Conference René Alt; Chairman of the German-Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group Klaus-Peter Willsch; three members of the Berlin-Taipei Parliamentary Circle of Friends: Deputy Chairman Dr. Hermann Otto Solms, Deputy Chairman Klaus Mindrup, and Deputy Chairwoman Ekin Deligöz; Chairwoman of the Bundestag Committee on Cultural and Media Affairs Katrin Budde; Chairwoman of the Bundestag Finance Committee Bettina Stark-Watzinger; Deputy Chairwoman of the Bundestag Committee on Transport and Digital Infrastructure Daniela Kluckert; member of the Bundestag Committee on Foreign Affairs and Chairman of its Subcommittee on the United Nations, International Organizations and Globalization Ulrich Lechte; and Bundestag Members Jens Köppen, Torsten Herbst, Dr. Marcus Faber, and Frank Müller-Rosentritt.

10. Relations with Greece

- (1) Background: On January 6, 1973, Taiwan established the Far East Center in Athens, which was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Greece on December 28, 1990, and the Taipei Representative Office in Greece on April 11, 2003. Currently, Greece has no representative office in Taiwan.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$280.97 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$158.12 million and importing goods worth US\$122.85 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: In July, Short Glimpses of Taiwan was presented at the Syros International Film Festival. In August, Taiwan's National Central Library donated books to the Children's Library of the Municipality of Athens and established a Taiwan Books Section. In September, the Athens International Film Festival presented the retrospective Urban Myths: The Sublime Cinema of Edward Yang.

- (4) Assistance to the disadvantaged: Taiwan and the Greek government jointly donated IT equipment to 14 kindergartens and elementary schools on Lefkada Island to help improve rural education. In addition, supplies were also donated to cultural education and sports groups in Katerini City to promote local development.
- (5) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: President of the Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee Lin Hong-dow; and Director General of the National Central Library Tseng Shu-hsien.
 - B. Visits from Greece were made by: Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Nea Demokratia Member of the Hellenic Parliament Theodora Bakoyannis; President of the International Olympic Academy Isidoros Kouvelos; General Secretary of the Hellenic Olympic Committee Emmanuel Kolypadis; and President of the Institute of Agricultural Science Nikolaos Thymakis.

11. Relations with Bulgaria

- (1) Background: Taiwan and Bulgaria have not exchanged official representative offices, and Bulgarian affairs are handled by Taiwan's representative office in Greece. In 1995, the China External Trade Development Council established the Taiwan Trade Center, Sofia in the Bulgarian capital, and in 2018, it opened a Business Center to serve Taiwanese business people on short-term business trips. In 2015, the Bulgarian-Taiwanese Board was established to promote bilateral private sector exchanges.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade totaled US\$155.35 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$121.54 million and importing goods worth US\$33.81 million.
- (3) Assistance to the disadvantaged: In December, Taiwan and the Sovereign Order of Malta jointly donated thoracic ultrasound equipment to the General Hospital for Active Treatment of Pulmonary Diseases St. Sofia.

- (4) Visiting dignity from Bulgaria: Former Foreign Minister and President of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria Solomon Passy.

12. Relations with Hungary

- (1) Background: On April 2, 1990, Taiwan established the Taipei Trade Office in Hungary, which on January 6, 1996, was renamed the Taipei Representative Office, Budapest, Hungary. On July 26, 1998, Hungary established the Hungarian Trade Office in Taiwan.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, bilateral trade totaled US\$821.39 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$579.07 million and importing goods worth US\$242.32 million.
- (3) Visiting dignitaries from Hungary: Chairman of the Taiwan-Hungarian Parliamentary Friendship Association István Csaba Tiba; and Member of the National Assembly of Hungary and Leader of the Hungarian Liberal Party Anett Bósz.

13. Relations with Ireland

- (1) Background: On July 12, 1988, Taiwan established the Free China Center in Dublin, which on May 2, 1991, was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Ireland, and on August 18, 1995, became the Taipei Representative Office in Ireland. In August 1989, Ireland opened the Institute for Trade and Investment of Ireland in Taiwan, which was closed in January 2012.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, bilateral trade totaled US\$1 billion, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$576.09 million and importing goods worth US\$425.13 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan established the Taiwan Pavilion at the 2019 Dublin Holiday World Show to showcase the country's modern style and cultural diversity. Director Tsai Ming-liang and winner of the Golden Horse Award for Best Actor Lee Kang-sheng attended the Irish Film Institute's 2019 East Asia Film Festival Ireland, where their work was featured. In addition, emerging Taiwanese artist Chao An-ling's work

was shown at the Galway International Arts Festival. With the Taiwan Ireland Association, the Taiwan Representative Office also took part in the Dublin Pride parade 2019, where it promoted Taiwan as the first country in Asia to legalize same-sex marriage. Taiwanese teams also took part in the 2019 European Senior and World U23 and Junior Outdoor Tug of War Championships, where they won five gold, six silver, and three bronze medals.

(4) Mutual visits by dignitaries

A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Member of the Control Yuan Dr. Peter Wushou Chang; Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Wu Hsin-hsing and Vice Minister Lu Yuan-jung; and Legislators Lu Yu-ling, Tung Hui-chen, and Lin Li-chan.

B. Visits from Ireland were made by: Senators Diarmuid Wilson, Billy Lawless, Pádraig Ó Ceidigh, and Ian Marshall.

14. Relations with Italy

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Taipei Cultural and Economic Association in Italy on August 7, 1990. On June 14, 1995, it was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Italy, which was changed to the Taipei Representative Office in Italy on July 2, 2006. The Italian Association of Foreign Trade established the Italian Trade and Economic Center in Taiwan in September 1989 and the Italian Economic and Cultural Promotion Office in Taipei in 1995. In September 2006, these two merged into the Italian Economic, Trade and Cultural Promotion Office.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Italy is currently Taiwan's 20th-largest trading partner overall and fifth-largest in the EU. In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$4.59 billion, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$1.98 billion and importing goods worth US\$2.61 billion.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: On May 8, Deputy Minister of Culture Ting Hsiao-ching, Deputy Taipei Mayor Tsai Ping-kun, and Director of the Taipei Fine Arts Museum Lin Ping presided over the opening of the Taiwan Pavilion at the 58th Venice Biennial. On September 6, the

Taipei Representative Office in Italy organized Flowers of Taiwan, the first Taiwan film festival in Rome, attended by internationally renowned Malaysian-born and Taiwan-based director Tsai Ming-liang and recipient of the Golden Horse Award for Best Actor Lee Kang-sheng. In addition, two joint concerts by Taiwanese and Italian musicians were held in Rome and Bologna, and Taiwanese artist Julie Yuan-ru Hsieh participated in the Shelter exhibition program at the Museum of Contemporary Art of Rome.

(4) Mutual visits by dignitaries

A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Deputy Minister of Culture Ting Hsiao-ching; Deputy Mayor of Taipei Tsai Ping-kun; Director of the Taipei Fine Arts Museum Lin Ping; Legislators Wang Yu-min and Lin Li-chan; and Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Wu Hsin-hsing.

B. Visits from Italy were made by: Deputy Chairman of the Taiwan-Italy Interparliamentary Friendship Group Marco Di Maio; Chamber of Deputies members Vito De Filippo and Nicola Carè; Senator and former Minister of Agriculture and Tourism Gian Marco Centinaio; Vice President of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee Tony Iwobi; and Chamber of Deputies members, Alex Bazzaro, Francesca Gerardi, and Elena Lucchini.

15. Relations with Latvia

- (1) Background: On January 29, 1992, Taiwan established the Consulate General of the Republic of China in Riga, which also handled all matters on Estonia and Lithuania. On July 28, 1994, Taiwan severed consular-level diplomatic relations with Latvia, and in November 1995, the Consulate General was renamed the Taipei Mission in the Republic of Latvia. Latvia has not yet opened an official representative office in Taiwan.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, bilateral trade totaled US\$111.68 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$99.74 million and importing goods worth US\$11.94 million.
- (3) Visiting dignitaries from Latvia: Deputy Chair of the Saeima European Affairs Committee Gatis Eglītis; Member of the Saeima European Affairs

Committee Inese Voika; and Members of the Latvian Parliament Linda Ozola, Nikolajs Kabanovs, and Kaspars Ģirģens.

16. Relations with Estonia

- (1) Background: Taiwan and Estonia have no diplomatic relations and the two countries have not set up official representative offices on each side. Taiwan's representative office in Latvia handles matters of Estonia.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$96.62 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$82.5 million and importing goods worth US\$14.12 million.
- (3) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Deputy Minister of the Interior Chen Tsung-yen; Minister of National Development Chen Mei-ling; and Legislator Hsu Yu-jen.
 - B. Visits from Estonia were made by: Advisor for Business Diplomacy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia Marti Mätas; Deputy Mayor of Pärnu City Rainer Aavik; and Chairwoman of the Municipal Council of Saaremaa, Tiiu Aro.

17. Relations with Lithuania

- (1) Background: Taiwan and Lithuania have no diplomatic relations and have not set up official representative offices on each side. Taiwan's representative office in Latvia deals with matters on Lithuania.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$161.78 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$120.61 million and importing goods worth US\$41.17 million.
- (3) Visiting dignitaries from Lithuania: Deputy Chairman of the Seimas Foreign Affairs Committee Egidijus Vareikis; and Members of the Lithuanian Parliament Zygimantas Pavilionis, Audronius Azubalis, and Ausrine Armonaite.

18. Relations with Slovenia

- (1) Background: Taiwan and Slovenia have no diplomatic relations and have not established official representative offices on each side. Taiwan's representative office in Austria handles matters on Slovenia.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$171.89 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$137.74 million and importing goods worth US\$34.15 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: The University of Ljubljana has established a Taiwan Research Center, conducting a Taiwan Studies course. The Ministry of Education has sent a Mandarin teacher to teach in the university's Asian Studies Department and help promote Taiwan studies and competence in Chinese texts rendered in traditional characters.

19. Relations with Cyprus

- (1) Background: Taiwan and Cyprus have not set up official representative offices on each side. Currently, Taiwan's Representative Office in Greece handles matters on Cyprus.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$32.13 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$27.17 million and importing goods worth US\$4.96 million.

20. Relations with Luxembourg

- (1) Background: On June 10, 1975, Taiwan established the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Center in Luxembourg, which on July 13, 1992, was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office but was closed on Oct. 25, 2002. On Oct. 13, 2009, Luxembourg established the Luxembourg Trade and Investment Office in Taipei.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$46.11 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$19.58 million and importing goods worth US\$26.53 million.

- (3) Visiting dignitaries from Luxembourg: Former Vice President of the European Commission and Chamber of Deputies member Viviane Reding; Members of the Chamber of Deputies Emile Eicher, Aly Kaes, Dan Biancalana, Sven Clement, Djuna Bernard, Félix Eischen, and Paul Galles; and Secretary General of the Christian Social People's Party Frank Engel.

21. Relations with the Netherlands

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Centre Dr. Sun Yat-Sen on February 2, 1978, and renamed it the Far East Trade Office on August 24, 1979. On July 24, 1990, it became the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, and then the Taipei Representative Office in the Netherlands on July 12, 1996. The Netherlands established the Netherlands Council for Trade Promotion on January 9, 1981, which was renamed the Netherlands Trade and Investment Office on November 1, 1990.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$13.74 billion, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$5.86 billion and importing goods worth US\$7.88 billion.
- (3) City-to-city cooperation: Mayor of Hsinchu City Lin Chih-chien led a delegation to the Netherlands, visiting Mayor of Eindhoven John Jorritsma. While leading a delegation to the Netherlands, Taichung City Mayor Lu Shiow-yen signed memorandums of understanding on international exchange and cooperation with the cities of Utrecht and Almere.
- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Hsinchu City Mayor Lin Chih-chien; Minister of National Development Council Chen Mei-ling; Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin; Legislators Tsai Shih-ying, Yu Mei-nu, Chen Man-li, and Wu Kuen-yuh; Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee; Mayor of Taichung City Lu Shiow-yen; Minister without Portfolio Audrey Tang; President of the Control Yuan Chang Po-ya; and Members of the Control Yuan Chiang Chi-wen, Lin Sheng-feng, and Chen Hsiao-hung.

- B. Visits from the Netherlands were made by: Mayor of Eindhoven John Jorritsma; House of Representatives Member and Leader of 50PLUS Henk Krol; and Senator Martine Baay-Timmerman.

22. Relations with Norway

- (1) Background: On August 26, 1980, Taiwan established the Taipei Trade Center, which was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office on December 17, 1992. The name was changed to the Taipei Representative Office in Norway on October 16, 1999, with operations suspended on October 1, 2017, and all related business being handled by the Taipei Representative Office in Sweden. On October 23, 1989, Norway established the Norwegian Trade Office, Taipei, which was renamed the Norwegian Trade Council in November 1992 and ceased operations on January 1, 2004.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$486.77 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$187.04 million and importing goods worth US\$300.53 million.
- (3) Visit from Taiwan was made by: Mayor of New Taipei City Hou Yu-ih.

23. Relations with Poland

- (1) Background: On December 17, 1992, Taiwan established the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, which was renamed the Taipei Representative Office in Poland in 2018. On November 2, 1995, Poland established the Warsaw Trade Office in Taipei, which was renamed the Polish Office in Taipei in 2018.
- (2) Legal affairs cooperation: In June, the two countries signed an agreement on legal cooperation in criminal matters, the first of its kind between Taiwan and European countries.
- (3) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$1.185 billion, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$899 million and importing goods worth US\$286 million.

- (4) Cultural and educational relations: The Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education provided 20 Polish Government scholarships and 30 Summer Polish Courses Scholarships; Taiwan's Ministry of Education provided Poland with seven Taiwan Scholarships and 12 Huayu Enrichment Scholarships. The Ministry of Education also sent eight Mandarin teachers and two Mandarin teaching assistants to Polish universities to help promote competence in Chinese texts written in traditional characters. In July, a Mandarin teaching center MOU was signed with the University of Warsaw.
- (5) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Minister of Justice Tsai Ching-hsiang; Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin; Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Wu Hsin-hsing; Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Kelly Wu-chiao Hsieh; Deputy Minister of Finance Wu Tzu-hsin; and Legislators Lin Ching-yi, Chen Ching-min, and Karen Yu.
 - B. Visits from Poland were made by: Deputy Minister of Culture and National Heritage Paweł Lewandowski; Deputy Minister of Justice Łukasz Piebiak; and President of the Polish Academy of Sciences Jerzy Duszyński.

24. Relations with Portugal

- (1) Background: On January 6, 1975, Taiwan severed diplomatic relations with Portugal. On July 1, 1992, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in Portugal was established, but Lisbon has not yet opened an official representative office in Taiwan.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, bilateral trade totaled US\$585.07 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$487.17 million and importing goods valued at US\$97.9 million.
- (3) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. A visit from Taiwan was made by: Member of the Control Yuan Chiang Chi-wen.

B. A visit from Portugal was made by Chairman of the Portugal-Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group Paulo Rios de Oliveira.

25. Relations with Slovakia

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Taipei Representative Office, Bratislava on August 1, 2003. On September 1, 2003, Slovakia established the Slovak Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, bilateral trade totaled US\$355.55 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$197.31 million and importing goods valued at US\$158.24 million.
- (3) Visits from Slovakia were made by: Director General of the Economic Cooperation Section of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs Dušan Matulay; Vice-Chairwoman of the National Council of Slovakia, Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová; Members of the National Council Dr. Jozef Mihál, Renata Kascakova, and Karol Galek; and Chairman of Trnava Self-Governing Region Jozef Viskupič.

26. Relations with Spain

- (1) Background: In August 1973, Taiwan established the SunYat-sen Center in Spain, which in January 1991 was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Spain. On March 25, 1974, Spain established the Cervantes Center for the Promotion of Commerce and Culture in Taiwan, which was renamed the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in March 1982.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, bilateral trade totaled US\$1.96 billion, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$1.19 billion and importing goods worth US\$767.81 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwanese illustrator Jimmy Liao held an exhibition titled The Essential and the Invisible at Museo ABC in Madrid; Taiwan and Spain also jointly held a solo exhibition by Taiwanese photographer Hou I-ting titled Weaving Identities in Zaragoza for Photo España; and Taiwanese pop singer L8ching and the group Meuko! Meuko! performed in the Primavera Pro section of the 2019 Primavera Sound

Barcelona Festival. The 6th Círculo Made in Taiwan—Taiwan en el Círculo was also held in conjunction with renowned Spanish art group Círculo de Bellas Artes de Madrid, with B. Dance and the S'yo Fang Jazz Sextet.

(4) Mutual visits by dignitaries

A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Minister of Environmental Protection Administration Chang Tzi-ching; Legislators Lee Yen-hsiu, Ho Chih-wei, Yeh Yi-jin, Karen Yu, and Chen Man-li; and Archbishop Peter Liu Cheng-chung from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Kaohsiung.

B. Visits from Spain were made by: Ibero-American Federation of Ombudsman Secretary General Carmen Comas-Mata; and Members of the Congress of Deputies Carlos Rojas García, Eloy Suárez Lamata, Mario Garcés Sanagustín, and José Alberto Herrero Bono.

27. Relations with Sweden

- (1) Background: In September 1981, Taiwan established the Taipei Trade, Tourism and Information Office, which in 1994 was renamed the Taipei Mission in Sweden. In December 1982, the Swedish Industries Trade Representative Office was established in Taiwan, becoming the Swedish Trade and Investment Council in July 1991. Sweden's support for Taiwan has gradually increased with Swedish foreign policy focus on human rights in concert with expanding foreign trade. In 2019, the country organized the first four-country Scandinavian think tank delegation to visit Taiwan.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$1.29 billion, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$614.95 million and importing goods worth US\$674.85 million. The 35th Sweden-Taiwan Joint Business Council Meeting was held in Stockholm.
- (3) Technological cooperation: Taiwan's Ministry of Science and Technology and the Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research signed a science and technology cooperation MOU to promote exchanges, mutual visits, and joint research between PhD students, postdoctoral researchers, and professors.

(4) Mutual visits by dignitaries

- A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Minister of Justice Tsai Ching-hsiang; Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Wu Hsin-hsing; Deputy Minister of Education Fan Sun-lu; Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee; and Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare Ho Chi-kung.
- B. Visits from Sweden were made by: Chief Parliamentary Ombudsman Elisabeth Rynning; and CEO of the Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research Lars Hultman.

28. Relations with Switzerland

- (1) Background: In 1973, Taiwan established the Far Eastern Service Center in Switzerland, and in June 1979, the Sun Yat-sen Culture Center. On January 1, 1992, the former was renamed the Taipei Trade Office, and on November 28, 1990, the latter was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office. On December 16, 1997, Taiwan established the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Geneva. On October 1, 2007, the Taipei Trade Office was merged with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office. On November 20, 1982, Switzerland established the Trade Office of Swiss Industries.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$2.42 billion, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$598.85 million and importing goods worth US\$1.82 billion.
- (3) Visits from Taiwan were made by: Secretary-General of the Legislative Yuan Lin Chih-chia; Legislators Hsu Yu-jen, Chiu Tai-yuan, and Chen Ching-min; Member of the Control Yuan Dr. Peter Wushou Chang; Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung; Vice Chairman of the Central Election Commission Chen Chao-chien; and Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Shieh Dar-bin.

29. Relations with the United Kingdom

- (1) Background: Taiwan severed diplomatic relations with the United

Kingdom on January 6, 1950, and in June of the same year, established the Free China Information Office, which in September 1963 became the Free Chinese Center and on April 15, 1992, was changed to the Taipei Representative Office in the UK. On April 25, 1998, the Taipei Representative Office in the U.K., Edinburgh Office was established. In February 1976, the UK established the Anglo-Taiwan Trade Committee, which on October 15, 1993, was renamed the British Trade and Cultural Office, and on May 26, 2015, became the British Office Taipei. The UK government highly values the political democratization of Taiwan and has proactively sought to strengthen bilateral economic and trade relations, involving not only increasing the number of officials posted to Taiwan, but also working to develop exchanges and cooperation in the fields of economics and trade, science and technology, education, energy, transportation, culture and creative industry, finance, and smart cities. Taiwan and the UK have already established several regular mechanisms for dialogue, including deputy ministerial level economic and trade consultations, a business roundtable on renewable energy, the Taiwan-UK railway forum, and the smart cities forum. The UK continues to support Taiwan's meaningful participation in such international organizations and mechanisms as the World Health Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The UK government has also spoken out in support of Taiwan's meaningful contributions in combating organized crime at the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) Congress. The British-Taiwanese All-Party Parliamentary Group has about 140 members from the House of Commons and House of Lords, making it one of the largest and most active cross-party parliamentary groups.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$5.59 billion, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$3.57 billion and importing goods valued at US\$2.02 billion. Also in 2019, Deputy Minister for Trade Policy Conor Burns and Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Meihua co-hosted the 22nd UK-Taiwan Trade Talks in London.

- (3) Educational relations: In recent years, the number of students from Taiwan studying in the UK has continued to increase, with 12,000 per year attending accredited schools and short-term advanced study programs. The UK is the leading destination for students from Taiwan in Europe. Universities in Taiwan have signed MOUs establishing research or scholarship programs with the University of Cambridge, the University of Oxford, SOAS University of London (School of Oriental and African Studies), and the University of Nottingham. In 2019, first Taiwan-UK Higher Education Forum was held, with close to 100 participants, including presidents and vice presidents from 17 Taiwan universities and 30 UK universities. Taiwan also provided Taiwan Scholarships and Huayu Enrichment Scholarships to 59 UK students to study for degrees or learn Mandarin in Taiwan.
- (4) Cultural relations: In 2019, 15 Taiwan-related art and cultural activities were held in the UK, the most important including the first Taiwan Film Festival UK in London, which was held in concert with a series of talks on and a masterclass by Taiwanese director Tsai Ming-liang at the Tate Modern; and Taiwan Season performances at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Taiwan brought the Sounds of Design: Taiwan's Contemporary Album Art exhibition to the London Design Festival for the first time in 2019; Taiwan's Resident Island Dance Theatre created dance pieces with the UK's Stopgap Dance Company; and an Indigenous children's choir from Jianshan Elementary School and Baolai Junior High School in Kaohsiung performed in London, Birmingham, Cambridge, and Colchester. Other achievements included the Edinburgh International Book Festival, London East Asia Film Festival, London Craft Week, and the London Festival of Architecture. In addition, independent musical groups and musicians were invited to perform in the UK in 2019, including Sunset Rollercoaster, No Party for Cao Dong, Elephant Gym, Suming Rupi, and Cheer Chen. Cloud Gate Dance Theatre also received the Stef Stefanou Award for Outstanding Company at the 19th National Dance Awards in the UK.

- (5) Technological cooperation: Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee led a delegation to the United Kingdom, where they held a recruitment presentation and had a first meeting with the Deputy Minister for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and the Royal Society President for the first time, shared Taiwan's experience at a Parliamentary Education Committee Hearing, and were interviewed by the BBC.
- (6) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Former President Ma Ying-jeou; President of the Judicial Yuan Hsu Tzong-li; Minister without Portfolio Kung Ming-hsin; Chairman of the Financial Supervisory Commission Wellington Koo; Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee; Secretary-General of the Legislative Yuan Lin Chih-chia; Deputy Minister of Veterans Affairs Lee Wen-chung; Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua; Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare Ho Chi-kung; Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Kelly Wu-chiao Hsieh; Deputy Minister of Education Liu Meng-chi; Member of the National Communications Commission Hung Chen-ling; Director-General of the Ministry of Justice Investigation Bureau Leu Weng-jong; and Mayor of Taichung City Lu Shioh-yen.
 - B. Visits from the United Kingdom were made by: Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords and British-Taiwanese All-Party Parliamentary Group Co-Chair Lord Rogan; Members of the House of Lords: Lord Truscott, Lord Bethell, Lord Best, Lord Rennard, Lord Alton, Baroness D'Souza, Baroness Garden of Frognal, Baroness Redfern, and Baroness Scott; Co-Chair of the British-Taiwanese All-Party Parliamentary Group Member of Parliament Nigel Evans; Chief Scientific Officer, Department for International Trade, Mike Short; Deputy Chairman of the Conservative Party's Human Rights Commission Ben Rogers; Mayor of the West of England Tim Bowles, and five other mayors.

30. Relations with Croatia

- (1) Background: Taiwan and Croatia do not have diplomatic relations and have not established official representative offices on each side. Taiwan's representative office in Austria currently handles matters on Croatia.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, the bilateral trade totaled US\$57.46 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$51.39 million and importing goods valued at US\$6.07 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: The Faculty of Political Science at the University of Zagreb introduced a program of Lectures on the Republic of China. The Taiwan Foundation for Democracy arranged for academics from Taiwan to visit the university and lecture on recent political and economic developments in Taiwan.

Europe

diplomatic events in photographs



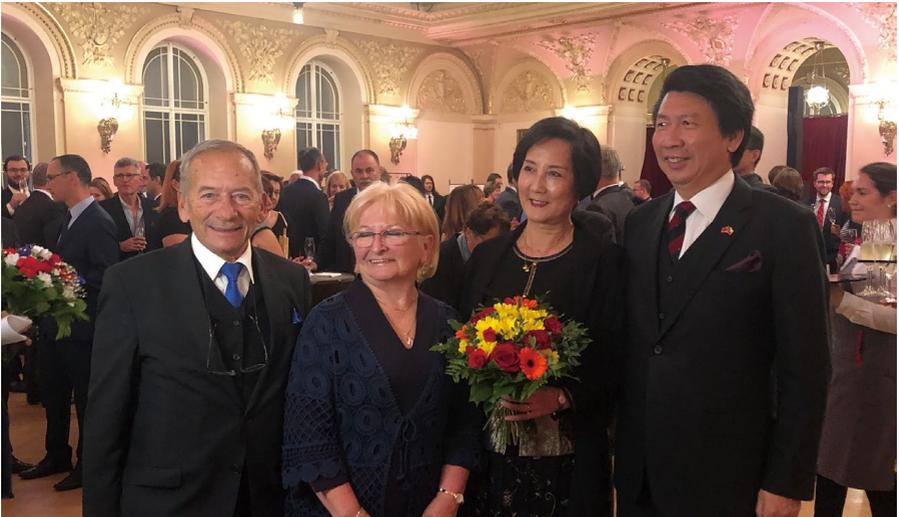
Papal Envoy and Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples Cardinal Fernando Filoni visits the 4th Eucharistic Congress of Taiwan and meets with President Tsai Ing-wen. (February 28, 2019)



Ambassador to the Holy See Mathew S. M. Lee (third right) and President of the Pontifical Council for Culture Cardinal Gianfranco Ravasi (third left) co-host the opening ceremony for The Light of the World: Contemporary Arts from Taiwan. (July 3, 2019)



The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in the Czech Republic holds a “Walk with Taiwan” event in Prague Old Town Square in support of Taiwan’s participation at the World Health Assembly. (May 16, 2019)



Representative to the Czech Republic Wang Chung-i and Mrs. Wang (right) have a photo taken with President of the Czech Senate Jaroslav Kubera and Mrs. Kubera at the National Day reception. (October 9, 2019)



Representative to Denmark Frank Shying-jow Lee (right) and Taiwan Art and Culture Association Chairman Chang Chun-fa (first left) present a painting to President of the Taiwan- Denmark Association Svend E. Hovmand (second left) at the National Day reception. (October 9, 2019)



The Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium holds a “Walk with Taiwan” event in support of Taiwan’s participation at the World Health Assembly. (May 16, 2019)



Key members of Taiwan Friendship Groups from the European Parliament, Germany, United Kingdom, and France jointly preside over a launching ceremony of the Formosa Club at the European Parliament. (October 16, 2019)



Chair of the Taiwan Friendship of Finnish Parliament Mikko Kärnä and Representative to Finland Janet Chang celebrate at the National Day reception. (October 8, 2019)



Representative to France Wu Chih-chung (fourth left) and Mrs. Wu (third left) welcome the President of the France-Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group Jean-François Cesarini (third right) at the National Day reception. (October 2, 2019)



Representative to France Wu Chih-chung (center) and Legislators Lo Chih-cheng (third right), Tung Hui-chen (fourth right), and Hsu Yu-jen (fourth left) attend a welcome dinner hosted by the French Senate Enterprise Counseling Group. (May 28, 2019)



Representative to Germany Shieh Jhy-wei (front right) and German Institute Taipei Director General Dr. Thomas Prinz (front left) sign a letter of intent on transitional justice cooperation in Berlin, with Federal Commissioner for the Stasi Records Roland Jahn (back, first right), Bundestag Culture and Media Affairs Committee Chairperson Katrin Budd (back, first left), and German-Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group Chairman Klaus-Peter Willsch (center back) also in attendance. (December 12, 2019)



Representative to Germany Shieh Jhy-wei (right) and German Institute Taipei Director General Dr. Thomas Prinz (left) sign a letter of intent regarding mutual recognition of driver's licenses in Berlin. (December 12, 2019)



Minister without Portfolio Audrey Tang (second right) attends the Be Online, Be Free— The Path towards a Digital Democracy seminar held by the Free Democratic Party Parliamentary Caucus. Other attendees are Representative to Germany Shieh Jhy-vey (first left), Bundestag Committee on Transport and Digital Infrastructure Deputy Chairwoman Daniela Kluckert (center), and German-Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group Vice Chairman Hermann Otto Solms (first right). (November 21, 2019)



Representative to Germany Shieh Jhy-vey, German-Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group Chairman Klaus-Peter Willsch, and Bundestag Member and President of the German Chapter of the World League for Freedom and Democracy Axel Fischer rally at the “Walk with Taiwan” event organized by the Taipei Representative Office in Germany. (May 16, 2019)



German-Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group Chairman Klaus-Peter Willsch (center), Vice Chairman Hermann Otto Solms (first left), and Vice Chairman Ekin DELIGÖZ (second left) visit Taiwan. (February 27, 2019)



The Taipei Representative Office in Germany Frankfurt Office Director-General Chang Wei-ta and Mrs. Chang welcome Member of the European Parliament Helmut Geuing (first left) to the National Day reception. (October 7, 2019)



A four-person delegation led by Bavarian Parliament Deputy Speaker Markus Rinderspacher (second left) visits Legislator Yu Mei-nu (third left), head of the Taiwan-Germany Friendship Group at Taiwan's Legislative Yuan. (October 28, 2019)



Representative to Greece Kuo Shih-nan (fifth right), joined by Greek legislators and other VIPs in celebration of the 108th National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan). (October 8, 2019)



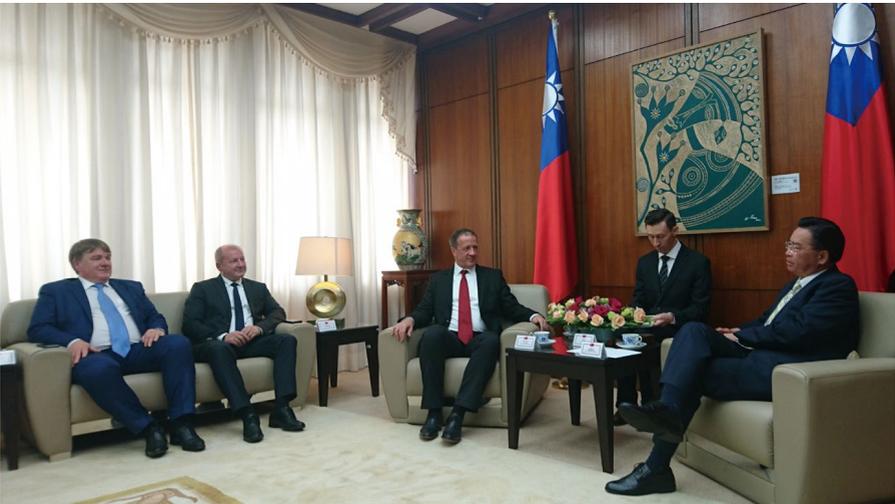
Representative to Greece Kuo Shih-nan speaks at a Trade Finance Forum held by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. (October 23, 2019)



Representative to Greece Kuo Shih-nan (second left) and the Sovereign Order of Malta's Bulgarian embassy donate thoracic ultrasound equipment to the General Hospital for Active Treatment of Pulmonary Diseases St. Sofia in Bulgaria. (December 3, 2019)



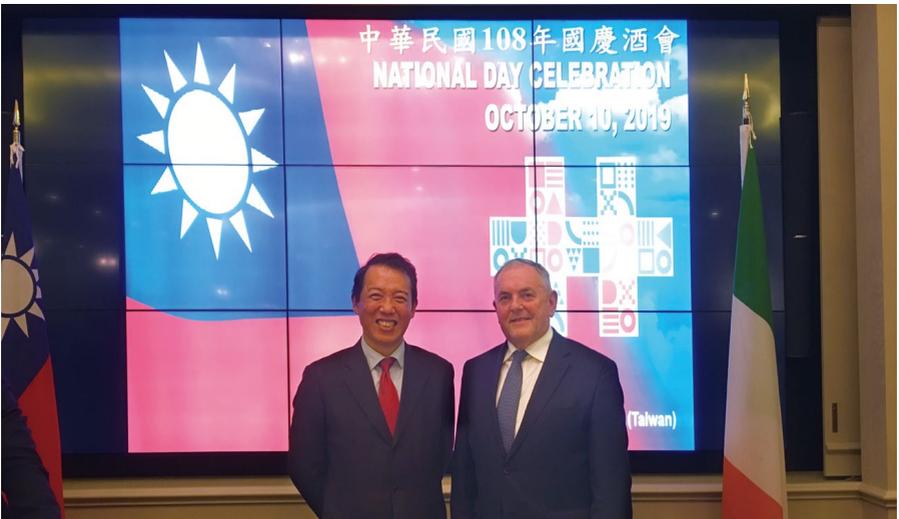
Taiwan-Hungarian Parliamentary Friendship Association Chairman István Csaba Tiba (center left) leads a delegation to meet Legislative President Su Jia-chyuan (center right). (March 28, 2019)



Taiwan-Hungarian Parliamentary Friendship Association Chairman István Csaba Tiba (center) leads a delegation to meet Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (first right). (March 29, 2019)



Representative to Ireland Yang Tzu-pao (second right) takes part in the Dublin Pride Parade. (June 29, 2019)



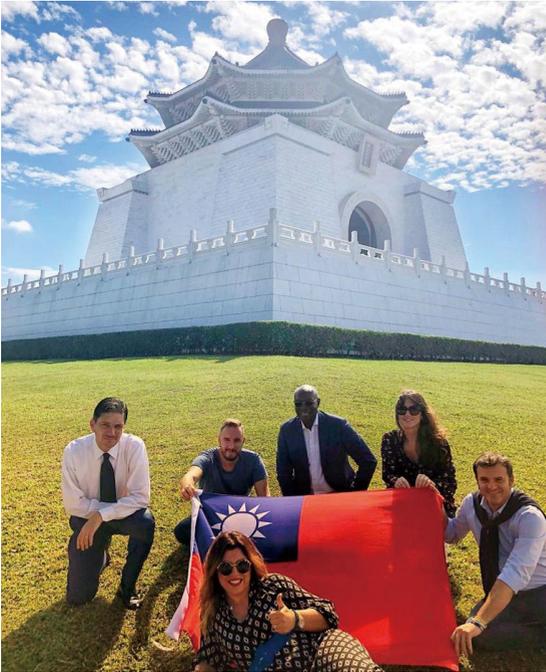
Representative to Ireland Yang Tzu-pao and Chairman of the Ireland-Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Society John McGuinness at the National Day reception. (October 8, 2019)



The Taipei Representative Office in Italy holds a “Walk with Taiwan” event calling on Italians to support Taiwan’s participation in the World Health Assembly. (May 16, 2019)



Representative to Italy Lee Sing-ying joins Italian members of Parliament at the National Day reception. (October 2, 2019)



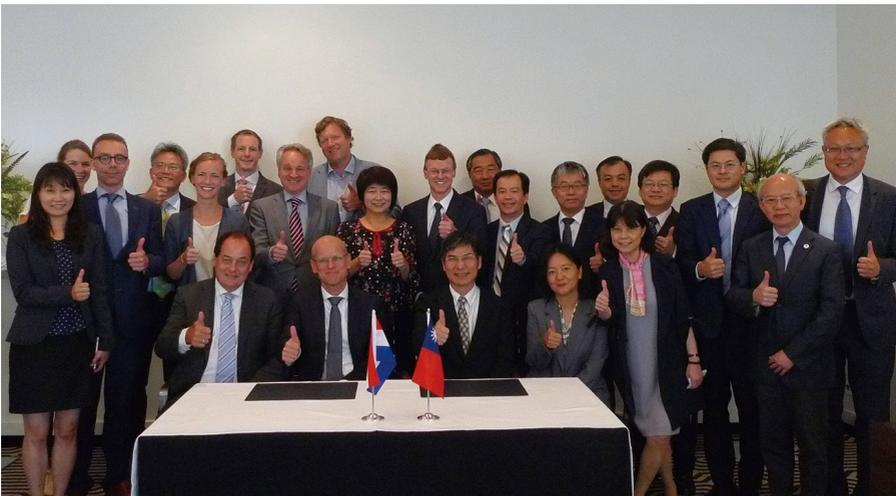
Former Italian Minister of Agriculture and Tourism Gian Marco Centinaio (first right) leads a parliamentary delegation on a seven-day visit to Taiwan, during which they pose for photos in the Liberty Square, National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall. (November 29, 2019)



Deputy Chairman of the Lithuanian Seimas Foreign Affairs Committee Egidijus Vareikis (second right) heads a nine-person parliamentary delegation to Taiwan and meets with Vice President Chen Chien-jen. (August 27, 2019)



Vice Minister of Science and Technology Tsou Yu-han heads a delegation attending the 2019 annual trilateral science and technology meeting with Lithuania and Latvia. (November 25, 2019)



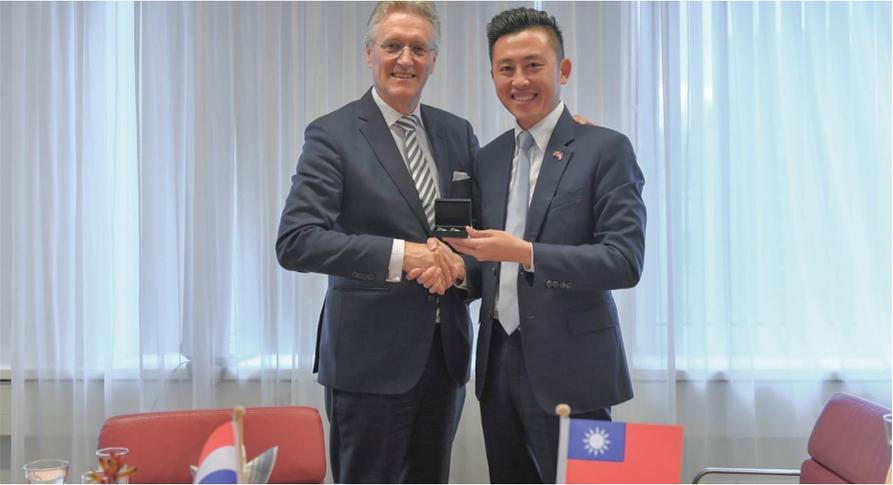
Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee (seated, second right) and the Netherlands Director of Innovation and Knowledge at the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy Michiel Sweers (seated, second left) affirm the signing of an MOU on cooperation in science and technology. (August 29, 2019)



Taichung City Mayor Lu Shiow-yen (seated, right) and Mayor of Utrecht Jan van Zanen (seated, left) sign the MOU on international exchange and cooperation between the two cities. (September 6, 2019)



Representative to the Netherlands Chen Hsing-hsing (center) celebrates with Dutch House of Representatives Member Henk Krol (second right) and Dutch Senator Martine Baay-Timmerman (first right) at the National Day reception. (October 9, 2019)



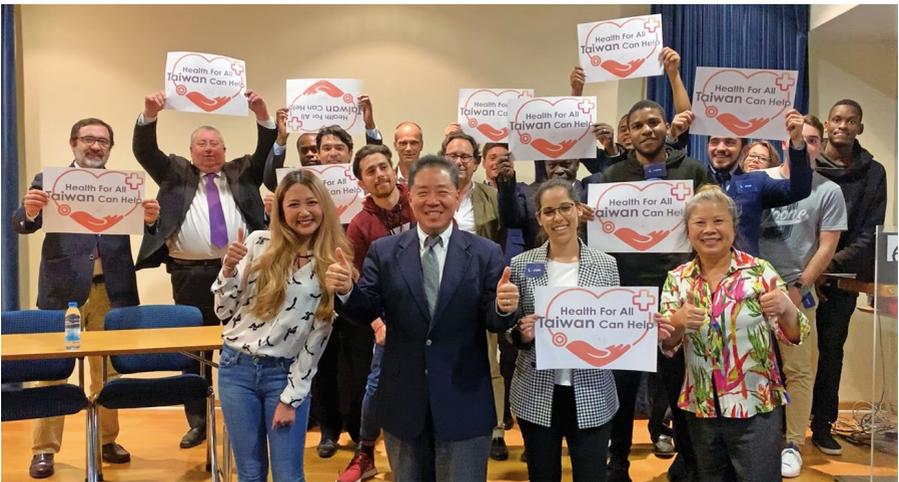
Hsinchu City Mayor Lin Chih-chien (right) meets with Eindhoven Mayor John Jorritsma in the Netherlands (left). (March 27, 2019)



Representative to Poland Weber V.B. Shih (seated, right) and Polish Office in Taipei Director General Maciej Gaca (seated, left) sign an agreement on legal cooperation in criminal matters, with Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (back, second right), Minister of Justice Tsai Ching-hsiang (back, first right), Polish Deputy Minister of Justice Lukasz Piebiak (back, second left), and Director of the Department of International Cooperation and Human Rights, Ministry of Justice, Krzysztof Maslo (back, first left) in attendance. (June 19, 2019)



Legislators Lin Ching-yi (second left), Chen Ching-min (third left), and Karen Yu (center) visit the Sejm of the Republic of Poland for an interparliamentary exchange. (July 16, 2019)



Representative to Portugal Raymond L. S. Wang, Portuguese friends of Taiwan from political and academic circles, and overseas compatriots express support for Taiwan's participation in the World Health Assembly. (May 17, 2019)



Representative to Spain Liu Der-li, Minister of Environmental Protection Chang Tzi-ching, Legislators Yeh Yi-jin, Chen Man-li, and Karen Yu, the 2019 United Nations Framework Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP 25) Taiwan delegation visit the Spanish Parliament. (December 11, 2019)



The Taipei Mission in Sweden holds a march in support of Taiwan's participation in the World Health Assembly (May 16, 2019)



Representative to Switzerland Huang Wei-feng and Mrs. Huang (center), welcome cellist Chien Pi-chin (first right), Swiss composer Fabian Müller (second right), indigenous singer Suming Rupi (third right) and Swiss music ensemble Kapelle Alderbuebe at a National Day reception. (October 10, 2019)



Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung (second right) joins in a toast at a welcome reception held by the Taipei Representative Office in Geneva during the World Health Assembly. Other attendees include Legislator Chiu Tai-yuan (left), Saint Kitts and Nevis Minister of Health Eugene Hamilton (second left), and Minister of Health of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Robert Luke Browne (center). (May 19, 2019)



Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung meets with US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar in Geneva during the World Health Assembly session. (May 21, 2019)



Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua (fourth right) and UK Deputy Minister for Trade Policy Conor Burns (third right) co-host the 22nd Taiwan-UK Trade Talks, attended by Representative to the UK David Y. L. Lin (fourth left), British Office Taipei Representative Catherine Nettleton (first right), House of Lords Deputy Speaker and the Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Taiwan Lord Faulkner (second right). (October 1, 2019)



Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee (third left) and Representative to the UK David Y. L. Lin (fifth right) attend a Parliamentary Education Committee Hearing. (April 2, 2019)



President of the Judicial Yuan Hsu Tzong-li (fifth right) and Grand Justices Huang Jui-ming (fifth left) and Huang Horng-shya (fourth right) visit Justice Sir Robin Knowles at the Standing International Forum of Commercial Courts in the UK (center). (August 30, 2019)



Chou Yung-hui (third left), Director-General of the Tourism Bureau, Ministry of Transportation and Communications, and Representative to the UK David Y. L. Lin (third right) host an unveiling ceremony for the bureau's London Office. (December 17, 2019)



Representative to the UK David Y. L. Lin and Edinburgh Office Director General Jason Chien-chen Lien are among the crowd of four Taiwanese performance troupes on the Royal Mile as part of “Taiwan Season” at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. (August 5, 2019)



The Taipei Representative Office in the UK Edinburgh Office Director General Jason Chien-chen Lien (second right) has a photo taken with Provost for West Lothian Tom Kerr (first right), British-Taiwanese All-Party Parliamentary Group Honorary Chairman Lord Steel (second left), and Deputy Leader of the City of Edinburgh Council Cammy Day (first left). (October 9, 2019)

Item 5 Taiwan's relations with North American countries

I. Introduction

There are two countries in the North American region, the United States and Canada; Taiwan has representative offices in both. In addition to its Representative Offices in the capital cities of Washington, DC and Ottawa, Taiwan also operates Taipei Economic and Cultural Offices (TECO) in the US cities of Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Honolulu, Houston, Denver, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, San Francisco, and Seattle, as well as offices in Toronto and Vancouver, Canada.

In recent years, relations between Taiwan and the United States have grown closer and stronger. With 2019 marking the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, Taiwan and the United States made significant progress in strengthening cooperation on political, security, and economic issues, as well as regional and global affairs. For example, President Tsai Ing-wen's transit stops in the United States set good precedents. In June, the Coordination Council for North American Affairs was renamed the Taiwan Council for US Affairs, better reflecting the nature of Taiwan-US relations. The US government announced three arms sales packages in 2019, including advanced weapons such as M1A2 Abrams tanks and new generation F-16V fighter aircraft, demonstrating strong US support for Taiwan's self-defense needs. The United States has also repeatedly highlighted the importance of Taiwan's role in the US Indo-Pacific strategy. In addition to expanding cooperation under the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF), Taiwan and the United States co-hosted important events such as a Civil Society Dialogue on Securing Religious Freedom in the Indo-Pacific Region, the US-Taiwan Democratic Governance Consultations in the Indo-Pacific, and the Pacific Islands Dialogue, reflecting the close partnership between the two countries. In June, Taiwan's government again assisted domestic manufacturers in organizing the world's largest delegation to attend the SelectUSA Investment Summit hosted by the US Department of Commerce. In September, the government-organized 2019 Taiwan Agricultural Trade Goodwill Mission to the United States signed letters of intent for the purchase of US agricultural products (worth US\$3.7 billion), further promoting economic and trade exchanges. In October, the United States renewed Taiwan's continuing designation in its Visa Waiver Program, facilitating

people-to-people exchanges. In addition, 33 of the 50 US states have signed reciprocal driving license agreements with Taiwan, benefiting more than 16,000 people from both countries.

Taiwan and Canada also share common values and are steadily enhancing substantive ties. Canada continues to support Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations. Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland spoke out in the Senate in support of Taiwan's participation in international multilateral fora, and in May 2019, Chief Public Health Officer Theresa Tam made public statements in support of Taiwan's bid in the World Health Assembly. In October, former Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper visited Taiwan and delivered a keynote speech at the 3rd Yushan Forum, making him the first former Canadian Prime Minister to visit Taiwan.

II. Relations with individual countries

1. Relations with Canada

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between the Republic of China and Canada were established on August 2, 1941, and severed on October 13, 1970. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Toronto, was established on January 8, 1991, as TECO in Canada headquarters. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Ottawa was established on July 9, 1992. On August 3, 1993, the TECO headquarters was moved to Ottawa and renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Canada. The Toronto office and Vancouver office were set up in 1994 and 1991, respectively. Canada established the Canadian Trade Office in Taipei on October 25, 1986.
- (2) Governmental relations: The Canadian government shares common values with Taiwan and supports Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations. On April 9, 2019, Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland, responding to questions in the Senate regarding Taiwan's participation in the World Health Assembly (WHA), clearly stated that the Canadian government would continue to support Taiwan's meaningful participation in international multilateral fora, where its presence provides important contributions to the global public

good. In addition, 56 members from both the Senate and the House of Commons through joint letters, individual letters, or posts on social media expressed their support for Taiwan's participation in the 40th session of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) General Assembly held in Montreal in September. The 15th annual Taiwan-Canada Economic Consultations, the most important regular mechanism of dialogue between the two countries was held in Ottawa in November.

- (3) Economic and trade relations: According to Statistics Canada, Canada's exports to Taiwan were US\$1.539 billion, and imports from Taiwan were US\$4.497 billion in 2019. Taiwan was Canada's 13th-largest trading partner worldwide and its fifth-largest in Asia (after China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and India), while Canada was Taiwan's 23rd-largest trading partner.
- (4) Technological cooperation: Research institutions in Taiwan have signed MOUs with Canadian counterparts, including the National Research Council Canada, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, Communications Research Centre, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Canadian Institutes of Health Research-Institute of Genetics, and Terry Fox Research Institute, carrying out collaborative projects and personnel training in vaccine, communications, cancer, information science, earthquake research, and other areas. Apart from that, the University of Ottawa, University of Toronto, University of British Columbia and other institutions of higher education in Canada take part in the Dragon Gate Program of Taiwan's Ministry of Science and Technology.
- (5) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan encourages Canadian students to study in Taiwan through programs such as the Taiwan Scholarship and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship. In 2019, 19 Canadian students received these scholarships. Approximately 300 Canadian students were studying in Taiwan, while 4,000 Taiwanese students were studying in Canada. The Ministry of Education signed agreements with the University of Toronto, Simon Fraser University, McGill University, and the University of Ottawa to establish programs under the Taiwan Studies Project.

(6) Mutual visits by dignitaries

A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Minister without Portfolio Audrey Tang; Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien; and Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua.

B. Visits from Canada were made by: former Prime Minister Stephen Harper; Chairperson of the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission Ian Scott; President of the National Research Council Iain Stewart; Vice-President of Research Partnerships at the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Marc Fortin; Secretary General of the National Research Council of Canada Roger Scott-Douglas; Assistant Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons Anthony Rota (Lib-ON) and Mrs. Rota; Member of Parliament Tom Lukiwski (Con-SK) and Mrs. Lukiwski; Member of Parliament Todd Doherty (Con-BC) and Mrs. Doherty; Member of Parliament Matt Jeneroux (Con-AB); and former Canadian Secretary of State David Kilgour.

(7) Other: Approximately 200,000 Taiwan nationals currently reside in Canada, and about 60,000 Canadian citizens (including people with dual nationality) reside in Taiwan. In 2019, approximately 164,000 Canadians visited Taiwan, while about 133,000 Taiwanese traveled to Canada. In 2019, the Canadian government provided a quota of 1,250 in the International Experience Canada program for Taiwanese youth to apply for working holidays, Young Professional work experience, or International Co-op internship.

2. Relations with the United States

(1) Background: The year 2019 marks the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act. Based on mutual trust, Taiwan and the United States maintain close relations and effective communication. Top leadership transit stops in the US, high-level official exchanges and interaction, and substantive cooperation on bilateral and multilateral issues have all produced significant results. The close cooperation across all fields, at all

levels, demonstrates that Taiwan-US relations are predictable, sustainable, and mutually beneficial.

A. High-level interactions and diplomatic courtesies

- (A) President Tsai Ing-wen made a transit stop in Honolulu on her return trip from the Oceans of Democracy state visit in late March. During the stopover, she participated in a public videoconference held by the Heritage Foundation, a Washington-based think tank, to elaborate on Taiwan's important role in the Indo-Pacific region. President Tsai also visited the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, and was welcomed by Major General Arthur Logan, the agency's Director, who is also the Adjutant General of the Hawaii Army National Guard.
- (B) President Tsai Ing-wen made transit stops in New York and Denver on the departure and return legs of the Journey of Freedom, Democracy, and Sustainability state trip in July, staying two nights in each city, respectively. During her stay, she met with Permanent Representatives of Taiwan's diplomatic allies to the United Nations at TECO in New York, visited the National Center for Atmospheric Research and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and hosted a reception for the traveling press corps for the first time in the US.
- (C) During President Tsai Ing-wen's two transits to the US in 2019, she interacted with a total of 11 Members of Congress, including Speaker of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and Co-Chair of the Senate Taiwan Caucus Robert Menendez (D-NJ), Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy Cory Gardner (R-CO) and Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee Eliot Engel (D-NY), via phone call, videoconference, or in person at VIP receptions or banquets with the overseas compatriot community.

- (D) The United States government published photos of US National Security Council Senior Director for Asian Affairs Matt Pottinger interacting with Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien in the Solomon Islands in March. In April and June, respectively, it published photos of Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Cindy Kierscht and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Julie Chung, during their visits to Taiwan's diplomatic ally Haiti, showing them together with the Taiwan and US ambassadors to that country.
 - (E) Secretary-General of National Security Council David Tawei Lee met with US National Security Advisor John Bolton during a May visit to the United States. For the first time, the US government agreed to make the meeting public.
- B. The Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances as cornerstones of Taiwan-US relations
- (A) US National Security Advisor John Bolton tweeted on April 1 about the provocation of Chinese military aircraft crossing the median line of the Taiwan Strait, stating that “Chinese military provocations won’t win any hearts or minds in Taiwan, but they will strengthen the resolve of people everywhere who value democracy. The Taiwan Relations Act and our commitment are very clear.”
 - (B) On April 15, the Trump administration announced a US\$500 million arms sale package to Taiwan, which includes pilot training and F-16 fighter upgrade maintenance at Luke Air Force Base. Randy Schriver, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs, stated publicly that the United States will “treat Taiwan as a normal Foreign Military Sale partner.”
 - (C) Acting US Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan reiterated at the Shangri-La Dialogue on June 1 that the United States will “continue to meet our obligations under the Taiwan Relations Act to make defense articles and defense services available to Taiwan

for its self-defense. This support empowers the people of Taiwan to determine their own future. We maintain that any resolution of differences across the Taiwan Strait must occur in the absence of coercion and accord with the will of the people on both sides of the Taiwan Strait.”

- (D) The Trump administration formally notified Congress on July 8 and August 20 of the arms sales to Taiwan, including M1A2 Abrams tanks, Stinger Missiles, and F-16C/D Block 70 fighter jets as well as related equipment and logistic support, as measures to fulfill its commitments under the Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances, fully demonstrating its support for Taiwan’s self-defense needs.
- (E) Two Senators and five Members of the House of Representatives from South Carolina sent a joint letter to President Trump on August 6, calling on the executive branch to approve the sale of F-16V fighter jets to Taiwan as soon as possible.
- (F) The Senate and the House of Representatives passed a concurrent resolution “reaffirming the United States commitment to Taiwan and to the implementation of the Taiwan Relations Act”, separately.
- (G) The Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) and the US National Park Service co-hosted a cleanup event at the annual National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, DC, to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act.
- (H) The American Legislative Exchange Council passed a resolution reaffirming that the Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances are the cornerstones of US relations with Taiwan, and urging the US administration to implement the policies outlined in the Taiwan Travel Act and Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018.

C. Support for Taiwan's international participation and consolidation of diplomatic ties with allies

- (A) On February 19, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo issued a statement at the Micronesia Presidents' Summit in Palau, praising Taiwan as a democratic success story, a reliable partner, and a force for good in the world. Quoting Vice President Mike Pence's statement that "America will always believe Taiwan's embrace of democracy is an example to be internationally supported," he emphasized that the US respected and supported South Pacific countries' continuous support for Taiwan. In addition, while meeting with the president and foreign minister of Paraguay during his visit there on April 15 to 16, Secretary Pompeo brought up Paraguay's continuous efforts to strengthen relations with Taiwan and the importance of maintaining the status quo across the Taiwan Strait. On December 14, President of Paraguay Mario Abdo Benítez told President Trump during a visit to the United States that he would continue to maintain diplomatic relations with Taiwan for the remainder of his term.
- (B) Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia and Nonproliferation Ted Yoho (R-FL) wrote to US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II on March 8, urging him to attend Global Cooperation and Training Framework workshops on public health in Taiwan and to support Taiwan's participation in the WHA.
- (C) A bill "to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization and for other purposes" was introduced in both the Senate and House of Representatives.
- (D) The four Co-Chairs of the US Congressional Taiwan Caucus wrote a joint letter on behalf of its members on May 17 to WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, urging WHO to invite Taiwan to attend the 2019 WHA.

- (E) Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy Cory Gardner (R-CO) and the other five Members of Congress publicly expressed their concerns or individually wrote to US Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs Kevin Moley to express their firm support for Taiwan's participation in the WHA.
- (F) US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II spoke up for Taiwan at the WHA plenary meeting in Geneva, Switzerland in May, expressing US dissatisfaction and regret that Taiwan was not invited to the WHA again. He also held bilateral talks with Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung. After the meeting, he posted a message on Twitter to emphasize that the United States government firmly supports Taiwan's participation in the WHA.
- (G) After both the Solomon Islands and Kiribati severed diplomatic relations with Taiwan in September, a total of 23 Members of Congress publicly condemned China and expressed their strong support for Taiwan.
- (H) During the United Nations General Assembly in September, the United States government invited Director General of TECO in New York Lily L.W. Hsu to attend the Global Call to Protect Religious Freedom hosted by US President Donald Trump at the United Nations headquarters. US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II spoke at the meeting on Universal Health Coverage: Moving together to build a Healthier World, expressing his disappointment that Taiwan was not included in the global health and epidemic prevention system and affirming Taiwan's contributions to emergency response and primary care.
- (I) Forty-one Members of the House of Representatives, including four Co-Chairs of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, sent a joint letter to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Secretary of

Transportation Elaine Chao on September 23, calling for US support for Taiwan's participation in the 2019 ICAO Assembly as an observer.

- (J) The Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019 was introduced in both the Senate and House of Representatives. The Senate passed the bill on October 29, while the House Foreign Affairs Committee passed the bill on October 30.
- (K) Forty-seven Members of the House of Representatives including John Curtis (R-UT) sent a joint letter to Attorney General William Barr and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to urge the US administration to support Taiwan's participation in INTERPOL as an observer.
- (L) In 2019, legislatures in 38 US states and two territories passed 46 resolutions reaffirming state-level alliances with Taiwan, calling for strengthened economic and trade relations and supporting Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations.

D. Helping Taiwan counter coercion by the People's Republic of China

- (A) In response to Xi Jinping's speech marking the 40th Anniversary of the Message to Compatriots in Taiwan on January 2, US National Security Council Spokesman Garrett Marquis stated on Twitter on January 7 that "the US rejects the threat or use of force to compel the people of Taiwan. Any resolution of cross-strait differences must be peaceful and based on the will of the people on both sides." It was the first time that the National Security Council expressed its stance on cross-strait issues on Twitter. In addition, 13 Members of Congress, including the US Senator John Kennedy (R-LA) issued tweets, and the Co-Chair of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus Steve Chabot (R-OH) wrote an article openly voicing support for Taiwan.
- (B) Assistant Secretary of Defense for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs Randy Schriver stated in a speech at the National Bureau of Asian

Research on February 7 that the United States will conduct arms sales to Taiwan consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act to ensure that Taiwan has the capability to deter invasion by the PRC. He reiterated that the Taiwan-US partnership is solid and that efforts to defend Taiwan's democracy and freedom would continue.

- (C) Co-Chair of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus Steve Chabot (R-OH) introduced a resolution “expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States One-China Policy does not commit it to the People’s Republic of China’s One-China Principle...”
- (D) The Taiwan Assurance Act of 2019 was introduced in both the Senate and the House of Representatives; the House version of the bill was passed on May 7.
- (E) In response to the Solomon Islands and Kiribati terminating diplomatic relations with Taiwan in September, the US National Security Council and Department of State both issued strong statements condemning the PRC for inducing the two countries to make the diplomatic switch, and stating that the PRC’s efforts to change the status quo undermined stability in the region. The cross-strait status quo supported by the United States includes Taiwan’s diplomatic ties and international presence, which are important for maintaining regional peace, the statements said.
- (F) When delivering a speech at the Wilson Center on October 24, US Vice President Mike Pence said “... And we’ve stood by Taiwan in defense of her hard-won freedoms. Under this administration, we’ve authorized additional military sales and recognized Taiwan’s place as one of the world’s great trading economies and beacons of Chinese culture and democracy... over the past year China has induced two more nations to switch diplomatic recognition from Taipei to Beijing, increasing pressure on the democracy in Taiwan...,” and emphasized “The international community must never forget that its engagement with Taiwan

does not threaten the peace; it protects peace on Taiwan and throughout the region. America will always believe that Taiwan's embrace of democracy shows a better path for all the Chinese people."

- (G) On November 3, the US State Department released the report *A Free and Open Indo-Pacific: Advancing a Shared Vision*, which criticizes China for bullying "Taiwan through military maneuvers, economic pressure, constraints on its international space, and poaching of its diplomatic partners," which "undermine the cross-Strait status quo that has benefitted both sides of the Strait for decades." The US "vision and approach in the Indo-Pacific region aligns closely...with Taiwan's New Southbound Policy," the report says. The United States also released the Indo-Pacific Transparency Initiative, in which the first-ever Democratic Governance Consultations in the Indo-Pacific co-hosted by Taiwan and the US were particularly recognized for promoting good governance, human rights, and anti-corruption in the region.
- (H) The Senate and the House of Representatives passed the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 in December, which includes articles mandating reports on China's interference in Taiwan's 2020 elections, as well as support for arms sales to Taiwan and Taiwan-US defense and security cooperation.

E. Strengthening global and regional cooperation

- (A) Representative to the United States Stanley Kao attended the Ministerial Meeting of the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS, hosted by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo at the Department of State on February 6, 2019. Ambassador Kao, on behalf of the government of Taiwan, announced Taiwan pledged a donation of US\$500,000 toward Nadia's Initiative (an international NGO founded by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Nadia Murad) for humanitarian assistance and regional stabilization in Iraq. Taiwan's contribution was recognized during the Ministerial Meeting by Ambassador James

Jeffrey, US Special Presidential Envoy to the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS, and other senior State Department officials.

- (B) On February 15, Representative to the United States Stanley Kao attended the Global Conference on the Humanitarian Crisis in Venezuela at the Organization of American States headquarters in Washington, DC, and announced Taiwan pledged a donation of US\$500,000 on behalf of the government of Taiwan for humanitarian assistance to Venezuela.
- (C) US Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom Samuel Brownback visited Taiwan to attend and speak at A Civil Society Dialogue on Securing Religious Freedom in the Indo-Pacific Region, affirming that Taiwan is an important partner for the United States in the Indo-Pacific Region and a model for religious freedom and human rights in a free and democratic society. The Taiwan government pledged a donation of US\$1 million toward the US State Department's International Religious Freedom Fund over five years starting from 2019.
- (D) On March 19, Foreign Minister Jaushieh Joseph Wu and Director of the American Institute in Taiwan Taipei Office (AIT/ T) Brent Christensen announced the launch of the US-Taiwan Democratic Governance Consultations in the Indo-Pacific to promote core values of human rights, democracy, and good governance in the Indo-Pacific region. The inaugural dialogue was convened in AIT/ T's new office in Neihu District, Taipei, on September 12.
- (E) On June 28, Representative to the United States Stanley Kao presented the Taiwan government's donation of US\$500,000 to international NGO Nadia's Initiative for humanitarian assistance and regional stabilization work in Iraq. Ambassador Kelley Currie of the US Department of State's Office of Global Criminal Justice witnessed the donation.

- (F) Representative to the United States Stanley Kao and Ambassador-at-Large for Religious Freedom Pusin Tali attended the second Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom at the US Department of State on July 18.
 - (G) Taiwan and the United States conducted seven workshops under the Global Cooperation and Training Framework in 2019, the most since the inception of the GCTF. A workshop was staged in Palau for the first time, while Japan, Sweden, and Australia co-hosted individual GCTF events.
- F. Important bilateral agreements: The Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation on International Parental Child Abduction, the MOU Regarding Certain Consular Functions, and Letters of Intent Establishing a Baggage Screening Facilitation program were signed by TECRO and AIT in 2019.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
- A. According to 2019 trade statistics released by the US Department of Commerce, Taiwan was the 10th-largest trading partner of the US, with the bilateral trade totaling US\$85.5 billion.
 - B. The US Department of Commerce held the 2019 SelectUSA Investment Summit in Washington, DC, in June. The Taiwan Business Leader Delegation with 11 representatives, headed by Minister without Portfolio John C.C. Deng, was the largest delegation in the event. The delegation met with senior officials such as Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Global Markets Ian Steff and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Trade Policy Negotiations David Meale at the welcome reception. The delegation also met with Senator Cory Gardner (R-CO), Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, and four other Members of Congress. Taiwan Power Company and General Electric Company held a contract signing ceremony for the purchase of gas turbines on Capitol Hill on June 11, with Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and Tim Scott (R-SC) and Representative William Timmons IV

- (R-SC) attending and giving remarks.
- C. The 2019 Taiwan Agricultural Trade Goodwill Mission visited Washington, DC, in September, to sign a letter of intent for the purchase of agricultural products, and to meet with five Senators, including Chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee John Hoeven (R-ND). In all, 22 House of Representatives and Senate members attended the signing ceremony and reception, the largest number in history. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs David Stilwell also attended the reception.
 - D. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs David Stilwell, Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Global Markets Ian Steff, and Foreign Agricultural Service Administrator Ken Isley wrote a joint letter to all state governors and Fortune Global 500 companies in October, calling for stronger trade and investment links with Taiwan, as well as cooperation in education and tourism, and highlighting the US administration's position on strengthening ties with Taiwan.
 - E. Taiwan's National Development Council and the US Department of Commerce jointly hosted the 3rd Taiwan-US Digital Economy Forum in Taipei in early December, followed by a joint press statement laying out the common strategic priorities of Taiwan-US economic relations in the digital age.
 - F. In a letter to United States Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, the four Co-Chairs of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus and 157 Members of the House of Representatives expressed their support for a bilateral trade agreement with Taiwan and encouraged the USTR to initiate trade negotiations with Taiwan.
- (3) Scientific and technological cooperation
- A. Cooperative activities: The National Cancer Institute in the US National Institutes of Health, Taiwan's National Yang-Ming University and Taipei Veterans General Hospital launched an international collaboration laboratory in March. Minister of Science and Technology

Chen Liang-gee led a delegation to the US in June and attended the launching ceremony of the FORMOSAT-7/COSMIC-2 constellation of satellites at Cape Canaveral, Florida, witnessing the achievements of Taiwan-US cooperation in space science and technology.

- B. Bilateral meetings: The Ministry of Science and Technology organized the 2019 US-Taiwan Science and Technology Collaborative Meeting with Taiwan's National Applied Research Laboratories and the US National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Standards and Technology, and National Science Foundation.
- C. Important science and technology agreements: In 2019, TECRO and AIT signed the Implementing Agreement on the Radiation Protection Code Analysis and Maintenance Program, Implementing Arrangement Number 16 to the Agreement for Technical Cooperation associated with Establishment of Advanced [meteorological] Data Assimilation and Modeling Systems, and Implementing Arrangement Number 31 to the Agreement for Technical Cooperation in Meteorology and Forecast Systems Development.

(4) Cultural and educational relations

- A. US State Department Critical Language Scholarship Program: In 2019, National Cheng Kung University was re-selected as the site of the Chinese Language Scholarship Program under the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. 23 American students received the scholarship and came to Taiwan for language study.
- B. Promotion of Mandarin Chinese language teaching in the US and scholarships for studying in Taiwan: In 2019, the Ministry of Education sent two Mandarin language teachers and seven teaching assistants to different universities in the United States, conducted six language proficiency tests in cooperation with US universities, and awarded 108 Americans with the Ministry of Education Huayu Enrichment Scholarship and three with the MOE Taiwan Scholarship to study in Taiwan.

C. Promotion of Taiwan studies in the United States: The MOE cooperated with George Mason University to conduct the Taiwan Studies Program, offering one course each in Taiwanese history and introduction to Taiwanese literature.

(5) Agriculture and fisheries cooperation

A. The Taiwan-US Bilateral Fisheries Meeting was held in Boston in June to exchange views on fisheries cooperation plans; seafood exports to the United States; high seas boarding and investigation; illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing; and participation in regional fisheries management organizations.

B. In October, Taiwan and the United States held a meeting in Washington, DC, to determine quarantine techniques and standards for agricultural products during which they discussed issues regarding plant and animal quarantine and food safety. Following the meeting, an operational work plan for exporting guavas to the US was signed, making Taiwan the first country in Asia allowed to export guavas to the US.

(6) Mutual visits by dignitaries

A. High-level visits to the US: President Tsai Ing-wen; former Vice President Annette Lu; Secretary-General to the President Chen Chu; Secretary-General of the National Security Council David Tawei Lee; President of the Judicial Yuan Hsu Tzong-li; Ministers without Portfolio Audrey Tang, Wu Tsung-tsong, and John C.C. Deng; Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu; Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin; Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung; Minister of Culture Cheng Li-chun; Minister of Science and Technology Chen Liang-gee; Minister of Mainland Affairs Council Chen Ming-tong; Minister of the Council of Indigenous Peoples Icyang-Parod; Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Wu Hsin-hsing; Deputy Secretary-General of the National Security Council Tsai Ming-yen; Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien; Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua; Deputy Minister of Transportation and Communications Huang Yu-lin; Vice Minister

of Labor Lin San-quei; Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare Su Li-chiung; Vice Minister of Health and Welfare Hsueh Jui-yuan; Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Hsu Yu-chin; Deputy Ministers of Mainland Affairs Council Chen Min-chi and Chiu Chui-cheng; Vice Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Roy Yuan-rong Leu and Deputy Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Kao Chien-chih; Legislators Hsiao Bi-khim, Lee Li-feng, Chiang Chi-chen, Chen Ching-min, Lin Ching-yi, and Hsu Yu-jen.

B. Visits from the US:

- (A) Senior officials: Foreign Agricultural Service Administrator Ken Isley; Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Global Markets Ian Steff; Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom Sam Brownback; Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs Nerissa Cook; Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Trade Policy and Negotiations David Meale; Executive Vice President of the Government National Mortgage Association Maren Kasper; Senior Advisor to the Office of International Trade, US Small Business Administration Eugene Cornelius; Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency Jane Nishida; Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for International Markets Mitchell Silk; Acting Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Scott Busby; Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands Sandra Oudkirk; Deputy Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Jay Butler; Agricultural Research Service Associate Administrator Steven Kappes; Foreign Agricultural Service Associate Administrator Clay Hamilton; and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Energy for Asia and the Americas Elizabeth Urbanas.
- (B) Members of Congress: Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia, The Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy Cory Gardner (R-CO);

Senators Chris Coons (D-DE), Maggie Hassan (D-NH), and Ted Cruz (R-TX); Chair of the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX); Members of the House of Representatives Hank Johnson (D-GA), Don Bacon (R-NE), Salud Carbajal (D-CA), Sean Patrick Maloney (D-NY), Bill Flores (R-TX), and Guy Reschenthaler (R-PA).

North America
diplomatic events in
photographs



Minister without Portfolio Audrey Tang delivers a video speech at the DRIVE conference at Wilfrid Laurier University in Canada. (February 21, 2019)



Representative to Canada Winston Wen-yi Chen and Mrs. Chen host Taiwan Night, joined by many Canadian dignitaries. (April 3, 2019)



Deputy Minister of the Hakka Affairs Council Yiong Con-zin delivers a keynote speech at the 6th Annual Meeting of the International Association of Language Centers in Toronto, Canada. (June 25, 2019)



Representative to Canada Winston Wen-yi Chen and Mrs. Chen share a toast with Canadian dignitaries and overseas compatriot community leaders at the National Day reception. (October 7, 2019)



Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua (third left) visits the MaRS Entrepreneurship Center in Toronto, Canada, accompanied by Executive Director of the Canadian Trade Office in Taipei Jordan Reeves (first left) and Director General of TECO in Toronto Hsu Yong-mei (fifth left). (November 13, 2019)



Representative to the United States Stanley Kao attends the Global Conference on the Humanitarian Crisis in Venezuela at the Organization of American States headquarters and announces a donation of US\$500,000 on behalf of the government of Taiwan for humanitarian assistance in Venezuela. (February 14, 2019)



US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) (center) attends a reception commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act hosted by Representative Stanley Kao (right) in the Capitol Building. (May 8, 2019)



South Carolina Secretary of State Mark Hammond addresses at the National Day reception hosted by TECO in Atlanta. (October 7, 2019)



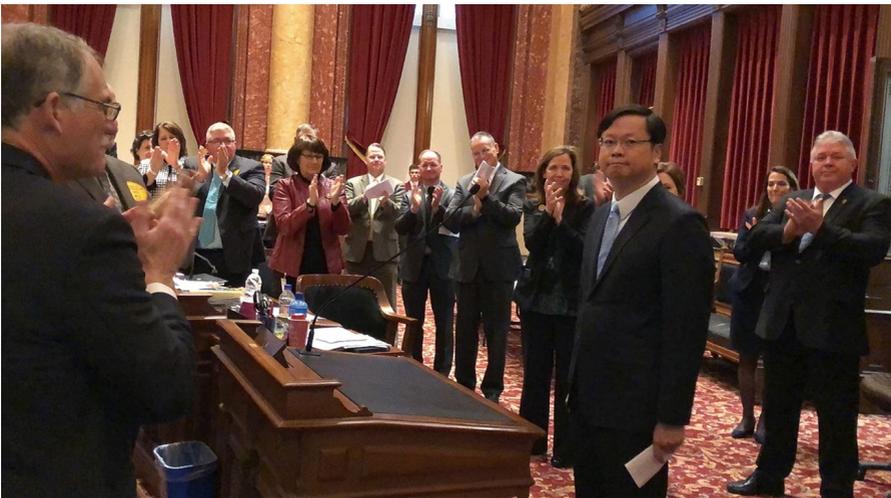
US dignitaries and Taiwan's overseas community affairs commissioners from the US Southeastern region raise a toast at the National Day reception hosted by TECO in Atlanta. (October 6, 2019)



Director General Douglas Y. T. Hsu of TECO in Boston, Massachusetts Senate President Emerita Harriette L. Chandler, and other local dignitaries attend an event commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act at the Massachusetts State Legislature. (April 23, 2019)



Dragon Boat Eye Dotting Ceremony at the 20th Annual Rhode Island Chinese Dragon Boat Races and Taiwan Day Festival, co-hosted by Lieutenant Governor of Rhode Island Daniel McKee, Secretary of State Nellie Gorbea, and Director General Douglas Y. T. Hsu of TECO in Boston. (September 7, 2019)



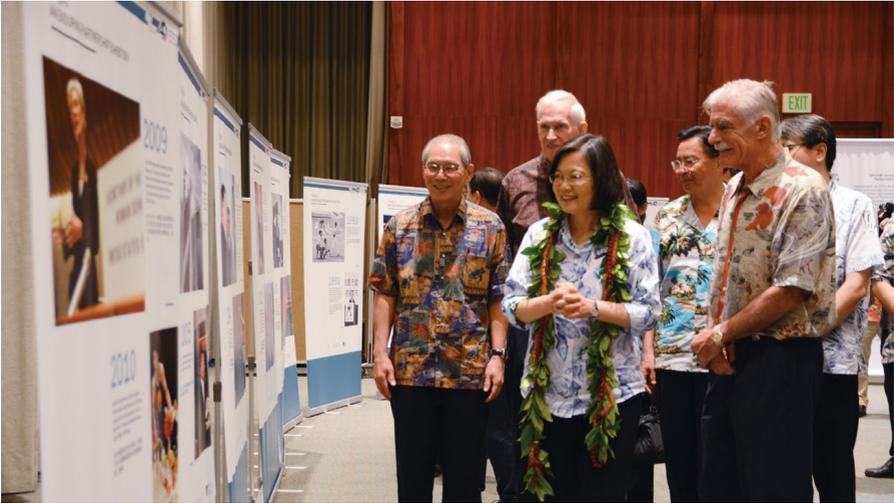
Director General Eric Jiun-yaw Huang of TECO in Chicago (front) receives applause following his address at the Iowa State Senate. (March 13, 2019)



Director General Eric Jiun-yaw Huang of TECO in Chicago gives a briefing on Taiwan-US relations at the Indiana State Senate. (April 9, 2019)



Representative to the US Stanley Kao (second right) shows the baseball after throwing the first pitch at a Chicago White Sox home game. (May 14, 2019)



During a transit stop in Honolulu on the return leg of the Oceans of Democracy state trip, President Tsai Ing-wen (middle) visits a special exhibition on the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act at the East-West Center, accompanied by Chairman of the EWC Board of Governors Richard Turbin, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu, American Institute in Taiwan Chairman James Moriarty, and Representative to the US Stanley Kao (from right to left). (March 27, 2019)



Lieutenant Governor of Hawaii Josh Green (center) presents a certificate of congratulations to Director General Michael Y. K. Tseng (left) of TECO in Honolulu and Senior Adviser to the Overseas Community Affairs Council Tsai Chi-shu (right) in recognition of the “Aloha from Taiwan” event commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act by providing free medical care and food to homeless people. (April 3, 2019)



Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant, Deputy Minister of Agriculture Chen Jun-ji, and Director General Peter Chia-yen Chen of TECO in Houston (back row, left to right) witness the 2019 Taiwan Agricultural Trade Goodwill Mission signing a letter of intent to purchase soybeans and corn from Mississippi. (September 18, 2019)



The 2019 Taiwan Agricultural Trade Goodwill Mission's Meat Delegation signs a letter of intent to purchase meat products from Arkansas, in a ceremony witnessed by Arkansas Secretary of State John Thurston (standing, left) and Director General Peter Chia-yen Chen of TECO in Houston (standing, right). (September 25, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen (fifth left) meets with California State Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (fourth left). (July 30, 2019)



Director General Abraham Chu of TECO in Los Angeles (fourth left, front row) hosts a reception in Arizona commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act. (September 30, 2019)



Director General David K. C. Chien of TECO in Miami (right) signs the reciprocal agreement on driver's licenses with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, United States Virgin Islands, and meets with the new Governor Albert BRYAN (left) at Government House. (January 10, 2019)



Director General David K. C. Chien of TECO in Miami (right), Mayor of Miami Francis Suarez (center), and City Manager Emilio Gonzalez (left) co-host a Taiwan Day reception at Miami City Hall. (October 15, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen (front middle) meets with Permanent Representatives of Taiwan's diplomatic allies to the United Nations at TECO in New York during a transit stop on the Journey of Freedom, Democracy and Sustainability state trip. (July 11, 2019)



Governor of Utah Gary Herbert (third right) receives Director General Joseph Chung-lin Ma of TECO in San Francisco (third left) at the state building. (July 22, 2019)



Director General Joseph Chung-lin Ma of TECO in San Francisco poses with local compatriots after addressing the City Council of Sacramento, California's state capital. (November 19, 2019)



Director General Joseph Chung-lin Ma of TECO in San Francisco and California Governor Gavin Newsom pose for a photo at a reception held by the California Chamber of Commerce. (May 22, 2019)



Idaho Governor Brad Little (second right) and Director General Alex K. S. Fan (second left) of TECO in Seattle witness the 2019 Taiwan Agricultural Trade Goodwill Mission's Wheat Delegation signing a letter of intent to purchase wheat from Idaho. (September 25, 2019)



Wyoming Governor Mark Gordon (third right) and Director General Alex K.S. Fan (third left) of TECO in Seattle display the letter of intent signed by the 2019 Taiwan Agricultural Trade Goodwill Mission's Meat Delegation to increase the purchase of meat products from Wyoming. (September 23, 2019)

Item 6 Taiwan's relations with Latin American and Caribbean countries

I. Introduction

There are 33 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. Taiwan maintains diplomatic relations with Belize, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. In addition, Taiwan has established consulates general in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, and Ciudad del Este, Paraguay. Taiwan has established representative offices in seven countries with which it does not currently have diplomatic relations—Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, and Peru—and an office in Sao Paulo, Brazil. In addition, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, and Peru have trade offices in Taiwan.

II. Relations with individual countries

1. Relations with Belize

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with Belize on October 11, 1989; the embassy was officially opened on October 25, 1989. Belize established an embassy in Taiwan on September 21, 1992.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
 - A. Bilateral trade between Taiwan and Belize totaled US\$7.51 million in 2019. Taiwan's exports to Belize totaled US\$6.13 million as the total imports from Belize amounted to US\$1.38 million. About 20 Taiwanese companies invested an aggregate US\$30.6 million in Belize.
 - B. Minister of State for the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Commerce Tracy Panton visited Taiwan from August 12 to 16. In addition to meeting with the Legislative Yuan, Office of Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Economic Affairs, and Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA), the Minister also attended the Seminar on Belize Investment and Business Opportunities.

- (3) **Bilateral cooperation:** In line with the priorities of the Belize government, Taiwan has promoted a number of cooperation projects in infrastructure, information and communications, public health, and agriculture that will benefit the people of Belize.
- (4) **Cultural and educational relations:** The International Higher Education Scholarship Program and the Taiwan Scholarship, established in 2004 and 2006 respectively, help Belizean students pursue bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in Taiwan. As of 2019, more than 400 Belizean students have studied for degrees at colleges and universities in Taiwan. In addition, Taiwan has assisted the Institute for Technical and Vocational Education and Training of Belize with upgrading its teaching equipment and practice rooms. The Educational Service Group from National Tsing Hua University went to Belize to provide volunteer services and donate IT equipment during July and August. The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education of Belize Patrick Faber presented the International Volunteer Service Award to the National Tsing Hua University volunteer group at the Belize Youth Awards 2019.
- (5) **Humanitarian assistance:** Taiwan provided support to the Special Envoy for Women and Children of Belize, the First Lady, Kim Simplis Barrow, for the charity calendars and the Spirit of Christmas concert in December.
- (6) **Mutual visits by dignitaries**
 - A. A visit from Taiwan was made by the Minister of Transportation and Communications Lin Chia-lung.
 - B. Visits from Belize were made by: Governor-General Colville Young; President of the Belize Senate Lee Mark Chang; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Patrick Faber; Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation Jose Manuel Heredia; Minister of Transportation and National Emergency Management Edmond Castro; Minister of Natural Resources Hugo Patt; Attorney General and Minister of Justice Michael Peyrefitte; Minister of National Security John Saldivar; Minister of State for the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Commerce Tracy Panton; Deputy Minister of National Security Felix Enriquez;

CEO of the Ministry of Health George Gough; and CEO of the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Commerce Duane Belisle.

2. Relations with Guatemala

- (1) Background: The Republic of China established diplomatic relations with Guatemala on June 15, 1933, and opened a consulate general in Guatemala City. It was renamed a legation on December 22, 1954, and upgraded to an embassy on September 22, 1960. Taiwan posted a technical mission in Guatemala on February 14, 1973, and stationed the Taiwan Investment and Trade Service Mission in Central America there on October 18, 2000. Guatemala established its legation in Taiwan on December 22, 1954, and upgraded it to an embassy on September 1, 1960.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Taiwan's exports to Guatemala totaled US\$139.97 million; imports from Guatemala amounted to US\$68.57 million. According to data from the Investment Committee of the MOEA, Taiwanese investments in Guatemala comprised eight cases, with a cumulative value of US\$22.87 million. In 2019, a total of 23 Guatemalans came to Taiwan to attend TAITRA exhibitions and seminars, while 75 Taiwanese made business trips to Guatemala.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: In addition to providing 16 Guatemalan students with the Taiwan Scholarship and 14 students with admission to the TaiwanICDF's International Higher Education Scholarship Program, Taiwan also sponsored a one-year Mandarin Chinese course at the College of Foreign Languages, National University of San Carlos. The TaiwanICDF dispatched Mandarin Chinese teachers to carry out a Chinese-language education project and assist the ROC Elementary School in Guatemala City with Mandarin courses. Taiwan also donated 20,000 school bags to the Secretariat of Social Work of the Wife of the President (SOSEP).
- (4) Technological cooperation: Taiwan has stationed a technical mission in Guatemala for 46 years. Besides the SME Business Counselling Program, the Agricultural Enterprise Program (including the Aquaculture Program),

and the Bamboo Industry Development Program, the current projects involve the developments in the medical and health field to promote the use of medical technology to enhance maternal and newborn health care functions. In addition, the programs also focus on the traditional craft industry to revitalize local characteristics.

- (5) Bilateral cooperation: The programs entail infrastructure, healthcare, education, science and technology, and economics and trade, including funding assistance for SOSEP to operate 52 free clinics.
- (6) Overseas community affairs
 - A. There are about 17,050 overseas compatriots (including Guatemalans of Chinese descent) in Guatemala. Since 1981, more than 600 Taiwan nationals have taken up residence in Guatemala. Most of them are engaged in the import, wholesale, retail, and electronic entertainment industries.
 - B. Overseas community organizations: Related organizations include the Overseas Chinese Association, the Taiwanese Chambers of Commerce, the World Kwong Tong Community Association, Lions Clubs International, Tzu Chi Guatemala, the Golf Club, Lions Clubs International of the New Generation of Chinese, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, and the Taiwan Chamber of Commerce & Industry.
- (7) Humanitarian assistance: Taiwan donated 1,000 tons of rice to Guatemala, and the Taiwan government and the SimplyHelp Foundation of Taiwan donated Christmas toys and supplies to SOSEP for children in need.
- (8) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Minister of National Defense Yen Teh-fa, and Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Miguel Li-jeY Tsao.
 - B. Visits from Guatemala were made by: President Jimmy Morales and the First Lady, Vice President Jafeth Cabrera and Mrs. Cabrera, President-elect Alejandro Giammattei, First Vice President of the Congress Felipe Alejos, General Director of Civil Aviation Francis Arturo Argueta Aguirre, Chairman of the National Competitiveness Program Víctor Asturias and his wife, and Vice Minister of Economy Julio Dougherty.

3. Relations with Haiti

- (1) Background: The Republic of China (Taiwan) and Haiti established diplomatic relations on April 25, 1956. On July 2 of the same year, the Minister to Cuba was appointed as the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Haiti with residence in Havana. The legation was established on May 30, 1960, with the Minister to Cuba serving concurrently as the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Haiti with residence in Havana. On September 7, 1965, the legation was upgraded to an embassy. The first ambassador, Kao Shih-ming, presented his credentials on October 24, 1966. The first Haitian ambassador to Taiwan, who served concurrently as the Ambassador to Japan, presented his credentials on April 8, 1980. On August 16, 1981, Haiti's Chargé d'Affaires arrived in Taipei to establish the embassy.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2019, bilateral trade between Taiwan and Haiti totaled US\$31.03 million, of which Taiwan's exports to Haiti totaled US\$26.47 million and imports from Haiti totaled US\$4.56 million. The President of the Haiti Industries Association, Georges B. Sassine, led a delegation of Haitian business leaders to Taiwan to seek investments. Delegations of Haitian entrepreneurs dealing in coffee, fragrances and herbs, chocolate, and liquor attended the International Coffee, Tea and Wine Exhibition in Taiwan. The Embassy of Haiti also promoted Haitian cuisine and culture in Taiwan.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: The TaiwanICDF's International Higher Education Scholarship and the MOFA Taiwan Scholarship programs awarded scholarships to 33 outstanding Haitian students for study in Taiwan, and to 11 mid-level officials and talented individuals to attend short-term seminars in Taiwan. MOFA also arranged the International Young Diplomat Training Workshop in Taiwan for Haitian officials and the Mandarin Chinese language class for diplomats from allies. Taiwan also sent Mandarin Chinese teachers to Haiti. The ASUS Foundation donated laptops to Haiti as Taiwan assisted Haiti in building vocational schools and classes, and clothing manufacturing centers.

- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries: President Tsai Ing-wen visited Haiti on her Journey of Freedom, Democracy, and Sustainability state trip.
- (5) Agriculture and fisheries cooperation: Three modern rice seed treatment centers were established under the National Rice Seed Production Enhancement Project in the northern, central, and southern regions of Haiti.
- (6) Bilateral cooperation: In line with President Jovenel Moïse's policies, the Taiwan government launched cooperation projects to address issues with the electricity supply, humanitarian assistance for underprivileged communities, food security, and healthcare.

4. Relations with Honduras

- (1) Background: The Republic of China established official diplomatic relations with Honduras in April 1941. In June 1957, a legation was established in the capital of Honduras, which was upgraded to an embassy in May 1965. In December 1997, Taiwan established a consulate general in San Pedro Sula. Honduras established an embassy in Taiwan in June 1985. High-level officials of the two countries have paid visits frequently and signed agreements on free trade, technical cooperation, electrical power technology cooperation, investment promotion and protection, audit cooperation, volunteer work, journalism, and cultural exchanges.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
 - A. Bilateral trade in 2019 totaled US\$166.58 million, of which Taiwan exported goods worth US\$74.24 million and imported goods valued at US\$92.34 million.
 - B. After the Taiwan-Honduras Free Trade Agreement came into effect in July 2008, manufacturers utilized the preferential terms of the agreement to boost bilateral trade flows. The Export-Import Bank of the Republic of China provided a relending facility to assist Honduran companies with loans to purchase Taiwan products. Taiwan and Honduras have continued to hold bilateral talks on related key issues via the Administrative Commission of the Free Trade Agreement to

deepen economic and trade relations between the two countries, and organized the Foreign Trade and Negotiation Training Workshop, Honda Expo 2019: Packaging and Design Workshop, and Coffee Industry Training Workshop.

- (3) Technical cooperation: Taiwan has assisted Honduras in developing its agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and animal husbandry, as well as with technical consultations and technology transfers. Taiwan has introduced Tilapia cage culture, white shrimp and pig breeding techniques, Asian vegetables and rice, orchids, Indian dates, and guava cultivation. Projects in progress cover healthy avocado seedling production, forest pest management, and pig breeding and reproduction.
- (4) Cultural and educational relations: The Taiwan government has promoted scholarship programs in Honduras since 2005. In 2019, a total of 55 outstanding Honduran students were granted the Taiwan Scholarship and the TaiwanICDF's International Higher Education Scholarship to study in Taiwan. In addition, since 2009, the Taiwan government, in cooperation with Canal 10 and *La Tribuna* in Honduras, has built and repaired classrooms in rural areas. To date nearly 700 classrooms have been completed, significantly improving the educational environment for children in rural areas. Another 31 Honduran youths came to Taiwan under the Latin American and Caribbean Countries Vocational Training Project.
- (5) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Minister of National Defense Yen Teh-fa and Mrs. Yen, and Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin.
 - B. Visits from Honduras were made by: the First Lady, Ana García de Hernández; Vice President Olga Margarita Alvarado Rodríguez and her husband; Secretary of General Government Coordination Martha Vicenta Doblado Andara and her husband; Minister of Economic Development Arnaldo Castillo; President of the Supreme Court of Auditors Roy Pineda Castro and Mrs. Pineda; Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs José Isaiás Barahona Herrera and Mrs. Barahona;

Vice Minister for Economic Development Alejandra Chang; General Tito Livio Moreno Coello and Mrs. Moreno; Rector of the Defense University Jorge Arnaldo Fuentes Hernández; and Mayor of Tegucigalpa Nasry Juan Asfura Zablah.

- (6) Bilateral cooperation: Cooperation in public health, humanitarian and social assistance, education, agriculture and animal husbandry, green energy and personnel training has been conducted in accord with the policies of the Honduran government.
- (7) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 4,000 ethnic Chinese live in Honduras, most of whom are first-generation, second-generation, or recent immigrants from China. There are about 30 Taiwan nationals, most of whom live in San Pedro Sula, a large industrial and commercial city in northern Honduras. The main overseas community groups in Honduras are the Chinese Association of Honduras and the Association of Hondurans of Chinese Descent, established in 1943 and 1997, respectively.
- (8) Humanitarian assistance: The North American Taiwanese Medical Association and Taiwan Root Medical Peace Corps went to Honduras for free clinics. In addition, Taiwan cooperated with the Burns Rehabilitation Center—CRISAQ to donate pressure garments for burn patients and rice for underprivileged and rural families.

5. Relations with Nicaragua

- (1) Background: In May 1930, The Republic of China established a consulate general in the Republic of Nicaragua, overseen by the legation in Panama. On June 14, 1932, a dedicated consulate general in Managua was established. The two countries established diplomatic relations and the consulate general became a legation on May 18, 1955, and was then upgraded to an embassy on September 20, 1962. Diplomatic relations were severed on December 7, 1985, and resumed on November 5, 1990. The Taiwan government reopened the embassy on November 13 of the same year. Nicaragua appointed its first Concurrent Minister to Taiwan in 1960; this position was upgraded to the level of Concurrent Ambassador

to Taiwan in 1966. After the restoration of diplomatic ties with Taiwan in 1990, Nicaragua's first Ambassador to Taiwan arrived in April 1991.

(2) Economic and trade relations

A. The FTA between Taiwan and Nicaragua came into effect on January 1, 2008. Bilateral trade in 2019 totaled US\$145.88 million, of which Taiwan's exports accounted for US\$20.24 million and its imports US\$125.64 million. Taiwanese business people invested about US\$145.02 million in Nicaragua in 31 investment cases, creating 7,300 jobs.

B. In 2019, 15 Taiwanese manufacturers and 31 Friends of Taiwan from the ranks of the Nicaraguan government, professional and public associations, banks that undertake relending of funds from the Export-Import Bank of the Republic of China, Nicaraguan vendors of Taiwanese products, and Taiwanese businessmen in Nicaragua participated in the Taiwan Trade Fair in Nicaragua, with on-site transactions amounting to US\$1.26 million.

C. The Embassy in Nicaragua organized Nicaraguan delegations to attend the Giftionery Taipei, Food Taipei, and Taiwan International Coffee exhibitions. Taiwan managed the Central American Coffee Business Opportunity Investigation Group, the Tourism Industry Business Opportunity Investigation Group, the Delegation to the 1st International Tourism Fair of Nicaragua and the Central American Seafood Industry Purchase Group.

(3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan provided 15 Taiwan Scholarships and two Taiwan Fellowships to the Nicaraguan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and sent two professional Mandarin Chinese teachers and three English volunteers to Nicaragua. The Embassy in Nicaragua hosted the Mandarin Chinese Contest, Mandarin Chinese Proficiency Test, the World Children's Painting Exhibition award ceremony, and participated in the 3rd and 4th Nicaragua International Food and Culture Festival. The Taiwanese movie *Jump Ashin!* was screened at the Central American International Film Festival. A total of 65 Nicaraguans were invited to

participate in training and workshops, including 20 in the TaiwanICDF training course, 38 in its vocational training program, and seven in the International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training seminar.

(4) Mutual visits by dignitaries

A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Director-General of the National Security Bureau Peng Sheng-chu, Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the ROC Armed Forces Liu Chih-pin and Mrs. Liu, and Secretary General of the TaiwanICDF Timothy T. Y. Hsiang.

B. Visits from Nicaragua were made by: Tourism Minister Anasha Campbell; Major General Marvin Elías Corrales, Inspector General of the Armed Forces, and Mrs. Corrales; President of the National Council of Universities and Rector of National Autonomous University of Nicaragua Ramona Rodríguez.

(5) Bilateral cooperation: In 2019, Taiwan carried out eight cooperation programs with the Nicaraguan Departments of Family Economy, Health, Education, and Transportation, as well as the National Police and the Armed Forces, covering food security, social welfare, healthcare, education, infrastructure, and institutional strengthening.

(6) Agriculture and fisheries cooperation: The TaiwanICDF sent technical missions to carry out 11 projects: Rice Seed Research, Development and Production Expansion; Bamboo Cultivation and Handicraft Productivity Enhancement; Common Bean Research, Development and Production Extension; Plantain Development; Strengthening Fruit and Vegetable Production; One Town, One Product; Capacity Building for Commercialization of Agricultural Products; Family Fish Farming Promotion; Mariculture; Strengthening Capacity for Geographic Information System Metadata and Disaster Resilience; and Strengthening the Chronic Kidney Disease Prevention and Control System. Ten Taiwan Youth Overseas Servicemen were dispatched to serve as assistant technicians for each program.

- (7) Humanitarian assistance: Taiwan donated 1,800 tons of white rice to the Nicaraguan government, funded the construction of 197 new houses for flood victims, and sponsored the Nicaraguan Red Cross's Summer Beach Safety Program 2019 and the annual fundraising of the Nicaraguan Commission to Help Children with Cancer. In addition, the Taiwan Root Medical Peace Corps toured six cities and towns in Nicaragua to provide free clinics and donate medicine, serving 2,037 people. Three 40-foot containers of supplies were donated by the SimplyHelp Foundation and the Wu Jun-Hsian Foundation.
- (8) Overseas community affairs: More than 2,000 ethnic Chinese live in Nicaragua, and about 300 overseas Taiwanese compatriots work in various industries. The leading organization is the Chinese Association founded in 1942. Its current president is Iván Quant, and its members are Nicaraguans of Chinese descent. In addition, the Taiwan Chamber of Commerce was established in 1998, and the current president is Lin Chi-ming. It comprises Taiwan business people doing business in Nicaragua for more than two decades, and Taiwan business staff working in the processing zone.
- (9) Consular affairs: The agreement between Taiwan and Nicaragua on exemption from duplicate certification of foreign official documents came into effect on March 26. The embassy in Nicaragua is in charge of consular affairs in both Costa Rica and Nicaragua. In 2019, the embassy staff toured each of these countries twice to conduct mobile consular services.

6. Relations with Paraguay

- (1) Background: The Republic of China (Taiwan) and Paraguay established diplomatic relations on July 12, 1957, and the Taiwan embassy was established on November 19, 1959. The Consulate General in Puerto Presidente Stroessner, established on December 12, 1988, was renamed Consulate General in Ciudad del Este in February 1989. Since July 12, 2017, Taiwan and Paraguay have granted visa-free access to citizens of the two countries holding ordinary passports for a 90-day stay. The two governments also signed an agreement in Taipei on exemption from duplicate certification of foreign official documents.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade totaled US\$153.32 million, with Taiwan exporting goods worth US\$38.74 million to Paraguay and importing US\$66.58 million in goods from Paraguay. Taiwan's Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin and Paraguay's Minister of Industry and Commerce Liz Cramer convened the Second Joint Committee Meeting of the Agreement on Economic Cooperation between the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Republic of Paraguay in Taiwan and the 19th Paraguay-ROC Economic Cooperation Conference in Paraguay. TAITRA led 15 domestic manufacturers to participate in the 2019 Expo FERIA Internacional de la Ganadería, Industria, Agricultura, Comercio y Servicios. The Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association organized the 2019 Taiwan Economic and Business Cooperation Mission to Paraguay, Chile, and Peru.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan provides the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Paraguay with 40 Taiwan Scholarships, 12 Huayu Enrichment Scholarships and two TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarships for selecting students to study in Taiwan. Two Paraguayan government officials were awarded scholarships to take part in the E-Learning Executive Master's Program in Asia-Pacific Studies at Tamkang University. The Taiwan-Paraguay Polytechnic University held its first entrance examination on February 25. In addition, scholarship presentation ceremonies were also held for the Latin America and the Caribbean Countries Vocational Training Project—Creative Woodworking, the Paraguay-Taiwan Travel Specialist Training Program, and the Latin America and the Caribbean Countries Vocational Training Program—Tourism and Food and Restaurant Services.
- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Minister of Foreign Affairs Jauhsieh Joseph Wu, Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin, Minister of National Defense Yen Teh-fa, and Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Council Wu Hsin-hsing.

- B. Visits from Paraguay were made by: Vice President Hugo Velázquez and Mrs. Velázquez, President of the Senate and of the Congress Silvio Ovelar, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Eugenio Jiménez Rolón and Mrs. Jiménez, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development Ariel Oviedo and Mrs. Oviedo, and Minister of National Defense Bernardino Soto Estigarribia.
- (5) Agriculture and fisheries cooperation: Ongoing agricultural technical cooperation between Taiwan and Paraguay in 2019 included the Surubi Fingerling Breeding and Cultivation Project, the Health Information Management Efficiency Enhancement Project, the Project to Strengthen Capacity to Support Development of MSMEs, and the Project to Strengthen Capacity for Commercial Production of Orchids. A TaiwanICDF delegation visited Paraguay in November to collect data on the Plastic Waste Treatment and Sustainable Utilization Project.
- (6) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 4,500 overseas compatriots live in Paraguay, most of whom are from Taiwan. They are mainly engaged in business, while a few operate small factories or work in education, hospitality and tourism. There are more than 30 different associations based on their professions and interests. Besides actively cooperating with overseas community affairs, they also frequently conduct charitable activities.
- (7) Bilateral cooperation: Cooperation projects in humanitarian and social assistance, education, housing, road infrastructure, security and defense, and public health were conducted in accord with the policy priorities of President Mario Abdo Benítez. In addition, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Jauhsieh Joseph Wu of Taiwan and Minister of Foreign Affairs Antonio Rivas of Paraguay convened the First Meeting of the Taiwan-Paraguay Political Consultation Mechanism in October in Paraguay and held a press conference to announce the cancellation of quota restrictions on the import of Paraguayan beef to Taiwan.

- (8) Humanitarian assistance: Kaohsiung Medical University professor Kwan Aij-lie led a volunteer medical team of 16 physicians to offer free clinics in rural areas of Paraguay.

7. Relations with St. Christopher and Nevis

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with St. Kitts and Nevis on October 9, 1983, and established an embassy on August 5, 1984. St. Kitts and Nevis established an embassy in Taiwan on January 28, 2008.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade between Taiwan and St. Kitts and Nevis totaled US\$3.89 million in 2019. Taiwan's exports to St. Kitts and Nevis totaled US\$3.87 million, while total imports from St. Kitts and Nevis amounted to US\$22,000. TAITRA participated in the Agriculture Open Day in St. Kitts and Nevis. The Central America Trade Office organized the 2019 Taiwan Tourism Industry Mission to St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Taiwan companies Kuang Jun Construction Co., Ltd., Vivotek Inc., Hyweb Technology Inc., and International Integrated Systems, Inc. invested in construction programs and participated in bilateral projects in St. Kitts and Nevis.
- (3) Bilateral cooperation: Major projects included the Nevis Island Coastal Park Project, the Enhancement of Agricultural Adaptability to Climate Change, the Enhancement of Land Use Information, the Prevention and Treatment for Chronic Kidney Disease Project, Phase II of the National Road Surveillance System, and the Old Road Bay Rehabilitation Project.
- (4) Cultural and educational relations: The Taiwan government granted 14 outstanding young students from St. Kitts and Nevis scholarships to attend university and study Mandarin Chinese in Taiwan, and provided 175 middle school and elementary students in St. Kitts and Nevis with scholarships under the Talent Education Program. Personnel from the TaiwanICDF Overseas Volunteer Service also served in St. Kitts and Nevis, and courses were conducted under the Latin American and Caribbean Countries Vocational Training Program.

- (5) Humanitarian assistance: The Embassy in Saint Christopher and Nevis donated goods to charities and education departments on behalf of the US-based SimplyHelp Foundation and donated laptop computers to the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on behalf of the ASUS Foundation.
- (6) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. A visit from Taiwan was made by: President Tsai Ing-wen on her Journey of Freedom, Democracy, and Sustainability state trip.
 - B. Visits from Saint Christopher and Nevis were made by Prime Minister Timothy Harris, Premier of Nevis and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mark Brantley, and Speaker of the National Assembly Michael Perkins.

8. Relations with Saint Lucia

- (1) Background: Taiwan and St. Lucia established diplomatic relations for the first time in May 1984, which were severed in June 1997 due to the transition of power in St. Lucia. The two countries resumed diplomatic relations in April 2007, and Taiwan reopened its embassy in St. Lucia. Since then, the relationship between the two countries has grown steadily. In 2015, St. Lucia opened its embassy in Taiwan as that country's first overseas mission in Asia, with Prime Minister Kenny Anthony hosting the opening ceremony.
- (2) Bilateral cooperation: In St. Lucia, Taiwan has actively promoted public construction projects crucial to the people's livelihood and offers programs in agriculture, public health, education, and information and communications. The technical mission in Saint Lucia also conducts a number of cooperation projects in agriculture and information and communications. The Taiwan government annually provides Taiwan Scholarship, TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarship, I-Shou University School of Medicine for International Students Scholarship and technical and vocational training. Changhua Christian Hospital helps train medical staff from St. Lucia.

(3) Mutual visits by dignitaries

- A. A visit from Taiwan was made by: President Tsai Ing-wen on her Journey of Freedom, Democracy, and Sustainability state trip.
- B. Visits from Saint Lucia were made by: Prime Minister Allen Chastanet; President of the Senate Jeannine Giraudy-McIntyre; Minister for Infrastructure, Ports, Energy and Labor Stephenson King; Minister of National Security Heremenegild Francis; Minister of Education Gale Rigobert; Minister of Health Mary Isaac; Minister of Culture Fortuna Belrose; Attorney General Stephen Julien and Mrs. Julien; Permanent Secretary Elma Gene Isaac; and Permanent Secretary in the Department of Education Michelle Charles.

9. Relations with Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on August 15, 1981. The Embassy in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines was officially opened on March 24, 1983, and the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Embassy in Taiwan was opened in Taipei on August 8, 2019. The two countries have signed an extradition treaty, treaty of friendship, technological cooperation agreement, volunteer's agreement, mutual investment promotion and protection agreements, agreement concerning money laundering and terrorist financing, agreement on exchange of police information, agreement on cooperation in immigration affairs and human trafficking prevention, financial cooperation agreement, agreement on combating cross-border crimes, and an MOU on talent fostering cooperation.
- (2) Medical cooperation: Changhua Christian Hospital sent a short-term medical group to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to provide services, including resident visits to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Central Hospital, free clinics in rural areas, and seminars on new chemotherapy drugs. Changhua Christian Hospital also trained four medical staff from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. MacKay Memorial Hospital and the Central Hospital of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines became sister

hospitals on August 30 to facilitate the installation of prosthetic limbs for amputees suffering from diabetes. The Taiwan International Healthcare Training Center of the Ministry of Health and Welfare trained a medical staff member (a nurse) from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

- (3) Cultural and educational relations: MOFA provided 13 Taiwan Scholarships and three TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarships. In collaboration with the Ministry of Education of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Embassy provided grants to 442 outstanding students from underprivileged families attending schools at all levels. The Taiwan government also invited officials and youths from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to attend a range of training courses and workshops in Taiwan.
- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. A visit from Taiwan was made by: President Tsai Ing-wen on her Journey of Freedom, Democracy, and Sustainability state trip.
 - B. Visits from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines were made by: Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves and Mrs. Gonsalves, Minister of Health Luke Browne, Commissioner of Police Colin John, and Deputy Commissioner of Police Frankie Joseph.
- (5) Humanitarian assistance: In cooperation with the Ministry of Social Development, the Embassy in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines donated goods to charities and education departments on behalf of the US-based SimplyHelp Foundation.

10. Relations with Argentina

- (1) Background: The Republic of China established diplomatic relations with Argentina on May 30, 1945. Ties were severed on February 19, 1972. The embassy was closed on August 10, 1972. On January 6, 1973, the Taiwan Trade Office in Argentina was established, and was renamed the Taipei Commercial and Cultural Office in Argentina on January 26, 1996. On July 9, 1992, the Argentina Trade and Cultural Office was established in Taipei.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade between Taiwan and Argentina totaled US\$372 million. Taiwan's imports from Argentina totaled US\$196.11 million, while total exports to Argentina amounted to US\$176.29 million, resulting in a trade surplus of US\$28.73 million for Argentina. Argentina is Taiwan's 55th-largest export market and 51st-largest source of imports, and the sixth-largest trading country in Latin America, after Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Peru, and Colombia.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Hung Tzu-hsuan, director of the Taiwanese film *The Scoundrels*, visited Argentina in April for the 21st Buenos Aires International Festival of Independent Cinema. The Argentine Television Federal program *Por El Mundo* was filmed in Taiwan. Argentine Director Walter Tejblum's *Shalom Taiwan* premiered on August 29. Tsai Yen-ling, associate professor of humanities and social sciences at National Chiao Tung University and a member of the Land Dyke Experimental Farmer's Home visited Argentina for her project Going Home with the Golden Apple Snail: A Taiwan-Latin American Trans-Pacific Transspecies Search. The Buenos Aires Municipal Government cooperated with the representative office of Taiwan to organize the Taiwan Culture and Art Season with the theme of El Rey Mono, Titeres de Taiwan. Taiwanese dancers Anna Chin and Lee Hsin-da participated in Argentina's World Tango Dance Tournament in Buenos Aires City in August.
- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Deputy Governor of the Central Bank Chen Nan-kuang, and Minister without Portfolio Audrey Tang.
 - B. Visits from Argentina were made by: Members of the Argentine Chamber of Deputies Graciela Camaño, Sergio Omar Buil, Marcela Campagnoli, Leandro López Koenig and Mrs. Koenig, and Miguel Nanni; Mayor of Berazategui Patricio Mussi; Mayor of General Alvarado Germán Di Cesare; and Acting Mayor of Castelli Julio Sebastián Echarren.

11. Relations with Chile

- (1) Background: The Republic of China and Chile established diplomatic relations on February 18, 1915. These were severed on January 5, 1971. On September 30, 1975, in the Chilean capital of Santiago, Taiwan established the Far East Trade Office in Chile. On December 22, 1990, it was renamed the Taipei Commercial Office in Chile. On June 26, 1992, the name was changed to the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chile. The Chilean Trade Office was established in Taipei on September 22, 1989. Since January 1, 2012, Taiwan and Chile have agreed to the mutual exemption of tourist visa fees; since January 1, 2016, to the mutual exemption of tourist visas; and since July 1 of that year, to the mutual exemption of diplomatic and official passport visas.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade between Taiwan and Chile totaled US\$1.82 billion. Taiwan's exports to Chile totaled US\$31.35 million, while total imports from Chile amounted to US\$1.51 billion.
- (3) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Minister without Portfolio and Trade Representative of the Office of Trade Negotiations John C. C. Deng, Minister Without Portfolio Lo Ping-cheng, Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung, Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare Ho Chi-kung, Deputy Minister of Finance Su Jain-rong, Vice Minister of Economic Affairs Lin Chuan-neng, Deputy Minister of Finance Juan Ching-hwa, Deputy Minister of Agriculture Huang Jing-cheng, and Vice Chairman of the Financial Supervisory Commission Huang Tien-mu.
 - B. Visits from Chile were made by: Deputy Minister of the Interior Felipe Salaberry; Members of the Chamber of Deputies Fernando Mesa and Mrs. Mesa, Jaime Bellolio, and Vlado Mirosevic.
- (4) Bilateral agreements: The Cooperation Framework Agreement between the Judges Association of Chile and the Judges Association of Taiwan was completed by way of separate signings in Chile and Taiwan.

- (5) Cultural exchanges: Formosa Circus Art from Taiwan performed in Las Condes, Santiago, and at the Oriental Theater in Providencia Municipality, Chile.
- (6) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 1,500 overseas Taiwanese live in Chile, mainly in San Diego and Iquique in the north. The Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Wu Hsin-hsing visited members of the overseas community in Chile.

12. Relations with Brazil

- (1) Background: The Republic of China and Brazil established diplomatic relations on April 8, 1913, which were severed on August 15, 1974. On July 14, 1975, Taiwan set up the Far East Trade Center in Brazil in São Paulo. On February 15, 1980, it was renamed the Taipei Business Center in Brazil. On January 10, 1992, Taiwan set up the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Brazil in Brasilia, the capital of Brazil. At the same time, the original business centers in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro were renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in São Paulo and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Rio de Janeiro, respectively. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Rio de Janeiro was closed on February 20, 2002. On March 27, 1990, the Brazil Commercial Office in Taipei was established in Taipei.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade between Taiwan and Brazil totaled US\$3.23 billion. Taiwan's imports from Brazil amounted to US\$2.06 billion, while total exports to Brazil totaled US\$1.18 billion. TAITRA organized the 2019 Central and South American Marketing Mission. The Latin American Business Council, the Importers and Exporters Association of Taipei, and the Taiwan Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association participated in the Brazil Building Materials and Hardware Fair, the Brazil Auto Parts Fair, and the Brazil Electronics Fair, respectively. In addition, 56 Brazilian manufacturers visited Taiwan to make purchases and 185 Brazilian manufacturers visited Taiwan to participate in exhibitions.

- (3) Cultural and educational relations
- A. Scholarships: Taiwan offered two Taiwan Scholarships, four Huayu Enrichment Scholarships, and one TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarship to Brazilian students. MOFA provided Taiwan Fellowships to Brazilian scholars to do research in Taiwan. More than 300 students from Brazil participated in the 2019 Asia International Mathematical Olympiad Open Contest in Taiwan from August 5 to 7. The representative office in Brazil and the Bureau of Culture of the Federal Government of Brasília DC jointly organized the first Taiwan Film Festival and participated in the International Tourism Exhibition organized by the Brazilian Tourism Association and the second Taiwan Film Festival organized by the University of São Paulo Film Center.
- B. Courses: The TaiwanICDF, the International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training, and the National Development Course invited a total of 18 Brazilian officials to attend training courses.
- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
- A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: President of the Control Yuan Chang Po-ya, Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Wu Hsin-hsing, and Executive Vice President of the Industrial Technology Research Institute Chang Pei-zen.
- B. Visits from Brazil were made by: Deputy Minister of Agriculture Flávio Campestrin Betrarello; General Coordinator of Drug Enforcement and Criminal Factions Elvis Aparecido Secco; Senator Carlos Viana; and Federal Deputies Pedro Cunha Lima, Carla Zambelli, Daniel Silveira, and Loester Trutis.
- (5) Humanitarian assistance: Taiwan donated daily necessities for 70 flood-affected families in João Pessoa in cooperation with the Ação Social Arquidiocesana da Paraíba, a Brazilian NGO; supplies for 820 underprivileged families to Instituto Acesso de Promoção Cultural Esportiva e Social de São Sebastião/DF and Associação de Amparo às Famílias Carentes/ASAMFAC; and medical equipment and supplies to the NGO Associação de Amparo ao Excepcional Ritinha Prates/AAERP in

Araçatuba, São Paulo.

- (6) Overseas community affairs: There are about 312,000 ethnic Chinese and 72,000 overseas Taiwanese compatriots, 90 percent of whom live in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. Most overseas leaders enthusiastically participate in overseas community activities, charities, and other public services. There are more than 60 overseas groups of many types, including business, social, leisure, local associations, public welfare, and religious groups.

13. Relations with Colombia

- (1) Background: The Republic of China Legation in Colombia was established on May 8, 1947, and officially began operations on November 6, 1947. It was upgraded to an embassy on April 6, 1961. The consulate in Barranquilla was established on March 28, 1972, officially opening on May 20, and was upgraded to a consulate general on November 19, 1979. On February 8, 1980, Taiwan severed diplomatic ties with Colombia. On June 14, 1980, the Far East Commercial Office in Colombia was established, beginning operations on August 26, simultaneously with the Far East Commercial Office in Colombia, Barranquilla Office. On November 27, 1990, these offices were renamed the Taipei Commercial Office in Bogota, Colombia and the Taipei Commercial Office in Barranquilla, Colombia. On July 1, 1991, the office in Barranquilla was closed. On May 7, 1993, the Colombia Trade Promotion Agency established a trade office in Taiwan, which was closed in December 2002 in consideration of operating costs.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
 - A. Bilateral trade totaled US\$418.61 million, of which Taiwan's exports to Colombia were US\$301.22 million and imports from Colombia US\$117.4 million. Colombia is Taiwan's 55th-largest trading partner overall and third-largest export market in Latin America, after Mexico and Brazil.
 - B. Economic and trade exchanges: The Taiwan Trade and Investment Mission to Latin America 2019, Taiwan Trade Mission to Latin

America 2019, and Taiwan Textile Delegation to Colombiatex 2019 were organized by TAITRA and the Taiwan Textile Federation. For the first time, in the form of country pavilion, Colombia participated in the Taiwan International Food Show 2019, Latin American Trade Day 2019, Taiwan International Medical & Healthcare Expo 2019, Taipei Smart City Summit & Expo 2019, and Taipei Aerospace & Defense Technology Exhibition 2019, as well as other large-scale international exhibitions and joint trade talks. The Bogota Chamber of Commerce and the Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association resumed the 4th Joint Economic Meeting Taiwan Colombia on June 18, and with the Taiwan Design Center signed an MOU on cooperation in innovation and design between Taiwan and Colombia.

- (3) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by: Chairperson of the Fair Trade Commission Huang Mei-ying; Deputy Mayor of Taipei Teng Chia-chi; and Hsieh Li-wen, Director of the Marketing and Promotion Division, Intelligent Community Forum Institute in Taiwan.
 - B. Visits from Colombia were made by: former Minister for Commerce, Industry and Tourism Luis Guillermo Plata Páez; Director of El Nodo Mario Alexander Penagos Rojas; and Director of Knowledge and Transformation at the Centre for Textile Research Lorenzo Velásquez.
- (4) Humanitarian assistance: Taiwan donated computer equipment for foreign language learning to the National Pedagogic University; aided basic infrastructure projects in the remote rural cities of La Cruz and Samaniego, Nariño Province; donated educational computer equipment for students in the Public Community Integration Agency of Itagüi City, Antioquia Province; donated to the sewing training program for disadvantaged women in Tumaco, Nariño Province, and to social welfare programs for mentally and physically disadvantaged inhabitants of three cities in Cundinamarca Province; donated to the fundraising activity of the Fundación Hogar San Mauricio charity, and to the year-end supplies collection drive for the needy by the charitable organization Fundación

Solidaridad Sin Límites; and donated Christmas toys for children in underprivileged areas of Bogotá, and for the Red Cross program to provide Christmas toys to children in rural areas, as well as Christmas gifts for underprivileged children in Nariño Province.

- (5) Cultural and educational relations: The Colombian national television network premiered the drama *The New World* and broadcast *The Sharp Wife* four times. The representative office cooperated with the National University of Colombia to hold 11 cultural and academic events in the series Ciclo de Taiwan, covering topics including Taiwan's national situation and international participation, information on government-provided scholarships, and Taiwan's achievements in promoting gender equality, as well as participation in the international week exchange exhibition, and co-organizing the Taiwan Spring Festival Printmaking Exhibition and the Taiwan Film Exhibition. The representative office arranged for prominent Taiwanese musicians Huang Hsin-yun, Chiang Jing-po, and Kimbo Ishii to perform with the Bogotá Philharmonic Orchestra in Colombia, assisted the visit to Colombia by renowned Taiwanese theater director Peng Ya-ling, and helped facilitate the signing of a cooperation and exchange agreement between the Department of Geology at National Taiwan University and Las Caldas University. The also representative office assisted an exchange visit to Taiwan by students from ICESI University in Colombia, and took part in the World Tourism Day International Travel Exhibition organized by Colombia's Tourism Police Corps.

14. Relations with Ecuador

- (1) Background: After Taiwan withdrew from the United Nations on October 25, 1971, Ecuador terminated diplomatic relations with Taiwan on November 17, 1971. On October 17, 1974, Taiwan established the Taiwan Agency in Guayaquil, the largest city in Ecuador. On April 12, 1977, the Trade Office of the ROC (Taiwan) was established in Quito, the capital of Ecuador. On May 1, 1977, the Taiwan Agency in Guayaquil was renamed the Guayaquil Branch of the Trade Office of the ROC (Taiwan)

in Ecuador. The Guayaquil Branch was closed on October 31, 1998. In March 2017, the Ecuadorian government unilaterally requested that Taiwan rename the representative office in Ecuador as the Taipei Trade Office. Ecuador established a commercial office in Taiwan on March 25, 1983, and closed it in July 1988.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade between Taiwan and Ecuador amounted to US\$133.62 million. Taiwan's exports to Ecuador totaled US\$122.98 million, while total imports from Ecuador came to US\$10.64 million. The representative office in Ecuador facilitated the signing of a relending facility agreement between the Export-Import Bank of the Republic of China and Ecuador's Banco del Pacifico, Banco Guayaquil, and Banco Internacional to provide Ecuadorian companies with a concessional loan program for purchases in Taiwan. TAITRA's Taiwan Trade and Investment Mission to Latin America visited Ecuador and held trade talks. Cocoa Orchid Farm from Nantou County and Orchis Floriculturing, Inc. from Tainan City participated in the 6th International Orchid Exhibition in Quito, Ecuador.
- (3) Agriculture and fisheries cooperation: On December 6, 1978, Taiwan sent a technical mission to Ecuador for cooperation regarding rice, vegetables, pig husbandry, orchids, small-scale agricultural machinery, information education, aquaculture, food processing, vegetable and grain production and marketing, and the bamboo industry. The Oyster Propagation Program is currently underway in Ecuador.
- (4) Cultural and educational relations
 - A. Academic exchanges: The representative office in Ecuador cooperated with Universidad Central del Ecuador and other schools to share information about Taiwan scholarships. In addition, Rotary Clubs in Taiwan and Ecuador took part in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program to select and send exchange students to each other's countries.
 - B. Cultural exchanges: The representative office in Ecuador cooperated with Channel 1 (Canal Uno) and Channel 40 (Canal 40) to telecast the Taiwan-produced television drama *The New World* (El Nuevo Mundo)

and encouraged children from Ecuador's capital, Guayaquil, Napo City in Amazonia, and other cities to participate in the 50th World School Children's Art Exhibition of the Republic of China.

- (5) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 800 overseas Taiwanese live in Ecuador, mainly in Quito, Guayaquil, and Machala. There are 14 overseas community organizations in Ecuador.

15. Relations with Mexico

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Mexico were severed on November 16, 1971. On April 19, 1989, Taiwan set up the Far East Trade Service Center in Mexico in Mexico City, which was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Mexico on July 14, 1993. The National Bank of Foreign Trade of Mexico, which handles foreign trade and investment, opened an office in Taiwan in June 1990 under the name Mexican Trade Services. In January 2019, it closed 48 offices around the world, including the one in Taipei. To strengthen economic and cultural ties between the two countries, the Oficina de Enlace de México en Taiwán established under Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has provided visa services and functioned as Mexico's official representative office in Taiwan since June 1991.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade totaled US\$3.76 billion, of which Mexico's exports to Taiwan amounted to US\$916.58 million, while imports from Taiwan were valued at US\$2.84 billion. According to Mexican government statistics, from 1999 to the third quarter of 2019, 291 Taiwanese companies had invested in Mexico, with a cumulative investment of US\$1.07 billion.
- (3) Humanitarian assistance: The representative office in Mexico donated computers and projectors to 23 public elementary schools in Chihuahua, and 42 computers and 11 voltage stabilizers to the Children's Heroics Public Elementary School in Jalisco. It also donated to the DIF Chiapas Project for Sewing Classroom Equipment, and gave computers and printers to the Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez Public Elementary School in Atotonilco, Jalisco.

- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. A visit from Taiwan was made by: Director-General Yang Jen-ni, the Bureau of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Economic Affairs.
 - B. A visit from Mexico was made by: an eight-member delegation led by Member of the Mexican Chamber of Deputies Francisco Javier Guzmán De La Torre.
- (5) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan provided TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarships, Taiwan Fellowships, Ministry of Education Huayu Enrichment Scholarships, and Taiwan Scholarships to 43 Mexican students. The representative office in Mexico signed contracts with El Sistema de Radio y Televisión Mexiquense authorizing the telecast of the Taiwan-produced television dramas *The New World* and *A Good Wife*. The Honwa Folk Dance Troupe from Taiwan took part in the Zacatecas Festival of International Folklore (Festival Zacatecas del Folclor Internacional) and the International Folklore Festival Tlaxcala (Festival Internacional del Folklore Tlaxcala) in Mexico. The Huang Yi Studio from Taiwan participated in the 47th Festival Internacional Cervantino in Mexico. The Little Giant Chinese Chamber Orchestra from Taiwan took part in the 31st Morelia Music Festival (Festival de Música de Morelia).
- (6) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 1,000 overseas Taiwanese live in Mexico, mainly engaged in business. Most live in Mexico City, León in Guanajuato, Tijuana in Baja California, and Juarez in Chihuahua, while the rest live in other major cities throughout Mexico. There are five overseas community organizations, namely, the Taiwan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Mexico City, the Taiwan Association of Mexico, the Emergency Relief and Care Association of Mexico, the Taiwan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Juarez, and the Taiwan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Baja California.

16. Relations with Peru

- (1) Background: The Qing dynasty and Peru exchanged ambassadors and established embassies immediately after signing the Treaty of Friendship on December 11, 1875. On November 2, 1971, diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Peru were severed. On January 1, 1978, the Far East Trade Center in Peru was established in the capital city of Lima. In November 1990, it was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Peru. In August 1988, Peru established Peru Promotion and Commercial Information Agency in the ROC in Taiwan, which was closed the following year. In May 1994, Peru established the Commercial Office of Peru in Taiwan.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
 - A. Bilateral trade between Taiwan and Peru totaled US\$473 million. Taiwan's exports to Peru came to US\$229 million, while total imports from Peru amounted to US\$244 million.
 - B. Economic and trade exchanges: The Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine under the Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan, organized a delegation to Peru for blueberry origin verification in February. President of the Lima Chamber of Commerce Yolanda Torriani led a delegation to Taiwan to attend the 13th Taiwan-Peru Joint Business Council Meeting. MOFA organized the 2019 Taiwan Economic and Business Cooperation Mission to Paraguay, Chile, and Peru, while TAITRA organized the Taiwan Trade Mission to Latin America 2019 and participated in Expotextil Peru 2019.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Between 2004 and 2019, more than 200 young Peruvian students and professors came to Taiwan to study Mandarin Chinese, pursue a degree or do research with the help of the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship and the Taiwan Fellowships provided by the Taiwan government. Shih Chien University of Taiwan and St. Ignatius of Loyola University of Peru (Universidad San Ignacio de Loyola/USIL) signed a memorandum of understanding on academic cooperation. Since 2015, the representative office in Peru signed memorandums of

understanding on public key infrastructure cooperation with the National Institute for the Defense of Competition and the Protection of Intellectual Property of Peru. Taiwan Digital Information Centers have been set up in rural schools in San Martin, Arequipa, Cajamarca, and Ica in Peru.

- (4) Medical and other cooperation: Chen Hung-chi, Honorary Superintendent, International Medical Service Center at China Medical University Hospital of Taiwan, was invited to visit Peru. In cooperation with Willax TV in Peru, the representative office in Peru broadcast the Taiwan-produced television series *The New World*. The founder of the Chou Ta-kuan Cultural & Educational Foundation, Chou Chin-hua, led a team to provide a charity performance. The Taiwan Women's Volleyball Team participated in the 2019 FIVB Volleyball Women's Challenger Cup. Flautist Jennie Tzu-ying Lin from Taiwan participated in the International Flute Art Festival. The observer group of the Chinese Professional Baseball League participated in the Pan American Games, while Taiwanese pianist Chen Wei-yin gave a charity performance in Peru.
- (5) Mutual visits by dignitaries
 - A. A visit from Taiwan was made by: Minister of Overseas Community Affairs Wu Hsin-hsing.
 - B. Visits from Peru were made by: María Luisa De Gonzales, wife of Peru's former foreign minister; Luis Galarreta, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Peruvian Congress, and Mrs. Galarreta; Moisés Guía, Chairman of the Committee on Justice and Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Trade and Tourism of the Peruvian Congress; Lima City Manager Sergio Meza; and Iván Slocovich, director of the newspaper *Correo*.
- (6) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 2 million ethnic Chinese and 300 Taiwanese compatriots live in Peru.

**Latin America and
the Caribbean
diplomatic events in
photographs**



Belize Minister of Foreign Affairs Wilfred Elrington (left) presents Ambassador to Belize Remus Li-kuo Chen (right) with a large framed commemorative stamp at a reception for the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Belize. (October 22, 2019)



Taiwan's Ambassador to Belize Remus Li-kuo Chen (third right), Governor-General of Belize Colville Young (third left), and Foreign Minister of Belize Wilfred Elrington (second left) celebrate the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries at the Taiwan-Belize Friendship Day Charity Fair. (October 22, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen meets with President of the Republic of Guatemala Jimmy Morales and the First Lady. (April 30, 2019)



Ambassador to Guatemala Cheng Li-cheng (front left) presents a donation of rice from Taiwan to Guatemala's First Lady Patricia Marroquín de Morales (front right). (October 2, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen (fourth left) and President of Haiti Jovenel Moïse (fourth right) attend the opening ceremony of the Taiwan Products Exhibition 2019, accompanied by the Secretary-General of the National Security Council David Tawei Lee (third left), Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (second left), Ambassador to Haiti Hu Cheng-hao (first left), Haiti's First Lady Martine Moïse (third right), Acting Prime Minister Jean Michel Lapin (second right), and Foreign Minister Bocchit Edmond (first right). (July 13, 2019)



Ambassador to Haiti Liu Bang-zyh (third right) hosts a reception to celebrate the 108th anniversary of the ROC attended by Bocchit Edmond, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship and Minister of Tourism (first right), and Jean Roudy Aly, Minister of Planning and External Cooperation and Minister of Justice (second left), and other Haitian officials. (October 8, 2019)



President of Honduras Juan Orlando Hernández (center) and Ambassador to Honduras Ingrid Ying-whei Hsing (second right) inaugurate the Center for Healthy Potato Plantation and Healthy Avocado Seedlings. (February 20, 2019)



Ambassador to Honduras Ingrid Ying-whei Hsing (center), Vice President of Honduras María Antonia Rivera (second right), and Minister of Economic Development of Honduras Arnaldo Castillo (second left) attend the opening ceremony of the first packaging design exhibition of Honduras. (April 2, 2019)



Presidential Advisor for the Promotion of Investments Laureano Ortega Murillo (third left); President of the National Assembly of Nicaragua Gustavo Porras (third right); President of the Supreme Court of Justice Alba Luz (second left); Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Valdrack Jaentschke (second right); Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Orlando Solórzano (first left); and Ambassador to Nicaragua Jaime Chin-mu Wu (first right) toast the National Day of the ROC. (October 9, 2019)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (right) is accompanied by Foreign Minister of Paraguay Antonio Rivas (left) to meet President Mario Abdo Benítez (center) during his visit to Paraguay. (October 30, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen (middle) receives Paraguay's Minister of Commerce and Industry Liz Cramer (fourth left) and her delegation. (June 20, 2019)



Ambassador to St. Christopher and Nevis Tom C. C. Lee (third right); Governor of St. Christopher and Nevis Tapley Seaton (fourth left); Prime Minister Timothy Harris (third left); Minister of Agriculture and Health Eugene Hamilton (second left); Minister of Trade, Industry and Tourism Lindsay Grant (second right); and Nevis Island Deputy Premier and Minister of Agriculture Alexis Jeffers (first left) cut the ribbon for the Taiwan Pavilion at the 26th Agricultural Exhibition of St. Kitts and Nevis. (April 25, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen (middle) receives the Order of St. Christopher and Nevis from Tapley Seaton, Governor General of St. Christopher and Nevis. (July 15, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen (front center) is greeted by St. Lucia Prime Minister Allen Chastanet (front right) during her state visit to St. Lucia. (July 17, 2019)



St. Lucia Prime Minister Allen Chastanet (second left), Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (second right) and Mrs. Wu, and Ambassador to St. Lucia Shen Cheng-tsung (first left) officiate at the opening ceremony of Hummingbird Park in Soufriere, South St. Lucia. (May 31, 2019)



Ambassador to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Calvin Chen-huan Ho (second left) and Minister of Agriculture Saboto Caesar (third right) sign the agreement for the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Banana Restoration Program. (May 6, 2019)



President Tsai Ing-wen (second left) and Premier Ralph Gonsalves (second right) witness the signing of the Public Financial Cooperation Agreement between the Government of the ROC (Taiwan) and the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Agreement between the Government of the ROC (Taiwan) and the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on combating Transnational Crime by Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (first left) and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Louis Straker (first right), during President Tsai's Journey of Freedom, Democracy, and Sustainability state trip. (July 16, 2019)



Representative to Argentina Antonio Chun-teh Hsieh (second left) and Mrs. Hsieh pose with Director of the National Directorate for Migration of Argentina Horacio García (second right). (October 7, 2019)



Representative to Brazil Her Jian-gueng (third left) meets with members of the Taiwan Alumni Association. (March 28, 2019)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (third right) welcomes Members of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile Jaime Bellolio (first left), Fernando Mesa and Mrs. Mesa (third left, second left), and Vlado Mirosevic (second right). (August 1, 2019)



Chairperson of the Fair Trade Commission Huang Mei-ying (second right) attends the International Competition Network 2019 Annual Conference in Cartagena, Colombia. (May 14, 2019)



Representative to Colombia Jose Han (first left) officiates at a ceremony for the donation of educational laptop computers made in Taiwan to the National Pedagogic University in Bogota. (November 12, 2019)



Representative to Ecuador Jaime Chuang (second right) is invited by the Governor of Tungurahua Manuel Caizabanda to deliver a speech on Bilateral Economic and Trade Opportunities between Taiwan and Ecuador. (December 17, 2019)



Representative to Mexico Armando Cheng (left) and Member of the Mexican Chamber of Deputies Francisco Javier Guzmán De La Torre (right) sign a record of the donation of computers and printers to the Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez Public Elementary School in Atotonilco, Jalisco. (November 27, 2019)



Representative to Peru Iván Y. J. Lee (fourth left) presides over the inaugural meeting of the Taiwan-Peru Friendship Association. (October 1, 2019)

Section 2 Participation in international organizations, conferences and activities

I. Campaign for UN Participation

The Republic of China (Taiwan) has been excluded from UN meetings, mechanisms, and conventions since its withdrawal from the United Nations in 1971. As its socio-economic development leaped forward, Taiwan's quest for international participation drew more and more attention from its people. Considering the participation in the UN system became an aspiration of all its people, the government of Taiwan launched its first UN campaign in 1993, and has continued its efforts ever since.

Based on the principle of steadfast diplomacy and mutual assistance for mutual benefit, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) continues to manifest Taiwan's aspiration to take part in the UN, as well as its capacity and potential contributions to the UN community, and called on the UN to take the importance and necessity of Taiwan's inclusion into sincere consideration. In the meantime, MOFA actively seeks support from the international community. The three core appeals from Taiwan are that (1) the UN should take immediate action to redress the inappropriate exclusion of Taiwan's 23 million people from the UN system; (2) the UN's illegitimate denial of access to visitors and journalists holders of Taiwan passport, depriving their rights to visit, to exercise journalism, or to participate in meetings or activities, should be removed immediately; and (3) the UN should respect Taiwan's right to participate in an equal and dignified manner in meetings, mechanisms, and activities related to the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and thereby to make contributions.

On behalf of Taiwan, twelve permanent representatives or *chargés d'affaires* of Taiwan's diplomatic allies' missions to the UN jointly or individually wrote to the Secretary-General in 2019. Eleven heads of state, heads of government, or representatives of Taiwan's diplomatic allies spoke up during the General Debate of the UN General Assembly, expressing their support for Taiwan's inclusion, which is a way of realizing the SDGs, as well as calling on the organization to redress the serious issue of the exclusion of 23 million people of Taiwan from the UN system.

During the second week of high-level meetings, four allies expressed their support for Taiwan in five occasions. Palau, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Eswatini spoke up at the High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage. Guatemala reaffirmed its support at the Climate Action Summit, and Palau saluted Taiwan's efforts in helping the international community to pursue the SDGs at the SDG Summit.

In addition, the United States invited Lily L. W. Hsu, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York, to attend the Global Call to Protect Religious Freedom event hosted by US President Trump at UN Headquarters, which set a precedent for the United States publicly inviting Taiwan officials to enter UN Headquarters for participating in activities organized by the US. US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II also appraised Taiwan as a strong partner in public health during the peripheral meeting on Primary Health Care towards Universal Health Coverage and the Sustainable Development Goals hosted by the United States.

II. Campaign for WHO Participation

The ROC was a founding member of the World Health Organization, which aims to achieve the highest attainable standard of health for every human being, and assists governments in improving the health of their people through consultations and technical services, as well as raising awareness of disease and environmental health. However, the World Health Assembly (WHA), the deliberative body of WHO, passed Resolution 25.1 in May 1972 to exclude the ROC from the organization. Since then, Taiwan's health officials have been unable to participate in WHO discussions on global medical and health policies, and their communication with WHO's technical departments has also been interrupted. To amend this situation, the government campaigns for Taiwan's participation in WHO since 1997. After 12 years of continuous efforts by the government and the civil society, Taiwan was included in the implementation of the International Health Regulations in 2009. On April 28, 2009, then WHO Director-General Margaret Chan extended an invitation to Minister of Health Yeh Ching-chuan to attend the 62nd WHA as an observer under the name of Chinese Taipei. Taiwan's health minister was invited to attend the WHA for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016.

Yielding to political pressure, WHO did not invite Taiwan to take part in the WHA from 2017 to 2019. To manifest Taiwan's attachment to global health cooperation and its determination to protect the health and wellbeing of its people, the government in 2019 solicited its diplomatic allies to write to the WHO Director-General in requesting that a proposal for inviting Taiwan to participate in the WHA as an observer be included in the WHA agenda. The proposal was submitted to the WHA by fourteen allies.

Diplomatic allies Eswatini and Honduras, as well as Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and the Marshall Islands acted as lead sponsors of the proposal and engaged in the two-on-two debates in the WHA General Committee and in the plenary session respectively. Their professional and pragmatic arguments outlined the indispensable inclusion of Taiwan in the WHO resonated with many other member states. Fifteen diplomatic allies, as well as many like-minded countries such as the United States, Japan, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand spoke up for Taiwan during general discussions in the plenary session or in Committee A. Moreover, the administrations of the United States, Japan, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Canada, Australia, and EU publicly expressed their support, in response to the inquiries from parliamentarians or from the media, and also conveyed their support through social media. The Representative Offices of the United States, Japan, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Canada, and Australia in Taiwan also publicly backed Taiwan's case.

In 2019, the legislatures from 34 countries supported Taiwan's case by passing resolutions, writing to the WHO Director-General, issuing statements, or speaking out on social media. In addition, a total of 30 states of the US passed resolutions supporting Taiwan's participation in international organizations. The US House of Representatives, to express its firm stance in favor of Taiwan being invited to the WHA, passed House Resolution 353 to direct the US Secretary of State to develop a strategy to help Taiwan regain observer status in the WHO.

The Taiwan WHA Action Team, led by Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung, conducted 71 bilateral talks, with the United States and other like-minded countries, diplomatic allies, and eminent medical and health professionals to exchange views on related issues of mutual concern. The Action Team also

shared Taiwan's experiences with the international community through international press conferences, media interviews, and discussions with nongovernmental organizations. The team also invited delegations to the WHA and diplomats resident in Geneva to the receptions organized for the cause.

Taiwan, determined to pursue the goal of equal and dignified participation in the WHA, calls on WHO and all parties concerned to acknowledge Taiwan's longstanding contributions to global public health, epidemic prevention, and health as a human right, as well as its medical and health partnerships with WHO member states, and to help Taiwan participate in the WHA in professional, pragmatic, and constructive ways, and gradually expand the scope of its participation in WHO mechanisms, meetings, and activities.

III. Campaign for ICAO participation

As a member of the international community, Taiwan shares the responsibility of ensuring the safety of global and regional aviation and contributes to the development of civil aviation and the welfare of all humanity. The Taipei Flight Information Region, of which Taiwan is in charge, manages huge air traffic volumes occurred in East Asia. It is a crucial part of the global aviation network. Taiwan, therefore, hopes to participate in International Civil Aviation Organization meetings, activities, and mechanisms. In 2013, Taiwan was invited, as Chinese Taipei and as Council President's guest, by then ICAO Council President Roberto Kobeh González to attend the 38th Session of the ICAO Assembly, held at its headquarters in Montreal, Canada. Director General of the Civil Aeronautics Administration Shen Chi led a delegation to attend.

In 2019, the government intensified its efforts to get invited to the 40th Session of the Assembly in an appropriate capacity. In April, G7 foreign ministers unprecedentedly included a passage favorable to Taiwan in their joint communiqué, which advocates "the substantive participation of all active members of the international aviation community in ICAO forums." Legislatures or elected representatives from 24 countries, including the United States and Japan, expressed their support in various ways. Although Taiwan was not invited, the Taiwan ICAO Action Team was present in Montreal working to increase the visibility and gain momentum of Taiwan's bid for ICAO by organizing off-site events such

as international press conferences and bilateral talks, as well as distribution of campaigning materials. During the session, Guatemala, Tuvalu, Saint Lucia, Japan, France, and New Zealand expressed their support for Taiwan at the ICAO plenary, in committee meetings or in the Latin American Civil Aviation Council. Moreover, 13 diplomatic allies and many like-minded countries, through official letters or other means, spoke up to support Taiwan's bid to participate in ICAO.

Taiwan will work closely with countries and stakeholders, based on the principle of steadfast diplomacy and mutual assistance for mutual benefit, to pave the way for its participation in ICAO and in other UN specialized agencies in an appropriate manner.

IV. Campaign for INTERPOL participation

Founded in September 1923, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) is headquartered in Lyon, France. With 194 current member states, it aims to ensure and promote cooperation among criminal police in different countries for effective crime prevention. The ROC joined INTERPOL in 1961 under the name of the National Central Bureau of the Republic of China. In 1984, the organization's General Assembly succumbed to the unreasonable conditions that China attached to its membership application, and imposed the downgrading of Taiwan's member status, which impelled Taiwan to withdraw.

As a member of the international community, Taiwan is willing and capable of participating in global security systems such as INTERPOL and contributing to the global fight against terrorism and transnational crime. In 2016, Taiwan launched the campaigning for its participation in INTERPOL as an observer. On March 18, 2016, US President Obama signed Bill S.2426, passed unanimously by the Senate and House of Representatives, directing the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to help Taiwan obtain observer status in INTERPOL and participate in related activities, meetings, and mechanisms. Taiwan has since then continued to apply to attend the General Assembly of INTERPOL as well as meaningfully participate in the organization. Although the application was considered non-receivable by the Secretariat, the bid has gradually received supporting echo from like-minded countries such as the United States and United Kingdom. And the backing from the international community has been increasing year after year.

In 2019, Taiwan's fourth attempt to take part in INTERPOL General Assembly as an observer failed due to political impediments. Nevertheless, Taiwan's quest garnered unprecedented international support. Eleven diplomatic allies—Belize, Eswatini, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Paraguay, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines—sent letters to INTERPOL President Kim Jong Yang, urging him to invite Taiwan to attend the General Assembly as an observer. In addition, delegates from six diplomatic allies delivered forceful statements at the General Assembly in favor of Taiwan's participation. Moreover, the Representative Offices in Taiwan of the United States, Japan, United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, and Australia conveyed a clear support for Taiwan's quest by sharing on their official Facebook pages a short video made by diplomatic allies and an op-ed article written by Commissioner of the Criminal Investigation Bureau Huang Ming-chao. Likewise, more than 140 parliamentarians from 14 countries joined Taiwan's campaign in numerous ways.

MOFA will continue to amass support from the international community for the three following objectives: (1) Taiwan's participation in the General Assembly of INTERPOL as an observer; (2) Taiwan's access to the I-24/7 global police communications system; and (3) Taiwan's participation in INTERPOL meetings, mechanisms, and other events.

V. IGOs in which Taiwan participates

In addition to campaigning for its participation in the United Nations system, Taiwan actively leverages its political, economic, and technological capabilities in a flexible and pragmatic manner, to strengthen its relations with the international organizations that it has joined to consolidate its member status and rights. For international organizations it has yet to join, Taiwan campaigns actively for its inclusion or intensifies its approaches in an effort to join their activities.

Taiwan has membership in 39 intergovernmental organizations or their affiliated institutions, including the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), World Trade Organization (WTO), and Association of Asian Election Authorities (AAEA), African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO), Advisory Centre on World Trade Organization Law (ACWL), Asian Development Bank (ADB), Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), Asia/

Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG), Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Forum (APLMF), Asian Productivity Organization (APO), Asset Recovery Interagency Network-Asia Pacific (ARIN-AP), Asian Harmonization Working Party (AHWP), World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg), Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB), Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), the Extended Commission of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), International Satellite System for Search and Rescue (Cospas-Sarsat), Egmont Group (EG), Food and Fertilizer Technology Center for the Asian and Pacific Region (FFTC), International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS), Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), International Council for Information Technology in Government Administration (ICA), International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC), International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH), International Competition Network (ICN), International Forum of Independent Audit Regulators (IFIAR), International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO), International Seed Testing Association (ISTA), International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC), North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPF), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), South East Asian Central Banks (SEACEN), Study Group on Asian Tax Administration and Research (SGATAR), South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO), Technical Committee on Rules of Origin and Technical Committee on Customs Valuation of the World Customs Organization (WCO), Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA), and Global Financial Innovation Network (GFIN).

In addition, Taiwan participates as observer or with similar status in 25 intergovernmental organizations or their affiliated institutions, including the Conferencia de las Fuerzas Armadas Centroamericanas (CFAC); Conférence Générale des Poids et Mesures (CGPM); European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD); Food Aid Committee (FAC); Foro de Presidentes y Presidentas de Poderes Legislativos de Centroamérica y la Cuenca del Caribe (FOPREL); Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF); International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT); Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); Convention on International Trade in Endangered

Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES); Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (Montreal Protocol); United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); International Grains Council (IGC); International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA); Kimberley Process (KP); Competition Committee, Steel Committee, and Fisheries Committee under the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD); International Organization of Legal Metrology(OIML); Parlamento Centroamericano (PARLACEN); Pacific Islands Forum (PIF); Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana (SICA); Revised Kyoto Convention Management Committee under the World Customs Organization (WCO-RKC/MC); Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP); and International Consumer Protection and Enforcement Network (ICPEN). Taiwan was included in the implementation of the International Health Regulations (IHR) of the World Health Organization (WHO), and few Taiwan experts managed to take part in WHO technical meetings to a limited extent.

Important advancement in Taiwan's participation in inter-governmental organizations is outlined below:

1. Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

- (1) Founder of TSMC Dr. Morris Chang was designated Leader's Representative to attend the 27th APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting scheduled for November 16 and 17 in Santiago, the capital of Chile. However, the meeting was canceled on October 30 due to domestic socio-economic turbulence in Chile.
- (2) Different ministries hosted about 32 conferences and events under APEC umbrella in 2019, with topics spanning digital economy; women's empowerment; energy; micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs); food security; human resources development; emergency preparedness; and sustainable and inclusive growth.
- (3) Officials from different ministries attended a total of 117 APEC meetings and activities, including seven Senior Officials' Meetings, two Deputy Ministerial Meetings, three APEC Business Advisory Council Meetings, seven Sectoral Ministerial or High Level Meetings (including trade,

mining, food security, health, MSMEs, women, and finance), and about 98 various Working Groups and Sub-fora Meetings.

- (4) Ten of Taiwan's cross-fora projects received APEC funding in 2019 amounting to more than US\$800,000, ranking Taiwan fifth among all 21 APEC members. These projects covered issues such as Improving SMEs Participation in APEC Secure Trade; Building Capacity and Collaborative Connectivity for Young Entrepreneurs; APEC Conference on Urbanization, Population Aging and Technology Innovation; New Media Digital Upskilling Women's Economic Empowerment, and Doubling Renewable Energy in the APEC Region.
- (5) As of December 31, 2019, 14 experts from the public or the private sector have been awarded leading positions in APEC working groups and sub working groups. They contribute to the building-up of Taiwan's capacity to participate in international conferences and to pilot agenda issues, as well as the succession of the capacity.

2. Asian Development Bank (ADB): Established in 1966, the ADB is headquartered in Manila, the Philippines, and currently consists of 68 members. Taiwan is one of the founding members and belongs to a voting group with Korea, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, and Vietnam. In 1983, Taiwan became a donor country of the ADB's Asian Development Fund.

3. Inter-American Development Bank (IDB): Founded in 1959 and headquartered in Washington DC, the IDB aims to promote economic and social development in the region by providing loans and technical assistance to government agencies or private enterprises of its member states. The IDB has been inviting Taiwan to its annual meetings of the Board of Governors as an observer since 1991. Taiwan dispatches a delegation to the meeting every year and actively looks for opportunities to strengthen its cooperation with the bank. In 2006, the International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF), through the IDB's Multilateral Investment Fund, set up the Specialized Financial Intermediary Development Fund to provide financing to intermediary financial institutions, allowing them to expand lending operations to the lower-income populations and to rural microenterprises, therefore to promote financial

democracy and to increase participation of rural microenterprises in the formal financial system.

- 4. Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD):** Founded in 1961 and headquartered in Paris, France, the OECD currently has 37 member states. It is an important economic cooperation organization where governments of developed countries promote economic and social welfare and assist developing countries to develop. The OECD has a large structure with more than 300 committees, expert and working groups. Since its foremost participation in the Dynamic Non-Member Economies (DNMEs) seminars held in Paris, France, in January 1989, Taiwan has been actively seizing opportunities for substantial participation in the OECD. Taiwan regularly attends meetings and activities of the Competition Committee, the Steel Committee, and the Fisheries Committee as a Participant (observer).
- 5. European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD):** Founded in 1991 and headquartered in London, UK, the EBRD currently has 71 member countries, including 38 countries of operations. Taiwan established the Technical Cooperation Fund at EBRD in 1991 to help EBRD assist the economic and social development of its recipient countries. Since then, Taiwan has been regularly invited to participate in EBRD's annual meetings of the Board of Governors and relevant activities as a special observer. From 2017 to 2019, many high-ranking EBRD officials visited Taiwan. Taiwan also arranged eight technical visits with the EBRD in 2019. They covered issues ranging from MSMEs, women's entrepreneurship, green energy, waste water and waste treatment, smart transportation, information and communications, and gender equality. In addition, two Business Opportunities Fairs were organized. These activities helped further Taiwan's cooperation with the EBRD and increased the visibility of Taiwan's companies on the global stage.
- 6. Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI):** Founded in 1960 and headquartered in Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, CABEI currently consists of 15 members. Taiwan joined CABEI in 1992 as a non-regional member. Taiwan participated in the bank's capital increase in 2013. In 2019, Executive President of CABEI Dante Mossi visited Taiwan. Taiwan is the largest non-regional shareholder of the bank. Taiwan holds a favorable position

to secure its membership, to strengthen bonds with its diplomatic allies who are also members of CABEL, and to diffuse its radiance through the region.

- 7. Pan American Development Foundation (PADF):** In 2012, Taiwan and the PADF, which has close ties with the Organization of American States, established the Taiwan-PADF Disaster Assistance and Reconstruction Fund, for an initial five-year term. The fund is purposed to assist disaster prevention efforts in the Latin American and Caribbean region. The term of the Fund has been renewed several times. In 2019, projects on disaster prevention and farming in Belize and Saint Lucia were implemented.
- 8. Global Financial Innovation Network (GFIN):** Launched on January 31, 2019, the GFIN helps supervisory agencies in different countries share experience and cooperate across borders. It also serves as a communication platform for the promotion of financial innovation. As of June 2019, GFIN gathered 35 supervisory agencies from 21 countries and regions as members, and seven observers such as the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund. Taiwan's Financial Supervisory Commission joined GFIN as a member in May 2019, and thus appropriated the trending financial technology (fintech) through sharing of operation practices and experiences in fintech supervision, and to foster the development of fintech in Taiwan.
- 9. Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG):** The APG was established in February 1999, with the aim of preventing money laundering in the Asia-Pacific region. It currently has 41 members including Taiwan, and with its secretariat based in Sydney, Australia. To deepen its involvement in the APG, Taiwan joined hand with the APG Secretariat to carry out a series of two-year cooperation projects starting from 2011. This cooperation has delivered relevant trainings and capacity buildings to Pacific island nations with notable outcomes. Taiwan's Mutual Evaluation Report submitted for the third round of mutual evaluation was unanimously approved at the 22nd APG Annual Conference in 2019, when Taiwan's rating was raised to the best category of Regular Follow-up, from the Enhanced Follow-up.
- 10. Egmont Group (EG):** Established in Belgium in 1995, the EG provides a platform for mutual cooperation and information exchange among member jurisdictions to prevent transborder money laundering. With the Secretariat

located in Ottawa, Canada, the organization currently has 164 members. The Anti-Money Laundering Division of the Investigation Bureau, Ministry of Justice joined the Group in 1998 and regularly participates in the annual meetings. Through this platform, Taiwan has explored to sign bilateral anti-money laundering cooperation agreements or memoranda with other member jurisdictions. Since 2014, Taiwan contributes to the EG for the latter to organize training seminars. This contribution is widely cheered by EG secretariat and among members.

11. Regional fisheries management organizations: Operating in fisheries across the world's three major ocean regions, Taiwan is one of the world's major distant water fishing countries. In the pursuit of conserving marine resources and combating illegal fishing, the international community realized that it was imperative to include Taiwan in the international fisheries management system. Due to Taiwan's predicament, the concept of Fishing Entity was conceived to enable Taiwan's involvement in the negotiations of a number of conventions creating regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs). As of the end of 2019, Taiwan had succeeded in joining the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean, the Extended Commission of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement, South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization, and North Pacific Fisheries Commission. Taiwan is also a non-contracting party of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas. To secure its membership and rights in RFMOs, Taiwan will strive to further its participation in regional fisheries management organizations of different ocean regions, and work with countries around the world to promote the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources.

12. Important international agricultural organizations

- (1) Taiwan possesses a solid foundation and enjoys a successful development in conventional agriculture such as agricultural technology, quality agriculture, sustainable agriculture, rural development and other traditional

fields of agriculture. Taiwan's presence in international agricultural organizations also serves as an excellent vehicle for promoting its New Southbound Policy. The headquarters of the World Vegetable Center and the Food and Fertilizer Technology Center for the Asian and Pacific Region are both located in Taiwan, which magnifies the broad recognition of Taiwan's efforts in promoting international agricultural exchange.

- (2) Through regular financial contributions, constant participation in meetings, hosting capacity-building seminars, carrying out relevant cooperation projects and other activities, Taiwan actively strengthens its involvement in the World Vegetable Center, the Food and Fertilizer Technology Center for the Asian and Pacific Region, the African-Asian Rural Development Organization, the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions and other international agricultural organizations. This engagement, in synergy with the objectives and resources of the New Southbound Policy, also helps Taiwan further its cooperation and exchanges with ASEAN countries and South Asian countries through regional or multilateral cooperation.
- (3) Taiwan's participation in international agricultural and animal husbandry organizations registered important achievements in 2019. Its experts served as board chair, deputy director-general, and two additional board members of the World Vegetable Center; member of the executive committee of the African-Asian Rural Development Organization; director of the Food and Fertilizer Technology Center for the Asian and Pacific Region; and member of the executive committee of the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions. It promotes cooperation projects with the World Vegetable Center, International Rice Research Institute, Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions, Food and Fertilizer Technology Center for the Asian and Pacific Region. It attends the annual conferences of the African-Asian Rural Development Organization, World Organization for Animal Health, International Seed Testing Association, International Cotton Advisory Committee, and World Vegetable Center. With all these efforts, Taiwan strived to reinforce its connection with other member states.

13. World Trade Organization (WTO)

- (1) Founded in 1995 and headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, the World Trade Organization promotes free, fair, and predictable international trade. It currently has 164 members and 23 observers. Taiwan has been a member of the WTO since 2002 and has actively participated in multilateral and plurilateral economic and trade negotiations, as well as protecting the interests of domestic industries through the WTO dispute settlement mechanism.
- (2) Taiwan actively participates in WTO meetings to seek benefits and rooms for the development of domestic industries. The most important meetings include the General Council, Council for Trade in Goods, Committee on Market Access, Council for Trade in Services, Committee on Government Procurement, Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, Committee on Trade and Environment, Committee on Regional Trade Agreements, Committee on Trade-Related Investment Measures, Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade, Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Committee on Customs Valuation, Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions, Committee on Import Licensing, and Committee of Participants on the Expansion of Trade in Information Technology Products.
- (3) In addition to the aforementioned formal WTO committees, Taiwan also participates in informal working groups or sub-groups composed of like-minded WTO members to promote work plans or trade regulations related to specific issues. For example, as a member of the Friends of Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform, Taiwan signed the statement issued by the group at the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference advocating the gradual abolition of wasteful fossil fuel subsidies. In addition, Taiwan is also a member of the Friends of Advanced Sustainable Trade, which seeks to formulate environmental work plans under the WTO framework before the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference. This group advocates the formulation of relevant trade regulations in the future to contribute to a sustainable environment and development in the future. Taiwan also actively participates in the

Informal Working Group on MSMEs, whose goal prior to the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference is to formulate work plans that facilitate the inclusion of MSMEs in international trade.

14. Campaign for inclusion in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

- (1) To address the impact of climate change and global warming on human society together with the international community, the government launched a campaign to take part in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2009, actively relaying the message that Taiwan is a partner in the fight against climate change.
- (2) The UNFCCC COP 25 was held in Madrid, Spain, from December 2 to 13, 2019. MOFA worked with the competent authority, the Environmental Protection Administration under the Executive Yuan, to publicize Taiwan's actions against climate change. Taiwan had already passed the Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Management Act, setting out its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution for greenhouse gas reduction, and in 2017, it published its first Voluntary National Review in line with the UN SDGs. In the same year, Taiwan responded to global action against climate change by formulating the National Climate Change Action Guidelines and the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Action Plan, as well as the Greenhouse Gas Emission Control Action Programs covering the six major sectors of energy, manufacturing, transportation, housing, agriculture, and the environment, to promote cross-sector reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.
- (3) During COP 25, Taiwan's delegation held 42 bilateral meetings with representatives from diplomatic allies and likeminded countries, as well as hosting, co-hosting and speaking at 13 side events. Moreover, 13 allies backed Taiwan's bid through letters and/or speaking up. The delegation was interviewed by 12 domestic and international media outlets, including the influential German broadcaster Deutsche Welle and the Spanish daily *ABC*, successfully conveying Taiwan's determination and contributions with regard to global action against climate change.

- (4) In addition, Taiwan continued to use Combating Climate Change - Taiwan Can Help as its slogan for promotional material. The material, featuring green energy as the key element, together with visuals of solar energy and wind power, was placed on Line 8 of the Madrid Metro, which serves both the venue and Madrid International Airport, as well as at transit shelters near the venue. In addition, minibuses featuring the promotional material drove by the venue and around the streets of Madrid, winning praises from international participants as well as favorable coverages from mainstream domestic media. The highly effective campaign demonstrated Taiwan's ability and determination to contribute to the international community.

VI. Participation in meetings and activities of international NGOs

1. In accordance with Directions for the Provision of Subsidies by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to Civil Associations Engaged in International Exchanges and Activities, MOFA assists nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in conducting international exchanges and activities to demonstrate substantial support, working together to build close ties between the government and domestic NGOs. In 2019, MOFA received 848 applications for subsidies from domestic NGOs, of which 400 were granted.
2. To align with international democratic forces, MOFA subsidized the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy for building partnerships with NGOs, INGOs, think tanks, and political parties in democratic countries.
3. MOFA assisted Minister without Portfolio Audrey Tang in attending the 12th Social Enterprise World Forum (SEWF) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from October 23 to 25. A total of 48 people from 27 units in public and private sectors joined the delegation.
4. MOFA supported and assisted NGOs in hosting or attending important INGO annual meetings, international conferences and events as follows:
 - (1) Assisted the Taiwan ROC branch of the Pan-Pacific & Southeast Asia Women's Association (PPSEAWA) in hosting the organization's 27th international annual conference in June, with 351 participants concerned about women's rights and gender equality from 13 countries.

- (2) Provided assistance to the World League for Freedom and Democracy ROC chapter and the UN NGO/DPI Executive Committee in hosting the 2019 International Forum on Freedom and Democracy in Taiwan. Attendants included Chair of the UN NGO/DPI Executive Committee Bruce F. Knotts and parliamentarians, scholars, and experts from 14 countries including the US, UK, Japan, and Canada.
- (3) Assisted the Democratic Pacific Union in hosting the 3rd East Asia Peace Forum in August, with 30 parliamentarians, scholars, and experts from all over the world discussing how to ease tensions in East Asia and exchanging views on the promotion of exchanges in the region.
- (4) Worked with the Control Yuan in hosting the 31st Australasian and Pacific Ombudsman Region (APOR) Conference and the Workshop on Human Rights Protection in September, with 30 guests from 12 countries including International Ombudsman Institute Secretary General Werner Amon, Ibero-American Federation of Ombudsman Secretary General Carmen Comas-Mata Mira, APOR Regional President Peter Boshier, and Chief Parliamentary Ombudsman of Sweden Elisabeth Rynning.
- (5) Assisted the International Federation for Human Rights in hosting its 40th Annual Meeting in October, held for the first time in Taipei. Nearly 400 human rights advocates from more than 100 countries gathered to discuss challenges to fundamental human rights values and how to respond.
- (6) Assisted the Garden of Hope Foundation in hosting the 4th World Conference of Women's Shelters in Kaohsiung in November, with 1,400 participants from 100 countries attending. The UN Foundation's Director of Advocacy and Humanitarian Affairs Micah Spangler took part as a forum participant to talk with women's rights leaders from all over the world. He also discussed Taiwan's international participation with major NGOs such as the Christian Children's Fund of Canada, Taiwan Fund for Children and Families, and Taiwan Aid.
- (7) Facilitated the 2019 International Law Association-American Society of International Law Asia-Pacific Research Forum, organized by the Chinese (Taiwan) Society of International Law in Taipei in May, with experts

and scholars from Australia, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, Poland, Singapore, the UK, and the US presenting papers and lecturing on issues and trends in international law. The forum helped promote Taiwan's international participation, the values of democracy, and the rule of law as important foreign policies.

- (8) Assisted the Environmental Quality Protection Foundation in attending the 2019 Green Cross International Biennial Meeting in the US city of Dallas in October. EQPF Chair Dr. Hsieh Ying-shih took part with partner status, voting as GC Taiwan for the first time.
- (9) Dispatched representatives to the annual meeting of the American Society of International Law in Washington, D.C., in March, and two executive committee meetings of the International Law Association in London, UK, in May and November respectively, as well as providing assistance to the Chinese (Taiwan) Society of International Law and the Taiwanese Society of International Law in attending. The two societies also received MOFA support to publish professional journals, books, and annual reports to maintain regular relations with international law experts and scholars around the world, and to promote understanding of and support for Taiwan's position, enhance the country's international visibility, and help Taiwanese experts stay up to date with trends in international law and issues related to emerging international law.
- (10) Assisted NGOs including the Taiwan Institute for Sustainable Energy and Taiwan Research Institute in participating in UNFCCC COP 25, hosted in Madrid, Spain, in December. Side events were also organized together with diplomatic allies and internationally renowned think tanks to demonstrate the momentum of the private sector in helping the government promote environmental diplomacy.

5. Assisting NGOs and well-known INGOs with cooperative projects in line with the UN SDGs

- (1) To help with the reconstruction in Nepal, Taiwan Aid received support for its cooperation with Ecological Protection Forum Nepal (EPF Nepal)

in executing the Community Green Energy Homestay Project, Interlock Bricks Project, and Emergency Relief Personnel Training Program, using funds donated by the people of Taiwan for earthquake relief.

- (2) The Taiwan Social Enterprise Innovation and Entrepreneurship Society received assistance to work with EPF Nepal on the Overall Community Reconstruction Project. Through education subsidies and medical services, professional training was conducted in women's empowerment, tourism, green energy entrepreneurship, and nutritious diets to help local victims of the earthquake rebuild their homes and return to a normal life.
- (3) The Border Consortium, a British charitable organization, received help for its nutrition program in nine refugee camps on the Thai-Myanmar border, providing supplementary nutrition and nutrition education, as well as training local nutrition specialists.
- (4) The Zhi-Shan Foundation Taiwan received aid for the Reading Room Project in Central Vietnam. The program sets up reading rooms, updates library facilities, purchases books, and organizes library management courses, with the goal of promoting reading and making high-quality reading space available for disadvantaged children in Vietnam.
- (5) The Foundation for Childless Aging People and Chit Myit Tar Foundation received support for the Myanmar Infrastructure Project, including building five bridges in remote villages, providing disadvantaged children with food, and donations to orphanages.
- (6) The Eden Social Welfare Foundation and the Leprosy Mission Myanmar received help in running the Myanmar Prosthesis Donation and Rehabilitation Project in Myanmar. The plan donated 300 prostheses to landmine victims and provided occupational therapy trainings.
- (7) The Bjørgaas Foundation and Luke Services International received assistance for the Water and Sanitation Development and Empowerment Project in Northern Malawi, which builds restrooms on primary school campuses, trains health promotion personnel, and provides water filters in rural areas to improve local hygiene standards.

- (8) Step30 International Ministries received assistance for the Eswatini Aid Project, providing women with beekeeping techniques, entrepreneurship training, and childcare training to improve women's employment and the quality of childcare.
- (9) The Puhsein Educational Foundation and Amitofo Charity Association Africa were assisted in running the Overseas Traditional Chinese Teaching Project in Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, and Namibia to provide local orphans with knowledge and humanities education from Taiwan as well as skills training.
- (10) The SimplyHelp Foundation received assistance for Charity Containers for Developing Countries, which ships clothes, toys, LED lights, and staple goods to countries in need in Latin America and the Pacific region.
- (11) The Garden of Hope Foundation received support for the 2018-2020 Asian Network of Women's Shelters and the 2019 Asian Girls Empowerment campaigns to promote the protection of women's rights all over the world.
- (12) Mae Tao Clinic in Thailand received assistance for the Enhancement of Social Protection Network and Service Capacity for Disadvantaged Migrant Workers along the Thailand-Myanmar Border program, providing legal assistance and social welfare services for refugees.

6. MOFA cooperates with private sectors on youth training programs for NGO international affairs specialists

(1) International Youth Ambassadors Exchange Program

The program selected 75 youth ambassadors from more than 1,000 applicants in 2019. After intensive training, they were dispatched in three delegations led by senior MOFA employees on a 10-day visit to diplomatic allies in the Asia-Pacific and countries targeted by the New Southbound Policy in late August and early September. Visits, workshops, volunteering services and cultural events such as Taiwan Night were arranged during the tour to strengthen bilateral relations. The program also gave the youth ambassadors the opportunity to witness diplomatic work first-hand. Vice President Chen Chien-jen received all members of the delegation on

October 25 and praised them for successfully completing the mission.

(2) NGO International Talents Training Program

The 2019 NGO International Talents Training Program adopted the theme Taiwan GOAL: Implementing UN SDGs in Taiwan, with sessions organized in Taipei on September 7-8 and in Kaohsiung on September 21-22. A total of 184 people participated, helping both NGO partners and people who are interested in working with NGOs improve their ability to engage in international affairs.

(3) Selection of NGO staff and students for INGO internship programs abroad

A. Two NGO staff members from the Taiwan Nurses Association and Taiwan Fund for Children and Families were sent to undertake internships at INGOs in the United States and the Philippines, helping NGOs train international affairs specialists.

B. A college student was sent to US-based Good Neighbors for an internship for the first time, allowing the student to align with the international society and further nurture interests in NGO affairs.



Scott Ming-chi Lai, Director General of the MOFA Department of NGO International Affairs, gives the thumbs up with participants in the Kaohsiung session of the 2019 NGO International Talents Training Program. (September 21, 2019)



Members of the Medical Mission to Myanmar from the Changhua Christian Hospital International Medical Center get together with priests and children at the Hope Children Home orphanage. (August 21, 2019)

Section 3 Treaties, agreements, and legal affairs

I. Introduction

In 2019, Taiwan signed 48 treaties and agreements with 26 countries and three international organizations, including the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis, the Republic of Paraguay, the Kingdom of Eswatini, the United States of America, the Republic of Palau, the Republic of Nauru, Belize, Tuvalu, the Republic of Guatemala, the Kingdom of Denmark, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Republic of Indonesia, the Solomon Islands, the Kingdom of Tonga, the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Republic of Honduras, the Commonwealth of Australia, Japan, Saint Lucia, the United Kingdom and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA), and the European Union. The scope of the treaties and agreements covers education and culture, technical cooperation, economics and trade, legal affairs, development cooperation and financial assistance, diplomatic and consular affairs, public health and medicine, transportation, agriculture, forestry, fisheries and animal husbandry, aviation and traffic rights, anti-money laundering, scientific and technological cooperation, food and drugs, environment, information and communication, investment, and other categories of cooperation.

All the above-mentioned treaties and agreements may be found individually on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) website at <http://no06.mofa.gov.tw/mofatreatys/IndexE.aspx> and in the Ministry of Justice Laws and Regulations Database at <https://law.moj.gov.tw/Eng/Index.aspx>. The publication of *Treaties Volume 23 (Part I)* is also comprised of the above-mentioned, displayed in cooperation libraries and available for purchase at government publication booksellers in Taiwan.

II. Research and consultation on treaties, agreements and law involving foreign elements

At the request of different MOFA departments and offices and other related authorities and agencies, the Ministry researched and gave opinions on subjects

relating to treaties, agreements, and legal matters. Approximately 2,764 cases were handled in 2019.

III. Handling of legal affairs related to foreign relations

1. Domestic courts and other agencies entrust MOFA with serving litigation documents and taking evidence abroad; likewise, the Ministry handles cases in which foreign courts or other judicial authorities seek to serve documents or take evidence in Taiwan. In 2019, MOFA handled 13,384 cases involving the service of litigation documents for domestic courts and other agencies, evidence-taking abroad, and mutual assistance with domestic judicial authorities on legal matters consigned by foreign courts.
2. In 2019, MOFA assisted with 810 cases involving citizens abroad applying for loss of nationality, revocation of the loss of nationality, and document verification for acquisition of nationality or naturalization.

IV. Appeals Review Committee

The MOFA founded the Appeals Review Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Appeals Committee) in accordance with the Organizational Regulations for Administrative Appeals Review Committee of the Executive Yuan and Administrative Agencies at All Levels to handle appeals. With the Director-General of the Department of Treaty and Legal Affairs serving as the Chairman of the Review Committee, there was a total of 15 members (Chairman included) in 2019 of which 10 are legal scholars and experts and 5 are head and deputy heads of internal units of the MOFA. Most of the appeals are filed by a small minority of applicants who contest the decision of the Bureau of Consular Affairs for refusing to grant a visa or renew a passport, detaining or canceling a passport. Moreover, applicants have filed a total of 172 appeals to the Executive Yuan in 2019 regarding embassies and missions rejecting visa and passport renewal applications, refusing to accept documents for verifying marriage, and detaining or canceling passports, which were all reported to the Executive Yuan by the Appeals Committee.

V. Efforts to defend sovereignty over the South China Sea Islands and maritime rights and interests in their relevant waters

President Tsai Ing-wen has reiterated the government's commitment to defending ROC sovereignty over the South China Sea Islands, and on July 19, 2016, put forth four principles and five actions pertaining to issues in the South China Sea. Disputes should be resolved by setting aside differences and promoting joint development; the ROC should be included in multilateral mechanisms aimed at resolving disputes; the States concerned have an obligation to uphold the freedom of navigation and overflight in the region, and disputes should be settled peacefully in accordance with international law and the law of the sea. The government vows to protect fishing rights, seek multilateral consultations, facilitate scientific collaboration, carry out humanitarian assistance and rescue operations, and cultivate experts on the law of the sea.

Regarding the campaign for Taiwan's participation in multilateral and bilateral consultations on South China Sea issues, MOFA sent delegations to multilateral meetings on these issues in the Asia-Pacific region in 2019, as well as regularly holding bilateral consultations and dialogues on maritime issues, actively enhancing communication with countries in the region to reach consensus on cooperation. MOFA also sent staff to participate in international maritime research workshops, recruited diplomatic and consular talent majoring in international law, held international seminars on the law of the sea, and subsidized research projects on the South China Sea and overseas research projects to cultivate maritime research talent.

In addition, in order to realize the government's policy goal of turning Taiping Island into a base for humanitarian rescue, logistics, and scientific research, the Coast Guard Administration under the Ocean Affairs Council carried out Operation Nanyuan No. 4, humanitarian assistance and rescue exercise on May 21, to improve the island's capabilities for emergency medical treatment and evacuation.

The South China Sea Islands are part of the territory of the ROC, and the government stands firm on defending sovereignty and related rights. In the future, the government will continue to consolidate sovereignty, protect fishing rights, actively settle disputes, and work hand in hand with the States concerned to maintain peace and stability in the South China Sea.



Representatives from the International Cooperation and Development Fund, Industrial Technology Research Institute, and Taiwan's diplomatic ally Belize co-host a side event at the UN Climate Change Conference COP 25. (December 5, 2019)

Section 4 International communication and public diplomacy

Item 1 International communication

I. Current international communication goals

The purpose of international communication is to promote Taiwan's major policies and soft power in coordination with its overall diplomatic efforts, enhance its national image, sway international public opinion in Taiwan's favor and win recognition and support from the rest of the international community.

In addition to highlighting Taiwan's achievements in democracy, freedom and economic development, current international communication policies focus on steadfast diplomacy and the New Southbound Policy to assert Taiwan's role as an indispensable member of the international community. Given the fast-changing and complex geopolitical outlook, social media platforms such as YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram have been harnessed, in addition to traditional communication channels, so that Taiwan can be seen, understood and acknowledged in the world.

II. Detailed results of international promotional work

1. Interviews with the President by international media

- (1) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) arranged interviews with President Tsai Ing-wen by US-based news organizations CNN and Time magazine, which were reported 50 times by mainstream international media outlets and received over 3 million views.
- (2) MOFA arranged an interview with President Tsai by Japanese daily Sankei Shimbun, which was reported seven times by international media outlets.

2. Promotions on presidential visits and activities

- (1) President Tsai Ing-wen's Oceans of Democracy Presidential Visit to Palau, Nauru and the Marshall Islands in the Pacific in March and her stopover in the US city of Honolulu were reported 109 times.

- (2) In July, President Tsai's Journey of Freedom, Democracy, Sustainability to Taiwan's allies in the Caribbean—Haiti, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Saint Lucia—as well as her stopovers in New York and Denver in the United States, were reported more than 300 times.

3. Exclusive interviews with the minister of foreign affairs by major international media outlets

Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu spoke to the international community through interviews with media outlets such as The New York Times, Associated Press, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times, Voice of America, National Public Radio, The Philadelphia Inquirer, British Broadcasting Corporation, The Economist, The Times, The Daily Telegraph, The Australian, Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Sankei Shimbun, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Deutsche Welle, Norddeutscher Rundfunk, Agencia EFE and Polish Press Agency. In 2019 the foreign minister gave 44 interviews, met with 210 journalists from 148 international media outlets, and covered 154 news reports.

4. International press coverage on specific issues

(1) New Southbound Policy

- A. MOFA arranged for the New Southbound Target Country Press Group, the New Southbound Target Country TV Team and the Indo-Pacific Press Group to visit Taiwan. A total of 65 journalists from partner countries were invited, and 119 news articles were published.
- B. FOCA Formosa Circus Art was selected to give four performances in Jakarta and Surabaya, Indonesia, as well as Chennai and New Delhi, India, from June to July. The shows were attended by nearly 3,000 guests and covered in 130 news reports by domestic and foreign media outlets.
- C. MOFA launched the Television Cooperation Program with New Southbound Policy Partner Countries to work with CNN Philippines, HTV of Vietnam, Zee TV of India and Channel 5 of Thailand to

produce the Embracing Taiwan series in local languages for broadcast during prime time. A total of 88 million viewers tuned in to watch. In addition, as of the end of 2019, MOFA's Trending Taiwan YouTube channel, Facebook page and Twitter account had received more than 5.92 million views in the 18 partner countries.

- D. A total of 2,976 news stories were published in the Vietnamese, Thai and Indonesian editions of the online newspaper Taiwan Today, helping people in the partner countries understand current political and economic developments in Taiwan.
 - E. Two special reports on Myanmar were published in Taiwan Review's July/August issue, and two on Cambodia in its September/October issue.
 - F. Taiwan Panorama magazine published a total of 372 articles in Mandarin, English, Japanese, Vietnamese, Thai and Indonesian, as well as the special book Taiwan in the Mind's Eye and MOFA's 2020 planner Deities of Taiwan.
 - G. A total of 12,051 news reports and articles were posted on MOFA's New Southbound Policy Portal in five languages, which received over 963,000 page views, with more than 57 percent coming from New Southbound Policy partner countries.
- (2) Participation in international organizations
- A. The 72nd World Health Assembly (WHA): More than 410 news reports on Taiwan's pursuit of participation were published by mainstream international media outlets, and more than 1,500 posts were published on social media platforms by MOFA, embassies and overseas offices, reaching more than 10 million people. The film An Island Doctor on Call was posted on social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram, and has been viewed more than 10.49 million times, with 94 percent of views coming from overseas. 669 articles regarding Taiwan's efforts to provide medical assistance to other countries were posted on the Leave No One Behind website. In addition, 1,590 World Health Organization-related posts were

shared or posted on the Facebook pages of Taiwan's embassies and representative offices worldwide. Taiwan Today published 202 related news stories in nine languages and produced WHA special editions for use by the country's embassies and offices overseas. Taiwan Panorama conducted four in-depth interviews on health care in Taiwan and the country's efforts to provide medical assistance overseas.

- B. Participation in the United Nations (UN): An article by Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu was reported 103 times by mainstream international media outlets, which also ran 68 news reports and commentaries, as well as nine op-eds. MOFA produced the short film *A True Friend*, which has been viewed over 13.55 million times on social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram. Taiwan Today published 42 related news stories in nine languages.
- C. International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO): There were 139 related news reports by mainstream international media outlets, comprising 71 reports on an article by the Minister of Transportation and Communications Lin Chia-lung, 58 news articles and 10 op-eds. MOFA made a short video, *For a Seamless Sky*, which has been viewed more than 2.61 million times and reached more than 4.09 million people on social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram. An exclusive interview with Lin Kuo-shian, director-general of the Civil Aviation Administration under the Ministry of Transportation and Communications was published in *Taiwan Review's* September/ October issue, while 25 news stories were published in Taiwan Today in nine languages.
- D. International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL): A total of 56 mainstream international media outlets ran 80 news reports, stories and op-eds on an article by the Commissioner of the Criminal Investigation Bureau Huang Ming-chao and Taiwan's related efforts. A short video of support from allies, in which Commissioner Huang and his colleagues also called for Taiwan's participation in INTERPOL, was uploaded

to MOFA's YouTube channel and Facebook page. The video has been viewed 21,000 times and reached over 50,000 people. Taiwan Today published an exclusive interview with Huang and nine related news stories.

- E. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties 25 (UNFCCC COP25): Among the 113 related news reports and stories by mainstream international media outlets, an article by Environmental Protection Administration Minister Chang Tzi-chin was reported 75 times, in addition to 27 news reports, six op-eds and five news reports on interviews featuring Taiwan's overseas representatives or Minister Chang. The video for Taiwan's UNFCCC campaign, *Riding the Wind*, has been viewed more than 10.2 million times on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram. An interview with the minister was published in the November/December issue of *Taiwan Review*, while 28 related news stories were published in *Taiwan Today* in nine languages. A special publication focusing on how Taiwan can help achieve the goals of the UNFCCC was also made for use by overseas embassies and representative offices.

5. Media report collection

MOFA collected and collated 11,121 relevant global media reports in 2019. MOFA also compiled more than 248 briefings based on international media reports, including 952 reports and commentaries on the president's National Day address, and completed a total of 46 analysis reports on major issues related to Taiwan.

III. Visits of international reporters and information services for foreign correspondents in Taiwan

1. MOFA organized visits for 19 press groups, including the Political and Economic Press Group, the Japan Press Group, the New Southbound Press Group and the US East-West Center Press Group to Taiwan. MOFA hosted about 370 journalists, including those who came fully or partially at their own expense, from mainstream international media outlets throughout the year. The visitors wrote over 500 articles related to Taiwan.

2. MOFA invited international journalists to cover the 2019 Han Kuang military exercise overseen by President Tsai Ing-wen in Taichung City and Pingtung County.
3. MOFA organized three briefings with Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu, a tour of religious culture and a year-end gathering for foreign correspondents in Taiwan.
4. MOFA issued press certificates for journalists attached to foreign news organizations and planned in-depth trips allowing journalists to cover diverse stories.

IV. Promotion of Taiwan's soft power

1. The *Miao Hui—Temple Festivals and Folk Cultures in Taiwan* exhibition was held at the European Parliament in Belgium in early 2019.
2. MOFA provided subsidies for embassies and overseas offices to recommend outstanding Taiwanese films for inclusion in important international film festivals or to stage screenings in cooperation with event organizers. Twenty-one overseas representative offices received subsidies for 127 film screenings.
3. MOFA cooperated with the Ministry of Culture to produce English and Spanish dubbed versions of the popular Taiwan TV series *The New World*, which was sent to embassies and overseas offices in Spanish-speaking countries, English-speaking countries in Central America and the New Southbound Policy partner countries for local TV stations to broadcast. The series was broadcast by 18 TV stations in 15 countries.
4. MOFA produced eight short English films on Taiwan's soft power.
5. In conjunction with the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, MOFA produced a VR film, *Twin Oaks*, to highlight the enduring relationship between Taiwan and the U.S. In addition, a VR area was set up as part of the *TRA@40: An Enduring Partnership* exhibition at the Presidential Office. In cooperation with the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), the exhibition was later moved to Taoyuan City's Department of Cultural Affairs, the National Central Library and the American Innovation Center, receiving nearly 20,000 visitors.

V. Improving the quality and effectiveness of promotional materials

1. MOFA published news reports and articles in its periodicals and e-newspapers in various languages in line with foreign policy aims and in response to current affairs.
2. MOFA designed special posters for 108th National Day under the themes Multiculturalism, Steadfast Diplomacy and Innovative Economy for use by embassies and offices overseas.
3. MOFA published Taiwan at a Glance (2019-2020) in 12 languages, namely English, French, Spanish, German, Russian, Japanese, Vietnamese, Thai, Indonesian, Malaysian, Arabic and Portuguese.
4. MOFA produced a nine-language version film, including in Mandarin, English and Japanese, to introduce Taiwan. The film was also converted into DVD format for use by embassies and overseas offices and uploaded to YouTube for the watch.
5. Taiwan Panorama magazine hosted four lectures on Southeast Asia, translation, photography and public welfare to engage readers in in-depth discussions, which attracted more than 2,000 participants.
6. MOFA designed the key visual of the Taiwan Can Help concept for the WHA, U.N., ICAO and UNFCCC campaigns and produced drawstring bags, stickers, fans, folders, brooches, badges and other promotional items featuring the slogan.

VI. Innovative approaches shaped by popular culture

1. MOFA's Trending Taiwan YouTube channel was established in July 2015 and had uploaded over 1,441 videos as of the end of 2019. The channel had generated 27.18 million views and attracted 22,163 subscribers. In February 2016, an English Facebook page, Trending Taiwan, was set up to share posts on Taiwan-related issues. By the end of 2019, the number of followers had reached 27,057.
2. MOFA's Twitter account (@MOFA_Taiwan) was established in April 2018 and had posted 2,202 tweets, reaching more than 56.2 million people and gaining over 74,900 followers by the end of 2019.

3. MOFA selected creative short films and uploaded them to social media platforms to share with netizens at home and abroad through the 2019 Trending Taiwan short video competition and the Taiwan Young Lions Competition.
4. The number of page views of MOFA's six types of international promotional websites (websites of embassies and overseas offices; bimonthly periodical Taiwan Review in English and Spanish and e-newspaper Taiwan Today in nine languages; the English-language Government Portal of the Republic of China (Taiwan); Taiwan Panorama; New Southbound Policy Portal; and the Trending Taiwan YouTube channel and Facebook page) totaled 31 million in 2019.
5. MOFA harnesses social media platforms such as YouTube (Trending Taiwan), Facebook (@mofa.gov.tw), Twitter (@MOFA_Taiwan) and Instagram (@mofa_taiwan) to strengthen Taiwan's voice in the international arena.

Item 2 Public diplomacy work

I. Communicating Taiwan's foreign policy objectives and positions

1. To effectively communicate Taiwan's foreign policy objectives and positions, as well as strengthen communication with the media, the director general of the Public Diplomacy Coordination Council, who also serves as MOFA spokesperson, speaks on behalf of the Ministry and responds to reporters' inquiries.
2. MOFA issues timely statements, press releases, and reference materials on specific topics to enhance citizens' understanding of and support for Taiwan's diplomatic affairs. In the event of an inaccurate news report, MOFA will request a correction from the media or submits an op-ed to make a correction where appropriate. In 2019, MOFA issued four statements, 337 press releases, and 102 news references in Mandarin and English.
3. MOFA regularly holds departmental press briefings, where heads of departments report to the media and respond to the queries of reporters. For important and breaking issues concerning foreign affairs, a special press conference is organized for the minister, deputy or vice minister, spokesperson, or relevant head of department to explain MOFA's position and actions taken, in order to respond precisely, proactively, and promptly. In 2019, 85 regular departmental press briefings were held, with special press conferences and media interviews on foreign policy and relevant news events bringing the total number of news conferences to 97.
4. MOFA collects important domestic news on diplomatic, political, economic, military, and cross-strait issues on daily; sends morning and evening daily news briefings to the minister, deputy and vice ministers, and heads of departments; and manages a local newspaper clippings listing for the reference of its staff at the Ministry and overseas embassies and missions.
5. MOFA designs and maintains the Ministry's official website to provide timely, comprehensive, and accurate information in a diverse and accessible manner to promote policies and further public diplomacy.

6. MOFA drafts addresses and remarks on major diplomatic issues for high-level government officials, as well as for the foreign minister and deputy and vice ministers, expounding on the government's foreign policy and policy directions, promoting steadfast diplomacy and helping boost public understanding of and support for Taiwan's foreign policies both at home and abroad. Topics include the New Southbound Policy, humanitarian aid and international cooperation, international trade and investment opportunities, international participation, special visa-treatment programs, reciprocal driver's license agreements, and working holiday programs.

II. Improving MOFA's online information services and disseminating promotional materials

1. MOFA continues to enhance the functions of its official website, the Youth Taiwan website and other websites, and coordinates all online information to promote government policies and performance effectively.
2. MOFA produces promotional videos shown on its official website and its YouTube channel, to enhance public understanding of and support for foreign policies.
3. MOFA publishes *MOFA Statements and Communiqués* and the *MOFA Quarterly* for its staff at the Ministry and overseas embassies and missions, and provides these publications to other government agencies, NGOs, universities, and secondary schools, as well as domestic and foreign libraries for public inspection.
4. The Minister's Mailbox serves as a window for the general public to inquire about issues related to foreign affairs via email. A total of 3,224 emails were received and processed in 2019.
5. MOFA provides its overseas embassies and missions with promotional materials such as printed publications and short videos on topics including laws, regulations, and policy measures. In addition, to better promote Taiwan's achievements in freedom and democracy, economic development, humanitarian assistance, and the cultural and creative sectors, MOFA also purchases books, videos, online information, cultural replicas, and related materials for its overseas embassies and missions. The Ministry sent out 44,845 promotional materials in 2019.

6. MOFA purchases or subscribes to domestic and foreign books, newspapers, magazines, and online news databases for its staff at the Ministry and overseas embassies and missions.

III. Other public diplomacy programs

1. MOFA organizes the Teen Diplomatic Envoys contest and the visits abroad for the winning teams, to enhance high school students' interest in English learning and international affairs, and promote their understanding of foreign policies. In 2019, the 18th consecutive year of the competition, 109 high schools participated, with the top three teams being Taoyuan Municipal Wu-Ling Senior High School, St. Dominic Catholic High School in Kaohsiung, and Ching Cheng High School in Changhua. During the school winter vacation in 2020, MOFA and the Ministry of Education will co-organize visits for the winning teams to Indonesia and New Zealand, two of the government's New Southbound Policy partner countries.
2. To promote Taiwan's soft power and cultural diplomacy, MOFA encourages and assists art groups to tour overseas, and aids the Ministry of Culture in setting up overseas bases and contact points for the Taiwan Academy, which has physical sites in New York, Los Angeles, and Houston, and 216 contact points in 64 countries, introducing Taiwan's culture, humanities, and arts to the international community.
3. Since MOFA launched its Working Holiday Program in 2004, it has signed related agreements with 17 countries, including New Zealand, Australia, Japan, Canada, Germany, Korea, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Belgium, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary, Austria, Czech Republic, France, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands (in chronological order). The program is popular among Taiwanese youth, and more than 300,000 of them have participated, with Australia, Japan, and Canada being the most popular destinations. In order to better assist young people with issues they may encounter during working holidays, MOFA established the Interministerial Coordination Group on Working Holiday Programs in June 2014, which includes the Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Education, Overseas Community Affairs Council, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Ministry of

Labor, Financial Supervisory Commission, Ministry of Economic Affairs, and Council of Agriculture. Thirteen group meetings have been conducted since to integrate government resources and information, and to discuss issues related to working holidays, such as measures to increase incentives for foreign youth to come to Taiwan for working holidays. In addition, MOFA and the MOE continue to educate young people to protect themselves better, providing them with knowledge relevant to working holidays through channels such as radio interviews, Facebook pages, and promotional sessions held in northern, central, southern and eastern Taiwan.

4. To expand talent exchanges under the New Southbound Policy, MOFA and the Council of Agriculture started the Young Agricultural Ambassadors New Southbound Policy Exchange Program in 2017. Every year 30 young people studying agriculture and with practical backgrounds are selected to form two teams to visit partner countries. In August 2019, one team went to Thailand and the other to India, helping to connect with ministries of agriculture, agroeconomic academic institutions (ex: universities), bilateral cooperation projects, international organizations, local agricultural industry chains, and production and marketing distribution centers in two countries, respectively. Such networking is beneficial for exchanging talent between Taiwan and New Southbound Policy partner countries.
5. To enhance public understanding of the current diplomatic situation and boost approval of and support for the government's foreign policies, MOFA receives visits from high schools, colleges, and universities, as well as the private sector, and provides these visitors with a briefing on foreign policies. In 2019, MOFA received 4,083 visitors from domestic and foreign high schools, universities, military academies, international affairs programs, NGOs, and other institutions. MOFA also sends its staff to speak at universities. In 2019, a total of 288 such talks were conducted, with more than 28,000 teachers and students taking part.
6. To assist young people in participating in international affairs, MOFA established the Youth Taiwan website, with four major sections—Teen Diplomatic Envoys, Youth Ambassadors, Working Holidays, and Taiwan Study Camp for Future Leaders—plus International Activities and Scholarships sections, so as to better provide information online. The website is a platform

for Taiwanese youth to find programs that can help them connect with the international community, expand their horizons, and boost their self-worth and competitiveness.

Section 5 Parliamentary diplomatic activities

I. The importance of parliamentary diplomacy

The Legislative Yuan bears primary responsibility for overseeing the execution of Taiwan's foreign policy. Moreover, the contacts of Members of the Legislative Yuan (Legislators) with parliamentarians in other countries are a key aspect of pragmatic diplomacy. They enhance the depth and breadth of diplomatic work by establishing a range of communication channels with ruling and opposition parties in those countries, and contribute to developing substantive ties with countries with which Taiwan does not have diplomatic relations through exchanges in technology, trade, economics, culture, education, and other fields.

The main function of parliamentary diplomacy is to build friendly bilateral relations through interaction and understanding between elected representatives. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)'s Office of Parliamentarian Affairs is responsible for communications between the Ministry and the Legislative Yuan's administrative units and individual legislators, and for cooperation with related authorities assisting legislators with their diplomatic work.

II. Overview of mutual visits by Taiwan's legislators and foreign parliamentarians

In 2019, MOFA arranged 33 overseas delegations by legislators and members of the Control Yuan, totaling 71 visits. These visits did much to advance substantive relations between Taiwan and other countries.

Among the 375 overseas parliamentarians visiting Taiwan in 2019 were:

1. 125 from the Asia-Pacific region;
2. 44 from West Asia and Africa;
3. 123 from Europe;
4. 19 from North America; and
5. 64 from Latin America.

III. Taiwan-foreign parliamentary friendship organizations and activities

1. Asia-Pacific

- (1) The Australia-Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group: Established in March 1992; over 120 members participate at present.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Australia and New Zealand Inter-Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on April 8, 2016; Legislator Chiu Yi-ying is president.

- (2) The Indian Parliamentarians for Friendship with Taiwan: Established on April 20, 2005, approximately 90 members of parliament.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-India Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on April 22, 2016; Legislator Kuan Bi-ling is president.

- (3) The Indonesia-Taiwan Friendship Association: Established on November 14, 2006; Ade Daud Iswandi Nasution is chairman.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Indonesia Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on April 29, 2016; Legislator Liao Kuo-tung is president.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Indonesia Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on May 19, 2016; Legislator Chen Ou-po is president.

- (4) Japan

A. The Japan-ROC Diet Members' Consultative Council: Formerly known as the Parliamentary Group for Taiwan, established by friendly Liberal Democratic Party parliamentarians in January 1973, it was merged with the Japan-ROC Parliamentary Alliance of the New Frontier Party on February 5, 1997, and became the Japan-ROC Diet Members' Consultative Council. The current Chairman is Representative Keiji Furuya; it has almost 300 members.

- B. Representatives' Association for Promoting Japan-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Exchange: Established by young Liberal Democratic Party representatives on April 26, 2006; it has almost 100 members and the current President is Representative Nobuo Kishi.
- C. The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Japan Parliamentary Members Friendship Association: Established on May 6, 2016; Legislative Yuan President Su Jia-chyuan is the President.
- (5) Korea-Taiwan Parliamentarian Amity Association: Established in 1996; Republic of Korea National Assembly Member Cho Kyoung-tae is president.
- The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Korea Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on April 22, 2016; Legislator Lin Te-fu is president.
- The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Korea Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on May 19, 2016; Legislator Chen Ou-po is president.
- (6) Philippines Friends of Taiwan: Established on March 4, 2009; Philippines House Representative Eric Singson is president.
- The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Philippines Congressional Association: Established on April 18, 2017; Legislator Wu Kuen-yuh is president.
- (7) The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Vietnam Congressional Association: Established on May 6, 2016; Legislator Chung Chia-pin is president.
- (8) The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-ASEAN Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on July 15, 2016; Legislator Chiu Chih-wei is president.
- (9) The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Singapore Interparliamentary Amity Association: Established on May 3, 2016; Legislator Chiang Chi-chen is president.
- (10) The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Malaysia Congressional Association: Established on May 20, 2016; Legislator Hsiao Bi-khim is president.
- (11) The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Palau Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on April 26, 2016; Legislator Huang Chao-shun is president.

- (12) The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Myanmar Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on May 19, 2016; Legislator Chen Ou-po is president.
- (13) The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Cambodia Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on May 19, 2016; Legislator Chen Ou-po is president.
- (14) The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Austronesian Countries Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on April 22, 2016; Legislator Kolas Yotaka is president.
- (15) The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-New Zealand Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on June 17, 2016; Legislator Chang Li-shan is president.
- (16) The Legislative Yuan's New Southbound Parliamentary Exchange Promotion Association: Established on January 13, 2017; Legislator Liu Shyh-fang is president.
- (17) The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Solomon Islands Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on June 2, 2017; Legislator Chen Man-li is president.
- (18) The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-ASEAN+ India and Other Countries Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on June 30, 2017; Legislator Lin Li-chan is president.

2. West Asia and Africa

- (1) The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Israel Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on May 19, 2016; Legislator Chen Yi-ming is president.
- (2) The Jordan-Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on August 1, 2015; Representative Khalil Atieh is chairman.
- (3) The Russian Parliamentary Group of the State Duma for the Relations with Taiwan: Members of the 7th Duma were elected on September 18, 2016. The Group was established in June 2018, and has more than 40

members from different Russian political parties; the chairperson is Safaraliev Gadzhemet.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Russia Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on April 15, 2016; Legislator Lo Chih-cheng is president.

- (4) The Mongolia-Taiwan Club of the Great State Khural (Parliament) of Mongolia: Established in May 2010; 21 members participate, and Parliamentarian Enkhbold Luvsan is president.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Mongolia Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on September 20, 2016; 35 members participate, and Legislator Tsai Yi-yu is president.

- (5) The Swaziland-Taiwan Parliament Members Association: Established on October 4, 2007; Speaker Petros Mavimbela is chairman.
- (6) The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Turkey Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on April 29, 2016; Legislator Lu Shio-wyen is president.
- (7) The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-African Countries Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on July 22, 2016; Legislator Chiu Chih-wei is president.
- (8) The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-South Africa Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on January 6, 2017; Legislator Yu Mei-nu is president.
- (9) The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Middle East Countries Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on July 3, 2018; Legislator Wu Kuen-yuh is president.

3. Europe

- (1) The European Parliament-Taiwan Friendship Group: Established on June 12, 1991; over 100 members participate, and MEP Werner Langen is chairman.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Europe Interparliamentary Amity Association: Established on May 19, 2016; Legislator Tsai Shih-ying is president.

- (2) Österreich-Taiwan Freundschaft Gruppe: Established in May 2001.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Switzerland and Austria Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on July 13, 2016; Legislator Chen Yi-chieh is president.

- (3) Belgium Cercle de Parlementaires-Amis de Taiwan: Established in December 1993; 35 members currently participate.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Belgium Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on May 27, 2016; Legislator Chung Chia-pin is president.

- (4) The Czech Republic-Taiwan Friendship Group: Established on February 10, 1994; 18 members currently participate, and Member of the Chamber of Deputies Marek Benda is chairman.

The Czech Senate Taiwan Friendship Group: Established in March 2011; 12 members currently participate; Deputy President Petr Pithart and Legislative and Constitutional Committee Chairman Miroslav Antl are joint chairpersons.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Czech Inter-Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on June 3, 2016; Legislator Hsu Shu-hua is president.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Poland Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on July 15, 2016; Legislator Hsu Chih-chieh is president.

- (5) The Danish Parliamentary Association for Friendship with Taiwan: Established on April 27, 2004; approximately 80 members participate, and Member of the Folketing Mogens Jensen is chairman.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Five Scandinavian Countries (Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Iceland) Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on June 17, 2016; Legislator Chang Li-shan is president.

- (6) The Estonia-Taiwan Support Group: Established on September 8, 2003; 11 members currently participate, and Riigikogu Member Margus Hanson is chairman.

The Legislative Yuan's ROC (Taiwan)-Three Baltic States Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on February 21, 2017; Legislator Hsu Yu-jen is president.

- (7) Taiwan Friendship of Finnish Parliament: Established on June 11, 2004; 11 members currently participate, and Member of the Suomen Eduskunta Mikko Kärnä is chairman.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Five Scandinavian Countries (Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Iceland) Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on June 17, 2016; Legislator Chang Li-shan is president.

- (8) France-Taiwan friendship groups

A. Senate: Groupe d'Informations et d'échanges Sénat- République de Chine, Taiwan: Established on December 5, 1984; 35 members currently participate, and former Senator Catherine Tasca serves as chairwoman.

B. National Assembly: Groupe d'Etude à Vocation Internationale sur les Problèmes liés à Taiwan: Established on May 19, 1989; former National Assembly Member François Brottes serves as chairman.

C. The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-France Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on April 26, 2016; Legislator Wang Yu-min is president.

D. The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-France Interparliamentary Amity Association: Established on May 19, 2016; Legislator Wu Kuen-yuh is president.

- (9) Parlamentarischer Freundkreis Berlin-Taipeh: Formerly known as the Bonn-Taipei Parliamentary Friendship Group, established on February 29, 1992.

On October 4, 1999, the German capital relocated to Berlin and the group changed its name to the current one on November 29 of the same year. It currently has 50 members and Member of the Bundestag Klaus-Peter Willsch is chairman.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan and Germany Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on May 19, 2016; Legislator Yu Mei-nu is president.

- (10) The Hungarian Parliament Hungary-Taiwan Friendship Association: Established on October 11, 2006; over 50 members participate, József Ékes is chairman.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Hungary Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on June 3, 2016; Legislator Lee Yen-hsiu is president.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Poland Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on July 15, 2016; Legislator Hsu Chih-chieh is president.

- (11) The Ireland-Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Society: Established on January 31, 2002; approximately 50 members participate at present, and Teachta Dála John McGuinness is chairman.

- (12) Gruppo Informale Interparlamentare di Amicizia fra Italia e la Repubblica di Cina: Established in June 1994; 83 members currently participate, and Senator Lucio Malan is president.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Italy Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on April 26, 2016; Legislator Wang Yu-min is president.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Italy Amity Association: Established on December 9, 2016; Legislator Tsai Pei-hui is president.

- (13) The Latvia Parliament Group for Interparliamentary Relations with Taiwan: Established on March 14, 1996; 22 members currently participate, and Saeima member Ainars Latkovskis is chairman.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Three Baltic States Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on February 21, 2017; Legislator Hsu Yu-jen is president.

- (14) The Lithuania Parliament Group for Interparliamentary Relations with Taiwan: Established in March 1997; 33 members participate currently, and Gintaras Steponavičius is chairman.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Three Baltic States Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on February 21, 2017; Legislator Hsu Yu-jen is president.

- (15) The Taiwan Group in the Norwegian Parliament: Established in June 1995; over 40 members participate; Trond Helleland is convener.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Five Scandinavian Countries (Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Iceland) Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on June 17, 2016; Legislator Chang Li-shan is president.

- (16) The Polish-Taiwanese Parliamentarians Group: Established on July 17, 1997; currently 77 members participate, and Deputy to the Sjem and Chairman of the Sjem Defense Committee Stefan Niesiołowski is chairman.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Poland Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on April 29, 2016; Legislator Lu Shiow-yen is president.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Poland Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on July 15, 2016; Legislator Hsu Chih-chieh is president.

- (17) Grupo de Amizade Portugal-Taiwan: Established on April 1, 2004; 45 members participate; Deputy of the Assembleia da República and member of the Foreign Affairs Committee Carina Oliveira is chairwoman.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Portugal Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on June 3, 2016; Legislator Lee Yen-hsiu is president.

- (18) Slovask-Taiwanese Parliamentarian Friendship Group: Established on December 14, 2005; 17 members participate, and National Council member Ivan Štefanec is chairman.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Slovakia Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on June 3, 2016; Legislator Lin Wei-chou is president.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Poland Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on July 15, 2016; Legislator Hsu Chih-chieh is president.

- (19) Slovenia-Taiwan Friendship Association: Established in October 1997; the deputy leader of the Democratic Party and MEP Michal 'Miha' Brejc is the current chairman.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Slovenia Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on May 27, 2016; Legislator Chung Chia-pin is president.

- (20) Asociación Independiente de Parlamentarios Amigos de Taiwan-España): Established on November 19, 2008; 66 members currently participate, and Francisco Vañó Ferre is president.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Spain Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on June 3, 2016; Legislator Hsu Shu-hua is president.

- (21) The Swedish-Taiwanese Parliamentarian Association: Established on November 26, 1997; currently, more than 50 members participate, and Riksdag member Boriana Åberg is president.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Five Scandinavian Countries (Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Iceland) Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on June 17, 2016; Legislator Chang Li-shan is president.

- (22) Groupe Suisse-Taiwan de l'Assemblée Fédérale: Le Groupe Parlementaire Pour l'Amitié entre la Suisse et la République de Chine was established in January 1995 and was restructured and given its current name on October 3, 2011. It currently has 26 members and Council of States Member

Marco Chiesa is chairman.

The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Switzerland Inter-Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on June 14, 2016; Legislator Hsu Yu-jen is president.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Switzerland and Austria Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on July 13, 2016; Legislator Chen Yi-chieh is president.

- (23) The British-Taiwanese All-Party Parliamentary Group: Currently, 108 members participate, and House of Lords members Lord Faulkner and Lord Steel are joint chairmen.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-UK Inter-Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on May 3, 2016; Legislator Chiang Chi-chen is president.

The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-UK Amity Association: Established on May 19, 2016; Legislator Yu Mei-nu is president.

- (24) The Bulgaria-Taiwan Parliamentarian Friendship Group: Established in March 2011; 24 members participate, and National Assembly member Dimitar Jordanov Chukarsky is chairman.

- (25) The Luxembourg-Taiwan Parliamentarian Friendship Group: Established in January 2011; more than 20 members participate (constituting more than one-third of all members), and Member of the Chamber of Deputies Anne Brasseur serves as contact person.

- (26) The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Netherlands Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on June 3, 2016; Legislator Lin Wei-chou is president.

- (27) Core members of the European Parliament, German, UK, and French Taiwan friendship groups jointly held a reception to mark the establishment of the interparliamentary Taiwan friendship group the Formosa Club.

4. North America

(1) Canada

- A. The Canada-Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group: Established in December 1992; 72 members participate; Judy SGRO, Liberal MP for Ontario, is the current-term president. In 2019, eight senators and members of the House of Commons visited Taiwan.
- B. The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Canada Inter-Parliamentary Exchange Association: Established on April 12, 2016; Legislator Ko Chih-en is president.

(2) The United States

- A. The Congressional Taiwan Caucus: Established on April 9, 2002; 209 members participated at the end of 2019, and the Co-Chairs are Albio Sires (D-NJ), Steve Chabot (R-OH), Gerald E. Connolly (D-VA), and Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL).
- B. The Senate Taiwan Caucus: Established on September 17, 2003, with 27 members; by the end of 2019, 31 members participated, and Senators James Inhofe (R-OK) and Robert Menendez (D-NJ) are Co-Chairs.
- C. In 2019, the House Committee on Foreign Affairs was chaired by Representative Eliot Engel (D-NY); the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations was chaired by Senator Jim Risch (R-ID). In 2019, 11 members of the US House of Representatives and the US Senate visited Taiwan.
- D. The Legislative Yuan USA Caucus: Established on April 8, 2016; Legislator Hsiao Bi-khim is president.

5. Latin America

- (1) Parlamento Centroamericano: The Legislative Yuan was admitted as a permanent observer in May 1999. In a ceremony in Taiwan in July 2018, President of the Legislative Yuan Su Jia-chyuan and President of the Parlamento Centroamericano Tony Rafal signed a special agreement

to allow Taiwan to participate in the Parlamento Centroamericano as a permanent observer, finalizing Taiwan's participation in this organization. In 2019, President of the Parlamento Centroamericano Irma Amaya led five vice presidents on a visit to Taiwan.

- (2) Foro de Presidentes y Presidentas de Poderes Legislativos de Centroamérica y la Cuenca del Caribe (FOPREL): the President of the Legislative Yuan of Taiwan was admitted as a permanent observer on December 12, 1999.
- (3) Asociación de Amistad Parlamentaria entre Guatemala y la República de China (Taiwán): Established on July 3, 1991; José Roberto Alejos Cámara is president.

Taiwan-Guatemala Inter-Parliamentary Amity Association: Established on September 20, 2019; Legislator Lin Ching-yi is president.

- (4) Grupo Parlamentario de Amistad de Nicaragua-República de China (Taiwán): Established on August 16, 2012; nine members participate, and the deputy whip of the ruling Sandinista party José Santos Figueroa Aguilar is chairman.
- (5) Paraguay-Taiwan Friendship Committee: Establishment of the Committee was approved with passage of Resolution 203 on December 10, 2013; in 2019, 12 members participated.
- (6) The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Argentina, Brazil and Chile Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on February 21, 2017; Legislator Hsu Yu-jen is president.
- (7) Grupo de Trabajo Chileno-Taiwanés: Founded by deputy Felipe Salaberry Soto on October 1, 2002, its name was later changed to the Chile-Taiwan Parliamentary Group and it currently has more than 10 members.
- (8) The Legislative Yuan's Republic of China (Taiwan)-Central and South American and Caribbean Countries Parliamentary Friendship Association: Established on April 19, 2016; Legislator Chiu Chih-wei is president.
- (9) The Legislative Yuan's Taiwan-Belize Interparliamentary Amity Association: Established on April 24, 2019; Legislator Tsai Shih-ying is

president. The President of the Belize Senate, Lee Mark Chang, attended the founding assembly.

- (10) The Formosa Club platform for legislators from South American countries and Mexico: Established on December 16, 2019, with 16 founding members.

Section 6 International cooperation and economic activities

I. Taiwan's accomplishments in the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2019

1. Enhancing Taiwan's participation in the WTO

- (1) Staying on top of WTO reform topics: The Permanent Mission of the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu to the WTO actively participates in WTO reform-related discussions and keeps close contact with key member delegations to understand the approach of these parties on WTO reform issues in order to assist related ministries in formulating Taiwan's position.
- (2) Participating in negotiations on important issues: The Permanent Mission actively participates in WTO multilateral, plurilateral, and bilateral discussions and small group consultations; exchanges views with key members on issues such as agriculture, industry, service industries, e-commerce, MSMEs, and negotiations on trade rules; maintains a good grasp of the positions and tendencies among key members; and develops relevant negotiation documents to enhance Taiwan's visibility and assist related ministries in drawing up policy positions.
- (3) Participating in sub-groups: To protect Taiwan's rights and interests the Permanent Mission has long been participating in negotiating groups such as the Friends of the System, Asian Developing Members, Informal Group of Developing Countries, Friends of Anti-Dumping Negotiations, Article XII Members (Article XII, new members), APEC, G-10 (agriculture), and Friends of Third-party Rights in Dispute Settlement.
- (4) Serving in WTO positions: Secretary of the Permanent Mission Leon Hsiao-yin Wu served as Chair of the Committee on Trade in Civil Aircraft; Secretary Carrie I-jen Wu served as Chair of the Trade-related Investment Measures Committee; Secretary Paula Chiung-fang Hsu continues to serve as an elected member of the WTO Pension Plan Management

Board, concerned with the effectiveness of the WTO Secretariat; Secretary Harvey Hsin-lung Hung served as a member of the Working Capital Fund; Administrative Officer Mandy Man-chen Yu served as a member of the Working Group for the Selection of an External Auditor.

(5) Expanding industrial opportunities

- A. The Permanent Mission also took the initiative to conduct exchanges and discussions with other members on issues such as agriculture, e-commerce, fisheries, and small and medium-sized enterprises to expand Taiwan's economic and trade development opportunities. In addition, Taiwan is actively negotiating with the UK on the UK WTO-related commitments and market entry issues after Brexit, in order to safeguard Taiwan's industrial interests in the UK and the EU.
- B. In 2019, the Permanent Mission convinced Hong Kong to lift its five-year import prohibition on Taiwan's edible oil; persuaded Brazil to revise its phytosanitary certificate, and helped attain US agreement to market access for fresh Taiwan guavas, thereby opening up the export market for Taiwan's high-quality agricultural products. In the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, the Permanent Mission also continued to express concerns regarding Thailand's importation restriction on Taiwan papaya seeds and EU legislation on endocrine disruptors, ultimately obtaining Thailand's approval for the import of relevant products from Taiwan and avoiding EU export barriers on Taiwan. In addition, Taiwan, the EU, Japan, and the Republic of Korea put forward joint proposals on overfishing and overcapacity, in hopes that all countries will manage fishery resources wisely. The proposals sparked spirited discussion and guided the direction of negotiations. Separately, in bilateral negotiations, new member Belarus committed to giving Taiwan tariff reductions on 104 types of goods, plant variety rights, initial negotiation rights, and relaxed conditions for the movement of natural persons, all of which are conducive to the expansion of Taiwan's export business opportunities.

- (6) Organizing professional activities: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) has actively participated in the WTO Public Forum in recent years, and has organized seminars in the forum to share Taiwan's successful cases with the international community, promoting participation in WTO activities and establishing Taiwan's professional image. In 2019, Taiwan put on a special seminar with the theme of Smart City Development and the World Trading System. Attended by experts and scholars, the seminar introduced Taiwan's development of smart cities and promoted the experience and achievements of the Smart City Summit & Expo in Taipei as an important world trade platform, arousing an enthusiastic international response. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) also organized a delegation to participate in the WTO Aid-for-trade Global Review 2019 and held a symposium entitled E-commerce + Accessibility — Experiences in Bridging the Missing Link, introducing Taiwan's practices in inclusive aid-for-trade and experience in the e-commerce industry development through industry-government-academic perspectives, helping other countries to gain a better understanding of Taiwan.
- (7) Enhancing exchanges with the WTO Secretariat and key member delegations: With an aim to strengthen Taiwan's ability to participate in international affairs, the Director of the Agriculture and Commodities Division of the WTO, Edwini Kessie, was invited to visit Taiwan in November to exchange views with the Taiwan government, academe, and think tanks on matters including the promotion of relations and trade cooperation between Taiwan and African countries, Taiwan's agricultural policies, foreign development assistance experience, the WTO reforms, US-China trade friction, regional economic integration, and Taiwan's important economic and trade policies. In addition, ministers representing the WTO members of the EU, Singapore, Canada, and Mexico were invited to visit Taiwan in June for seminars related to WTO reform, deepening Taiwan's contacts and exchanges with key members. In addition, 12 senior officials from Taiwan were invited to participate in WTO-related seminars and workshops to share relevant experiences in Taiwan's customs affairs, agriculture, and animal and plant quarantine.

- (8) Demonstrating Taiwan's support for the WTO system: Donations to the WTO fund to help least-developed countries attend the 12th Ministerial Conference, as well as to the Advisory Centre on WTO Law, have strengthened Taiwan's relations with the WTO Secretariat and enhanced interaction with WTO-related institutions, at the same time assisting developing member states and least-developed member states in further integrating into the international economic and trade system, and demonstrating Taiwan's contributions to and support for the WTO system.

2. Utilizing the WTO dispute settlement mechanism:

Taiwan utilized the WTO dispute settlement mechanism in September to actively engage in bilateral consultations with India regarding the India – Tariff Treatment on Certain Goods in the Information and Communications Technology Sector case. MOFA will continue to cooperate with domestic authorities to defend the economic and trade interests of Taiwan manufacturers.

II. Seeking participation in the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership

1. The CPTPP is a high-standard free trade agreement. After the CPTPP entered into force on December 30, 2018, the first and second Commission meeting were held in January and October 2019. The first Commission meeting emphasized that application for membership was open to all economies that accept CPTPP principles and can meet its high standards; the second Commission meeting reiterated that the CPTPP would move toward expanding its membership, and welcomed the continued expression of interest from economies that wished to join.
2. Gaining membership in the CPTPP is vital to the long-term economic development of Taiwan, and is an essential task for the government. However, four CPTPP member states have yet to complete domestic approval procedures. Therefore, the focus of Taiwan's approach is, in accordance with CPTPP membership terms, to actively engage with member states on an informal basis. Informal engagement will gradually build up positive

momentum and create a foundation for formal consultations in the future. Through the efforts of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, related ministries, and overseas missions, all member states understand Taiwan's determination to join the agreement.

III. Implementation of Taiwan's international cooperation and development efforts

- 1. Mutual assistance for mutual benefit:** On state visits to diplomatic allies since first taking office, President Tsai used the occasion to announce the adoption of the new foreign policy approach of steadfast diplomacy, with mutual assistance for mutual benefit. Cooperation between Taiwan and its partner countries has gone from an emphasis on one-way foreign aid to one of mutual assistance respecting the priorities of each country, and adopting a new model of two-way cooperation based on the principle of openness and transparency of funding. At the same time, industry and market development are taken into consideration to ensure that people from both countries benefit and share in sustainable prosperity.
- 2. Technical cooperation:** In 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs commissioned the International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF) to dispatch 24 overseas technical missions and investment and trade service mission to implement 91 technical cooperation projects across 23 countries in the Asia-Pacific, West Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, Central America, and South America. A total of 252 overseas specialists, Taiwan Youth Overseas Service- men, and TaiwanICDF university youth overseas interns implemented projects in agricultural business, animal husbandry, horticulture, fisheries, technical and vocational education, Mandarin language teaching, information and communications technology, industry, trade and investment, and public health and medicine. In addition, the TaiwanICDF dispatched volunteers and specialists in trade and small- and medium-sized enterprises to partner countries for short- and medium-term guidance or consulting services. Personnel from friendly, developing countries were also invited to Taiwan for educational training and workshops. In addition, scholarships were provided at the undergraduate, master's, and PhD levels to help partner countries cultivate talent.

- 3. Assisting in talent cultivation:** Domestic professional institutions such as the TaiwanICDF, Training Institute of the Ministry of Finance, and International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training conduct a range of professional workshops and international high-level workforce training courses to assist partner countries in capacity building and improve the quality of human resources, enhancing development in partner countries. Training covers public health and medicine, environmental protection, tourism, ICT, economy and trade, agriculture and fisheries, international taxation, land policy, and urban and rural planning. In addition, in line with the New Southbound policy, regional governments and professionals are invited to participate in training courses to enhance cooperation between professionals and Taiwan's enterprises.
- 4. Reimbursable assistance:** In 2019, to consolidate diplomatic relations and engage with like-minded partners in promoting development plans, Taiwan implemented projects in green economy, inclusive growth, building partnerships for sustainable development, and related areas, echoing the UN Sustainable Development Goals. In assisting allies in gradually integrating social and economic development policies, the TaiwanICDF supports the promotion of public infrastructure construction and refinancing plans in some countries, aiming to integrate local employment opportunities and achieve those countries' social development policy goals. In addition, the TaiwanICDF has long-standing co-financing relationships with three international multilateral development banks — the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Central American Bank for Economic Integration, and the Inter-American Development Bank, and the TaiwanICDF continues to deepen and expand Taiwan's participation in international development. In 2019, the TaiwanICDF managed 41 investment and financing projects and subprojects in 18 partner countries in the Asia-Pacific, Africa, Central and South America, and Central and Eastern Europe.
- 5. International emergency and humanitarian assistance:** The TaiwanICDF and World Vision jointly implemented the Integrated Action for Children's Nutrition Project (the Philippines) and the Sigi-Biromaru Livelihood Support Program (Indonesia); TaiwanICDF and CARE Honduras jointly carried out the Improving Community Resilience in the Dry Corridor of Honduras

Project; TaiwanICDF and Action Against Hunger worked together to execute the Improvement of Solid Waste Management for Host Communities and Syrian Refugees in Azraq Town Project (Jordan); TaiwanICDF and Mercy Corps collaborated on the project Rain Water Catchment Systems for Schools and Community Centers in Jordan and the Central Sulawesi Earthquake WASH Support Program (Indonesia); and TaiwanICDF and Columbia University's Center for Sustainable Development jointly implemented the project Refugees Act and Communicate for Health (REACH): Using Technology to Increase Health Literacy and Health Care Access for Refugees in Turkey (mHealth app).

6. **Taiwan Youth Overseas Service:** In 2019, 88 servicemen with specializations including agronomy, horticulture, aquaculture, livestock, medicine, public health, foreign languages, agricultural economics and extension, and ICT were dispatched abroad. After four weeks of specialized training, they served in 15 partner countries in the Asia-Pacific, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Africa.
7. **TaiwanICDF University Youth Overseas Technical Assistance Internship Program:** In collaboration with National Chengchi University, National Chiayi University, and National Pingtung University of Science and Technology, ten college students with specializations in livestock and veterinary medicine, agriculture, horticulture, aquaculture, business administration, and marketing were dispatched to eight partner countries in the Asia-Pacific, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Africa for six months of internship and training.

IV. Agencies responsible for Taiwan's international cooperation

1. International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF)

(1) Establishment

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs officially founded the International Cooperation and Development Fund on July 1, 1996. Following passage of the International Cooperation and Development Act by the Legislative Yuan in May 2010, the TaiwanICDF was prioritized as Taiwan's official agency for executing international cooperation.

In addition to helping to integrate foreign aid resources, as a foundation, the TaiwanICDF has flexibility in carrying out operations such as lending and investment, donations, international technical cooperation, and manpower training. It can thus better fulfill its mandate, effectively implement international cooperation projects, and promote the close integration of international cooperation projects with domestic industries and the mutual support between trade and diplomacy. In this way, international cooperation contributes to the development of diplomacy, and diplomacy contributes to trade and the economy.

(2) Current operations of the TaiwanICDF

A. Technical cooperation

(A) Technical mission statistics for 2019

Region		Number of Countries	Technical Mission			Number of Staff
			Taiwan Technical Mission (Including Investment and Trade Service Mission)	Projects	Preparation Project	Number of Dispatched Personnel
Asia-Pacific		10	10	21	1	39
West Asia		2	2	5	0	6
Africa		1	1	6	0	13
The Caribbean		4	4	14	4	28
Central America		4	5	26	5	43
South America		2	2	5	1	9
At large	Mandarin Teachers		0	1	0	16
	Taiwan Youth Overseas Service		0	1	0	88
	TaiwanICDF University Youth Overseas Technical Assistance Internship Program		0	1	0	10
Total		23	24	80	11	252

(B) Overview of Taiwan technical mission work

Taiwan technical mission projects are designed based on agreements with diplomatic allies and friendly countries, aiming to achieve the greatest effectiveness with the limited manpower and resources available. The TaiwanICDF's focus in 2019 was to continue to implement projects commissioned by MOFA, while also undertaking preparatory work for 29 new projects.

In terms of capacity building for diplomatic allies, Taiwan technical missions continued to provide professional training courses and workshops for public servants in 2019 while collaborating with the private sector, educational institutions, and international nongovernmental organizations on building skills that meet the needs of local job markets. For instance, the One Town, One Product Project implemented by the Taiwan Technical Mission in Nicaragua introduces Taiwan's competitive materials technology and refined processing, packaging design, and marketing management skills, helping local craftsmen link to the industrial chain development model. Priority is given to the most culturally recognizable pottery and leather craftsmanship for preliminary guidance, developing flagship pottery products and exquisite leather watchbands, which have been highly praised by the Committee of Innovation and Economy at the Presidential Office in Nicaragua. International five-star tourist hotels have also cooperated with the project to establish flagship product counters.

Given that ICT is crucial to a country's upgrade in development, Belize has been actively cooperating with Taiwan to implement a number of projects on information and communications in recent years, hoping to use ICT to improve the efficiency of governance as well as citizen services. The Belize Motor Vehicle Registration and License System Project aims to replace manual paperwork by digitizing paper records to improve administrative efficiency. At the same time, it vertically integrates traffic information from transport

offices throughout Belize, and horizontally works to help police and customs agents reduce vehicle theft, thus safeguarding lives and property. The project is also unifying formats for Belizean driver's licenses, vehicle licenses, and vehicle registration, eliminating the inconsistent formats used in the past and providing a solid basis for the standardization of Belize's transport certificates.

In order to help the Pacific allies mitigate the increasingly serious effects of diseases, Taiwan has been implementing projects related to horticulture, livestock, and nutrition, to increase sources of vegetables, fruit, and animal proteins and to improve dietary habits and nutrition. For example, the Taiwan Technical Mission in Nauru has been implementing the Dietary Diversity Extension Project, producing eggs, vegetables, and mushrooms in order to provide diverse food sources, working with schools to enhance food and agriculture education, and organizing activities to promote nutrition and a diversified diet, thereby increasing awareness of healthy eating among Nauruans and helping to reduce the prevalence of noncommunicable diseases.

- (C) Pre-employment and on-the-job training courses for overseas technical personnel: In 2019, personnel to be dispatched overseas first attended short-term intensive pre-employment training courses at national research institutes or related professional and language training institutions. In addition, based on professional training requests from current personnel and future project needs, arrangements were made for short-term training courses to improve professional and technical capabilities. The total number of trainees in 2019 was 33.
- (D) Taiwan technical missions dispatched by the TaiwanICDF

Region	Country/ Technical Mission	Project	Date established
Asia-Pacific	Taiwan Technical Mission in Indonesia	Strengthening Incubator Agribusiness with Human Resources Development in Bandung	Nov. 1976
		High Quality Rice Seed Development Project in South Sulawesi (Indonesia)	
		Karawang Horticulture Development Project (Indonesia)(Preliminary Preparation Phase)	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Fiji	Vegetable Production, Marketing Extension and Capacity Building Project (Fiji)	Sept. 1978
		Aquaculture Project (Fiji)	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Palau	Horticulture Extension Project (Palau)	May 1985
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Papua New Guinea	Farmers Training Cooperation Project (Papua New Guinea)	Oct. 1990
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Marshall Islands	Horticulture Project (Marshall Islands)	Aug. 1999
		Livestock Project (Marshall Islands)	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Tuvalu	Horticulture Expansion Project (Tuvalu)	Dec. 2003
Taiwan Technical Mission in Nauru	Vegetable Production and Nutrition Enhancement Project (Nauru)	Mar. 2006	
	Egg Production Project (Nauru)		
	Thermophilic Mushroom Cultivation Experiment		
Taiwan Technical Mission in Thailand	Integrated Pest Management in Vegetable Production and Fruit Flies Control Project in Royal Project Foundation (Thailand)	Jan. 2011	
	Gloriosa, Sweet Potato Virus-Free Seedling and Grape Root Stock Production Project (Thailand)		

Region	Country/ Technical Mission	Project	Date established
West Asia	Taiwan Technical Mission in Saudi Arabia	Date Palm Cultivation and Tissue Culture Consultant Dispatch Project (Saudi Arabia)	Aug. 1980
		Marine Fish Research Consultant Dispatch Project (Saudi Arabia)	
		Transport Technical Cooperation Consultant Dispatch Project (Saudi Arabia)	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Bahrain	Horticultural Crops Development Consultants Dispatch Project (Bahrain)	Jun. 1987
Aquaculture Development Consultant Dispatch Project (Bahrain)			
Africa	Taiwan Technical Mission in Eswatini	Seed Potato Production Project (Eswatini)	Sept. 1969
		Technical and Vocational Education and Training Enhancement Project (Eswatini)	
		Fruit Tree Production and Marketing Project (Eswatini)	
		Pig Industry Enhancement Project (Eswatini)	
		Eswatini Electronic Document and Records Management System (EDRMS) Development Project	
		Maternal and Infant Health Care Improvement Project in the Kingdom of Eswatini (Phases I and II)	
The Caribbean	Taiwan Technical Mission in St. Kitts and Nevis	St. Kitts and Nevis Pinney's Beach Park Project	Oct. 1984
		St. Kitts and Nevis Pinney's Beach Park Project (Preliminary Preparation Phase)	
		Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Chronic Kidney Disease in St. Kitts and Nevis	
		St. Kitts and Nevis Enhancing Agricultural Adaptive Capacity to Climate Variability Project	
		St. Kitts and Nevis Land Administration Information System Project	

Region	Country/ Technical Mission	Project	Date established
The Caribbean	Taiwan Technical Mission in St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Banana Revitalization Project in St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Mar. 1991
		Banana Revitalization Project in St. Vincent and the Grenadines (Preliminary Preparation Phase)	
		Intelligent Bus Management and Monitoring System Project for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	
		Intelligent Bus Management and Monitoring System Project for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (Preliminary Preparation Phase)	
		Electronic Document and Records Management System (EDRMS) project for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	
		Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Diabetes in St. Vincent and the Grenadines	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Haiti	National Rice Seed Production Enhancement Project in Artibonite	Jan. 1996
		National Rice Seed Production Enhancement Project in North/North-East Province	
		National Rice Seed Production Enhancement Project in South Province	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in St. Lucia	Banana Productivity Improvement Project in St. Lucia	Jul. 2007
Project for Enhancing the Efficiency of Production-Distribution Supply Chain in Fruit and Vegetable Sector in St. Lucia			
Project for ICT in Education in St. Lucia (Preliminary Preparation Phase)			
Project for ICT in Education in St. Lucia			

Region	Country/ Technical Mission	Project	Date established
Central America	Taiwan Technical Mission in Honduras	Healthy Seed Potato Production Project (Honduras)	Feb. 1972
		Healthy Avocado Seedling Production Project in Honduras	
		Honduras Expanding Avocado Seedling Production Project	
		Honduras Expanding Avocado Cultivation Project	
		Farmers' Organization Production and Marketing Capacity Enhancement Project (Preliminary Preparation Phase)	
		Honduras Forest Pest Management Project Honduras Pig Breeding and Reproduction Project	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Guatemala	Bamboo Industries Project	Feb. 1973
		Project for the Strengthening of Marketing Capacity in Family Farming (Preliminary Preparation Phase) Project for the Strengthening of Marketing Capacity in Family Farming	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Belize	Genetic Improvement in Sheep and Goat Project (Belize)	Jan. 1991
		Genetic Improvement in Sheep and Goat Production (Preliminary Preparation Phase)	
		Urban Resilience and Disaster Prevention Project	
		Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Chronic Renal Failure in Belize	
Project for Strengthening Medical Imaging System in Belize Belize Motor Vehicle Registration and License System Project (Belize)			

Region	Country/ Technical Mission	Project	Date established
Central America	Taiwan Technical Mission in Nicaragua	Rice Seed Research, Development and Production Extension Project in Nicaragua	Jul. 1991
		Bamboo Cultivation and Handicraft Production Efficiency Enhancement Project	
		Common Bean Research, Development and Production Extension Project in Nicaragua	
		Plantain Development Project in Nicaragua	
		One Town, One Product Project in Nicaragua	
		Family Fish Farming Promotion Project in Nicaragua	
		Mariculture Project in Nicaragua	
		Strengthening Fruit and Vegetable Production Project in Nicaragua	
		Capacity Building for Commercialization of Agricultural Products Project in Nicaragua	
		Strengthen Capacity for GIS metadata and Disaster Resilience Project in Nicaragua	
Central America	Taiwan Investment and Trade Service Mission in Central America	Project for the Capacity Strengthening to Support the Incubation and Entrepreneurship for MIPYMEs (Guatemala)	Dec. 1999
		Project for the Capacity Strengthening to Support the Incubation and Entrepreneurship for MIPYMEs (Guatemala)(Preliminary Preparation Phase)	
		Project for Promotion of Medical Technology for Improvement of Maternal-Neonatal Health in Guatemala	
		Project for the Revitalization of Crafts and Youth Entrepreneurship in Antigua Guatemala and Surrounding Municipalities in Sacatepéquez (Preliminary Preparation Phase)	
		Project for the Revitalization of Crafts and Youth Entrepreneurship in Antigua Guatemala and Surrounding Municipalities in Sacatepéquez (Guatemala)	

Region	Country/ Technical Mission	Project	Date established
South America	Taiwan Technical Mission in Paraguay	Project to Strengthen Capacity to Support Development of MSMEs	Apr. 1972
		Project to Strengthen Capacity for Commercial Production of Orchids	
		Project to Strengthen Capacity for Commercial Production of Orchids (Preliminary Preparation Phase)	
		Health Information Management Efficiency Enhancement Project in Paraguay	
		Surubi Fingerling Breeding and Cultivation Project (Paraguay)	
Taiwan Technical Mission in Ecuador	Oyster Cultivation Development Project (Ecuador)	Sept. 1978	
Cross-regional	Overseas Professional Mandarin Teaching Project		Apr. 2014
	Taiwan Youth Overseas Service		Sept. 2001
	TaiwanICDF University Youth Overseas Technical Assistance Internship Program		Jan. 2019

B. International Educational Training

- (A) Professional Workshops: 16 professional workshops designed for government officials and technical personnel from diplomatic allies and friendly countries were conducted in 2019, with 369 participants from 48 countries benefiting. Workshop topics included the promotion of ecotourism, resilient city development, smart transportation development, promotion of agricultural biodiversity, technology applications for resilience in agriculture (exclusive for Latin America, the Caribbean, and Europe), the use of big data in official statistics, dry bean production systems and healthy seed potato production (for the International Center for Tropical Agriculture), local social development, trade facilitation and cross-border e-commerce promotion, technology applications for preventive medicine and health promotion (exclusive for

Asia and Africa), youth entrepreneurship (exclusive for ASEAN and South Asian countries), water resources management, creative economy development, circular agriculture promotion (exclusive for the Asia-Pacific), water management, creative economy development, technology applications for resilience in agriculture (exclusive for ASEAN and South Asian countries), and technology applications for preventive medicine and health promotion (exclusive for Latin America, the Caribbean, and Europe).

- (B) Higher education: To meet the needs of diplomatic allies and friendly countries for higher education graduates, the TaiwanICDF started the International Higher Education Scholarship Program in 1998. In 2019, it collaborated with 21 universities to conduct 35 bachelor's, master's, and PhD programs. Specializations included agriculture, science and engineering, public health, business administration, and other fields. To date, 2,257 international students have benefited. In 2019 there were 500 foreign students from 35 countries studying in Taiwan.
- (C) Promoting Mandarin education: In response to the global interest in Mandarin language learning, and to promote understanding of Taiwan's culture and society among citizens of diplomatic allies and friendly countries, the TaiwanICDF began to implement the Overseas Professional Mandarin Teaching Project in 2014. 16 Mandarin language teachers were dispatched to Belize, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jordan, Nicaragua, Palau, Paraguay, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Turkey to provide professional Mandarin language teaching in 2019.
- (D) Vocational training projects: In order to assist Taiwan's diplomatic allies in the Pacific, Latin America, and the Caribbean in cultivating fundamental technical manpower to meet local demands, the TaiwanICDF worked with regional branches of the Workforce Development Agency of the Ministry of Labor,

National Kaohsiung University of Science and Technology, Hungkuang University, St. John's University, and Lee-Ming Institute of Technology to implement the Vocational Training Project for the Pacific and the Vocational Training Project for Latin American and the Caribbean; in addition, 16 technical workshops were conducted on digital device maintenance, food processing and packaging design, Chinese cooking, creative woodworking, electrical engineering, tourism and hospitality, baking arts, hospitality management, refrigeration and air-conditioning (including electrical and plumbing services), motor vehicle mechanics, and information and communications technology equipment applications and maintenance. A total of 325 youth from 15 diplomatic allies received three months of training in Taiwan.

- C. International public health and medicine projects: The 10 projects implemented in 2019 were the Health Information Management Efficiency Enhancement Project in Paraguay, Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Chronic Renal Failure in Belize, Maternal and Infant Health Care Improvement Project in the Kingdom of Eswatini (Phases I and II), Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Chronic Kidney Disease in St. Kitts and Nevis, Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Diabetes in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Project for Strengthening Chronic Kidney Disease Prevention and Control System in Nicaragua, Project for Promotion of Medical Technology for Improvement of Maternal-Neonatal Health in Guatemala, Project for Strengthening Medical Imaging System in Belize, and 2019 Healthcare Personnel Training Program.
- D. TaiwanICDF Overseas Volunteers Program: In 2019, 29 long-term volunteers and project-based volunteers were dispatched to serve in 14 countries, including Belize, Cambodia, Eswatini, Indonesia, the Marshall Islands, Nicaragua, Palau, Paraguay, the Philippines, Thailand, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the

Grenadines, and Uganda. In 2019, a total of 51 volunteers were serving overseas. Volunteers work in general teaching subjects such as English and information technology, public health, and ICT.

- E. Lending and investment projects: In 2019, the focus was to help Taiwan consolidate diplomatic relations, and to work with like-minded partners to promote development projects. In response to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the TaiwanICDF developed projects related to green economy, inclusive growth, building partnerships for sustainable development, and similar areas, to assist Taiwan's diplomatic allies in promoting economic and social development. Key outcomes are summarized as follows:
- (A) Sovereign loans were used to participate in key economic and social infrastructure construction projects for diplomatic allies, including the Nevis Small Enterprises Re-Lending Project in St. Kitts and Nevis, while assisting the governments of diplomatic allies in public construction, increasing opportunities for them to host international conferences and events.
 - (B) The spillover effects of international arenas were used to bring positive attention to Taiwan. For example, the Green Energy Special Fund-Subproject: BiH Zenica CHP Station Upgrade and Modernization Project and the Green Energy Special Fund Reception received close attention from international partners and Central and Eastern European countries during the annual meeting of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. In addition, when the TaiwanICDF made a presentation at the International Beirut Energy Forum, Taiwan's visibility in the Middle East was increased.

2. Other professional agencies

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs commissioned domestic professional agencies to conduct a range of training programs for diplomatic allies. For instance, the International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training was commissioned

to conduct six workshops, covering urban and rural infrastructure development and planning, agricultural development and policy, land policy and sustainable villages, land taxation and valuation, geographic information systems and land management, and the knowledge economy and urban competitiveness. A total of 157 government officials and professionals from 53 countries came to Taiwan to participate in workshops. In addition, the Training Institute of the Ministry of Finance was commissioned to conduct the 35th International Taxation Academy Workshop, which brought a total of 10 taxation officials from nine diplomatic allies and friendly countries to Taiwan for training purposes.



The TaiwanICDF project manager for the Honduras Forest Pest Management Project and Honduran staff set up pine bark beetle traps and utilize Geographic Information System (GIS) technology from Taiwan to help improve Honduras's forest pest monitoring and prevention. (February 14, 2019)



ROC Ambassador to Nicaragua Jaime Chin-mu Wu and Director General of Canal 6 Aarón Peralta co-host the premiere of the language learning program *Nica Mandarin*, jointly produced by TaiwanICDF Mandarin language teachers and Canal 6 in Nicaragua. (March 20, 2019)



A Taiwan Technical Mission in Belize specialist, a Mandarin teacher, and a Taiwan Youth Overseas Serviceman celebrate completing a four-day race covering nearly 300 kilometers in their canoe, sporting the ROC flag and TaiwanICDF logo. (April 3, 2019)



Daniel Juan, chairman of the Cayo District sheep farmers association in Belize, gets up-close and personal while learning about sheep and goat breeding and management in Taiwan along with officials from his country's Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment and Sustainable Development. (April 15, 2019)



A specialist with the Taiwan Technical Mission in Nauru introduces TaiwaNauru chicks to visiting Nauruan teachers and students. The chickens, the outcome of bilateral cooperation, will feature in the development of chicken farming in Nauru. (June 10, 2019)



Minister of Transportation and Communications Lin Chia-lung receives a Belize driver's license as a gesture of gratitude for Taiwan's assistance after the TaiwanICDF Technical Mission's Motor Vehicle Registration and License System Project helped improve the efficiency of license issuance and management by the Belize Department of Transport. (June 18, 2019)



Two young girls enjoy their access to water following the TaiwanICDF's collaboration with Mercy Corps Indonesia to implement the Central Sulawesi Earthquake WASH Support Program to help local villages build safe water sources and basic sanitation facilities. (June 22, 2019)



TaiwanICDF Secretary General Timothy T.Y Hsiang leads a cheer at the Taiwan Technical Mission in Eswatini. (June 28, 2019)



Participants in the TaiwanICDF's Workshop on Local Social Development celebrate receiving an Honorable Mention at the 2019 New Taipei City Sanxia Indigo Dye Festival, posing with Chen Wen-jun, Sanxia District chief. (July 25, 2019)



A senior specialist of the Taiwan Technical Mission in the Marshall Islands shows a local staff member how to identify the gender of a piglet. (August 6, 2019)



The TaiwanICDF conducts an orientation for local citizens on its Home Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Project in the Marshall Islands, which is helping the Marshall Islands lower to energy consumption, use renewable energy to replace some fossil fuels for power generation, and reduce dependence on imported energy. (August 9, 2019)



The “Toro Venado” (bull/deer) pictured here is the flagship pottery product developed by the One Town, One Product Project of the Taiwan Technical Mission in Nicaragua. (October 15, 2019)



These exquisite leather watchbands are another flagship product from the One Town, One Product Project of the Taiwan Technical Mission in Nicaragua. (October 25, 2019)



Participants from cooperating hospitals in the TaiwanICDF Project for Promotion of Medical Technology for Improvement of Maternal-Neonatal Health in Guatemala learn how to provide better care for women and children. (November 19, 2019)

Appendix

1. Excerpts from President Tsai Ing-wen's statements on foreign policy

- (1) President Tsai attends Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2019 Spring Banquet**
<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5644>
- (2) President Tsai meets European Parliament-Taiwan Friendship Group delegation**
<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5643>
- (3) President Tsai meets Palau President Remengesau, tours Palau National Congress, and attends tree-planting ceremony**
<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5671>
- (4) Parliament of Nauru passes resolution in support of Taiwan**
<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5683>
- (5) President Tsai attends state banquet hosted by Marshall Islands President Heine**
<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5689>
- (6) President Tsai meets Guatemala President and Mrs. Morales**
<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5729>
- (7) President Tsai meets Tuvalu Prime Minister Sopoaga, witnesses signing of an agreement regarding seafarers' training and certification**
<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5731>
- (8) President Tsai meets delegation led by Governor-General of Belize Sir Colville Young**
<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5768>
- (9) President Tsai meets Taiwan allies' permanent representatives to the United Nations at TECO reception**
<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5775>

(10) President Tsai attends discussion session at Columbia University

<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5776>

(11) President Tsai attends reception with US Congressmen

<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5777>

(12) President Tsai and Haitian President Moïse conduct bilateral talks and attend dinner banquet

<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5785>

(13) President Tsai attends dinner banquet hosted by Prime Minister Harris, witnesses signing of Taiwan-SKN technical and vocational education agreement

<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5788>

(14) President Tsai addresses St. Vincent and the Grenadines House of Assembly

<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5791>

(15) President Tsai addresses St. Lucia Parliament

<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5799>

(16) President Tsai meets Eswatini Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini

<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5862>

2. Excerpts from Premier Su Tseng-chang's statements on foreign policy

The following are the Executive Yuan's 2020 guidelines for foreign policy:

- (1) Implement the principles of steadfast diplomacy and mutual assistance for mutual benefit; uphold the fundamental values of peace, freedom, democracy, and human rights; consolidate relations with diplomatic allies; enhance substantive ties with key like-minded nations with which Taiwan shares no diplomatic relations; and vie for greater international participation.
- (2) Continue to promote the New Southbound Policy, integrating the resources and strengths of central and local government agencies, private enterprises, and civic groups to focus on four main areas—economic and trade collaboration, talent exchange, resource sharing, and regional connectivity—and create new cooperation models with partner countries to reap mutual benefits and achieve a win-win for all
- (3) Protect Taiwan's membership and related rights in international organizations; seek participation in other important functional international organizations of which Taiwan is not a member; and take pragmatic and creative approaches to produce breakthroughs and actively participate in international activities.
- (4) Integrate private sector strengths, resources, and experience and establish partnerships with important domestic and foreign nongovernmental organizations so as to engage in international initiatives in such areas as humanitarian aid and relief, medical assistance, disease prevention and control, food security, green energy, agricultural technology, and digital governance, thus contributing more to the realization of global sustainable development goals.

(Excerpts from the Executive Yuan's 2020 guidelines detailed by Premier Su Tseng-chang on March 28, 2020)

3. Excerpts from Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu's statements on foreign policy

(1) Remarks by Jaushieh Joseph Wu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, at the Foreign Affairs and National Defense Committee of the Legislative Yuan on March 4, 2019

The international political and economic landscape is undergoing radical changes and is rife with unpredictable variables. At the same time, unstable conditions are undermining the security of the Asia-Pacific. This has created drastic and complex challenges in all of our efforts to promote diplomatic affairs. To respond to external changes and challenges, MOFA will continue to promote steadfast diplomacy. At present, our key endeavors include:

A. Stable alliances

China remains unrelenting in its efforts to entice away our diplomatic allies, and a number of politicians in these countries have unrealistic expectations about what China can do for them. Against this backdrop, our Ministry and Embassies are striving to safeguard relations with our 17 diplomatic allies and consolidate ties. Since I presented my last report, numerous heads of state and high-level officials have visited Taiwan, including: Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., President of Palau, and Mrs. Remengesau; Baron Divavesi Waqa, President of Nauru; Silvio Ovelar, President of the Paraguayan Congress and Senate, leading a delegation of six other senators alongside Minister of Tourism Sofia Montiel de Afara; Denis Ronaldo Moncada Colindres, Nicaragua's Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Bosco Martin Castillo Cruz, Minister of Youth; Thulisile Dladla, the Kingdom of Eswatini's new Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Thambo Gina, Minister of Economic Planning and Development, and Moses Vilakati, Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs; Ezechiele Joseph, St. Lucia's Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries, Physical Planning, Natural Resources and Co-operatives, and Herod Stanislas, Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Physical Planning, Natural Resources and Co-operatives; Oscar Hugo Lopez Rivas, Guatemala's Minister

of Education; and Archbishop Giampietro dal Toso, Adjunct Secretary of the Holy See's Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples and President of the Pontifical Mission Societies. These visits attest to our allies' support and regard for Taiwan.

B. Steady advances in Taiwan-US relations

Taiwan-US relations continue to advance steadily. With this year marking the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA), both sides have been advancing mutual trust, continuing to strengthen partner relations through the relevant channels, and expanding areas of cooperation. The Trump administration has continued to publicly acclaim its friendship with Taiwan, and reiterate its commitments to our nation. In a tweet made shortly after the November 2018 local elections, for example, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo stressed that Taiwan's "constitutional democracy is an example for the entire Indo-Pacific." More recently, Secretary Pompeo also praised Taiwan as "a democratic success story, a reliable partner, and a force for good in the world."

The Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018 was also signed into law by President Trump in December after having been passed by the Senate with unanimous consent. In addition to reiterating the US security commitment to Taiwan consistent with the TRA and the Six Assurances, the act urges the US President to make regular sales of defense articles to Taiwan, and to encourage the travel of high-level officials to Taiwan. After Xi Jinping touted a "one country, two systems" framework on January 2, and refused to rule out the use of force against Taiwan, US National Security Council Spokesman Garret Marquis responded on January 7 by tweeting that "the US rejects [China's] threat or use of force to compel the people of Taiwan," adding that "Beijing should stop its coercion [and] resume dialog [with] the democratically-elected administration on Taiwan." US senators and representatives have been united in publicly voicing support for Taiwan, opposing China's continued threats against us and offering their staunch support.

On January 22, the US House of Representatives unanimously

passed a bill previously introduced by Representative Ted Yoho (R-FL), Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, asking the US Secretary of State to formulate a strategy assisting Taiwan in regaining observer status at the World Health Organization (WHO).

Since last October, Taiwan and the US have jointly organized three workshops under the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF): the International Workshop on Defending Democracy through Media Literacy, Achieving 50-50: Empowering Women Leaders in the Indo-Pacific Region, and the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Workshop. In December 2018, Acting US Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Global Markets Ian Steff visited Taiwan. He thanked Taiwan for putting together a group to attend the SelectUSA investment summit, and expressed his hope to continue to deepen commercial and investment ties between Taiwan and the US.

C. New Southbound Policy continues to yield results

The New Southbound Policy continues to yield results. In tourism and personnel exchanges, the number of entries by travelers from New Southbound countries into Taiwan reached 2,307,982 in 2018, a 13.6 percent increase over the year before. Meanwhile, 51,970 individuals from New Southbound countries came to Taiwan in 2018 for study or training, representing year-on-year growth of 25.6 percent. That same year, 21,100 individuals from Taiwan traveled to New Southbound countries for study or training, up 9.5 percent from the previous year. In trade and investment, the total trade volume between Taiwan and New Southbound countries reached US\$117.1 billion in 2018, representing 5.69 percent growth from 2017. Moreover, in 2018, our government approved 643 separate investment projects by New Southbound country-based firms in Taiwan, up 10.86 percent from 2017. The value of those new investments in 2018 totaled approximately US\$390 million, a 43.33 percent increase from the year before.

In terms of trade agreements, an updated Taiwan-India investment

agreement was signed in Taipei in December 2018, providing an even higher level of protection for Taiwanese companies investing in India. In addition, Taiwan also signed arrangements on mutual recognition of authorized economic operators with Australia and India, facilitating customs procedures for approved businesses and increasing Taiwan's export competitiveness.

The second annual Yushan Forum was held in October 2018, with 51 speakers (including two Nobel Peace Prize winners) from 17 different countries and more than 1,000 guests in attendance.

D. Taiwan-Japan relations enjoy steady progress, with both sides maintaining good faith and common ground

Despite the effects of various sources of instability, steady progress is being made in Taiwan-Japan relations, and mutual visits by officials from both sides are continuing unabated at increasingly higher levels. At the 43rd Taiwan-Japan Economic and Trade Conference held in Taipei in November 2018, our two sides signed a mutual recognition arrangement on authorized economic operators as well as four other memoranda, a considerable achievement. The third Taiwan-Japan Maritime Affairs Cooperation Dialogue took place in December 2018 in Tokyo, and saw the signing of two memoranda of understanding, one on bilateral cooperation to tackle smuggling, illegal immigration, and cross-border crime, and the other on joint marine science research.

E. Taiwan-EU relations maintain healthy momentum

Taiwan-EU relations have maintained a healthy momentum, with both sides continuing to deepen exchanges and cooperation on the basis of our shared core beliefs and values. Mutual visits by high-level officials from both sides continue to go forward.

After Xi Jinping's January 2 address on "one country, two systems," in which he declined to rule out the use of force against Taiwan, the administrations of the EU, Germany, and the UK, together with the Belgian, European, Scottish, and UK parliaments, issued public statements of support for Taiwan.

In December 2018, the European Parliament approved its 2018 annual report on the implementation of the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy, upholding support for Taiwan's democracy. And on January 30, 2019, the European Parliament held a plenary debate on the latest developments in the relations between China and Taiwan.

At the debate, European Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides laid out the EU's one China policy, calling Taiwan "like-minded" and praising Taiwan's accomplishments. This marked the first time that the European Parliament included cross-strait political issues in a plenary debate, a meaningful step.

On February 20, European Parliament-Taiwan Friendship Group Chair Werner Langen presented to President Tsai the "Statement on Promoting Peace and Stability in the Taiwan Strait," signed by 155 MEPs from a range of political groups, expressing firm support for Taiwan. Over this period, we have signed five agreements, memoranda of understanding, and joint statements with European countries, including the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Higher Education between the Ministry of Education—Taipei and the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research—Vienna; the Administrative Arrangement Between the Taipei Representative Office in the European Union and Belgium and the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs of the European Commission on Cluster Cooperation; and an agreement on cooperation between the ROC (Taiwan) Ministry of Science and Technology and the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research. These agreements all promote Taiwan's substantive relations with Europe.

F. Active efforts to participate in international organizations

At the past APEC Leaders' Summit in November 2018, Taiwan's Leader's Representative Morris Chang and his wife led a delegation to attend, with impressive results. During the APEC Economic Leaders'

Meeting, Chang, as Representative of the President, exchanged views with leaders of other economies on responses to current global economic trends. He also held bilateral discussions with US Vice President Mike Pence, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, and Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, and interacted with other leaders during the course of the summit.

In addition, Executive Yuan Minister without Portfolio John C.C. Deng and Minister of National Development Chen Mei-ling represented Taiwan at the APEC Ministerial Meeting, where they had an in-depth discussion with representatives of other economies on how to strengthen sustainable and inclusive growth in the digital era. During the meeting, they also held a number of bilateral dialogues with ministerial-level representatives of other economies.

At the meeting of the World Health Organization's Executive Board in January 2019, representatives of nine countries—Japan and the US as well as our diplomatic allies Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Eswatini, Nicaragua, Paraguay, and Solomon Islands—all spoke up in support of Taiwan's wish to participate. Moreover, our allies Nicaragua, St. Kitts and Nevis, and St. Lucia expressed their support for Taiwan's inclusion in writing.

In our bid for participation in the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), 11 diplomatic allies submitted letters of support to the INTERPOL Secretary General ahead of the organization's General Assembly in November 2018, with one ally speaking up at the assembly and four allies personally lobbying the Secretariat for our inclusion. The administrations and/or legislatures of France, Germany, Italy, the UK, and the US publicly declared their support for Taiwan's inclusion.

As regards our efforts to take part in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs planned a number of international campaign events during November 2018, and arranged more bilateral discussion sessions (38) and media interviews

(14) than in any previous year. These efforts have been effective in conveying our requests to the international community, and I personally would like to once again thank the UK government for its public support for Taiwan's UNFCCC participation.

G. Actively speaking up in the international arena

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs continues to use a variety of means to actively speak up in the international community. Since I started this job in February 2018, I have accepted a total of 36 interviews from mainstream electronic and print media outlets based in the US (including CNN), Canada, Germany, Japan, the UK, and other countries, generating 78 articles. Since it was set up in July 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Facebook fan page has been liked by more than 44,000 users and followed by more than 46,000. The Ministry's Twitter account came online on April 16, 2018; since then, it has published more than 1,200 tweets, gained more than 34,000 followers, and accumulated more than 17 million engagements. In addition, since its start in July 2018, the Ministry's official Instagram page has gained 13,000 followers and has averaged 100,000 impressions per week. These statistics together demonstrate our considerable public diplomacy capabilities.

H. Conclusion

Over the past year, amid abrupt changes in international politics and economics as well as with the security challenges we face in the Asia-Pacific and continued suppression from China, Taiwan has had no choice but to stand united, face this external situation with unity, and cooperate with our partners and friends across the world. Only in this way can we overcome these challenges and create a new page for Taiwan's foreign relations.

This new year, I will lead my team of diplomats in continuing to advance our steadfast diplomacy programs, by which we will uphold our national sovereignty and security, and protect our country's interests.

(2) Report by Jaushieh Joseph Wu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, at the 9th

Congress of the Legislative Yuan, 8th session, October 7, 2019

Over the past three-plus years, the government has spared no effort in promoting steadfast diplomacy, while striving to maintain the status quo across the Taiwan Strait. We have neither engaged in provocations nor sought to exacerbate existing circumstances. However, China has stepped up its suppression of Taiwan in the international arena, attempting to destroy our sovereignty and limit our presence. Despite persistent efforts by our government to stem the tide, China has lured away some of our diplomatic allies, undermining stability across the Taiwan Strait.

Nevertheless, under the concerted efforts of our people and government, numerous important breakthroughs and outcomes have been achieved as a result of steadfast diplomacy. In particular, it is gratifying to note that our relations with the United States, Japan, and other like-minded countries in Europe and elsewhere have advanced significantly. Major accomplishments include the following:

A. Taiwan-US ties at their best in 40 years

This year, Taiwan and the United States are celebrating the 40th anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act. High-ranking officials from the US executive branch have publicly reaffirmed the Taiwan Relations Act and Six Assurances on numerous occasions. The US Congress has passed numerous bills and resolutions in support of Taiwan. And the Trump administration has incorporated Taiwan into the framework of the US Indo-Pacific Strategy.

B. Greater courtesy extended to President Tsai during US stopovers

The United States approved visits by President Tsai Ing-wen to government offices and lifted media restrictions during her transit stops in the country. She was the first President of Taiwan to publicly meet with Permanent Representatives or Representatives to the UN of our diplomatic allies at the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York.

C. Renaming of institutions dealing with US and Japan affairs

The Coordination Council for North American Affairs was renamed the Taiwan Council for US Affairs, marking the first time that *Taiwan* and *US* have been included in the name of the organization. Japan's Interchange Association was renamed the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association, while Taiwan's Association of East Asian Relations was renamed the Taiwan-Japan Relations Association, incorporating *Taiwan* and *Japan* in the new designations.

D. Concrete US government assistance for Taiwan's defense capabilities

The US Department of State approved marketing licenses for US manufacturers to assist in the development of our indigenous submarines. The Trump administration has announced five arms sales to Taiwan, including 66 F-16V fighter jets, among other advanced equipment. These arms sales total US\$12 billion, underlining the normalization of US arms sales to Taiwan.

E. US passes Taiwan Travel Act

The Taiwan Travel Act encourages mutual visits between Taiwan and the United States by officials at all levels, so as to pave the way for closer and more robust interactions between the two countries.

F. New milestones and highlights in relations with Europe:

Taiwan and the European Union held their first Human Rights Consultations. Taiwan and Poland signed an agreement on legal cooperation in criminal matters. Furthermore, 155 Members of the European Parliament issued a joint statement on promoting peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait. I myself was invited to deliver a public speech at the Copenhagen Democracy Summit in Denmark.

G. Stronger global support for Taiwan's international participation

Taiwan's efforts to participate in international organizations and activities, such as the World Health Assembly (WHA), United Nations, and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), have gained stronger support from numerous and important like-minded countries, despite relentless interference from China.

H. Initial success of the New Southbound Policy

Taiwan has achieved significant growth in economic and trade relations, personnel exchanges, and resource sharing with New Southbound Policy partner countries.

I. Facilitation of overseas travel

Taiwan was the 12th country to join the US Global Entry program, and the eighth non-EU nation to be granted automated immigration clearance by Italy. Taiwan has also signed reciprocal driver's license agreements with 33 US states and all Canadian provinces.

Key outcomes of steadfast diplomacy

A. Cordial and frequent high-level mutual visits with diplomatic allies

In March this year, President Tsai Ing-wen led a delegation to Palau, Nauru, and the Marshall Islands on her Oceans of Democracy trip. Then in July, she undertook the Journey of Freedom, Democracy, and Sustainability, which included visits to Haiti, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Saint Lucia. During these state visits, much was achieved in bolstering diplomatic partnerships and bilateral cooperation. Following President Tsai's visit, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines established an Embassy in Taiwan, its first in Asia.

On October 10, Vice President Chen Chien-jen led a delegation to the Holy See to attend the canonization ceremony for Cardinal John Henry Newman and four other Blessed, enhancing diplomatic ties between Taiwan and the Holy See.

In April this year, I served as the President's special envoy to the 51st birthday celebrations of King Mswati III of Eswatini. In August, I traveled to Tuvalu for the Pacific Islands Forum, helping build closer cooperative ties with diplomatic allies in the Pacific.

In the meantime, high-level officials from diplomatic allies have also visited Taiwan, including President Jimmy Morales of Guatemala, Prime Minister Ralph E. Gonsalves of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Prime Minister Timothy Harris of Saint Christopher and Nevis. President Tommy Remengesau, Jr. of Palau and President Lionel

Aingimea of Nauru made stopovers in Taiwan on their return home from attending the UN General Assembly at the end of September. This constituted a concrete action on their part to show the importance they attach to bilateral relations with Taiwan. Prime Minister Allen Chastanet of Saint Lucia and other heads or deputy heads of state of diplomatic allies will be visiting Taiwan to attend our National Day celebrations, again highlighting our solid bonds with these countries.

B. Taiwan-US relations advancing steadily

Taiwan-US relations are stable and robust, and continue to advance in a steady manner, with cooperation expanding to a broader spectrum of areas. In addition to the breakthroughs I mentioned earlier, we have made several other important achievements.

During the Journey of Freedom, Democracy, and Sustainability in July, President Tsai made the longest-ever transit stops in the United States (four days and four nights combined) by a Taiwanese head of state.

The US Department of Defense, in its recently published *Indo-Pacific Strategy Report*, listed Taiwan among nations with which the US has taken steps to expand partnerships.

The Trump administration has so far announced five arms sales to Taiwan, totaling US\$12 billion.

Meanwhile, the US Senate and House of Representatives each adopted a resolution reaffirming the US commitment to Taiwan and to the implementation of the Taiwan Relations Act. The House of Representatives passed the Taiwan Assurance Act, while the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations approved the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative Act of 2019 (also referred to as the TAIPEI Act). These acts and resolutions represent a clear show of support for Taiwan.

Taiwan and the United States jointly held six workshops under the Global Cooperation and Training Framework, with topics including the fight against corruption in public and private sectors, women's

economic empowerment, management of drug-resistant tuberculosis, cybersecurity, media literacy, and revitalization of Austronesian languages. Japan and Sweden cosponsored some of the events, while our diplomatic allies proactively participated in them.

In March, Taiwan and the United States held A Civil Society Dialogue on Securing Religious Freedom in the Indo-Pacific Region. And in late September, official Taiwanese representatives were invited to attend an event at UN headquarters entitled Global Call to Protect Religious Freedom, which was chaired by President Donald Trump.

C. New Southbound Policy has achieved initial success

We have steadily deepened diverse exchanges with New Southbound Policy partner countries and achieved initial success.

With regard to tourism and personnel exchanges, our Ministry has introduced, in different stages, several visa facilitation measures under the New Southbound Policy, leading to growth in the number of tourists from partner countries. In the first six months of this year, citizens from these countries made approximately 1.36 million visits to Taiwan, an increase of 5.4 percent compared to the same period of the previous year. Our Ministry has also forged ahead with talent exchange and incubation programs. These include the Young Agricultural Ambassadors New Southbound Policy Exchange Program, International Youth Ambassadors Exchange Program, and Taiwan Fellowships and Scholarships Program.

In resource sharing, MOFA remains committed to the One Country, One Center initiative, under which Taiwanese medical centers are engaging in healthcare cooperation and development in seven partner countries this year, including India and Indonesia. As for agricultural exchanges, Taiwan signed an agreement in March to establish an agricultural demonstration zone in Indonesia and another in April to promote a rice seed and fruit tree seedling production demonstration center in Vietnam.

The third edition of the Yushan Forum will be held in Taipei on

October 8 and 9, focusing on the theme “Deepening Progressive Partnerships in Asia.” The event, held in the spirit of “Taiwan helps Asia, and Asia helps Taiwan,” will further build momentum for cooperation between governments and private sectors in the region.

D. Taiwan-Japan relations continue to grow

Relations between Taiwan and Japan continue to grow in a stable fashion. Japan remains committed to supporting Taiwan's international participation. Japan's Foreign Minister used Twitter to issue his first-ever statement of support for Taiwan's participation in the WHA. In March and May this year, the Japan-ROC Diet Members' Consultative Council resolutions endorsing Taiwan's participation in WHO and WHA.

New milestones were set in people-to-people exchanges between our countries. The bilateral working holiday program celebrated its 10th anniversary, and Japan announced that it would increase the visa quota for Taiwanese traveling to Japan under this program from 5,000 to 10,000 per year.

Three rounds of negotiations were held during the eighth meeting of the Taiwan-Japan Fisheries Committee this year. An agreement was reached to jointly ensure safe operations at sea based on the spirit of the Taiwan-Japan Fisheries Agreement.

E. Taiwan-EU cooperation is being further enhanced based on shared values

Taiwan continues to work with the EU and like-minded European nations to safeguard the core values of democracy, human rights, and freedom, and further expand cooperation.

In March, the European Commission and the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy issued a report entitled *EU-China: A Strategic Outlook*, confirming the EU's commitment to continuing to develop relations with Taiwan and to supporting the shared values underpinning the EU's system of governance.

Taiwan and the EU held their second annual Human Rights Consultations in mid-May, deepening values-based relations. After more than three years of efforts by Taiwan, the European Commission in late June lifted the yellow card placed on Taiwan for illegal, underreported, and unregulated fishing, recognizing our efforts to clamp down on such illicit activities and foster sustainable fishing.

In late June, I delivered a speech at the 2019 Copenhagen Democracy Summit at the invitation of Anders Fogh Rasmussen, former Prime Minister of Denmark and former Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. In my speech, I emphasized that Taiwan will continue to staunchly promote democracy and that democracy is the better path forward for the development of humanity.

Since March this year, we have signed nine agreements, MOUs, joint statements, and joint declarations with European countries, including an MOU on cooperation and mutual administrative assistance to combat customs fraud with the United Kingdom and an agreement on legal cooperation in criminal matters with Poland.

Like-minded European countries have proactively supported Taiwan's participation in the WHA. The executive branches of the EU, the United Kingdom, France, and Germany publicly voiced support for Taiwan. Moreover, Taiwan friendship groups from the European Parliament, as well as the UK, French, and German parliaments wrote a joint letter to the WHO Director-General endorsing Taiwan's participation.

F. Momentum for greater international participation continues to build

This year, 14 diplomatic allies sent letters or raised proposals calling for Taiwan's participation in the WHA. A total of 15 allies and eight other like-minded countries spoke up for Taiwan at the WHA plenary. The parliaments of 34 countries and regions adopted resolutions or used other methods to show support for Taiwan. The short film *An Island Doctor on Call*, produced by our Ministry to promote our WHA bid, was viewed more than 10 million times. Our overseas diplomatic

missions, together with local political figures and a wide range of other individuals, organized Walk with Taiwan activities in Europe, North America, Latin America, the Asia-Pacific, West Asia, and Africa.

Since March this year, Taiwan has attended 10 APEC meetings for senior or higher-level officials. We have also hosted in Taiwan, or jointly organized with fellow APEC member economies in other countries, 22 meetings and activities. During the First Senior Officials' Meeting in March this year, Taiwan, Korea, and Australia jointly established the Digital Innovation Sub-fund to encourage digital innovation and promote related capacity building projects.

This year, we campaigned for participation in the UN under the theme "Taiwan, a Vital Global Partner in the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals," and released a short film entitled *A True Friend*. Through these efforts, we showed the international community our people's aspiration to participate in the UN system. Twelve diplomatic allies sent letters to UN Secretary-General António Guterres, urging him to allow Taiwan to participate in an appropriate manner. Eleven allies asserted their support for Taiwan at the UN General Debate. Our diplomatic mission in New York held activities on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, drawing attention to Taiwan's efforts and accomplishments in implementing the SDGs.

Adhering to the principles of professionalism and pragmatism, and seeking to play a constructive role, our Ministry has campaigned to take part in ICAO. Thirteen diplomatic allies and numerous friendly countries sent letters or employed other means to convey support for our efforts. Six nations spoke up in favor of Taiwan during the ICAO Assembly. In addition, the communiqué issued by the G7 Foreign Ministers this year for the first time included content in favor of Taiwan, affirming that Taiwan's ICAO bid is appropriate and reasonable. This set a helpful example and encouraged more countries to endorse Taiwan's bid.

The Mutual Evaluation Reports passed by the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering at its annual meeting this year listed Taiwan in the top category of its anti-money laundering index, in recognition of our efforts. We also joined the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement, which will help protect the rights and interests of our fishermen.

G. Taking proactive steps to make our voice heard

Our Ministry continues to employ a variety of approaches to speak up and let the world hear Taiwan's voice. Since March this year, I have given interviews to the *New York Times* and other prominent electronic and print media from countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Australia, Spain, Sweden, and Poland, as well as our diplomatic allies. A total of 71 news reports were issued in relation to these interviews.

Since the launch of our official Facebook page in July 2017, it has attracted over 90,000 followers. We also opened an official Twitter account in April 2018. So far, we have sent more than 2,000 tweets, reaching more than 43.92 million users. And we have gained nearly 30,000 followers for our Instagram account, which was created in July 2018.

To examine the challenges and achievements in diplomatic work from the perspective of female colleagues, our Ministry produced a short film called *My MOFA Mom*, which has been viewed more than 2.8 million times.

Further advancing steadfast diplomacy

Today, we face a complex international landscape, as well as serious challenges. We will continue to forge ahead with the following key tasks under our policy of steadfast diplomacy.

A. Consolidating ties with diplomatic allies

Our Ministry is making a concerted effort to consolidate relations with Taiwan's diplomatic allies. We are enhancing human and other resources at our Embassies and strengthening intelligence gathering.

We will continue to promote mutual visits by high-ranking officials and advance bilateral cooperation initiatives. We will also conduct joint endeavors with the United States and other key friendly countries. I want to reiterate that Taiwan will not engage in pointless checkbook diplomacy competition with China.

B. Deepening relations with like-minded countries and other nations with which Taiwan does not maintain diplomatic relations

We will make good use of the current international climate favorable to Taiwan, align with friendly forces worldwide, and continue to bolster substantive ties and expand the scope of cooperation with like-minded nations, such as the United States, Japan, European countries, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, in an effort to jointly counter traditional and nontraditional challenges and threats and advance regional peace and stability.

C. Implementing the New Southbound Policy

The government will build on the excellent foundation that already exists to further promote the New Southbound Policy and align with the US Indo-Pacific Strategy. We will focus on four pillars: economic and trade cooperation, human resource exchanges, resource sharing, and regional connectivity. By exercising Taiwan's soft power and creating new mutually beneficial cooperation models, we will seek to contribute to regional prosperity and sustainable development.

D. Increasing international participation and making proactive contributions

Based on the principles of professionalism and pragmatism, and hoping to play a constructive role in the international community, we will use all available resources and capabilities to continue our bids to join more international organizations. In addition, we will deepen our involvement and safeguard our rights in organizations to which we already belong. Given that Taiwan's nongovernmental organizations are more than capable of participating in global affairs, our Ministry will continue to work with them in all domains, so as to increase Taiwan's international presence through public-private coordination.

E. Endeavoring to join regional economic integration mechanisms and strengthening regional cooperation

Our government is fully committed to joining regional economic integration mechanisms. Our highest priority is to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP). We will continue to seek the support of its 11 members, including Japan, through bilateral and multilateral channels. I personally preside over regular meetings of our Ministry's CPTPP task force to discuss strategies with senior colleagues from relevant Ministry departments and diplomatic missions.

F. Making our voice heard internationally

Our Ministry continues to employ diverse approaches to speak out and share with the rest of the world our efforts and achievements in contributing to the international community so that the world can gain a better understanding of and extend greater support to Taiwan. In particular, we will make better use of new media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube, to demonstrate the positive effects of public diplomacy.

G. Fulfilling international responsibilities

In addition to working closely with like-minded nations to counter challenges and threats, we will further implement the UN SDGs in order to fulfill our international responsibilities and make greater contributions to the global community.

Taiwan will staunchly uphold the worldwide consensus on maintaining the status quo of peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait, and safeguard shared values and the rules-based international order.

H. Optimizing services for the public and facilitating greater travel convenience

Our Ministry will continue to improve services for the public and facilitate greater travel convenience. This year, Russia has moved to gradually incorporate Taiwan into its electronic visa program. In mid-

June, Italy launched a trial expedited immigration service for our citizens at its international airports. And in September, Saudi Arabia included Taiwan among the first countries to be eligible for electronic tourist visas.

4. Statements of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

(1) The ROC (Taiwan) government terminates diplomatic relations with Solomon Islands with immediate effect to uphold national dignity

The Cabinet of the Solomon Islands government reached a decision September 16 to switch diplomatic relations to the People's Republic of China (PRC). The government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) finds this decision extremely regrettable and strongly condemns it. The government hereby declares the termination of diplomatic relations with Solomon Islands with immediate effect, the end of all bilateral cooperative projects, as well as the recall of the staff of its Embassy, technical mission, and medical mission stationed in Solomon Islands. The Taiwan government also demands that Solomon Islands immediately recall its government personnel from Taiwan.

After taking office in April this year, Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare announced a reassessment of the country's external relations, including diplomatic relations with Taiwan, based on principles of overall national interest, lawfulness and transparency. He publicly stated that the Solomon Islands government would refer to four reports from government agencies, as well as public opinion expressed by civil organizations, before coming to a final decision. During bilateral talks with Foreign Minister Jaushieh Joseph Wu this August, Prime Minister Sogavare reiterated this position. However, Prime Minister Sogavare and his Cabinet ultimately made this critical diplomatic move based solely on a highly biased, so-called "Bipartisan Task Force" report, which is full of fabrications and blatant misinformation. Prime Minister Sogavare has not only broken his own public promise, but also disregarded the fruits of the 36 years of cooperation between Taiwan and Solomon Islands. Taiwan believes that the majority of the Solomon Islanders will find the decision unacceptable since it completely lacks credibility.

The government of China has once again resorted to dollar diplomacy and false promises of large amounts of foreign assistance to buy off a small number of politicians, so as to ensure that the government of Solomon Islands adopted a resolution to terminate relations with Taiwan before

China's National Day on October 1. Beijing's purpose is to diminish Taiwan's international presence, hurt the Taiwanese people, and gradually suppress and eliminate Taiwan's sovereignty. It is absolutely evident that China, through this case, deliberately seeks to influence Taiwan's upcoming presidential and legislative elections. The government strongly condemns China's attempts to suppress Taiwan, and calls on the people of Taiwan to continue to uphold our national sovereignty, champion the principles of freedom and democracy, reach out to the international community, and serve as a force for good in the world.

Taiwan has never capitulated under any setback in the international arena. Nor has it ever been defeated by any attempt at suppression. The more challenges Taiwan has faced, the more determined it has become.

Taiwan has shown the international community that, faced with the expansionism of authoritarian regimes, it will stand firm on the frontlines of democracy and remain staunchly committed to serving as an example to the world.

The government of Taiwan solemnly urges the international community to take note of China's relentless campaign to expand its authoritarianism, set debt traps for other countries, and fulfill its strategic goals and gain influence in the Indo-Pacific region through a wide array of aggressive actions. Free and democratic countries have no alternative but to unite together to maintain a free, open, stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific, and jointly defend the shared values of democracy and human rights.

(2) Statement No. 002: The ROC (Taiwan) government terminates diplomatic relations with Republic of Kiribati with immediate effect to uphold national dignity

The government of the Republic of Kiribati officially notified our government on September 20 that it is terminating diplomatic relations with the Republic of China (Taiwan). The ROC government deeply regrets and strongly condemns the Kiribati government's decision, which disregards the multifaceted assistance and sincere friendship extended by Taiwan to Kiribati over the years. The ROC government hereby declares that it is terminating

diplomatic relations with the Republic of Kiribati effective immediately, ending all bilateral cooperative projects, and recalling the staff of its Embassy, technical mission, and medical mission stationed in Kiribati. The government also demands that Kiribati immediately recall its government personnel from Taiwan.

Kiribati President Taneti Mamau and certain members of the ruling party have long entertained highly unrealistic expectations regarding China and have engaged in frequent exchanges with China since President Mamau took office in 2016. Recently, the Chinese government has taken advantage of fisheries and other commercial investments to establish a presence in Kiribati, penetrating political circles and extending its influence. President Mamau has also requested massive financial assistance from Taiwan to purchase commercial airplanes. While Taiwan is willing to assist Kiribati in developing civil infrastructure for the benefit of its people, aid for the acquisition of airplanes for commercial purposes is not consistent with the spirit of Taiwan's International Cooperation and Development Act. The ROC government, therefore, after assessing Taiwan's financial capabilities, suggested assistance in the form of a preferential commercial loan, but this was rejected by Kiribati, which insisted that all the necessary funds be provided in the form of donation. According to information obtained by Taiwan, the Chinese government has already promised to provide full funds for the procurement of several airplanes and commercial ferries, thus luring Kiribati into switching diplomatic relations.

The main goal driving the Chinese government's continued campaign to push Taiwan's allies to sever diplomatic relations is to suppress and reduce Taiwan's international presence, thereby forcing the Taiwanese people to accept the "one country, two systems" framework and recognize China as its suzerain in the international community, and thus to ultimately destroy Taiwan's sovereignty. But the great majority of the Taiwanese people have already expressed their absolute rejection of the "one country, two systems" framework. The ROC government will stand firm in upholding Taiwan's sovereignty, making no concessions with regard to its sovereignty in the face

of China's diplomatic assaults. The government once again emphasizes that China's suppression of Taiwan in the international arena cannot change the indisputable fact of Taiwan's existence, nor can it coerce the Taiwanese people into abandoning their democratic and free way of life. The government will resolutely maintain relations with other allies, strengthen ties with friendly democratic countries, and continue to cultivate further goodwill and support through meaningful contributions to the world community.

The government reiterates that the Republic of China (Taiwan) is a democratic, independent and sovereign nation. Through the free election of their head of state and parliamentarians, the people of Taiwan demonstrate their sovereignty. Taiwan is not a province of the PRC, and the PRC has never ruled over Taiwan for even a single day. This objective fact cannot be changed by China's intimidation of Taiwan. On the contrary, China's international pressure will only consolidate the Taiwanese people's determination never to capitulate to the Chinese government.

It is blatantly obvious that the Chinese government, by creating these diplomatic incidents, seeks to manipulate public opinion in Taiwan, influence Taiwan's upcoming presidential and legislative elections, and undermine its democratic processes. Taiwan urges all democratic nations to jointly condemn the Chinese government's actions in the strongest possible terms and bear in mind that the goal of the Chinese authoritarian government is to destroy democratic systems and gradually expand its brand of authoritarianism. Taiwan is at the frontlines for democracy; Taiwan will staunchly hold this defensive line and reinforce its democratic institutions. Taiwan will neither let China manipulate the outcomes of Taiwan's elections nor allow the PRC to decide the future of the Taiwanese people.

5. Treaties and agreements signed between the ROC (Taiwan) and other countries and international organizations

No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
1	Asia-Pacific	Education and Culture	MARSHALL ISLANDS, REPUBLIC OF	AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION ON AUSTRONESIAN PEOPLES CULTURAL AFFAIRS BETWEEN THE COUNCIL OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS	2019/01/03 / 2019/01/03
2	Central and South America	Technical Cooperation	SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS	AGREEMENT ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS	2019/01/18 / 2019/03/27
3	Central and South America	Economics and Trade	PARAGUAY, REPUBLIC OF	DECISION No. 3 MODIFICATION PURSUANT TO THE TARIFF TREATMENT FOR RAW AND REFINED SUGAR OF ANNEX 1 OF THE ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY	2019/02/12 2019/02/25 / 2019/09/05

No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
4	Central and South America	Economics and Trade	PARAGUAY, REPUBLIC OF	DECISION No. 4 MODIFICATION PURSUANT TO THE TARIFF TREATMENT FOR 30 ITEMS INCLUDING FROZEN TENDONS OF SWINE, MATE, SESAMUM SEEDS AND VEGETABLE OIL OF ANNEX 1 OF THE ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY	2019/02/12 2019/02/25 / 2019/09/05
5	Central and South America	Economics and Trade	PARAGUAY, REPUBLIC OF	DECISION No. 5 MODIFICATION PURSUANT TO THE TARIFF TREATMENT FOR THE PRODUCT RICE NOODLE OF ANNEX 1 OF THE ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY	2019/02/12 2019/02/25 / 2019/09/05
6	Central and South America	Economics and Trade	PARAGUAY, REPUBLIC OF	DECISION No. 6 MODIFICATION PURSUANT TO THE TARIFF TREATMENT REGARDING 13 PRODUCT ITEMS INCLUDING WOVEN, KNITTED OR CROCHETED FABRICS, AND CARRY BAGS OF ANNEX 1 OF THE ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY	2019/02/12 2019/02/25 / 2019/09/05

Appendix 5. Treaties and agreements signed between the ROC (Taiwan) and other countries and international organizations

No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
7	Africa	Legal Affairs	ESWATINI, KINGDOM OF	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI ON THE TRANSFER OF CONVICTED OFFENDERS AND COOPERATION IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF PENAL SENTENCES	2019/02/27 / 2019/05/08
8	Asia-Pacific	Developmental Cooperation and Financial Assistance	ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION (APEC)	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION SUPPORT FUND DIGITAL INNOVATION SUB-FUND	2019/03/07 / 2019/03/07
9	North America	Diplomatic and Consular Affairs	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN THE COORDINATION COUNCIL FOR NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS AND THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN TAIWAN CONCERNING THE AGREEMENT ON MUTUAL GRANTING OF RENT-FREE USE OF PROPERTY	2019/03/11 / 2019/03/28 / 2019/04/01
10	Asia-Pacific	Other	PALAU, REPUBLIC OF	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU ON COAST GUARD COOPERATION	2019/03/22 / 2019/03/22

No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
11	Asia-Pacific	Other	NAURU, REPUBLIC OF	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU ON COAST GUARD COOPERATION	2019/03/25 / 2019/03/25
12	Central and South America	Technical Cooperation	BELIZE	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE ON THE COOPERATION IN URBAN RESILIENCE AND DISASTER PREVENTION PROJECT	2019/04/02 / 2019/04/02
13	Asia-Pacific	Public Health and Medicine	NAURU, REPUBLIC OF	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU ON THE COOPERATION IN NARCOTIC DRUGS, PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, AND PRECURSOR CHEMICALS CONTROL	2019/04/25 2019/06/13 / 2019/06/13

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No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
14	Asia-Pacific	Transportation	TUVALU	AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE RECOGNITION OF TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF SEAFARERS FOR SERVICE ON TUVALU FLAGGED VESSELS UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS, 1978. BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF TUVALU	2019/05/03 / 2019/05/03
15	Central and South America	Economics and Trade	GUATEMALA, REPUBLIC OF	CANJE DE NOTAS DEL “CONVENIO SOBRE EL ESTABLECIMIENTO DE LA MISIÓN DE SERVICIO A LA INVERSIÓN Y AL COMERCIO EN CENTROAMÉRICA ENTRE EL GOBIERNO DE LA REPÚBLICA DE CHINA Y EL GOBIERNO DE LA REPÚBLICA DE GUATEMALA” (Spanish)	2019/05/21 / 2019/06/19 / 2019/6/21
16	Asia-Pacific	Aviation and Traffic Rights	SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN FISHERIES AGREEMENT (SIOFA)	SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN FISHERIES AGREEMENT (AND INSTRUMENT FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF A FISHING ENTITY)	2019/06/03 / 2019/06/04 / 2019/07/04

No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
17	Asia-Pacific	Aviation and Traffic Rights	PALAU, REPUBLIC OF	AMENDMENT No. 2 OF THE ANNEX TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU RELATING TO AIR SERVICES	2019/06/06 / 2019/06/06
18	Europe	Legal Affairs	POLAND, REPUBLIC OF	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN POLAND AND THE POLISH OFFICE IN TAIPEI ON THE LEGAL COOPERATION IN CRIMINAL MATTERS POROZUMIENIE MI DZY BIUREM PRZEDSTAWICIELSKIM TAJPEJ W POLSCE A BIUREM POLSKIM W TAJPEJ O WSPÓ PRACY PRAWNEJ W SPRAWACH KARNYCH (Polish)	2019/06/17 / 2021/02/23
19	North America	Diplomatic and Consular Affairs	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONCERNING RENAMING THE COORDINATION COUNCIL FOR NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS (CCNAA) IN TAIPEI TO THE TAIWAN COUNCIL FOR US AFFAIRS (TCUSA)	2019/06/20 / 2019/06/21 / 2019/06/21
20	Central and South America	Legal Affairs	BELIZE	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE ON ANTI-CORRUPTION COOPERATION	2019/07/02 / 2019/07/02

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No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
21	Central and South America	Anti-money Laundering	GUATEMALA, REPUBLIC OF	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SUPERINTENDENCY OF BANKS THROUGH THE SPECIAL VERIFICATION INTENDANCY –IVE- OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA AND THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING DIVISION – AMLD-, INVESTIGATION BUREAU, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) CONCERNING COOPERATION IN THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION RELATED TO MONEY OR OTHER ASSETS LAUNDERING, ASSOCIATED PREDICATE OFFENCES AND TERRORISM FINANCING	2019/07/03 / 2019/07/03
22	Europe	Legal Affairs	DENMARK, KINGDOM OF	ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN DENMARK AND THE TRADE COUNCIL OF DENMARK, TAIPEI ON THE TRANSFER OF SENTENCED PERSONS	2019/07/08 / 2019/07/08
23	Central and South America	Education and Culture	SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS ON COOPERATION IN TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING	2019/07/14 / 2019/07/14

No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
24	Central and South America	Legal Affairs	SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES ON COMBATING TRANSNATIONAL CRIMES	2019/07/16 / 2019/07/16
25	Central and South America	Economics and Trade	SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	AGREEMENT ON PUBLIC FINANCE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	2019/07/16 / 2019/07/16
26	Asia-Pacific	Legal Affairs	NAURU, REPUBLIC OF	TREATY ON MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU	2019/08/07 / 2021/06/05
27	Asia-Pacific	Economics and Trade	INDONESIAN, REPUBLIC OF	COOPERATION AGREEMENT ON SCHOLARSHIP OF GRADUATE STUDIES IN TAIWAN IN THE FIELD ECONOMIC AND TRADE MATTERS BETWEEN THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE, JAKARTA, INDONESIA AND THE INDONESIAN ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE TO TAIPEI	2019/08/12 / 2019/08/12

Appendix 5. Treaties and agreements signed between the ROC (Taiwan) and other countries and international organizations

No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
28	Central and South America	Developmental Cooperation and Financial Assistance	SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATION OF ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS ON HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT	2019/08/14 / 2019/01/01
29	Asia-Pacific	Diplomatic and Consular Affairs	SOLOMON ISLANDS	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF SOLOMON ISLANDS ON THE MUTUAL WAIVER OF VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR NATIONALS OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND NATIONALS OF SOLOMON ISLANDS	2019/08/16 / 2019/08/16
30	Asia-Pacific	Anti-money Laundering	TONGA, KINGDOM OF	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING DIVISION, INVESTIGATION BUREAU, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF TAIWAN AND THE TRANSACTION REPORTING AUTHORITY OF THE KINGDOM OF TONGA CONCERNING COOPERATION IN THE EXCHANGE OF FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE RELATED TO MONEY LAUNDERING, ASSOCIATED PREDICATE OFFENCES, FINANCING OF TERRORISM AND PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION	2019/08/2019/08/20 / 2019/08/20

No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
31	Asia-Pacific	Anti-money Laundering	PAPUA NEW GUINEA, INDEPENDENT STATE OF	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING DIVISION, INVESTIGATION BUREAU, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS AND SUPERVISION UNIT, BANK OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA CONCERNING COOPERATION ON THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND INTELLIGENCE RELATED TO MONEY LAUNDERING, TERRORIST FINANCING AND OTHER INDICTABLE OFFENCES	2019/08/20 / 2019/08/20
32	Asia-Pacific	Anti-money Laundering	TIMOR-LESTE, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING DIVISION, INVESTIGATION BUREAU, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE FINANCIAL INFORMATION UNIT OF TIMOR-LESTE CONCERNING COOPERATION IN THE EXCHANGE OF FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE RELATED TO MONEY LAUNDERING, ASSOCIATED PREDICATE OFFENCES AND TERRORISM FINANCING	2019/08/20 / 2019/08/20

Appendix 5. Treaties and agreements signed between the ROC (Taiwan) and other countries and international organizations

No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
33	Europe	Scientific and Technical Cooperation	KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION BETWEEN TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE NETHERLANDS (TRON) AND NETHERLANDS TRADE AND INVESTMENT OFFICE (NTIO)	2019/08/23 / 2019/09/01
34	Europe	Public Health and Medicine	EUROPEAN UNION	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TAIWAN FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND THE EU OFFICIAL CONTROL AUTHORITY BATCH RELEASE NETWORK FOR VACCINES FOR HUMAN USE AND MEDICINAL PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM HUMAN BLOOD AND PLASMA AS REPRESENTED BY THE EUROPEAN DIRECTORATE FOR THE QUALITY OF MEDICINES AND HEALTHCARE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE REGARDING PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVITIES OF THE EU OFFICIAL CONTROL AUTHORITY BATCH RELEASE NETWORK FOR VACCINES FOR HUMAN USE AND MEDICINAL PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM HUMAN BLOOD AND PLASMA	2019/09/23 / 2019/11/20 / 2019/12/04

No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
35	West Asia	Anti-money Laundering	JORDAN, HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING DIVISION, INVESTIGATION BUREAU, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE ANTI MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTER TERRORIST FINANCING UNIT (AMLU-JORDAN) CONCERNING COOPERATION IN THE EXCHANGE OF FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE RELATED TO MONEY LAUNDERING, ASSOCIATED PREDICATE OFFENCES AND TERRORISM FINANCING	2019/10/04 2019/10/14 / 2019/10/14
36	Central and South America	Economics and Trade	HONDURAS, REPUBLIC OF	DECISION No. 17 MODIFICATION PURSUANT TO THE TARIFF TREATMENT FOR 25 PRODUCT ITEMS INCLUDING PREPARED AND PRESERVED MEAT; DAIRY PRODUCTS; FRUITS AND VEGETABLES; AND EDIBLE PORK OFFAL OF ANNEX 3.04 OF THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN), THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR AND THE REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS	2019/10/22 2019/11/13 / To be confirmed

Appendix 5. Treaties and agreements signed between the ROC (Taiwan) and other countries and international organizations

No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
37	Central and South America	Economics and Trade	HONDURAS, REPUBLIC OF	DECISION No. 18 MODIFICATION OF THE RAW REFINED SUGAR LIMIT QUOTA OF ANNEX 3.04 OF THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN), THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR AND THE REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS	2019/10/22 2019/11/13 / 2020/07/18
38	Central and South America	Economics and Trade	HONDURAS, REPUBLIC OF	DECISION No. 19 MODIFICATION PURSUANT TO THE TARIFF TREATMENT FOR 7 PRODUCT ITEMS INCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS, PAPER SACKS AND BAGS, MOTORCYCLE AND ADHESIVES OF ANNEX 3.04 OF THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN), THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR AND THE REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS	2019/10/22 2019/11/13 / 2020/07/18
39	Central and South America	Economics and Trade	GUATEMALA, REPUBLIC OF	DECISION No. 13 MODIFICATION OF THE RAW AND REFINED SUGAR LIMIT QUOTA OF ANNEX 3.04 OF THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA	2019/10/28 2020/01/10 / 2020/04/01

No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
40	Central and South America	Economics and Trade	GUATEMALA, REPUBLIC OF	DECISION No. 14 MODIFICATION PURSUANT TO THE TARIFF TREATMENT FOR 5 PRODUCT ITEMS OF ANNEX 3.04 OF THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA	2019/10/28 2020/01/10 / 2020/04/01
41	Asia-Pacific	Food and Drugs	AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH OF	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON COOPERATION AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE CONCERNING FOOD SAFETY BETWEEN THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE IN AUSTRALIA AND THE AUSTRALIAN OFFICE IN TAIPEI	2019/10/29 / 2019/10/29
42	Asia-Pacific	Environment	JAPAN	MOU ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION EXCHANGE AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TAIWAN-JAPAN RELATIONS ASSOCIATION AND JAPAN-TAIWAN EXCHANGE ASSOCIATION	2019/10/30 / 2019/10/30
43	Asia-Pacific	Aviation and Traffic Rights	JAPAN	MEMORANDUM OF PROMOTING COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TAIWAN-JAPAN RELATIONS ASSOCIATION AND THE JAPAN-TAIWAN EXCHANGE ASSOCIATION ON THE IMPORT-EXPORT ORGANIC FOODS	2019/10/30 / 2019/10/30

Appendix 5. Treaties and agreements signed between the ROC (Taiwan) and other countries and international organizations

No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
44	Central and South America	SAINT LUCIA	SAINT LUCIA	COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF SAINT LUCIA REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) FOR EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	2019/11/27 / 2019/11/27
45	Europe	Aviation and Traffic Rights	UNITED KINGDOM	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TAIWAN TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD AND THE AIR ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION BRANCH OF THE UNITED KINGDOM	2019/12/06 / 2019/12/06
46	Asia-Pacific	Developmental Cooperation and Financial Assistance	ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION (APEC)	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CHINESE TAIPEI AND THE ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION SECRETARIAT CONCERNING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE APEC SUPPORT FUND AND APEC POLICY SUPPORT UNIT	2019/12/09 / 2019/12/09
47	Asia-Pacific	Aviation and Traffic Rights	NAURU, REPUBLIC OF	AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU	2019/12/13 / 2019/12/13

No.	Region	Category	Signatory	Name of treaty	Date of signature / Date of entry into force
48	Asia-Pacific	Investment	VIETNAM, SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE IN VIET NAM AND THE VIET NAM ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE IN TAIPEI ON THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF INVESTMENTS	2019/12/18 / 2020/05/24

6. List of Taiwan's participation in international organizations

Intergovernmental organizations of which the ROC (Taiwan) is a full member

	Year of Accession	Acronym	Year of Accession
1.	World Organisation for Animal Health	OIE	1954
2.	Asian Productivity Organization	APO	1961
3.	International Seed Testing Association	ISTA	1962
4.	International Cotton Advisory Committee	ICAC	1963
5.	Asian Development Bank	ADB	1966
6.	African-Asian Rural Development Organization	AARDO	1968
7.	Food and Fertilizer Technology Center for the Asian and Pacific Region	FFTC	1970
8.	World Vegetable Center	WorldVeg	1971
9.	International Organization of Securities Commissions	IOSCO	1987
10.	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation	APEC	1991
11.	Central American Bank for Economic Integration	CABEI	1992
12.	International Cospas-Sarsat Programme	Cospas-Sarsat	1992
13.	South East Asian Central Banks	SEACEN	1992
14.	International Association of Insurance Supervisors	IAIS	1994
15.	Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Forum	APLMF	1994
16.	Study Group on Asian Tax Administration and Research	SGATAR	1996
17.	Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering	APG	1997
18.	Association of Asian Election Authorities	AAEA	1998

	Year of Accession	Acronym	Year of Accession
19.	Egmont Group	EG	1998
20.	Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions	APAARI	1999
21.	Asian Harmonization Working Party	AHWP	1999
22.	International Competition Network	ICN	2002
23.	The International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean	ISC	2002
24.	Extended Commission, Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna	CCSBT-EC	2002
25.	World Trade Organization	WTO	2002
26.	Technical Committee on Customs Valuation, World Customs Organization (WCO)	WCO-TCCV	2002
27.	Technical Committee on Rules of Origin, World Customs Organization (WCO)	WCO-TCRO	2002
28.	Advisory Centre on WTO Law	ACWL	2004
29.	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission	WCPFC	2004
30.	International Forum of Independent Audit Regulators	IFIAR	2008
31.	Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission	IATTC	2010
32.	International Council for Information Technology in Government Administration	ICA	2010
33.	South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation	SPRFMO	2012
34.	Association of World Election Bodies	A-WEB	2013
35.	Asset Recovery Interagency Network-Asia Pacific	ARIN-AP	2014

Appendix 6. List of Taiwan's participation in international organizations

	Year of Accession	Acronym	Year of Accession
36.	North Pacific Fisheries Commission	NPFC	2015
37.	International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use	ICH	2018
38.	Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement	SIOFA	2019
39.	Global Financial Innovation Network	GFIN	2019

Intergovernmental international organizations and conferences in which the ROC (Taiwan) participates using another status

	Year of Accession	Acronym	Year of Accession
1.	Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer	Montreal Protocol	1990
2.	Inter-American Development Bank	IDB	1991
3.	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	EBRD	1991
4.	Pacific Islands Forum	PIF	1993
5.	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	CITES	1994
6.	Food Aid Committee	FAC	1995
7.	International Grains Council	IGC	1995
8.	International Organization of Legal Metrology	OIML	1997
9.	Foro de Presidentes y Presidentas de Poderes Legislativos de Centroamérica y la Cuenca del Caribe	FOPREL	1999
10.	Parlamento Centroamericano	PARLACEN	1999
11.	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas	ICCAT	1999
12.	Global Biodiversity Information Facility	GBIF	2001
13.	Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana	SICA	2002
14.	Competition Committee, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	OECD-CC	2002
15.	Conférence Générale des Poids et Mesures	CGPM	2002

	Year of Accession	Acronym	Year of Accession
16.	Kimberley Process	KP	2003
17.	Steel Committee, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	OECD-SC	2005
18.	Conferencia de las Fuerzas Armadas Centroamericanas	CFAC	2005
19.	Fisheries Committee, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	OECD-FC	2006
20.	Revised Kyoto Convention Management Committee, World Customs Organization (WCO)	WCO-RKC/MC	2006
21.	International Consumer Protection and Enforcement Network	ICPEN	2009
22.	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	UNFCCC	2009
23.	International Renewable Energy Agency	IRENA	2011
24.	Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels	ACAP	2019
25	World Health Organization	WHO	Taiwan was included in the implementation of the International Health Regulations (IHR) of the WHO, and few Taiwan experts managed to take part in WHO technical meetings to a limited extent.

