



The Foreign Relations  
Yearbook 2020  
Republic of China  
(Taiwan)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs





# Preface



## Preface

During National Day celebrations on October 10, 2020, President Tsai Ing-wen delivered an address entitled “Proud of Taiwan.” She stated that as we had worked with the global community to address the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic over the course of the year, we had steadily united the people of Taiwan and boosted their confidence. The Taiwanese people not only proved their viability during times of adversity but also showed Taiwan’s resilience to the international community. Taiwan will continue to serve as a force for good in the world and an important and indispensable partner in the Indo-Pacific.

Taiwan’s ability to unite and forge ahead with sincerity and confidence is based on the principle of mutual assistance for mutual benefit that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) has long adhered to. Upholding this ideal and actively promoting steadfast diplomacy, we made friends in countries worldwide. Even when the pandemic broke out, we did not relax our efforts. With the contributions of my colleagues at MOFA and the support of the Taiwanese people, 2020 marked a year when Taiwan drew the attention of countries across the globe.

In facing the rampant scourge of COVID-19, we actively shared the democratic Taiwan Model of fighting the pandemic. In the spirit that Taiwan can help and that Taiwan is helping, we donated more than 54 million surgical masks and other antipandemic supplies to over 80 countries. We also bolstered antipandemic cooperation and exchanges. With MOFA’s assistance, more than 80 international videoconferences were held last year to share Taiwan’s antipandemic experience. Taiwan has become a shining global example for combating the pandemic, its success recognized worldwide in both governmental and nongovernmental circles.

Taiwan and the United States have long shared close and cordial relations. In recent years, these ties have grown even more robust and secure through our joint efforts. In addition to steadily increasing mutual trust, both sides have expanded the scope of collaboration and deepened their cooperative partnership in the international community through the establishment of dialogue mechanisms. In 2020, President Donald Trump signed into law the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative Act of 2019 (TAIPEI Act) and the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020, supporting Taiwan’s participation in international organizations and

normalizing arms sales to Taiwan. When Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II led a delegation to Taiwan in early August 2020, he was the highest-ranking member of the US cabinet to visit in 40 years. In mid-September, Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Keith Krach became the highest-ranking official from the State Department to visit Taiwan in 40 years.

In 2020, Taiwan-US cooperation and dialogue mechanisms covered such areas as the economy, finance, education, technology, and ICT. Furthermore, Taiwan, the United States, and Japan coorganized seven events under the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF). They also issued a joint statement on the fifth anniversary of the GCTF, further institutionalizing its operations and extending trilateral cooperation to other domains.

Relations between Taiwan and Europe also saw significant advance in 2020. Exchanges and cooperation have expanded recently through substantive achievements in political interactions, cultural exchanges, judicial cooperation, and other areas. The European Parliament adopted six resolutions backing Taiwan's participation in international organizations. It also urged the European Union and Taiwan to initiate investment talks. President of the Senate of the Czech Republic Miloš Vystrčil led a delegation to Taiwan in August. He was the highest-level official from a European country to visit in nearly 30 years. President Tsai addressed the Copenhagen Democracy Summit in Denmark and the Forum 2000 Conference in the Czech Republic via prerecorded videos, sharing Taiwan's antipandemic success and democratic experience. I also delivered a speech virtually to the Forum 2000 Conference to present the democratic approach of the Taiwan Model to fighting COVID-19.

Taiwan's relations with Japan grew even closer. In recent years, Japan has increased its support for Taiwan in the international arena. In 2020, then Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and then Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga publicly endorsed Taiwan's participation in the World Health Assembly (WHA) on multiple occasions. Then Chief Cabinet Secretary Katsunobu Kato (who now serves as Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare) spoke up for Taiwan at the WHA. Former Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori twice led cross-party parliamentary delegations to Taiwan to pay tribute to the late President Lee Teng-hui, demonstrating the genuine friendship between Taiwan and Japan.

Taiwan has also expanded its global presence. In the second half of 2020, the Taiwan Representative Office in the Republic of Somaliland and the Aix-en-Provence branch of the Taipei Representative Office in France were inaugurated, while the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Guam was reopened. The Aix-en-Provence branch was the only overseas office newly opened in Europe in recent years, adding special significance to Taiwan-Europe relations.

Taiwan has built bonds of friendship with national parliaments around the globe. The Formosa Club in Europe, which was formed in 2019 by members of parliament from European countries, now boasts more than 100 members from the European Parliament and 28 nations. Formosa Clubs have since been launched in Latin America, Africa, West Asia, the Indo-Pacific, and the Caribbean, with parliamentarians from more than 100 countries worldwide joining. The strength of parliamentary support for Taiwan internationally was also reflected in the campaign for Taiwan's participation in the WHA, with more than 1,700 MPs from over 80 nations publicly endorsing Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization during the resumed session of the WHA in November.

Taiwan has earned worldwide recognition for its antipandemic performance and contributions to the world. Then US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, then Japanese Prime Minister Abe, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen, and other prominent political figures from many countries publicly thanked Taiwan for its humanitarian assistance. We also received positive coverage in more than 3,500 articles in the international media. President Tsai received the International Pioneer Award from the American Legislative Exchange Council for her leadership in Taiwan's successful fight against the pandemic. She was also listed among the most influential people of the year by *Time* magazine and several other international media outlets.

To highlight Taiwan's values and make our voice heard internationally, in 2020, I gave 53 interviews to the international media and met with 184 journalists from 149 foreign media outlets. More than 135 news reports were subsequently published, continuing to draw global attention to Taiwan's diplomatic achievements. As the beacon of freedom and democracy in Asia, Taiwan's press freedom is widely recognized by the international community. The number of foreign correspondents stationed in Taiwan grew noticeably in 2020, reaching 124 journalists from 71 media outlets by December.

We worked hand in hand to overcome a range of challenges and tensions in 2020. Looking to the future, MOFA will remain firm and steadfast in pursuing mutual assistance for mutual benefit and fostering greater unity among the people of Taiwan so that our nation can forge ahead with even greater confidence.

Minister of Foreign Affairs

***Jaushieh Joseph Wu***

December 2021

# Foreword





## Foreword

1. In line with the 2030 Bilingual Policy, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs translated part of the 2019 Foreign Relations Yearbook and published an electronic English version for the first time in 2021. Likewise, the electronic English version of the 2020 Foreign Relations Yearbook is being made available in 2023.
2. This yearbook is organized into chapters, with three distinct parts: main text, photographs of diplomatic events, and appendix. The main text encompasses various topics related to diplomatic governance, planning, and foreign relations. The full-color photographs herein have been carefully curated and captioned to highlight important diplomatic work. The appendix collects six diplomatic excerpts and addresses made by the President, the Premier of the Executive Yuan, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs in relation to Taiwan foreign policy.
3. The national designations, personal names, and specific terms that appear in this yearbook follow official guidelines, approved bilingual glossaries, and general conventions. In the absence of established conventions, phonetic transliteration is used. Personal names are presented in the standard format. The Republic of China (Taiwan) is referred to either as “Taiwan” or the “Republic of China (R.O.C.)”, depending on context. Where names of international events, organizations, institutions or agencies appear for the first time in a chapter, they are presented in full, while subsequent references within the same chapter are abbreviated.
4. This yearbook focuses on diplomatic affairs and activities in 2020. Historical background may be added where needed to provide context and clarity.



# Contents



# Contents

Preface .....	1
Foreword .....	7
Contents .....	11
Portraits of Top Leadership and Foreign Service Officers .....	15
Chapter 1 Photographs of High-level Diplomatic Engagement .....	27
Chapter 2 Foreign Policy Objectives and Strategies .....	51
Chapter 3 Foreign Relations .....	57
Section 1 Overview of Foreign Relations.....	59
Item 1 Taiwan's relations with Asia-Pacific countries .....	59
Item 2 Taiwan's relations with West Asian countries .....	113
Item 3 Taiwan's relations with African countries .....	141
Item 4 Taiwan's relations with European countries .....	157
Item 5 Taiwan's relations with North American countries .....	203
Item 6 Taiwan's relations with Latin American and Caribbean countries .....	239
Section 2 International Organizations, Conferences and Activities .....	297
Section 3 Treaties, Agreements and Legal Affairs .....	321
Section 4 International Communication and Public Diplomacy .....	325
Item 1 International Communication Campaigns .....	325
Item 2 Public Diplomacy .....	333
Section 5 Parliamentary Diplomacy .....	337
Section 6 International Cooperation and Economic Activities .....	347
Appendix .....	369
1. Excerpts from President Tsai Ing-wen's Statements on Foreign Policy .....	371
2. Excerpts from Premier Su Tseng-chang's Statements on Foreign Policy ...	373
3. Excerpts from Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu's Statements on Foreign Policy .....	375
4. Statements of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs .....	403
5. Treaties and Agreements signed between the ROC (Taiwan) and Other Countries and International Organizations .....	405
6. List of Taiwan's Participation in International Organizations .....	411



# **Portraits of Top Leadership and Foreign Service Officers**







**President Tsai Ing-wen**



**Vice President Lai Ching-te**

(Since May 20, 2020)



**Vice President Chen Chien-jen**

(Until May 20, 2020)



**Premier Su Tseng-chang**



**Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Jaushieh Joseph Wu**





**Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs**  
**Harry Ho-jen Tseng**  
(Since July 24, 2020)



**Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs**  
**Kelly Wu-chiao Hsieh**  
(Until July 24, 2020)



**Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs**  
**Tien Chung-kwang**  
(Since July 24, 2020)





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

(Until July 24, 2020)



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

# **Chapter 1**

## **Photographs of High-level Diplomatic Engagement**





President Tsai Ing-wen receives Chairman of the Japan-R.O.C. Diet Members' Consultative Council Keiji Furuya. (January 17, 2020)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Head of the European Economic and Trade Office Filip Grzegorzewski (third left). (January 22, 2020)





President Tsai Ing-wen receives a delegation of permanent representatives to the United Nations from diplomatic allies, including Belizean Ambassador Lois Michele Young (third left), Guatemalan Ambassador Luis Antonio Lam Padilla (center), and Haitian Ambassador Patrick Saint-Hilaire (second left) and his wife (left). (February 18, 2020)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Director General of the German Institute Thomas Prinz (second left). (February 25, 2020)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives a Nicaraguan delegation led by Minister of Foreign Affairs Denis Moncada (fifth left). (February 27, 2020)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Representative of the Australian Office Gary Cowan. (March 3, 2020)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Chairman of the American Institute in Taiwan James Moriarty (second left). (March 5, 2020)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Executive Director of the Canadian Trade Office in Taipei Jordan Reeves. (July 7, 2020)





President Tsai Ing-wen receives US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II. (August 10, 2020)



President Tsai Ing-wen addresses the Indo-Pacific Leaders Dialogue session at the invitation of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute. (August 27, 2020)



President Tsai Ing-wen confers the Order of Propitious Clouds with Special Grand Cordon posthumously on late Czech Senate President Jaroslav Kubera and meets with current President Miloš Vystrčil (center second left). (September 3, 2020)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives a Japanese delegation led by former Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori (fourth left) to attend the memorial service for former President Lee Teng-hui. (September 18, 2020)



President Tsai Ing-wen hosts a banquet for US Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Keith Krach (front row, second left). (September 18, 2020)



President Tsai Ing-wen and Vice President Lai Ching-te accept congratulations from Director of the American Institute in Taiwan/Taipei Brent Christensen (left), on National Day. (October 10, 2020)





President Tsai Ing-wen accepts the credentials of Nicaraguan Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Taiwan Mirna Mariela Rivera Andino (third left). (October 26, 2020)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Haitian Ambassador to Taiwan Rachel Coupaud (third left). (November 6, 2020)



President Tsai Ing-wen holds a press conference to announce her representative to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Economic Leaders' Meeting. (November 10, 2020)



President Tsai Ing-wen receives Representative of the British Office Catherine Nettleton (fifth left). (December 1, 2020)





Vice President Lai Ching-te receives Representative of the British Office Catherine Nettleton. (June 5, 2020)



Vice President Lai Ching-te hosts a luncheon for US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II (right). (August 11, 2020)



Vice President Lai Ching-te receives Representative of the Australian Office Gary Cowan (third left). (December 16, 2020)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu, as President Tsai Ing-wen's special envoy, leads a delegation to attend the inauguration ceremony of newly elected Guatemalan President Alejandro Eduardo Giammattei (left). (January 14, 2020)

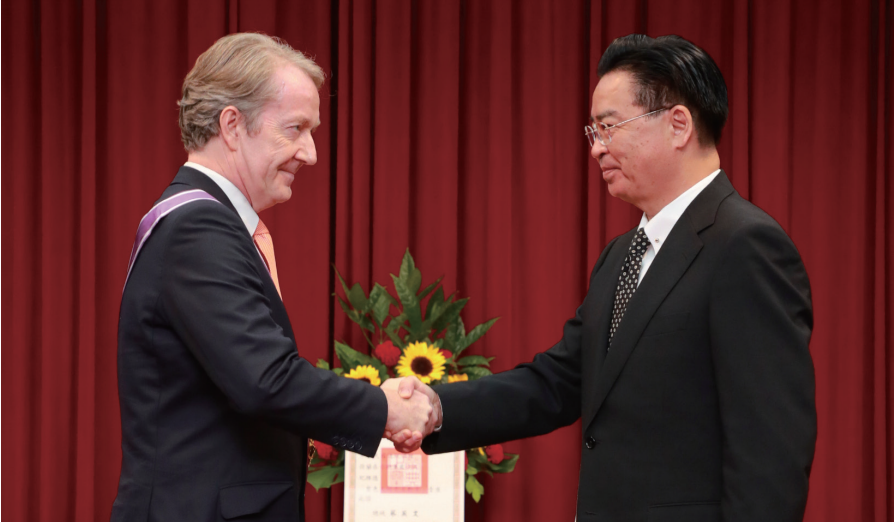


Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (second right) meets with Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernández (third left) during a visit to Honduras. (January 18, 2020)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu confers the Order of Brilliant Star with Violet Grand Cordon on Representative of the Swedish Trade & Invest Council Sven Håkan Oskar Jevrell on behalf of President Tsai Ing-wen. (July 27, 2020)

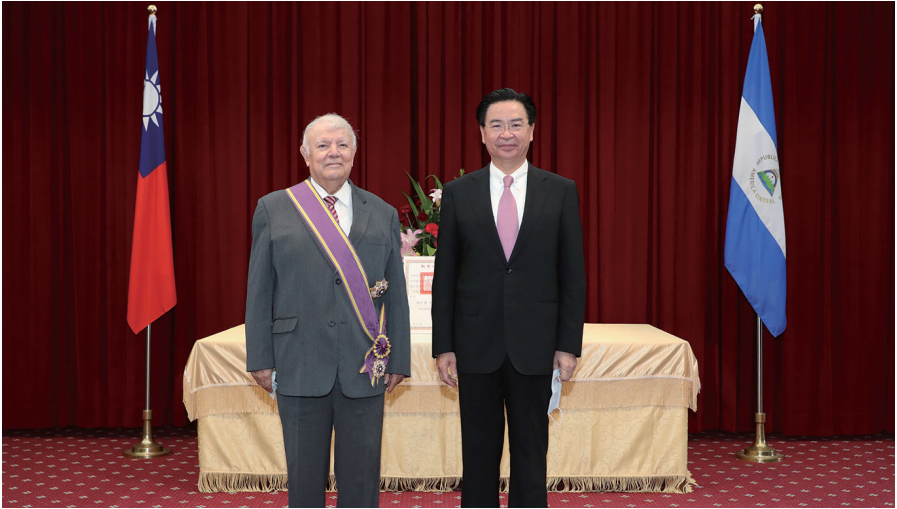




Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu confers the Order of Brilliant Star with Violet Grand Cordon on Representative of the Netherlands Office Taipei Guy Wittich on behalf of President Tsai Ing-wen. (July 31, 2020)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (right) holds a joint press conference with US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II (left). (August 11, 2020)



On behalf of President Tsai Ing-wen, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu confers the Order of Brilliant Star with Grand Cordon on Nicaraguan Ambassador to Taiwan William Manuel Tapia Alemán, who also serves as Dean of the Diplomatic Corps. (August 17, 2020)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (left) and Director of the American Institute in Taiwan/Taipei Brent Christensen (center) release the Taiwan-US Joint Declaration on 5G Security. (August 26, 2020)



Czech Senate President Miloš Vystrčil (second left) holds a joint press conference with Foreign Minister Jaushieh Joseph Wu (second right) to announce the accomplishments of his visit to Taiwan. Legislative Yuan President You Si-kun (right) also attends the event. (September 3, 2020)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (left) and Representative Mohamed Omar Hagi Mohamoud (right) unveil the plaque for the Republic of Somaliland Representative Office in Taiwan. (September 9, 2020)





Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (fourth right) meets with a US delegation led by Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Keith Krach (center). (September 18, 2020)



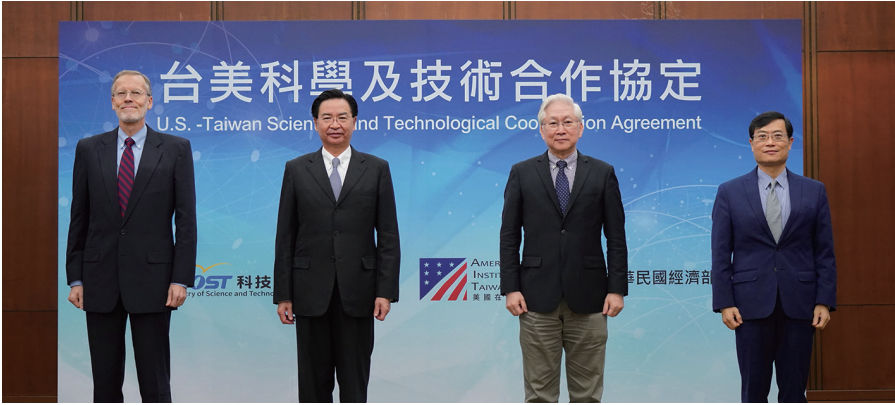
Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu confers the Order of Brilliant Star with Grand Cordon on Haitian Ambassador to Taiwan Rachel Coupaud on behalf of President Tsai Ing-wen. (November 9, 2020)



Foreign Minister Jaushieh Joseph Wu (second left), American Institute in Taiwan/Taipei Director Brent Christensen (second right), Deputy Education Minister Lio Mon-chi (left), and Overseas Community Affairs Council Vice Minister Roy Yuan-rong Leu (right) at a ceremony to launch the Taiwan-US Education Initiative (December 3, 2020)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu confers the Order of Brilliant Star with Grand Cordon on Paraguayan Ambassador to Taiwan Marcial Bobadilla Guillén on behalf of President Tsai Ing-wen. (December 11, 2020)



Foreign Minister Jaushieh Joseph Wu (second left) hosts a reception to announce the signing of the US-Taiwan Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement. He is joined by Science and Technology Minister Wu Tsung-tsong (second right), Deputy Economic Minister Chen Chern-chyi (right), and American Institute in Taiwan/Taipei Director Brent Christensen (left). (December 18, 2020)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu confers the Order of Brilliant Star with Grand Cordon on outgoing Belizean Ambassador to Taiwan Diane C. Haylock on behalf of President Tsai Ing-wen. (December 29, 2020)





Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Harry Ho-jen Tseng (fourth right) and Director of the French Office in Taipei Jean-François Casabonne-Masonnave (fourth left) hold a joint press conference for the launch of the Volontaires Internationaux en Entreprise program. (November 25, 2020)



Deputy Foreign Minister Harry Ho-jen Tseng (second left), American Institute in Taiwan/Taipei Deputy Director Raymond Greene (left), Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association Deputy Representative Akira Yokochi (second right), and MOFA Department of North American Affairs Director General Douglas Yu-tien Hsu (right) at the Global Cooperation and Training Framework Joint Committee held by MOFA, AIT/T, and the JTEA (December 15, 2020)



Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Kelly Wu-chiao Hsieh (right) hosts a reception for Secretary General of the Association of World Election Bodies Jonghyun Choe (left). (January 10, 2020)



Deputy Foreign Minister Tien Chung-kwang (second right), Deputy Justice Minister Tsai Pi-chung (right), American Institute in Taiwan/Taipei Director Brent Christensen (second left), and Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association Acting Representative Akira Yokochi (left) at the opening ceremony of the virtual Global Cooperation and Training Framework Workshop on Trade Secrets Protection and Digital Piracy Prevention (October 15, 2020)





Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Tien Chung-kwang delivers remarks at the Seminar on Youth Leadership in the Post-COVID-19 Era. (December 29, 2020)



Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien hosts a virtual seminar on Taiwan's COVID-19 prevention and containment experience at Taiwan Adventist Hospital. (May 6, 2020)



Vice Foreign Minister Miguel Li-jeY Tsao (second right) presides over the signing ceremony of the 2020-2023 Taiwan-Israel Implementing Arrangement on Education, Youth and Sports Cooperation. The accord is signed remotely by Israel Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei Representative Omer Caspi (center) and Taipei Economic and Cultural office in Tel Aviv Representative Paul Kuoboug Chang on behalf of their respective governments. (June 29, 2020)



Vice Foreign Minister Miguel Li-jeY Tsao (second row, seventh left), Deputy Health and Welfare Minister Lee Li-feng (second row, eighth left), and Representative of the Israel Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei Omer Caspi and his wife (second row, sixth and fifth left) pose with volunteers at the signing ceremony of the Taiwan-Israel MOU on Cooperation in Volunteering hosted by MOFA. (December 1, 2020)

# **Chapter 2**

# **Foreign Policy Objectives and Strategies**



# **Chapter 2 Foreign Policy Objectives and Strategies**

## **I. Foreign Policy Objectives**

1. To adhere to principles of steadfast diplomacy and mutual assistance for mutual benefits; uphold universal values of peace, freedom, democracy, and human rights; strengthen relations with diplomatic allies; advance substantive ties with friendly, like-minded nations; and strive for international participation.
2. To continue to advance the New Southbound Policy through the amalgamation of public and private resources and contributions, with a focus on the four pillars of: promoting economic collaboration, conducting people-to-people exchanges, enhancing resource sharing, and forging regional links to foster new cooperative models that are beneficial to Taiwan and target nations.
3. To safeguard Taiwan's membership and interests 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; and use pragmatism and creativity to overcome obstacles and actively contribute to the international community.
4. To use civil-society strengths, resources, and experiences to form lasting partnerships with key domestic and foreign non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in key areas of international cooperation, such as international humanitarian aid, medical assistance, disease prevention and control, food security, green energy, agrotechnology, and e-governance; and to leverage these partnerships to contribute to the achievement of international sustainable development goals.

## **II. Policy Goals and Strategies**

### **1. Reinforcing diplomatic ties with allied countries**

- (1) Continuing to promote mutual visits and exchanges between high-level officials and key dignitaries of Taiwan and allied countries in order to deepen diplomatic relations.
- (2) Adhering to the principle of mutual assistance for mutual benefit, and launching projects and initiatives that cater to the economic and social

development needs of Taiwan's allies while introducing industry and market dynamics to drive bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

## **2. Strengthening substantive ties with countries without formal diplomatic relations**

- (1) Facilitating mutual visits between Taiwanese dignitaries and their counterparts in countries without formal diplomatic relations to enhance substantive bilateral ties.
- (2) Negotiating and signing bilateral agreements and participating in important regional economic integration agreements such as the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) to establish a foundation for substantive exchanges between Taiwan and countries without formal diplomatic relations, progressively expand areas of cooperation, and comprehensively strengthen substantive bilateral ties.
- (3) Enhancing cooperation programs between Taiwan and countries without formal diplomatic relations to promote sustainable bilateral development.
- (4) Advancing the people-centric New Southbound Policy to deepen comprehensive relationships with target countries.
- (5) Actively collaborating with the international community and establishing communication channels to jointly combat transnational crime.

## **3. Actively participating in intergovernmental organizations to enhance the degree and extent of Taiwan's international engagement**

- (1) Actively contributing to international organizations in which Taiwan holds formal membership, such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and seeking candidacy for important decision-making positions so as to safeguard Taiwan's membership status and participation rights.
- (2) Establishing and leveraging multilateral channels of communication to seek support from other countries for Taiwan's participation in intergovernmental organizations, such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the United Nations

Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), so as to consolidate and expand Taiwan's international interests.

#### **4. Assisting domestic NGOs with international participation and enhancing their contributions to the international community**

- (1) Supporting domestic NGOs in their efforts to actively participate in international conferences and events and expand their contributions to the international community.
- (2) Strengthening domestic NGO participation in international cooperation and humanitarian aid, and supporting their efforts to launch humanitarian aid programs in regions and countries in need.

#### **5. Leveraging Taiwan's soft power to promote public diplomacy, strengthen international communication, garner public support, and elevate Taiwan's image**

- (1) Incorporating new communication technologies into resource integration and targeted international campaigns to enhance Taiwan's promotional efforts and create favorable opportunities to shape a positive image of Taiwan internationally.
- (2) Generating further publicity for Taiwan's foreign policy goals and achievements through in-person promotion such as multimedia events, social gathers, music festivals, conferences, and marketing campaigns, and through digital channels such as websites, video productions, and radio interviews.
- (3) Issuing press releases and holding press briefings to communicate major foreign policies and address issues of public concern.
- (4) Launching domestic and international campaigns to promote the universal values of democracy, human rights, and the rule of law; raising public awareness of and support for Taiwan's diplomatic affairs; fostering ongoing relations with the international community; and expanding Taiwan's international footprint.

## **6. Utilizing diplomatic resources to enhance service efficiency and quality**

- (1) Improving the convenience and safety of outbound travel for Taiwanese citizens.
- (2) Streamlining visa processes.
- (3) Refining visa application procedures for foreign nationals coming to Taiwan.
- (4) Improving the quality of document authentication services.

## **7. Appropriately allocating resources to increase the efficiency of budget execution**

- (1) Improving budget allocation and boosting the efficiency of capital budget execution.
- (2) Reasonably allocating resources to meet medium-term policy objectives, review existing policy plans, and ensure the efficient use of resources; and forecasting prudent annual expenditures to fit the medium-term budget allocated to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by the Executive Yuan.
- (3) Continuing to instigate the acquisition of properties to establish joint overseas offices, increase ownership of properties for overseas missions, and significantly reduce the cost of overseas property rental.
- (4) Administering the Zhiyuan New Village Revitalization Project to renovate derelict dormitories used to house diplomatic personnel on rotation, and building modern storage centers for diplomatic archives.



# **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 encompasses 37 independent countries across Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Australasia, and the Pacific, including the Republic of China (Taiwan). In the region, Taiwan has formal diplomatic relations, marked by the establishment of mutual embassies, with Tuvalu, the Marshall Islands, Palau, and Nauru, as well as close, substantive ties and mutual representative offices with Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Singapore, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei, Myanmar, Australia, New Zealand, India, Papua New Guinea, and Fiji.

The Asia-Pacific region encompasses nations with distinct ethnic, historical, cultural, religious, and social characteristics, and particularly in recent years has been a focal point in international politics, economics, and diplomacy. Taiwan is fully committed to strengthening its friendships with diplomatic allies in the Asia-Pacific region, enhancing relations with like-minded, friendly nations, and continuing to advance the New Southbound Policy and its four pillars: promoting economic collaboration, conducting people-to-people exchanges, enhancing resource sharing, and forging regional links. Taiwan aspires to leverage its soft power to foster new models conducive to mutual cooperation; ensure peace, stability, and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region; contribute to the regional economic integration agenda; and strengthen regional cooperation.

#### II. Relations with Individual Countries

##### 1. Relations with the Republic of the Marshall Islands

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with the Republic of the Marshall Islands on November 20, 1998, and opened an embassy in the capital Majuro on December 5 of the same year. The Republic of the Marshall Islands opened an embassy in Taiwan in July 1999.

(2) Technical cooperation

- A. Taiwan and the Marshall Islands have signed agreements of cooperation on agricultural technology, fishery, and volunteer work. Taiwan currently has one technical team leader, one expert, one technician, and two substitute military service personnel stationed in the Marshall Islands to assist in advancing agricultural development projects.
- B. Current joint initiatives include the Marshall Island Micro Financing Scheme and the Home Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Project. The former aims to provide loans to assist the development of small and medium-sized enterprises in the agriculture and fishery industries, while the latter is focused on promoting energy-saving household appliances and solar generators. Since the successful launch of the Vocational Training Program in the Marshall Islands, various professional training courses have been introduced to improve the nation's capacity-building and technology transfer capabilities and create local job opportunities. In addition, the locally stationed technical mission continues to actively engage in horticulture and livestock projects. Year to date, the team has raised over 1,000 piglets and approximately 60,000 seedlings, benefiting both the main island of Majuro and the 22 surrounding islands. Other collaborations include livestock and horticulture skill enhancement courses, jointly organized with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce of the Marshall Islands, to foster extension personnel and enhance the effectiveness of agricultural technology promotion in the outer islands; and school gardens, mobile markets, and cooking demonstrations, jointly organized with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce and the Ministry of Education, to raise awareness about nutrition and healthy eating and to enhance food safety in the Marshall Islands during the COVID-19 pandemic.

(3) Medical cooperation

- A. Taiwan and the Marshall Islands are working closely together to improve healthcare and have signed an Agreement of Cooperation in Health and a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the establishment of a Taiwan

Health Center in the Marshall Islands. Other notable achievements include the signing of MOUs to make Taipei City Hospital (Ministry of Health and Welfare) a sister hospital to Majuro Hospital and Ebeye Hospital; the signing of an MOU to make Shuang Ho Hospital (Ministry of Health and Welfare) and Majuro Hospital sister hospitals; the signing of referral agreements between Taipei City Hospital and the Ministry of Health and Human Services of the Marshall Islands (MOHHS), and between Shuang Ho Hospital and the MOHHS; and the signing of the Clinical Internship and Resident Mentorship Program, Master's Degree in Nursing Program, and Hospital Information System Procurement Agreement between Shuang Ho Hospital and the MOHHS.

- B. The Taiwan Health Center operates out of Majuro Hospital. A Taiwanese public health nurse is also stationed at the hospital to assist the MOHHS in implementing public health policy and promoting health education. In addition, each year Taiwan runs short-term mobile medical missions to the Marshall Islands and every month rotates one or two short-term resident physicians on and off the main island to provide high-quality medical care and training, as well as assisting the MOHHS in training local medical professionals.
- (4) COVID-19 cooperation: In response to this year's global SARS-CoV-2 outbreak, Taiwan has been actively assisting the Marshall Islands in epidemic preparedness. Taiwan agreed to fund the construction in February of eight negative-pressure isolation rooms and other facilities at Majuro Hospital, and increased epidemic prevention funding to the Marshall Islands in support of the Outer Island Preparedness and Response Plan—an initiative under the COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan. In addition, Taiwan continues to donate epidemic prevention equipment and supplies to the Marshall Islands, including virus detectors, ventilators, infrared thermometers, forehead thermometers, surgical masks, N95 masks, protective suits, isolation gowns, and face shields, as well as facilitating the swift deployment of vaccines by funding the purchase of transportation and refrigeration equipment needed for the delivery of vaccines from the United States to the Marshall Islands. Taiwan's epidemic prevention assistance

extends beyond the COVID-19 pandemic to the planning and deployment of medical mobile containers manufactured by Taiwanese companies to the Marshall Islands.

- (5) A visit from Taiwan was made by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien.

## **2. Relations with the Republic of 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. Diplomatic relations were severed on July 23, 2002, and reinstated on May 14, 2005, with the embassy reopening on August 8 of the same year. Nauru opened an embassy in Taiwan on March 27, 2007.
- (2) Agricultural cooperation: The technical mission stationed in Nauru has been promoting the Dietary Diversity Extension Project in Nauru and the Prison Farm Project. The mission also provides over 3,000 eggs per week to primary and secondary school students in Nauru.
- (3) Medical cooperation: Following the signing of the MOU on medical cooperation and the referral agreement between Taichung Veterans General Hospital and Nauru on October 10, 2016, three physicians were stationed in Nauru this year.
- (4) COVID-19 cooperation: To assist Nauru in combating the COVID-19 pandemic, Taiwan donated surgical masks, thermometers, virus detectors, used hospital beds, ventilators, rapid antigen test kits, and epidemic prevention and medical equipment.
- (5) Ports cooperation: An MOU on cooperation was signed between the Taiwan International Ports Corporation and Nauru Maritime and Port Authority on October 15 of this year.
- (6) Energy cooperation: Taiwan donated a solar generator to the University of the South Pacific Nauru Campus on September 28 of this year. It was accepted by Nauru's President and Minister of Education, Lionel Aingimea.
- (7) Cultural and educational relations: Seven outstanding Nauruan students were given scholarships to study in Taiwan under the Taiwan Scholarship Program this year.

## (8) Mutual visits by dignitaries

- A. Visits from Taiwan were made by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien.
- B. Visits from Nauru were made by Minister for the Republic of Nauru Phosphate Corporation (RONPHOS) Reagan Aliklik and Minister for Commerce, Industry and Environment, Climate Change, and Infrastructure Development Rennier Gadabu.

**3. Relations with the Republic of Palau**

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with Palau on December 29, 1999. The Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in Palau was established on February 17, 2000, and commenced official operations on March 5 of the same year. Palau opened an embassy in Taiwan on October 4, 2001.
- (2) Agriculture and fisheries cooperation: Taiwan and Palau have joint projects in a number of sectors, including infrastructure development, farming, animal husbandry, aquaculture, clean energy, information technology, transportation, healthcare, education, and human resources training.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Under the Taiwan Scholarship Program, Taiwan International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF) International Higher Education Scholarship Program, and Naval Academy Scholarship Program, Taiwan offers scholarships to outstanding students recommended by the Palauan government. Palau also nominates outstanding candidates from all backgrounds to attend seminars and training courses in Taiwan. In an effort to help diplomatic allies cultivate medical specialists, in September 2013 Taiwan's Executive Yuan approved the launch of a post-baccalaureate program for international medical students at I-Shou University.
- (4) Medical cooperation: Taiwan assists Palau in developing medical and public health capabilities. Taipei Municipal Wanfang Hospital and Shin Kong Wu Ho-su Memorial Hospital in Taiwan successively established sister relations with Belau National Hospital in Palau. Every year from 2006 to 2010, Taipei Municipal Wanfang Hospital sent medical teams to Palau. Similarly, after

signing a referral agreement with Belau National Hospital in 2008, Shin Kong Wu Ho-su Memorial Hospital began sending long- and short-term medical personnel to Palau. Shin Kong Hospital further signed a five-year MOU with the Palau Ministry of Health in 2011, which was renewed as an indefinite agreement in August 2016. Under the MOU, Shin Kong Hospital launched the Taiwan Medical Project to reduce rates of non-communicable diseases in Palau. The hospital also collaborated with TaiwanICDF on the launch of the Healthcare Personnel Training Program, wherein clinical and medical teams are sent to Palau to provide medical and consultation services. To date, Shin Kong Wu Ho-su Memorial Hospital, Taipei Municipal Wanfang Hospital, E-da Hospital, Taiwan Adventist Hospital, Cheng Hsin General Hospital, and Shuang Ho Hospital have all signed medical referral memorandums with Palau.

- (5) Agricultural cooperation: Taiwan dispatched a technical mission to promote its Horticulture Extension Project in Palau. In addition to organizing workshops on fruit and vegetable cultivation and promoting healthy eating and health education, the mission supports school farms and healthy school lunch programs.
- (6) Mutual visits by dignitaries
  - A. A visit from Taiwan was made by the Navy's 2020 Fleet of Friendship.
  - B. Visits from Palau were made by Senate President Hokkons Baules and Speaker of the House Sabino Anastacio.

#### **4. Relations with Tuvalu**

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with Tuvalu on September 19, 1979. The Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) was initially co-accredited to the Kingdom of Tonga, and subsequently to the Solomon Islands. In December 1998, a liaison office was established in Funafuti, and an ambassador has been officially stationed there since April 2004. Tuvalu opened an embassy in Taiwan in March 2013.
- (2) Agricultural cooperation: Taiwan sent agricultural technical missions to Funafuti and the outer island of Vaitupu in order to promote its Happy Friendship Farm and Vaitupu Hope Garden horticultural projects. These



projects aim to increase fruit and vegetable production in Tuvalu, improve cultivation in the outer islands, and promote healthy dietary habits to improve public health in Tuvalu. In 2019, in response to the rise in demand for fresh fruit and vegetables in Tuvalu, Taiwan began plans to set up a fruit and vegetable production area on the main island of Funafala in Funafuti.

- (3) Medical cooperation: Taiwan launched the Taiwan Medical Program (TMP) in Tuvalu. The program is spearheaded by Chung Shan Medical University Hospital, which has a project coordinator stationed in Tuvalu to assist the government in enhancing the nation's medical capabilities. The hospital also holds regular oral health programs to provide pediatric dental services and raise awareness about dental health.
- (4) Energy cooperation: Since 2010, Taiwan has launched annual collaborative clean energy projects in Tuvalu, including donating solar-powered home appliances and street lights. These efforts have had a substantive positive impact on the local population.
- (5) Cultural and educational relations: Outstanding students from Tuvalu are selected to apply for the Taiwan Scholarship Program. Exceptional candidates from all backgrounds are also nominated to remotely attend various symposiums and training programs organized by the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF) and TaiwanICDF.

## **5. Relations with the Commonwealth of Australia**

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Australia were severed on December 22, 1972. The Australian government approved the setting up of Taipei Economic and Cultural Offices in Canberra, Sydney, and Melbourne on January 22, 1991. On April 30 of the same year, the Sydney and Melbourne offices were formally renamed Taipei Economic and Cultural Offices, and a new Representative Office was established in Canberra. On December 9, 2005, the Australian government approved the setting up of a Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Brisbane. Australia set up the Australian Commerce and Industry Office (ACIO) in Taipei on October 30, 1981. It was renamed the Australian Office in March 2012.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade reached US\$11.25 billion in 2020, accounting for 1.78% of Taiwan's total trade volume. Australia is Taiwan's 11th-largest trading partner, 14th-largest export market, and 8th-largest source of imports. Owing to pandemic restrictions in 2020, bilateral meetings were held by video conference, including the 24th Taiwan–Australia Annual Economic and Trade Conference in October, the Preparatory meeting for the 17th Agricultural Working Group (AWG) in November, and the 25th Taiwan–Australia Joint Energy and Minerals, Trade and Investment Cooperation Meeting in November. During the last meeting, representatives from Taiwan and Australia, including Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Tseng Wen-sheng (Taiwan) and Deputy Secretary of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources Sean Sullivan (Australia), witnessed the renewal of the MOU on energy and mineral cooperation between Taiwan Representative to Australia Elliott Charng and Australia Representative to Taiwan Gary Cowan.
- (3) Think tank exchanges: In August, President Tsai Ing-wen was invited to deliver a speech by video at the Indo-Pacific Leaders Dialogue, hosted by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI). Former Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull delivered a speech by video at the 4th Yushan Forum in October.
- (4) COVID-19 cooperation: Taiwan and Australia announced their collaboration on pandemic supplies in March. Australia agreed to provide one million liters of alcohol disinfectant, and Taiwan agreed to make up to three tonnes of non-woven fabric material available to Australia, depending on Taiwan's production capacity. In September, as part of the "Taiwan is Helping" campaign, Taiwan donated 500,000 surgical masks to Victoria, Australia.
- (5) Cultural and educational relations: Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade approved the New Colombo Plan, offering scholarships to 364 Australian tertiary students to pursue studies and internships in Taiwan. The number of Taiwanese students studying at various levels in Australian institutions reached 18,439. Australia National University launched the Taiwan Studies Program. Two Australian students received scholarships under the Taiwan Scholarship Program to enable them to study for their

master's and doctoral degrees in Taiwan, while 31 students were granted scholarships under the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program to study Mandarin in Taiwan. In addition, Taiwan subsidized 24 Australian and New Zealand Mandarin teachers and 14 students to participate in a Mandarin course in Taiwan, as well as setting up co-funded, co-named scholarship programs with Australia National University and the University of Sydney.

- (6) Technological cooperation: In May, a video conference for scholars and experts from Taiwan and Australia was held to discuss collaborative research on the inhibitory effects of Ivermectin on SARS-CoV-2. In June, Hugh Bradlow, President of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering (ATSE), participated in an online seminar hosted by Taiwan's Center for Global Affairs and Science Engagement (Ministry of Science and Technology), to talk about Australia's use of smart technology in the post-pandemic era. The first Taiwanese Scholar Association of Australia (TSAA) in Australia was established, and a ceremony for this monumental achievement was held on October 24. In addition, the Agreement on Neutron Beam Applications between Taiwan and Australia was renewed by remote signing on December 15.
- (7) Working holidays: Taiwan and Australia signed an MOU on working holiday visas in July 2004, affording many young Taiwanese adults the opportunity to visit and work in Australia. However, owing to pandemic restrictions, the number of Taiwanese young people obtaining working holiday visas for Australia in 2019–20 fell to 11,058.

## **6. Relations with Brunei Darussalam**

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Far Eastern 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 closed on April 17, 2006, but resumed operations on March 1, 2007.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
  - A. Bilateral trade amounted to US\$212 million in 2020, with exports reaching US\$57.68 million and imports reaching US\$155 million.

- B. In addition, the BIMP-EAGA Business Council (BEBC) and Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Syariah Compliance Products Development and Trade.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: The Overseas Community Affairs Council (OCAC) of Taiwan invited 16 Brunei young people to attend the 39th Overseas Youth Vocational Training Program (OYVTP) in Taiwan. In addition, one Bruneian student was granted a scholarship under the Taiwan Scholarship Program in 2020 to study in Taiwan.
  - (4) Tourism: A Taiwan tourism seminar was held to promote tourism in Taiwan and promote Taiwan's Muslim-friendly culture. The event attracted around 30 Bruneian businesses.
  - (5) Medical cooperation: Bruneian-Taiwanese company Simpor Pharma procured medical and pandemic supplies from Taiwan. Taiwanese medical companies and Simpor Pharma held discussions on setting up production lines for COVID-19 vaccines and other medical pandemic supplies in Brunei. Taiwan also donated 152 high-quality wheelchairs to four public hospitals, Chinese schools, and private charitable organizations in Brunei as part of its efforts to join the World Health Assembly (WHA).
  - (6) Technological cooperation: The Brunei Attorney General's Chambers sent seven officials to take part in the Virtual Conference on Trade Secrets Protection and Digital Piracy Prevention under the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF).

## **7. Relations with the Republic of Fiji**

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Trade Mission of the Republic of China to Fiji in Suva on May 15, 1971. The mission was renamed East Asian Trade Center on February 29, 1976, reverted back to Trade Mission of the Republic of China to Fiji on December 21, 1987, and was renamed Taipei Trade Office in Fiji on August 1, 2019. On December 1, 1997, the Fiji government established the Fiji Trade and Tourism Representative Office in Taiwan in Taipei. The office was decommissioned on May 1, 2017, owing to fiscal considerations.

(2) Economic and trade relations

- A. Taiwan is Fiji's 10th-largest trading partner, resulting in a trade surplus for Fiji. The major imports from Fiji are water, honey, and fish waste, while Taiwan's exports to Fiji are plastic raw materials, machinery, and hardware. Bilateral trade amounted to US\$39.49 million in 2020, with Taiwan's exports reaching US\$36.81 million and imports reaching US\$2.68 million.
- B. Taiwan also has 65 registered fishing vessels operating out of the Port of Suva, with an approximate catch value of US\$9–10 million.

(3) Agriculture and fisheries cooperation

- A. Agriculture cooperation: In 1978, Taiwan sent the Taiwan Technical Mission to Fiji. Currently, agricultural cooperation is based on the Agreement on Technical Cooperation, signed on August 23, 2013. Headquartered in Sigatoka, the mission offers assistance in the production and marketing of fruit and vegetables.
- B. Fisheries: TaiwanICDF sent experts in September 2017 to assist Fiji's Ministry of Fisheries in planning aquaculture development and to give instruction in aquacultural techniques. On September 26, 2018, Taiwan and Fiji signed an MOU on fisheries cooperation to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, ensuring the ecological safety and sustainability of Fiji's fisheries industry.

(4) Medical cooperation: Since 2014, Cathay General Hospital has been promoting Taiwan's National Mobile Medical Missions in allied and friendly countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Missions have been sent to hospitals in Viti Levu and Vanua Levu each year for five consecutive years to provide free medical services.

(5) COVID-19 cooperation

- A. In line with pandemic restrictions, Cathay General Hospital shifted to a remote model to maintain communication with Fiji's Labasa Hospital. It has also donated medical supplies to Labasa Hospital.
- B. To support Fiji's frontline health workers combating COVID-19, Taiwan donated 20,000 surgical masks, 500 pairs of protective gloves, and protective clothing to Fiji's Ministry of Health and Medical Services.

C. On 24 June, four officials from Fiji's Ministry of Health and Medical Services participated in the GCTF online seminar Preventing the Second Wave of COVID-19, co-hosted by Taiwan, the United States, Japan, and Australia.

- (6) Seminars: In February, Vice Chairman of the Ocean Affairs Council Chang Ching-ta attended the Regional Conference and Policy Dialogue on Blue Economy, Ocean Tourism, and Sustainable Blue Financing, jointly hosted by the Ocean Policy Research Institute of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Asian Development Bank Institute, and TaiwanICDF in Nadi, Fiji.

## **8. Relations with the Republic of India**

- (1) Background: India set up the India–Taipei Association in Taiwan in July 1995. Taiwan set up the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in New Delhi in September of the same year, renamed the center the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in India in February 2012. The Economic and Cultural Center in Chennai was set up in the same year.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade amounted to US\$4.796 billion in 2020, with exports reaching US\$2.595 billion and imports reaching US\$2.201 billion, creating a surplus of over US\$394 million. Currently, around 128 Taiwanese companies are investing in India, with cumulative direct and indirect investment of around US\$1.5 billion.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan has signed MOUs to set up Taiwan Education Centers with 19 universities and schools in India, including Rashtriya Raksha University, Shiv Nadar University, Amity University, Jamia Millia Islamia, IIT Madras, IIT Bombay, and Ramjas School. Twenty Mandarin teachers were sent to India, but owing to pandemic restrictions, some of them returned to Taiwan and shifted to remote teaching. The transition was well-received and praised by the schools. Over the years, around 8,000 Indian students have studied Mandarin under the guidance of Taiwanese teachers. Taiwan continues to offer scholarships to Indian students to study in Taiwan, with approximately 400 students benefiting from the Taiwan Scholarship Program and the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program.



- (4) COVID-19 cooperation: To assist in India's epidemic prevention efforts, on May 8, Taiwan Representative to India Tien Chung-kwang donated one million surgical masks to India on behalf of Taiwan. The donation was received by Deputy Secretary of the Indian Red Cross Society Neel Kamal Singh.
- (5) Technological cooperation
- A. On April 18, 2007, Taiwan and India signed an MOU on science and technology exchanges. Bilateral meetings are held every two years, alternating between Taipei and New Delhi, to discuss new research cooperation projects and grant programs. The India–Taiwan Joint Workshop on Smart Cities was held at National Chiao Tung University in April 2019, and the Tenth Meeting of India–Taiwan Joint Committee on Cooperation in Science and Technology was held in July of the same year.
  - B. As of 2020, Taiwan and India have jointly funded 94 bilateral research projects and held 25 bilateral academic seminars. Areas of collaboration include artificial intelligence; renewable energy, including solar, bioenergy, and clean energy; IoT; big data; information security; micro/nanoelectronics; embedded systems and sensors; biotechnology; healthcare, including functional genetics, drug development, biomedical materials; agriculture; and food. The collaborations have been extremely fruitful. Between 2009 and 2020, Taiwanese and Indian scholars collaborated on over 200 research papers published in Science Citation Index (SCI) journals and presented at international conferences. Other achievements include facilitating the signing of cooperation memoranda between universities, joint supervision of doctoral and master's students, and international university–industry cooperation projects.
- (6) Overseas community affairs: In coordination with Taiwanese business associations, Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in India worked with the Indian and Bangladeshi governments and airlines to facilitate the safe return of nearly 400 Taiwanese nationals who had been stranded in India and other South Asian countries owing to the pandemic.

## 9. Relations with the Republic of Indonesia

- (1) Background: On July 4, 1972, Taiwan established the Taiwan Chamber of Commerce in Jakarta, which on January 19, 1990, was renamed the Taipei Economic and Trade Office in Indonesia. 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. The Taipei Economic and Trade Office in Surabaya officially commenced operations in December 2015.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade amounted to US\$6.8 billion in 2020, indicating a slowdown of roughly 10% on the previous year. Taiwan's exports reached US\$2.3 billion, while imports reached US\$4.5 billion. According to statistics from the Indonesian Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM), in 2020 Taiwan invested in 948 projects in Indonesia, totaling approximately US\$450 million. This makes Taiwan Indonesia's 9th-largest source of foreign investment, with a 42% increase in the number of investment projects and a substantial 150% growth in investment amount on the previous year. As of 2020, Taiwan has undertaken a total of 5,096 projects in Indonesia, for a cumulative investment of US\$18.48 billion. Important bilateral meetings this year included the Taiwan–Indonesia Halal Industry Forum in August, the 2nd Taiwan–Indonesia Dialogue on the Food Industry in October, and the 7th Taiwan–Indonesia Joint Trade and Investment Committee Meeting in December.
- (3) Agriculture cooperation: Since 1976, Taiwan has sent technical missions to Indonesia, with headquarters in Jakarta and an Agribusiness Incubation Center and Demonstration Farm in Lembang, West Java. Since 2018, Taiwan has been promoting the Modern Agriculture Demo Farm in Karawang and Strengthening Incubator Agribusiness with Human Resources Development in Bandung projects in West Java. Taiwan also collaborates with Hasanuddin University in South Sulawesi to promote the High Quality Rice Seed Development Project in South Sulawesi.
- (4) Cultural and educational relations
  - A. The R.O.C. (Taiwan) government has made several scholarships available to Indonesian students, including the Taiwan Scholarship

Program, Taiwan Fellowship Program, Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program, APEC Postdoctoral Fellowship Program, New Southbound Talent Development Program, and TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarship Program. A total of 13,804 Indonesian students received scholarships in the 2020/21 academic year, making Indonesia the 3rd-largest source of foreign students in Taiwan.

- B. In 2020, the Taipei Economic and Trade Office in Indonesia signed an agreement on academic exchange with the University of Jakarta and set up the third Taiwan Education Center in Indonesia. In addition, eight Taiwan Business Clubs, the Indonesia Taiwanese Chambers of Commerce, and nine Indonesia Federation of Taiwan Alumni Associations were set up in major cities across Indonesia.

(5) Humanitarian assistance

- A. In May, Taiwan Representative to Indonesia Chen Chung donated 300,000 surgical masks to the National Agency for Disaster Countermeasure (BNPB) on behalf of Taiwan.
- B. In August, the Taipei Economic and Trade Office in Indonesia donated a Taiwan-made automated nucleic acid analyzer to Universitas Indonesia Hospital. The donation was received by Universitas Indonesia President Ari Kuncoro.
- C. In October, Taiwan Representative to Indonesia Chen Chung donated epidemic prevention and medical supplies to the West Java government on behalf of the Chinese Christian Relief Association (CCRA).

(6) Think tank exchanges

- A. In August, the Taipei Economic and Trade Office in Indonesia KADIN Indonesia–Taiwan Committee jointly hosted a video conference to explore Taiwan’s and Indonesia’s economic and trade prospects during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. Vice Chairman of the Indonesian Investment Coordinating Board Ikmal Lukman and Deputy Director-General of the Bureau of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Lee Guann-Jyh attended the conference.
- B. In October, Vice President of Indonesia Jusuf Kalla virtually attended the Roundtable Dialogue on Envisioning Asia during the 4th Yushan Forum.

- (7) Labor: In 2020, the Taipei Economic and Trade Office issued a total of 12,143 migrant worker visas, and the Surabaya office issued 12,885 migrant worker visas. As of the end of 2020, there were 263,348 Indonesian migrant workers in Taiwan.
- (8) Visits from Indonesia were made by Central Election Commission Member Evi Novida Ginting, Central Election Commission Member Viryan Aziz, and CFO Nanang Priyatna.

## **10. Relations with Japan**

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Japan were restored 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 set up as channels to maintain substantive ties. 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 Association of East Asian Relations in Tokyo was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan, with branches set up in Yokohama, Naha, and Sapporo. The Association of East Asian Relations in Osaka was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Osaka, with a branch in Fukuoka. In 2017, Taiwan and Japan renamed the Association of East Asian Relations the Taiwan–Japan Relations Association, and the Interchange Association became the Japan–Taiwan Exchange Association. The former has 6 offices in Japan in total.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
  - A. Bilateral trade amounted to US\$69.285 billion in 2020, a 2.9% increase on the previous year. Taiwan’s imports reached US\$45.885 billion and exports reached US\$23.4 billion. Japan is Taiwan’s 3rd-largest trading partner, 4th-largest export market, and 2nd-largest source of imports.
  - B. According to trade statistics released by the Ministry of Finance of Japan, Taiwan’s ranking as a source of imports rose from 6th place in 2019 to 4th place in 2020, reaching a historic high. Amid the immense impact of COVID-19 on global trade, Taiwan has emerged as a stable and reliable supply source for Japan, especially when compared to countries that experienced substantial reductions in exports.

- C. Owing to pandemic restrictions, in 2020 many in-person visits and exchanges were canceled and various exchange activities shifted to a video conference format in order to maintain business interactions and opportunities between Taiwan and Japan, assist Taiwanese companies in expanding their presence in Japanese markets, and facilitate technological cooperation.

(3) Cultural and educational relations

- A. Higher education exchanges: Taiwan closely collaborates with Japan to promote higher education. One major project is the Taiwan Studies Project—a joint effort between Taiwan, Osaka University, Kyushu University, and Waseda University to expand Taiwan studies in Japan. Taiwan also works closely with the Japanese think tank Research Society for Japan–Taiwan Relations Research, holding seminars focusing on Taiwan to promote academic exchange between the two countries. Also in 2020, 34 Japanese students received scholarships under the Taiwan Scholarship Program and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program to study in Taiwan, and the Japanese youth organization Japan–Taiwan Student Conference received assistance to hold the 15th Taiwan–Japan Student Forum and set up a platform for youth exchange between the two countries.
- B. Secondary education exchanges: 30 Japanese elementary and secondary school teachers were invited to Taiwan to gain firsthand knowledge of Taiwan’s development and hold discussions with Taiwanese educators. Educational travel between Taiwan and Japan was temporarily suspended owing to pandemic restrictions. During the pandemic, in order to bolster Japanese young people’s knowledge of Taiwan, a website with guidance on education trips to Taiwan was launched in partnership with the Scholars Network for Education Trips (SNET) Taiwan, and Japanese scholars were invited to make video lectures on Taiwan’s history, culture, and current socio-economic situation.
- C. Sports: Taiwan and Japan have strengthened their collaboration in preparation for the Tokyo Olympics. Twenty-eight towns and cities in

Japan have registered to host Taiwanese athletes, making Taiwan the most hosted nation among all participating countries.

- D. The Taiwan Culture Center, Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan actively seeks to integrate Taiwan's cultural and artistic ecosystem into the international arena and raise global awareness of Taiwan's brand. The office also serves as a platform for strengthening cultural exchange and growth between Taiwan and Japan.
- E. Arts: In collaboration with the National Culture and Arts Foundation, artists Joyce Ho, Aluaiy Kaumakan, and Zhang Xu-zhan were granted support for their participation in the major international art exhibition Yokohama Triennale. Lin Jin-yao, curator at C-LAB Taiwan Sound Lab (a Taiwan Contemporary Culture Lab project), was invited to participate in the virtual Theater Commons Tokyo '20— Art and Virtuality Forum. In an effort to promote artistic exchange between Taiwan and Japan, the 2020 Hybrid Furniture Exhibition— Emotion Touching from Tradition was co-hosted with the National Taiwan Craft Research and Development Institute. Assistance was also provided to the National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts for the restoration and copying of the Portrait of Yamamoto Teijiro by Taiwanese sculptor Huang Tu-shui, exhibited in Sado City, Japan. A partnership with the esteemed Japanese art media *Bijutsu Techo* featured a special edition on Taiwan to provide a comprehensive introduction to Taiwan's cultural and artistic scene and showcase works by five Taiwanese artists participating in the Yokohama Triennale and Northern Alps Art Festival 2020–2021.
- F. Film and media: Owing to pandemic restrictions, events such as the Taiwan Film Screening and Salon shifted to a virtual format to showcase Taiwanese cinema and provide updates on Taiwan's film industry. An in-person screening event for Taiwanese films was hosted in collaboration with the organizers of the Tokyo International Film Festival, and *A Leg* director Chang Yao-sheng and *Little Big Woman* director Joseph Chen-Chieh Hsu were invited to attend. Other collaborations included working with the organizers of the Osaka Asian Film Festival to launch the special program Taiwan: Movies on the Move, Classic and Contemporary,



- showcasing *Green Jail*, *Born to be Human*, and other Taiwanese films; and working with the organizers of the Fukuoka Asia Film Festival to hold a special screening of Taiwanese films and expand the presence of Taiwanese filmmakers in the Japanese market.
- G. Publications: A collaboration with Eslite Spectrum Nihonbashi yielded *Taiwan Cultural Festival—Contemporary Taiwanese poets: Mu Yang and Fu Lo*. The exhibition aimed to introduce Taiwanese poetry to Japanese audiences. The first issue of *TAIWAN BOOKS* was launched in Japan in November. The publication gave a comprehensive introduction to nine Taiwanese works translated into Japanese and published between 2018 and 2020, and previewed up-and-coming Taiwanese works to be launched between the end of 2020 and the first half of 2021.
  - H. Other cultural exchanges: The *Culture Meeting—the Path of Taiwan’s Railways* exhibition in Japan, curated by Chen Wei-chen, was launched in collaboration with Eslite Spectrum Nihonbashi and Taiwan’s National Railway Museum Preparatory Office. The exhibition featured 95 works from ten Taiwanese railway photographers and Taiwanese train ticket artworks. To showcase the beauty of Taiwan’s railroads online, director and winner of the 42nd Golden Harvest Award for Best Documentary Huang Wei-sheng was commissioned to create a documentary specifically for the event and share his insights with participating photographers.
  - I. Comics: The Taiwan Manga Night Market exhibition was launched in collaboration with the Taiwan Creative Content Agency (TAICCA) to showcase works by 25 Taiwanese comic artists on the highly popular theme of night markets. The event amply demonstrated Taiwan’s creative freedom and diversity. Taiwanese comic artist Zuo Hsuan was commissioned to create the event brochure, which incorporated elements of literature, architecture, tea culture, and railways, garnering widespread attention in Taiwan and Japan.
  - J. Olympics Host Town: A collaboration with Japan’s Iwate Broadcasting Co. (IBC) television station led to the production of *Host Town for Taiwan, Special Program of Music and Culture*, a special program

introducing Taiwanese music and culture, including the musical works of Golden Melody Awards winners Lala Hsu and EggPlantEgg, through the theme of post-quake recovery and host towns. An online version of the program was made available for free on the Taiwan Cultural Center website, Japan's Yoshimoto Kogyo online platform, and Lotus TV.

(4) Tourism

- A. In response to the pandemic, on March 19 Taiwan imposed entry restrictions on Japanese tourists. Japan imposed similar restrictions on Taiwanese tourists on April 3. Border controls had a negative impact on tourism, with only 269,659 Japanese visitors to Taiwan and 697,981 Taiwanese visitors to Japan.
- B. Director-General of the Tourism Bureau, Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Chang Shi-chung, and Chair of Taiwan Visitors Association Yeh Chu-lan held online discussions on tourism with Japanese officials including Governor of Mie Prefecture Eikei Suzuki and Governor of Kagawa Prefecture Keizo Hamada. Other collaborations included the Taiwan Fair in Suginami in September, Nippon Domannaka Festival in Nagoya in August, and Anotsu-Yosakoi Festival in Tsu, Mie Prefecture, in October. Taiwanese groups were invited to participate online. Taiwan also participated in the Online Overseas Educational Trips Presentation organized by the Hokkaido Overseas Travel Promotion Project Executive Committee.

(5) Media exposure

- A. Media visits between Taiwan and Japan: Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, visits from international journalist groups were temporarily suspended. However, efforts were made to accommodate Taiwanese media in Japan and to facilitate Taiwanese and Japanese media coverage during the 6th Summit on Taiwan–Japan Exchanges in Kaga in 2020, resulting in the publication of 37 Mandarin and Japanese press releases. In addition, the commemorative special *William Burton: Father of Taiwan's Water System* was produced in collaboration with Fujisankei.
- B. Promotion of Taiwan through Japanese media: The 17th Taiwan–Japan Cultural Exchanges Teenager Scholarship was jointly hosted with Sankei

Shimbun. Outstanding Japanese young people were selected through Mandarin and Taiwanese essay and speech competitions. Between September and December, 12 Taiwan Album Posters were produced. Taiwan also worked with 36 local TV stations across Japan to broadcast 75 programs introducing cities in Taiwan. The Chiba Television Broadcasting Corporation and Radio Nikkei were commissioned to promote tourism in Taiwan and appeal to the Japanese public to support Taiwan's participation in the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

- C. Public opinion: Across Japanese media, 25 opinion pieces, articles, and interviews were published on Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization and other international organizations. In an effort to expand international communication, Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan continues to use its Facebook and Twitter accounts to publish the latest information on Taiwan and exchanges between Taiwan and Japan in Mandarin and Japanese.

(6) Mutual visits by dignitaries

- A. Visits from Taiwan were made by Minister of the Overseas Community Affairs Council Wu Hsin-hsing, Vice Minister of Health and Welfare Hsueh Jui-yuan, and Member of the Legislative Yuan Liu Shyh-fang.
- B. Visits from Japan were made by former Prime Minister of Japan Yoshiro Mori; Chairman of the Japan–R.O.C. Diet Members' Consultative Council and House Representative Keiji Furuya; House Representatives Nobuo Kishi, Seishiro Eto, Shigeyuki Tomita, Masaharu Nakagawa, Yasushi Kaneko, Yasuhide Nakayama, Akihisa Nagashima, Karen Makishima, Makoto Oniki, and Kentaro Sonoura; House Councillors Kazuya Shimba and Akira Ishii; Chairman of the Japan–Taiwan Exchange Association Ohashi Mitsuo; and President of the Japan–Taiwan Exchange Association Yasuaki Tanizaki.

## 11. Relations with the Republic of Korea

- (1) Background: Taiwan and South Korea suspended diplomatic relations on August 24, 1992, but then signed the New Relations Framework Agreement

in July 1993. Subsequently, the Korean Mission in Taipei and the Taipei Mission in Korea were set up in November 1993 and January 1994, respectively, to promote substantive bilateral exchanges and cooperation. In January 2005, an office was established in Busan to enhance cooperation with local governments in the southern part of South Korea.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade amounted to US\$35.74 billion in 2020, with exports reaching US\$15.14 billion and imports reaching US\$20.6 billion. South Korea is Taiwan's 5th-largest trading partner, and vice versa.
- (3) Tourism: In 2020, a total of 163,953 Taiwanese citizens traveled to South Korea, and 178,911 South Korean citizens visited Taiwan.
- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
  - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by Minister without Portfolio of the Executive Yuan Audrey Tang Feng.
  - B. A visit from South Korea was made by Secretary General of Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB) Jonghyun Choe.

## **12. Relations with Malaysia**

- (1) Background: On August 3, 1974, Taiwan set up the Far East Trade and Tour Centre in Malaysia. It was renamed Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in Malaysia on September 22, 1988, and later renamed Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Malaysia on August 17, 1992. Malaysia operates the Malaysian Friendship and Trade Centre in Taipei.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade amounted to US\$19.337 billion in 2020, making Taiwan Malaysia's 5th-largest trading partner and Malaysia Taiwan's 7th-largest trading partner. As of the end of 2020, Taiwan's total investment in Malaysia is US\$13.821 billion, making Taiwan Malaysia's 8th-largest source of foreign investment.
- (3) Bilateral agreements: The two countries signed an Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments in February 1993 and an Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income in July 1996.

- (4) Tourism: In 2020, a total of 49,913 Taiwanese citizens visited Malaysia, and 72,705 Malaysian citizens visited Taiwan.
- (5) Cultural and educational relations: Malaysia has approximately 6.71 million citizens of Chinese descent and a robust Mandarin education system. Currently, 1,301 Mandarin-language primary schools and 62 independent Mandarin-language secondary schools are in operation in Malaysia. In 2020, 13,964 Malaysian students pursued higher education studies in Taiwan, with roughly 80,000 Malaysian alumni year-to-date. Approximately 59 Taiwanese students studied at higher education institutions in Malaysia in 2020.
- (6) Overseas community affairs
  - A. At the beginning of the year, in order to enhance services for Taiwanese citizens living in Malaysia, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Malaysia set up a mobile consular service in Penang, serving around 10 people. The service was subsequently suspended owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - B. The approximately 1,700 Taiwanese businesses operating in Malaysia are represented by the Taipei Investors' Association in Malaysia (TIAM), an alliance of seven standing committees, including the Kuala Lumpur Standing Committee and the Penang Standing Committee.
- (7) Visits from Malaysia were made by Chair of Datuk Ng Chok Sin, the Selangor State Liaison Committee Ng Chok Sin (MCA), Negeri Sembilan State Executive Councillor for Urban Wellbeing, Housing, Local Government, and New Villages Teo Kok Seong (DAP), and Negeri Sembilan State Executive Councillor for Women Affairs and Welfare Nicole Tan Lee Koon (DAP).

### **13. Relations with the Republic of the Union of Myanmar**

- (1) Background: After the TaiwanICDF Office was set up in Yangon in 2014 and the Myanmar Trade Office was set up in Taipei in 2015, relations between the two countries improved. The Myanmar government approved the setting up of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Myanmar on March 28, 2016.

(2) Economic and trade relations

- A. Myanmar originally prohibited direct investment from Taiwan. According to statistics released by the Investment Review Committee, Ministry of Economic Affairs, there have been 49 Taiwanese investment projects in Myanmar year-to-date, with total investment of US\$424 million. In the same period, Myanmar has invested in 25 projects in Taiwan, totaling US\$3.343 million. Bilateral trade amounted to US\$269 million in 2020, with exports at US\$206 million and imports at US \$62.93 million, which represents a 13.84% decline from 2019 (US\$312 million).
- B. Since Myanmar opened up in 2011, 270 Taiwanese businesses have invested there, amounting to US\$1 billion in direct investment, indirect investment, and partnerships, largely in the textile, optics, and agriculture industries.

(3) COVID-19 cooperation: The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Myanmar held meetings with Myanmar's Ministry of Health and Sports and the Yangon Regional Department of Public Health to clarify Myanmar's pandemic prevention needs and assist the Myanmar government in its fight against COVID-19. Taiwan provided humanitarian aid in the form of PPE donations, including surgical masks, protective suits, and thermal cameras. Taiwan Shin Kong Wu Ho-Su Memorial Hospital, Changhua Christian Hospital, and other private institutions also held video conferences with Myanmar's Ministry of Health and Sports and the Myanmar Medical Association (MMA) to help strengthen Myanmar's pandemic prevention capabilities.

(4) Media exposure: The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Myanmar helped set up interviews with major media outlets for Taiwan Representative to Myanmar Charles C. Li, published an article written by Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu, and produced short promotional videos to showcase Taiwan's successful pandemic prevention measures and promote Taiwan to the general public in Myanmar.

(5) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan offers scholarships to outstanding Burmese students to study in Taiwan.



## 14. Relations with New Zealand

- (1) Background: Taiwan set up the East Asian Trade Center in Auckland in May 1973. The center was relocated to the capital city of Wellington in July 1981, and a branch was established in Auckland in the same year. New Zealand set up the New Zealand Commerce and Industry Office in Taiwan in 1987. The East Asian Trade Center was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in November 1991.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
  - A. Bilateral trade amounted to approximately US\$1.42 billion in 2020, with exports reaching US\$564 million and imports US\$856 million, making Taiwan New Zealand's 7th-largest export market and 16th-largest import market.
  - B. In February, Taiwan and New Zealand signed the Implementing Arrangement on Mutual Recognition of Organic Product Certification to the Agreement between the Separate Customs of Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen, and Matsu and New Zealand on Economic Cooperation, helping Taiwanese exporters by reducing the cost of verifying organic products for export to New Zealand. The Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Authorized Economic Operator between Taiwan and New Zealand was signed in December. The agreement aims to enhance supply-chain security and facilitate trade. The annual Taiwan–New Zealand Economic Consultation was held in December by video conferencing.

## 15. Relations with the Independent State of Papua New Guinea

- (1) Background: Taiwan set up a trade mission in Papua New Guinea on February 12, 1990. The mission 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. The office was renamed the Honorary Consulate-General of Papua New Guinea in August 1994. The appointment was suspended in August 2014. The Papua New Guinea Trade Office in Taiwan was set up in Taipei on December 31, 2015.

(2) Economic and trade relations

- A. Bilateral trade amounted to US\$713 million in 2020, with exports of US\$40.87 million and imports of US\$672 million.
- B. A fishing agreement was signed between the Taiwan Tuna Purse Seiners Association and the National Fisheries Authority of Papua New Guinea. The total operating time for association fishing vessels was 1,323 days, and total fishing access fees of US\$14.45 million were paid under the agreement.

(3) Agriculture

- A. The Farmer Training Project entered its sixth year. The project has given training to 63 farmers and set up a promotion center and two farmer training centers in the capital of Port Moresby and the commercial center of Lae.
- B. Taiwan assists Papua New Guinea's Department of Agriculture and Livestock and National Agriculture Research Institute in breeding and testing drought-resistant, heat-resistant crop varieties. A total of 123 courses have been held, training 3,356 participants. An additional 2,094 farmers have been trained in the use of certified seeds.

(4) Medical cooperation: In July, Changhua Christian Hospital donated medical equipment to Arawa Hospital and Buka Hospital in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville. To improve local standards of medicine, medical personnel in Papua New Guinea participated in online training courses covering 14 topics, including medical quality and diabetes care.

(5) COVID-19 cooperation: In September, Taiwan Representative to Papua New Guinea Oliver Liao donated COVID-19 PPE to Papua New Guinea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Health.

(6) Energy cooperation: The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Papua New Guinea launched the Clean Energy Cooperation Project in 2020, donating US\$100,000 to the Autonomous Region of Bougainville for the installation of solar lighting fixtures and portable solar panels to benefit rural school children and hospitals.

## 16. Relations with the Republic of the Philippines

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with the Philippines on April 18, 1947. Relations were severed on June 9, 1975, and the Pacific Economic and Cultural Center in Manila was established on July 28 and became operational on October 10 of the same year. The center was later 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, and it was renamed the Manila Economic and Cultural Office on December 20, 1989.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade amounted to US\$6.62 billion in 2020, with exports of US\$4.57 billion and imports of US\$2.06 billion. Taiwan has invested in around 600 companies in the Philippines, with a cumulative investment of approximately US\$2.236 billion from 1952 to date.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan's Ministry of Education commissioned National Sun Yat-sen University to set up a Taiwan Education Center at Trinity University of Asia in the Philippines to promote Taiwan's higher education system and Mandarin learning. In addition, Guang Ming College and Trinity University of Asia employed two Mandarin-language teachers recommended by Taiwan's Ministry of Education.
- (4) COVID-19 cooperation: In the spirit of humanitarian aid, Taiwan donated PPE to the Philippines in April and June to help it control its severe COVID-19 situation. Several video conferences were held to share Taiwan's epidemic prevention experience with the Philippine government, local NGOs, and media.
- (5) Humanitarian assistance: In 2020, Taiwan donated a total of US\$300,000 to the Philippines government to aid in post-typhoon reconstruction following devastating incidents in December 2019 and November 2020.
- (6) Tourism: Strict border controls were instated in Taiwan and the Philippines in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. A total of 77,065 Taiwanese tourists visited the Philippines, and 49,093 Filipino tourists visited Taiwan in 2020.

- (7) Labor: As of 2020, roughly 151,000 Filipino migrant workers reside in Taiwan.
- (8) Overseas community affairs: The Philippines has a population of roughly 1.5 million people of Chinese descent, largely residing in metropolitan areas such as Manila, Cebu, and Davao. In recent years, around 7,000 Taiwanese technical and business professionals have relocated to the Philippines for business, employment, or investment.

## **17. Relations with the Republic of Singapore**

- (1) Background: The Trade Mission of the Republic of China was set up 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 set up on August 1, 1979, and renamed the Singapore Trade Office in Taipei on September 30, 1990.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
  - A. According to data published by the Singapore Department of Statistics, bilateral trade amounted to US\$56.881 billion in 2020, with roughly US\$19.011 billion in imports and US\$37.869 billion in exports. Taiwan enjoyed a trade surplus of approximately US\$18.858 billion. Taiwan is Singapore's 5th-largest trading partner. According to Taiwan's economic statistics, Singapore is Taiwan's 6th-largest trading partner.
  - B. On November 7, 2013, Taiwan and Singapore signed the Agreement between Singapore and the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen, and Matsu on Economic Partnership (ASTEP), which 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 with Taiwan.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations
  - A. Under the Taiwan Scholarship Program and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program, Taiwan offers scholarships to outstanding Singaporean young people to study in Taiwan and learn Mandarin.
  - B. National Taiwan University of Arts' Department of Dance performed at the annual River Hongbao event for the Lunar New Year in Singapore

in January, receiving high praise from the Singapore public. To further collaborations with local organizations, the Taipei Representative Office in the Republic of Singapore sponsored events such as the Singapore Chinese Film Festival, World Book Day Reading Session, and Grassroots Book Room Taiwan Reading. These events included online seminars and forums with Taiwanese directors and artists. The office also collaborated with Taiwanese artists in Singapore to jointly launch a series of well-received art exhibitions in its Taipei Gallery, including *Joint Art Exhibition by Chern Lian Shan and Loo Ray Mei– Convergence: Where Ink Meets Clay*, *Joint Photography Exhibition by Chen Wei Hao, Valence Sim and Huang Tzu Chiang*, and *A Sculptor's Secret Garden by Lee Kuang-yu*.

- (4) People-to-people exchanges: A total of 46,225 Singaporeans visited Taiwan in 2020.

## 18. Relations with the Kingdom of Thailand

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between the Republic of China and Thailand were established on May 7, 1946, and severed on July 1, 1975. Subsequently, Taiwan set up an office in Bangkok, currently named the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Thailand, and Thailand set up offices in Taipei, the Thailand Trade and Economic Office.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade amounted to US\$9.771 billion in 2020, with exports of US\$5.518 billion and imports of US\$4.253 billion. Taiwan's investment in Thailand amounted to approximately US\$519 million (15.642 billion Thai baht), representing a 44.9% decrease on 2019. Over the years, Taiwanese businesses have invested approximately US\$16 billion in Thailand across 2,535 business ventures.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: On November 4, the opening ceremony to the Taiwan Documentary Film Festival in Thailand was held in Bangkok. *Yi Yi* by Taiwanese director Edward Yang was screened. In 2020, 17 Thai students received grants under the Taiwan Scholarship Program, and 33 received grants under the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program. Three Mandarin teaching assistants and 26 teachers from Taiwan are working in Thai schools.

- (4) Medical cooperation: In December, the National Health Insurance Administration (NHIA) of Taiwan and the National Health Security Office of Thailand held a video conference to discuss how to manage their respective health insurance systems during a pandemic. Taiwan Representative to Thailand Lee Ying-yuan, Director-General of the National Health Insurance Administration Lee Po-chang, and Section Head at the Thailand Trade and Economic Office Waraporn Chompoonutjind gave opening remarks.
- (5) Humanitarian assistance: Taiwan Representative to Thailand Lee Ying-yuan signed an agreement of cooperation with Director General of the Border Consortium Sally Thompson, donating US\$80,000 to assist the consortium's efforts in providing food and education to refugees at the Thailand–Myanmar border and improving the nutrition and earning capacity of vulnerable populations in refugee camps.
- (6) COVID-19 cooperation: On March 20, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Thailand established the Joint Emergency Response Team, bringing together representatives from Taiwanese organizations in Thailand to assist in mitigating the impact of the pandemic. Taiwan Representative to Thailand Lee Ying-yuan and several Taiwanese entrepreneurs donated a million surgical masks to Thailand on August 10. The donation was received by Thailand Representative to Taiwan Thongchai Chasawath on behalf of the Thai government.
- (7) Agriculture and fisheries cooperation: Since the signing of the Agricultural Agreement between Taiwan and Thailand in 2003, Taiwan and Thailand have held periodic agricultural cooperation meetings. The 7th Taiwan–Thailand Agricultural Cooperation Meeting was held in Bangkok in December 2020.
- (8) Media exposure
  - A. Thai Public Broadcasting Service (TPBS) and Post Today featured Taiwan's response to the COVID-19 pandemic in interviews with CDC physician Huang Song-en, Minister without Portfolio of the Executive Yuan Audrey Tang Feng, and former Director-General of the Taiwan Centers for Disease Control Kuo Hsu-sung.



- B. Taiwan Representative to Thailand Lee Ying-yuan was featured in Post Today, discussing Taiwan–Thailand relations and cross-strait tensions.
  - C. Op-eds were published by *The Journalist*, *Matichon*, *Prachachat*, MGROnline, *Daily News*, and *Naew Na*, supporting Taiwan’s participation in international organizations such as the United Nations, the World Health Organization, and INTERPOL.
  - D. Op-eds were also published in the English editions of *The Journalist* and *Naew Namade*, refuting misconceptions disseminated by the Chinese Embassy and pro-China authors about the Law of the People’s Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.
- (9) Technological cooperation: The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Thailand attended the 2020 ASEAN Innovation and Biotechnology Development Forum, hosted by the National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA) of Thailand. Representatives discussed future opportunities for exchange with the National Higher Education Science Research and Innovation Policy Council.
  - (10) Overseas community affairs: The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Thailand, in conjunction with the Thai–Taiwan Business Association (TTBA), held the International Night event in November. In attendance were members of the Joint Foreign Chambers of Commerce in Thailand (JFCCT) from 17 countries, including the United States, Canada, Mexico, Sweden, Norway, India, Singapore, Malaysia, and Israel, along with Taiwanese business representatives. The event was aimed at strengthening international connections with Taiwanese entrepreneurs in Thailand.
  - (11) Visits from Thailand were made by House Representatives Acarawat Asawahem, Phiboon Ratchkitprakarn, Kittisak Kanasawat, Parinya Roekrai, and Yongyut Suwanbut.

## 19. Relations with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Vietnam in Hanoi and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Ho

Chi Minh City on November 15, 1992. Vietnam established the Vietnam Economic Cultural Office in Taipei on July 10, 1993.

(2) Economic and trade relations

A. Bilateral trade amounted to US \$21.023 billion, with Taiwan exports reaching US \$16.76 billion and imports reaching \$4.322 billion. Taiwan enjoyed a trade surplus of US\$12.379 billion. Taiwan is the 5th-largest trading partner.

B. Investment: As of the end of 2020, Taiwan had accumulated a total of 2,792 investment projects in Vietnam, with a cumulative investment amounting to approximately US\$33.707 billion. Taiwan is the 4th-largest source of foreign investment in Vietnam. Taiwan's investments in Vietnam reached roughly US\$2.058 billion in 2020.

C. Over 70,000 Taiwanese businesspeople reside in Vietnam, comprising 14 Taiwanese business associations representing the Council of Taiwanese Chambers of Commerce in Vietnam and various provinces, cities, and industries.

(3) Cultural and educational exchanges: The R.O.C. (Taiwan) government provided grants to 62 students under the Taiwan Scholarship Program, 38 students under the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program, and 8 students under the International Higher Education Scholarship Program. In 2020, 17,534 Vietnamese students studied in Taiwan, making Vietnam the largest source of foreign students in Taiwan.

# **Photographs of Diplomatic Events Asia-Pacific**





Taiwan Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien (seventh from left) heads a delegation at the inauguration of President David Kabua of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (seventh from right) and his cabinet. (January 20, 2020)



Marshall Islands President David Kabua (right) visits the Taiwan Technical Mission at the invitation of Taiwan Ambassador to the Marshall Islands Jeffrey Hsiao (left). (May 20, 2020)



Taiwan donates surgical masks and other pandemic medical supplies to Nauru at a donation ceremony with Nauru Minister of Health and Home Affairs Isabella Dageago (left), Nauru President Lionel Aingimea (centre), and Taiwan Ambassador to Nauru Wang Hai-long (right). (May 8, 2020)



Taiwan donates a solar power system to the University of the South Pacific, Nauru Campus. In attendance are Taiwan Ambassador to Nauru Wang Hai-long (left) and Nauru President Lionel Aingimea (right). (September 28, 2020)





Taiwan Ambassador to Palau Wallace Chow (third from front on the red carpet) with Taiwan's Fleet of Friendship Rear Admiral Chen Tao-hui (fourth from front) and Vice President of the Republic of Palau Raynold Oilouch (second from front). (March 13, 2020)



Taiwan Ambassador to Palau Wallace Chow (eighth from right), Taiwan's Fleet of Friendship Rear Admiral Chen Tao-hui (sixth from right), and Vice President of the Republic of Palau Raynold Oilouch (seventh from right) with other guests. (March 13, 2020)



Taiwan Ambassador to Tuvalu Su Jen-chung (right) donates respiratory equipment and surgical masks for pandemic prevention on behalf of Taiwan. The donation is received by Tuvalu Minister of Health Isaia Taape. (October 13, 2020)



Taiwan Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien (centre) donates surgical masks on behalf of Taiwan to four Pacific diplomatic allies. Ambassadors from the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Nauru, and Tuvalu receive the donation. (April 15, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to Brunei Andrew Lee cuts a cake with Bruneian guests in celebration of the 109th National Day of the Republic of China. (October 5, 2020)



After signing the Memorandum of Understanding on Syariah Compliance Products Development and Trade with TAITRA: BD BEBC Chairman Haris Duraman (front left), Taiwan Representative to Brunei Andrew Lee (front right), NCCIBD Chairman Hanafi Rahman (fourth from right), CCC BSB President Malcom Lim (back, right), Chairman of Taiwan Business Association in Brunei Yap Ong-chuan (back, left), and President of the Taiwan Graduates Association Of Brunei Chen Li-de (back, second from left). (December 2, 2020)





Taiwan Representative to India Tien Chung-kwang (right) donates surgical masks on behalf of Taiwan to Indian Red Cross Society Deputy Secretary Neel Kamal Singh. (May 8, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to India Baushuan Ger (left) with Chairman of the Taiwan-India Friendship Association Shatrughan Singh Chauhan. (September 17, 2020)



Director-General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in Chennai Ben Wang (second from left) with Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Member R. Nataraj (centre). (January 31, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to Indonesia John Chen (right) donates surgical masks to Indonesia on behalf of Taiwan. An Indonesia Department of Trade official accepts the donation on behalf of the BNPB. (May 5, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to Indonesia John Chen (bottom right) and Indonesia Chairman of the Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) Bahlil Lahadalia (top left) witness the signing of a heads of agreement (HOA) for the development of a petrochemical complex in Indonesia between CPC Taiwan and Pertamina. (June 5, 2020)



Director General of Taipei Economic and Trade Office in Surabaya Lin Dean-shiang (left) establishes epidemic prevention fund in Jawa Timur. (June 27, 2020)





Two million surgical masks donated by the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government to Japan through the Japan–R.O.C. Diet Members’ Consultative Council arrive at Narita Airport, Japan. (April 21, 2020)



Over 4,100 people pay tribute to former president Lee Teng-hui at a public memorial hosted by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan between August 3 and 7. Among the attendees are more than 150 former and current Diet members, including former Prime Minister of Japan Mori Yoshiro, then Deputy Prime Minister Aso Taro, friends of Lee, and members of the general public. (August 3, 2020)



Chairman of the Sapporo City Assembly Japan-Taiwan Friendship Parliamentarians' Union Katsutomo Takahashi (left) visits Chou Shyue-yow, Director General of the Sapporo Branch of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan, to personally deliver the city council resolution in favor of Taiwan's joining the WHO. (December 10, 2020)



Vice Governor of Hokkaido Shunsuke Tsuchiya (right) accepts a donation of surgical masks from Director General Chou Shyue-yow of the Sapporo Branch of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan on behalf of Taiwan. (May 19, 2020)



Fan Chen-kuo (second left), Director General of the Naha Branch, Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan, donates 50,000 surgical masks to Okinawa Prefecture on behalf of Taiwan at the Okinawa Prefectural Government Office in support of its epidemic prevention efforts. The donation is received by Governor of Okinawa Prefecture Tamaki Yasuhiro (second right). (May 22, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to Japan Frank Hsieh (behind podium) attends the 6th Taiwan–Japan Exchange Summit, held in Kaga, Ishikawa. (October 26, 2020)





Lee Shyh-bing, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Osaka, thanks various Japanese councils for their assistance in promoting Japan–Taiwan exchanges during the Japan–Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Consultation Association General Assembly. (July 31, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to Malaysia Anne Hung (front left), Mayor of Kuala Lumpur Nor Hisham Ahmad bin Dahlan (back centre), Chairman of the Malaysia Han Culture Centre Goh Hin San (back right), Deputy Director of the Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka Padilah binti Haji Ali (front right), and Chairman of the Secretariat of World Book Capital 2020 Tuan Haji Anwar bin Mohd Zain (back left) at the opening ceremony of the Perpustakaan Bergerak Ba-Ku Bersama Mobile Library, hosted by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Malaysia in the Malaysia Han Culture Centre. (August 14, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to New Zealand Bill Chen (second row, third from left) represents Taiwan at the opening ceremony of APEC 2021 hosted in New Zealand with New Zealand Minister of Foreign Affairs Nanaia Mahuta (front row, second from left) and New Zealand Minister of Trade and Export Growth Damien O'Connor (front row, right). (April 12, 2019)



Taiwan Representative to Papua New Guinea Oliver Liao (right) and Acting Deputy Secretary of the Papua New Guinea Department of Foreign Affairs John Yamin during a PPE donation ceremony at the Papua New Guinea Central Government Office. (September 18, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to Papua New Guinea Oliver Liao (left) and Papua New Guinea Minister for Health and HIV/AIDS Jelta Wong during a PPE donation ceremony in front of the Papua New Guinea National Department of Health building. (September 18, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to Thailand Lee Ying-yuan (fifth from right) attends a ceremony held by the Thai-Taiwan Business Association for the donation of one million surgical masks to Thailand. (August 10, 2020)





Taiwan Representative to Thailand Lee Ying-yuan welcomes guests to the screening of Taiwanese documentary *Yi Yi* at the Taiwan Documentary Film Festival in Thailand. (November 14, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to Vietnam Richard Shih (left) donates 300,000 surgical masks to Vietnam on behalf of Taiwan, with Secretary General of the Taiwan Affairs Office in Vietnam Tran Duy Hai receiving the donation on behalf of Vietnam. (April 29, 2020)



The Council of Taiwanese Chambers of Commerce in Vietnam donates epidemic relief funds to Vietnam, witnessed by Taiwan Representative to Vietnam Richard Shih (sixth from left), Secretary General of the Taiwan Affairs Office in Vietnam Tran Duy Hai (fourth from right), and council member of the Overseas Community Affairs Committee in Vietnam Gao Guo-hua (fourth from left). The donation is received by the Vice Chairman of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Truong Thi Ngoc Anh (fifth from right). (May 6, 2020)



The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Australia holds the 25th Taiwan–Australia Joint Energy and Minerals, Trade and Investment Cooperation Consultations. (November 12, 2020)

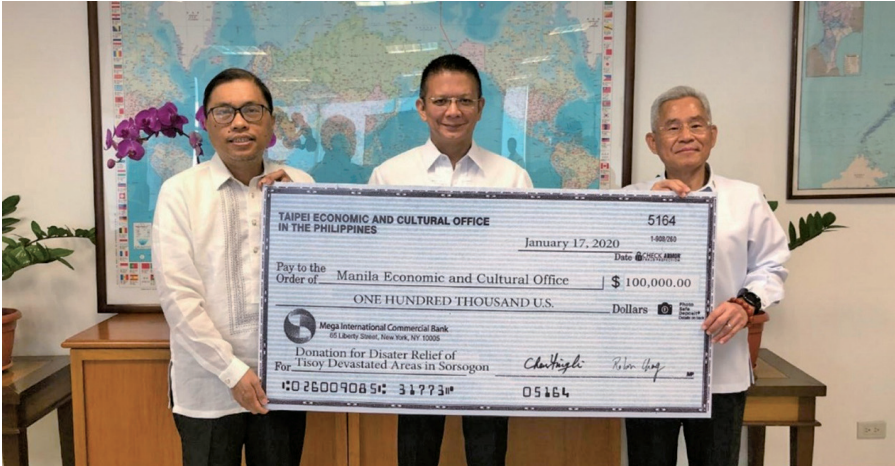




Taiwan Representative to Fiji Jessica Lee (front row, sixth from left) and Deputy Minister of the Ocean Affairs Council Chuang Ching-ta (front row, fourth from right) with scholars attending the Regional Conference and Policy Dialogue on Blue Economy, Ocean Tourism, and Sustainable Blue Financing. (February 25, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to Fiji Jessica Lee (fourth from right) with politicians, businesspeople, and overseas Taiwanese during the 2020 Taiwan National Day celebration. (October 8, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to the Philippines Michael Hsu (right) donates humanitarian aid funds on behalf of Taiwan to the Philippines in support of its reconstruction efforts in the aftermath of Typhoon Tysoy. The donation is received by Deputy Representative of the Manila Economic and Cultural Office Gilberto Lauengco (left) and witnessed by Governor of Sorsogon Francis Escudero. (January 17, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to the Philippines Michael Hsu (second from right) donates surgical masks, N95 masks, protective clothing, and isolation gowns to various government departments and hospitals in the Philippines. At a donation ceremony in the Warehouse Center of Manila Ninoy Aquino International Airport, the donation is received by Undersecretary for Procurement and Supply Chain Management in the Department of Health Carolina Taino (centre). (June 11, 2020)





Taipei Representative Office in Singapore donates surgical masks to Singapore Red Cross. Taiwan Representative to Singapore Francis Liang (left) with Secretary General of the Singapore Red Cross Benjamin William. (April 22, 2020)



Taiwan–Singapore Joint Photography Exhibition by Chen Wei Hao, Valence Sim and Huang Tzu Chiang opening ceremony. (November 27, 2020)





## **Item 2 Taiwan's relations with West Asian countries**

### **I. Introduction**

The West Asia region includes 29 countries and one autonomous government spanning over 30 million square kilometers across the Middle East, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Ukraine, Georgia, and Mongolia. The region has a population of over 750 million. The Middle East comprises 16 countries, namely Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Türkiye, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen, as well as the autonomous Palestinian National Authority (PNA). The CIS comprises nine member states, namely Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, and one associate state, Turkmenistan.

Taiwan maintains substantive ties with ten West Asian countries, namely Bahrain, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Mongolia, Oman, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, United Arab Emirates and has representative offices or offices in these countries. Israel, Jordan, Mongolia, Oman, Russia, Saudi Arabia, and Türkiye have representative agencies in Taiwan.

### **II. Relations with Individual Countries**

#### **1. Relations with the Kingdom of Bahrain**

- (1) Background: Taiwan set up 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 then the Taipei Trade Office in the Kingdom of Bahrain in July 2017.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade amounted to US\$246 million in 2020, with Taiwan exports reaching roughly US\$32 million and imports reaching US\$214 million. Major imports included non-plasticized aluminum, petroleum, and tar oils, while exports consisted of passenger vehicles and other vehicles designed for passenger use. Taiwan has a trade deficit with Bahrain of approximately US\$182 million.

- (3) Technical cooperation: Taiwan and Bahrain signed the Agreement of Agricultural Technical Cooperation in February 1987. Presently, Taiwan's technical advisors assist Bahrain with the improvement of its agriculture and fishery practices. In addition, in order to enhance cooperation and exchanges in vocational training and research, every year Taiwan provides several opportunities for Bahrainis to study in Taiwan.
- (4) COVID-19 cooperation: In July 2020, Taiwan Representative to Bahrain Sun Shyi-ren and President of the Bahrain Defence Force Hospital H. H. Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa presided over a ceremony where Taiwan donated N95 masks, protective clothing, and isolation gowns to Bahrain. During the event, they discussed medical cooperation and exchanges between the two countries.

## **2. Relations with the State of Israel**

- (1) Background: Taiwan set up the Taipei Economic and Trade Office in Tel Aviv on March 29, 1993, and 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, respectively.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade amounted to US\$1.912 billion in 2020, with Taiwan exports reaching US\$842 million and imports US\$1.069 billion. Taiwan's major exports included integrated circuits, information and communication equipment, and automotive parts, while imports to Taiwan consisted of optical precision measuring instruments, integrated circuits, and physical and chemical analysis tools.
- (3) COVID-19 cooperation: Taiwan and Israel's public and private sectors have collaborated closely in an effort to combat the pandemic. The Taiwan and Israel governments collaborated with hospitals and think tanks to jointly hold four video conferences on pandemic prevention. In addition, Taiwan donated surgical masks, protective clothing, isolation gowns, and other PPE to Israel's Magen David Adom and Shamir Medical Center, assisting frontline healthcare workers in their efforts to combat the virus.
- (4) Cultural and educational relations: The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office

in Tel Aviv funded the publication of a book by Prof. Meron Medzini of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the first book on Taiwan in Hebrew.

### **3. Relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan**

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with Jordan on August 12, 1957. Relations were severed on April 14, 1977. On May 15 of the same year, Taiwan set up the Far East Commercial Office in Amman, which was renamed the Commercial Office of the Republic of China (Taiwan) on April 16, 1992, and further renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office on April 7, 2018. Jordan established the Jordanian Commercial Office in Taiwan on November 25, 1977.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
  - A. Bilateral trade amounted to US\$307 million, with Taiwan exports reaching US\$247 million and imports reaching US\$59.89 million. Currently, six Taiwanese manufacturers have factories in Jordan: three garment processors/exporters, one textile restorer, one LED manufacturer, and one educational equipment importer. In total, the companies employ around 6,300 workers. Garments produced in Jordan are primarily exported to the United States, with an output of roughly US\$300 million, which accounts for 28% of all garment exports from Jordan. The textile restorer provides restoration services to Jordan's garment and textile industries, while the LED manufacturer supplies lighting fixtures for public projects, including streetlight replacement along the streets and highways of Amman.
  - B. The Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association of Taiwan held a video conference on Taiwan–Jordan investments, attended by over 60 representatives from both governments, industrial associations, enterprises, and academia.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan provides six scholarships under the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program and Taiwan Scholarship Program. Jordan offers three scholarships to study the Arabic language and pursue master's or doctoral degrees in Jordan. A Taiwanese teacher has been sent to Jordan to teach Mandarin language courses with traditional script and to promote Taiwanese culture.

- (4) Sports: The Chinese Taipei National Boxing Team took part in the 2020 Asia & Oceania Boxing Olympic Qualification Tournament in Jordan.
- (5) Agricultural cooperation: TaiwanICDF carried out an assessment of the current state of Jordan's agricultural development and held consultations with Jordanian government and industry representatives regarding the feasibility of Taiwan's providing agricultural and aquaculture technical assistance.
- (6) Humanitarian assistance: Taiwan is working with Jordanian government agencies and charitable organizations to provide humanitarian aid to Syrian refugees and vulnerable populations in Jordan. This includes vocational training for disadvantaged women, girls empowerment programs in Syrian refugee camps, assistance for victims of landmines and unexploded ordnance, and child safety and protection. Taiwan has also donated wheelchairs and assistive devices to disabled Jordanians through the Puh Sein Foundation and the Cao Zhong Zhi Foundation, and surgical masks to the Private Hospitals Association Jordan and the Jordan Chamber of Commerce through Taiwanese Manufacturer Labelmen International and the Importers and Exporters Association of Taipei.

#### **4. Relations with the State of Kuwait**

- (1) Background
  - A. Taiwan established diplomatic relations with Kuwait on November 21, 1963. Relations were suspended on March 28, 1971. The Commercial Office of the Republic of China in the State of Kuwait was set up on April 23, 1986, and was later renamed the Taipei Commercial Representative Office in the State of Kuwait on August 26, 1996.
  - B. The Taiwan External Trade Development Council set up the Taiwan Trade Center in Kuwait in 2012. As of October 2020, the center's operations have been transferred to the Taiwan Trade Center in Dubai. The Institute for Information Industry of Taiwan set up a liaison office at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research in 2015.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Kuwait is Taiwan's 27th-largest trading partner. Bilateral trade amounted to US\$2.65 billion in 2020, with Taiwan imports, primarily crude oil, reaching US\$2.527 billion, and exports,

primarily vehicles and automotive parts and components, plastic products, and electrical equipment, reaching US\$124 million.

- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Under sister-school agreements signed between Kuwait University and National Taiwan University and National Chengchi University, nine scholarship opportunities are provided annually to Taiwanese students to study Arabic in Kuwait. However, exchanges were postponed in 2020 owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- (4) COVID-19 cooperation
  - A. The Taipei Commercial Representative Office in the State of Kuwait donated 50,000 surgical masks to the Kuwait Red Crescent Society through the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) Kuwait Office.
  - B. The Taipei Commercial Representative Office in the State of Kuwait collaborated with the Kuwait Association of Surgeons to donate 10,000 N95 masks and 1,000 isolation gowns to the Kuwait Ministry of Health's Public Health Training Center.
  - C. The Taipei Commercial Representative Office in the State of Kuwait set up a video conference to share experiences of epidemic prevention. In attendance were representatives from the Kuwait Ministry of Health, Jaber Al-Ahmad Hospital, and Taipei Medical University Hospital.
  - D. The Taipei Commercial Representative Office in the State of Kuwait held a video conference to talk about the Taiwanese mask manufacturer business model based on exporting production lines. In attendance were Vice Chairman of the Kuwait National Fund for SME Development Saad Albarak and Chairman of the Kuwait Association of Surgeons Salman Al-Sabah.
- (5) Media exposure
  - A. Arabic-language Kuwaiti daily newspaper *Al-Jarida* ran an article by journalist Sayed Elkassas in January 2020 titled, "Taiwan: The Heart of Asia's Flourishing Civilization", lauding Taiwanese policies promoting social stability and emphasizing Taiwan's status as a sovereign and independent nation.
  - B. Kuwaiti social media influencer Abdul Kareem Al-Hendal's Twitter and

Instagram posts congratulating Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen on her re-election garnered over 100,000 likes.

- C. In November 2020, English-language Kuwaiti newspaper *The Times* ran a special article written by Taiwan Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-Chung, urging the international community to recognize Taiwan's contributions to global health, pandemic prevention, and the right to health.
- (6) Technological cooperation: The Taipei Commercial Representative Office in the State of Kuwait, in cooperation with the Taiwan Institute for Information Industry, held an online seminar on Taiwan's artificial intelligence-driven healthcare technologies. The event featured presentations by professors from Jaber Al-Ahmad Hospital and the Department of Computer Science and Information Engineering at National Cheng Kung University.

## 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: Bilateral trade amounted to US\$23.43 million in 2020, with Taiwan exports of US\$4.9 million and imports of US\$18.52 million. Major export products from Taiwan included IT and audiovisual products, manufacturing machinery, pharmaceuticals, and electrical equipment. Primary imports to Taiwan were copper and copper products, precious metal-related products, and animal husbandry related products.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations
  - A. Under the MOU on educational cooperation between Taiwan and Mongolia, the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government and public and private universities offer annually a number of scholarships to Mongolian students to study in Taiwan. In 2020, around 1,600 Mongolian students pursued a degree or studied Mandarin in Taiwan.
  - B. Taiwanese Director and Golden Horse Award Winner Lee Hsiang-hsiu traveled to Mongolia in 2020 to continue shooting a documentary on equestrian nomad families.



- C. The Taipei Trade and Economic Representative Office in Ulaanbaatar helped Mongolian artists take part in the Da Dun Fine Arts Exhibition of Taichung City, where several of their works won the Short List Award.
  - D. The Taipei Trade and Economic Representative Office in Ulaanbaatar helped screen *Days* by Taiwanese director Tsai Ming-liang at the 12th Ulaanbaatar International Film Festival.
- (4) Humanitarian assistance
- A. The Taiwan Fund for Children and Families Mongolia (TFCF Mongolia) has been providing assistance to vulnerable children in Mongolian families since 2004. Support includes essential supplies, scholarships, and vocational training. As of the end of 2020, TFCF Mongolia has given monthly support to 11,195 children from 3,479 vulnerable families and assisted in the construction of 25 water supply stations in vulnerable communities.
  - B. The Taipei Trade and Economic Representative Office in Ulaanbaatar, in cooperation with TFCF Mongolia, donated camel-hair blankets to 102 recipient families. The office also worked with TFCF Mongolia, Czech non-profit NGO People in Need, and the Mongolian Red Cross Society to provide care packets with food and necessities to families in the TFCF Village.
  - C. Taiwan's Puh Sein Foundation and Cao Zhong Zhi Foundation donated 170 wheelchairs and 350 assistive devices to major hospitals and welfare organizations in Mongolia.
  - D. The Taipei Trade and Economic Representative Office in Ulaanbaatar donated medical equipment, including blood pressure monitors, pulse oximeters, and examination beds, to the Customs Office, General Administration of Customs, Mongolia.
  - E. Taiwan's Changhua Christian Hospital donated a portable ultrasound device to the international non-governmental organization Joint Christian Service Mongolia Office to support medical clinics.
  - F. The Taipei Trade and Economic Representative Office in Ulaanbaatar worked with several Mongolian non-governmental organizations to enhance public health, human rights, and well-being in Mongolia,

- including: (A) collaborating with the Mongolia Family Stable Development Association to donate a simple medical station to the western province of Bayan-Ölgii; (B) donating laptops to the Human Security Policy Studies Center to combat human trafficking and protect human rights in Taiwan and Mongolia; (C) sponsoring the Added Value E-commerce Training Center in Mongolia to provide food and coal to 100 low-income households in Songinokhairkhan, Ulaanbaatar; (D) providing funds to Bayan Dalai Jiguut to cover the material costs of producing 12,500 cloth masks; and (E) sponsoring the NGO Global Mongolian Women Together to provide vitamins and immune system-boosting products to 80 high-risk families in Ulaanbaatar.
- (5) Medical cooperation: Taiwan donated 200,000 surgical masks, 20,000 isolation gowns, and 5,000 items of protective clothing to support the Mongolian government in its efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.
- A. The Taipei Trade and Economic Representative Office in Ulaanbaatar facilitated four important video conferences related to epidemic prevention: two sessions between National Taiwan University Hospital and the National Center for Communicable Diseases of Mongolia; one session between National Taiwan University Hospital and the Third State Central Hospital of Mongolia; and one session between Taipei City Hospital of the Ministry of Health and Welfare, Taoyuan General Hospital of the Ministry of Health and Welfare, and the Second State Central Hospital of Mongolia. An additional conference on new knowledge and techniques in cardiovascular medicine was held between National Taiwan University Hospital, the Second State Central Hospital of Mongolia, and the Third State Central Hospital of Mongolia.
- B. The Taipei Trade and Economic Representative Office in Ulaanbaatar, in collaboration with the Global Medical Instrument Support System (GMISS) developed by Taiwan's Ministry of Health and Welfare, donated 80 hospital beds to central and regional public hospitals in Mongolia, including National Cancer Center of Mongolia, Dornogovi Province General Hospital, and State General Hospital of Mongolia.

- C. The Taipei Trade and Economic Representative Office in Ulaanbaatar produced and donated Taiwan Boxes to the National Center for Communicable Diseases of Mongolia and worked with Taiwanese manufacturer Labelmen International to donate 400 surgical masks to the First State General Hospital of Mongolia.
  - D. The Taipei Trade and Economic Representative Office in Ulaanbaatar facilitated doctors, nurses, and medical industry professionals from central and regional public hospitals and NGOs in Mongolia to enable them to attend three online training courses held by the Ministry of Health and Welfare Taiwan International Healthcare Training Center (TIHTC).
- (6) Environmental cooperation: The Taipei Trade and Economic Representative Office in Ulaanbaatar assisted the Environmental Protection Administration, Executive Yuan, to donate a wet mercury deposition sampler to the Mongolia National Agency for Meteorology and Environmental Monitoring (NEMHEM). The sampler enables the agency to collect data on mercury pollution, thus contributing to Mongolia's environmental and land conservation efforts. This collaboration was an initiative of the Asia Pacific Mercury Monitoring Network (APMMN) under the Taiwan-US International Environmental Partnership program.

## **6. Relations with the Sultanate of Oman**

### **(1) Background**

- A. Taiwan set up the Trade Mission of the Republic of China, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on January 11, 1977, and the mission officially opened on March 31 of the same year. It was reestablished as the Representative Office, Far East Trade Service, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman on September 6, 1979. The office was renamed 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.
- B. Sultan of Oman Qaboos bin Al-Said passed away on January 10, 2020. He was succeeded by Haitham bin Tariq Al-Said (former Minister of

Heritage and Culture), who was sworn in as Sultan of Oman on January 11, 2020. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs instructed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Muscat to convey a message of condolence on behalf of Foreign Minister Jaushieh Joseph Wu, followed by a separate message of congratulation. On behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Vice Minister Tsao Li-jei also went to the Commercial Office of the Sultanate of Oman-Taiwan to sign a condolence message.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, Oman ranked as Taiwan's 46th-largest trading partner, contributing to a total bilateral trade value of US\$774 million, with Taiwan's exports to Oman amounting to US\$56.33 million and imports from Oman at US\$718 million. Oman ranked as Taiwan's 83rd-largest export destination and 37th-largest source of imports. Taiwan's imports from Oman consist mainly of crude oil and petrochemical products, while Taiwan's exports to Oman consist mainly of transportation equipment, machinery, and industrial products.
- (3) Sports: Most athletic competitions were suspended owing to the COVID-19 outbreak. At the request of the Chinese Taipei Swimming Association and the Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee, representatives from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Muscat attended the 14th General Assembly of the Asia Swimming Federation (ASF), held in Oman in November, and the 39th General Assembly of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), held in December.
- (4) COVID-19 cooperation: The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Muscat held video conferences to share experiences of epidemic prevention between Chang Gung Memorial Hospital in Taiwan and Al Nahada Hospital in Oman, and between Tri-Service General Hospital in Taiwan and the Royal Hospital and Sohar Hospital in Oman.

## **7. Relations with the Russian Federation**

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Representative Office in Moscow for the Taipei–Moscow Economic and Cultural Coordination Commission in Moscow on July 12, 1993. Russia established the Representative Office in Taipei for the Moscow–Taipei Coordination Commission on Economic and Cultural Cooperation in Taiwan on December 15, 1996.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Russia reached US\$4.254 billion, with exports from Taiwan at US\$1.02 billion and imports at US\$3.233 billion. Owing to the impact of COVID-19, bilateral trade and investment cooperation and exchange activities moved to online platforms. Officials from Taiwan's representative office participated in "Russian Economy: Covid-19 Impact, Outlook, Strategic Options", an online seminar organized by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation. Taiwan's representative office also helped organize "Moscow Investment Opportunities for Taiwanese Companies", an online seminar jointly organized by the Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association (CIECA) and the Moscow City Investment Agency.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations
- A. Liao Shiou-ping, regarded as the father of printmaking in Taiwan, and Hwang Yue-sheng, a master of multi-color printmaking, were among the 18 contemporary printmakers invited to showcase their works at the *3 Generations of Taiwanese Printmaking Artists Exhibition*, held at the C. S. Sampilov Art Museum in Ulan-Ude, Russia.
  - B. Twelve Mandarin-language instructors were sent by the Ministry of Education to teach Mandarin courses at seven major Russian universities and colleges. In addition, the ministry has jointly organized online lectures and virtual seminars with prominent Russian institutions such as the Moscow State Linguistic University and the Association for the Advancement of Sinology in Russia to promote study abroad programs and Mandarin learning in Taiwan.
- (4) Technological cooperation
- A. The Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) has co-funded 68 multi-year bilateral research projects with the Russian Foundation for Basic Research, Russian Science Foundation, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and Far East Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences. In addition, MOST and the Russian Foundation for Basic Research jointly held the 2020 RFBR-MOST Annual Meeting and signed an agreement.
  - B. Samara State Technical University of Russia signed an MOU with Taiwan's National Chung Hsing University (NCHU) and a sister

school agreement with the National Yunlin University of Science and Technology (YunTech).

- C. Three Taiwan–Russia technological webinars were held: NSRRC and JINR Scientific Cooperation in Physics, Chemistry and Bio-Medicine Webinar, Taiwan–Russia Webinar on Storage Technology, and Taiwan–Russia Webinar on Sustainable Development and Disaster Prevention in New Global and Regional Contexts.
- (5) COVID-19 cooperation: Taiwan’s Representative Office in Russia donated 100,000 surgical masks to the following hospitals and organizations: Ryazan Clinical Hospital, Dagestan Union of Healthcare Workers, Moscow Regional Research Clinical Institute named after M. F. Vladimirsky, Kaluga Kozelsk Interdistrict Hospital, and We Together Medical Volunteers. The Office also held two webinars on epidemic prevention cooperation: the Taiwan–Russia COVID-19 International Webinar—Sharing Experience of Treating Coronavirus in Medical Community and Preventing Infection in Hospital and the Taiwan–Russia COVID-19 Webinar on Treating Coronavirus, Developing Vaccine and Drug for COVID-19.
- (6) Media exposure: Representative Keng Chung-yung gave interviews to Russia’s major media outlets, including Interfax, Lenta.ru, and News.ru. He described Taiwan’s remarkable success story in combatting COVID-19. Additionally, an article published in Russia’s *Kommersant* highlighted Taiwan’s exemplary epidemic prevention efforts and garnered attention from various other media platforms. The Russian daily *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* published an article supporting Taiwan’s participation in the United Nations and the World Health Organization.
- (7) Visits from Russia were made by President of the International and Russian Academies of Engineering Boris Gusev, Chairman of the Science Europe Scientific Committee on Engineering Igor Emri, and Professor Petr Skobelev of the Samara State Technical University.

## **8. Relations with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

- (1) Background: The Republic of China established diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia on November 15, 1946. Diplomatic relations were severed



on July 22, 1990. 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. The two offices commenced operations on the same day. Saudi Arabia established the Saudi Arabian Trade Office in Taipei on October 14, 1992. The Jeddah office was merged with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on July 28, 2017.

(2) Economic and trade relations

- A. In 2020, the bilateral trade volume amounted to approximately US\$5.719 billion; Taiwan's exports reached US\$869 million, and imports totaled US\$4.85 billion. Notably, Saudi Arabia stands as Taiwan's 16th-largest trading partner and its biggest supplier of crude oil.
- B. With a focus on Taiwan's economic and trade policies, the Representative Office in Saudi Arabia worked with Saudi Arabia's economic transformation plan and engaged in proactive industry matchmaking. In 2020, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Office hosted the following online activities: the 2020 Taiwan–Saudi Arabia Enterprise Leaders Summit, the 2020 Saudi Arabia Business Day, and the 2020 Taiwan Product Online Launch to the Middle East Market. In addition, the office played a crucial role in supporting the establishment of the Taichung–Saudi Friendship Association, promoting a comprehensive understanding of the industry's current status, and identifying development opportunities for future cooperation.
- C. In December 2020, Taiwan and Saudi Arabia signed the Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation with Respect to Taxes on Income and the Prevention of Tax Evasion. This was Taiwan's first avoidance of double taxation agreement with an Arab country in the Middle East. The agreement is aimed at facilitating bilateral industry cooperation and technology exchange between the two nations.

(3) Cultural and educational relations: As a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, Saudi Arabia temporarily halted sending representatives to various academic, cultural, and sports events in Taiwan. Likewise, the

Chinese Muslim Association, Republic of China (Taiwan) postponed its planned visit to Saudi Arabia for cultural exchange.

## **9. Relations with the Republic of Türkiye**

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Ankara, Türkiye, on August 21, 1989. It was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Mission in Ankara (TECM) on November 16, 1993. Türkiye established the Turkish Trade Mission in Taipei on November 12, 1993. It was renamed the Turkish Trade Office in Taipei in 1994.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
  - A. In 2020, bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Türkiye reached approximately US\$1.432 billion. Taiwan's exports accounted for US\$1.072 billion, primarily comprising high-priced integrated circuits and precision machinery. Imports from Türkiye amounted to US\$360 million, mainly consisting of raw materials and processed products.
  - B. On September 9, the TECM invited the Halal Accreditation Agency of Türkiye (HAK), the Bureau of Foreign Trade of the MOEA, the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) and other halal accreditation organizations to a video conference to discuss opportunities for a Taiwan–Türkiye halal certification partnership and the signing of partnership agreements.
  - C. Representative Yaser Tai-hsiang Cheng of TECM and Representative Nurullah Ayvaz of the Turkish Trade Office in Taipei participated in the remote signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the International Cooperation Development Fund and the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA) in February and the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation Relating to Small and Medium Enterprises in April.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations
  - A. National Taiwan University, National Chiao Tung University, National Tsing Hua University, and National Chengchi University were among the 14 Taiwanese universities that signed academic cooperation agreements on staff exchange programs and student exchange scholarships with

several Turkish universities, including Ankara University, Bilkent University, Middle East Technical University, Hacettepe University, Gebze Technical University, and Istanbul Technical University. In addition, Hacettepe University Science Park signed a memorandum of science and technology cooperation with the Hsinchu Science Park.

- B. Taiwan provided Huayu Enrichment Scholarships and Taiwan Scholarships to Turkish students to study Mandarin in Taiwan. The Turkish government also offered scholarships for Taiwanese students to study abroad in Türkiye.

#### (4) COVID-19 cooperation

- A. In March 2020, Mayor of Ankara Mansur Yavaş wrote to Taipei Mayor Ko Wen-je to invite Taipei to participate in Capital's Initiative for Covid-19, a global initiative promoted by the Turkish government to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.
- B. In April 2020, President of Academia Sinica James C. Liao and President of the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) Hasan Mandal held a virtual meeting on pandemic science research, discussing collaborative research and development on screening, drugs, vaccines, and other areas of cooperation.
- C. In June 2020, the TECM, together with members of the Turkish Parliament, two mayors, the Turkish Red Crescent Society, and various NGOs, jointly held a pandemic supplies donation ceremony for medical personnel serving Syrian refugees in Türkiye. The donation included 100,000 surgical masks.
- D. In August 2020, Rotary International Districts 3461 and 3482 of Taiwan donated ventilators to hospitals in Türkiye in support of the Bir Nefes Bin Hayat campaign organized by Rotary International District 2430 of Turkey.
- E. In October 2020, the TECM donated supplies to the Maram Foundation, an international NGO, in support of its efforts to prevent epidemics among Syrian refugees.

#### (5) Humanitarian assistance

- A. In March 2020, the TECM and the Disaster and Emergency Management

Presidency (AFAD) of Türkiye jointly held a ceremony to mark a donation from Taiwan to Elazig earthquake relief.

- B. In October 2020, construction was finished on the Taiwan-Reyhanli Centre for World Citizens, a vocational training center for Syrian refugees in Reyhanli, Hatay Province, Türkiye. The project was jointly undertaken by the TECM and the Reyhanli Municipality, and the opening ceremony was attended by members of the Turkish Parliament, provincial administrators, municipal officials, heads of NGOs such as the Turkish Red Crescent Society, and representatives from various sectors.
- C. In November and December 2020, the TECM, in cooperation with prominent members of the Turkish Parliament, donated blankets and pandemic supplies to disadvantaged families and earthquake-affected households in nine Turkish provinces.
- D. In November and December 2020, the TECM, together with Izmir Mayor Tunc Soyer and Recap Salci, president of the Search and Rescue Association (AKUT), held a ceremony to mark donations to earthquake relief funds.

## **10. Relations with the United Arab Emirates**

- (1) Background: 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, 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 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and the UAE reached US\$3.993 billion, with exports from Taiwan at US\$1.164 billion and imports at US\$2.83 billion.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: 40 students from Taiwan are studying at the New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD).
- (4) COVID-19 cooperation: The Commercial Office of Taipei, Dubai, U.A.E. facilitated a video conference entitled Taiwan's Medical Services and

Epidemic Prevention Experience Sharing between Taiwan's Central Epidemic Command Center, Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA), Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, and the UAE National Emergency Crisis and Disaster Management Authority.





# **Photographs of Diplomatic Events West Asia**





Representative to Bahrain Sun Shyi-ren (left) and President of the Bahrain Defense Force Hospital, H.H. Shaikh Khalid bin Ali Al Khalifa preside over a ceremony to mark the donation of pandemic supplies to the hospital. (July 16, 2020)



In the presence of Effi Rozen (second from right), senior director of the Licensing Division of the Ministry of Transportation and Road Safety of Israel, Representative to Israel Chang Kuo-boung (second from left) signs an agreement between the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Tel-Aviv and the Israel Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei on the mutual recognition and exchange of driver's licenses. (August 24, 2020)



Representative to Israel Chang Kuo-boug (third from left) signs the Implementing Arrangement on Education, Youth and Sports Cooperation at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in the presence of academics. (June 29, 2020)



Representative to Jordan Ismail Mae with students from the Taiwan-sponsored Women's Entry-Level Plumber/Electrician Vocational Training Program. (January 12, 2020)



Representative to Jordan Ismail Mae signs an MOU with Mercy Corps Jordan Country Director Kari Diener on cooperation on the Adolescent Girls' Empowerment Initiative. (August 5, 2020)



Representative to Kuwait Mou Hua-wei (left) works with the UN-Habitat Kuwait Office to donate 50,000 surgical masks to the Kuwait Red Crescent Society. (May 25, 2020)





Representative to Kuwait Mou Hua-wei (left) presides over a ceremony marking the donation of 10,000 N95 masks and 1,000 isolation gowns to the Kuwait Ministry of Health's Training Center of Public Health. (June 26, 2020)



Representative to Mongolia Lo Chin-ru (right) presides over a ceremony marking the donation of 200,000 surgical masks to the Mongolian government. Director of the National Center for Communicable Diseases D. Nyamkhuu accepts the donation on behalf of Mongolia. (June 8, 2021)





Representative to Mongolia Lo Chin-ru (second from right) presides over a ceremony marking the donation of 5,000 sets of personal protective gear and 20,000 isolation gowns to the Mongolian government. Director of the National Center for Communicable Diseases D. Nyamkhuu (right) accepts the donation on behalf of Mongolia. (October 2, 2021)



Representative to Oman Chen Bor-show (right) visits the Oman Occupational Training Institute where he meets with Director Moosa Hamed Al Hadi (left) and Harib Al Mahrooqi, Director General of Vocational Training in the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation. (November 30, 2020)



The Representative Office in Moscow donates 10,500 surgical masks to the Russian medical volunteer organization We Together. (June 2, 2020)



Representative to Saudi Arabia Teng Sheng-ping (left) and Ajlan Alajlan, Chairman of the Council of Saudi Chambers, jointly sign the Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income in Riyadh. (December 2, 2020)



Representative to Türkiye Yaser Tai-hsiang Cheng (sixth from right) attends the completion ceremony of the Taiwan -Reyhanli Centre for World Citizens, a vocational training center for Syrian refugees in Reyhanli, Hatay Province, Türkiye, that was established in collaboration with the Reyhanli Municipality. (October 9, 2020)



Representative to Türkiye Yaser Tai-hsiang Cheng (center) presides over a ceremony to mark the donation of pandemic supplies from Taiwan to Türkiye in the presence of Turkish dignitaries. (June 4, 2020)





As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the United Arab Emirates closed its borders on March 25, 2020. The Taipei Representative Office in Dubai facilitated the return of 60 Taiwanese citizens from the UAE to Taiwan on a chartered flight. (April 18, 2020)



The Ministry of Health and Welfare's Central Epidemic Command Center, Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA), UAE Dubai's COVID-19 Command and Control Center (CCC), and Chang Gung Memorial Hospital jointly organized the Taiwan Medical Services and Epidemic Prevention Experience Sharing. (L-R) Dr. Cheng Chun-wen of Chang Gung Memorial Hospital; Vice President of Chang Gung Memorial Hospital Dr. Huang Chi-jen; TAITRA Chairman James C. F. Huang; Deputy Director-General Dr. Lo Yi-chun of the Taiwan Centers for Disease Control; Vice President Dr. Chiu Cheng-hsun of Chang Gung Memorial Hospital; Deputy Counsellor Colin Kao of the Department of West Asian and African Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. (July 28, 2020)

## **Item 3 Taiwan's relations with African countries**

### **I. Introduction**

Africa is home to 55 countries. Taiwan has formal diplomatic relations with the Kingdom of Eswatini. Taiwan and Eswatini each maintain embassies within the other's territories, and Eswatini has further designated an honorary consul in Taipei. Taiwan has also set up representative offices in South Africa and Nigeria. In 2020, a new representative office was established in the Republic of Somaliland. In South Africa, in addition to the representative office in the capital, Taiwan has set up an office in Cape Town. Also, the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) has set up Taiwan Trade Centers in South Africa, Egypt, Algeria, Nigeria, and Kenya to facilitate economic and trade relations with African countries. South Africa and Nigeria have set up offices in Taiwan, while Somaliland established the Republic of Somaliland Representative Office in 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 opened an embassy in the capital, Mbabane, 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
  - A. In 2020, the bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Eswatini reached US\$12.71 million, with exports from Taiwan at US\$10.09 million, and imports from Eswatini at US\$2.62 million.
  - B. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the First Joint Committee of the Agreement on Economic Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Government of the Kingdom

of Eswatini and the 23rd R.O.C.–K.O.E. Economic and Technical Cooperation Conference were postponed until 2021.

- C. Taiwan helped organize an exhibition area for agricultural products at the Eswatini Pavilion in order to promote production and so deepen trade relations between Taiwan and Eswatini. This helped the Eswatini Investment Promotion Authority and vendors participate in the 2020 Kaohsiung Food Show, Giftionery & Culture Creative, Taipei, and Food Taipei, and promote a series of virtual trade shows for 2020/21.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: In 2020, 32 Eswatini students were awarded scholarships under the MOFA Taiwan Scholarship Program and the International Higher Education Scholarship provided by TaiwanICDF. In 2020, more than 370 Eswatinis were studying in Taiwan. TaiwanICDF also holds a range of short-term workshops and courses each year, providing opportunities for Eswatini officials and professionals from various sectors to pursue short-term studies in Taiwan. In addition, in 2019, Taiwan launched a program providing 100 full three-year scholarships to students at the Swaziland College of Technology (SCOT). The scholarships are designed to support academically exceptional, economically disadvantaged students from Eswatini as they pursue three-year degree programs at the institute. This initiative contributes to the development of vital human resources that are essential to Eswatini's economic growth.
- (4) Medical cooperation: Taiwan has set up medical missions in Eswatini to provide medical services. In addition, medical teaching missions offer guidance to Eswatini resident doctors as they carry out their medical practice. Programs such as Early Diagnosis, Treatment and Care of Cancer and Improvement of Maternal and Infant Health Care have also been implemented to advance healthcare initiatives. In 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, Taiwan provided Eswatini with financial aid and medical supplies and sent expert medical teams comprising doctors, nurses, and respiratory therapists to assist in treatment and epidemic prevention efforts.
- (5) Technological cooperation: Taiwan established a technical mission in Eswatini in accordance with the Agricultural Technical Cooperation Agreement between the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Kingdom



of Swaziland. The mission was set up to implement a variety of projects, including the Eswatini Fruit Tree Production Project, the Enhancement Technical and Vocational Training Project, the Capacity Building Project for Microfinance Ecosystem for Grassroot Women Empowerment, the Maternal and Infant Health Care Improvement Project, and Pig Industry Enhancement Project. Taiwan also sends experts to Eswatini to provide training and facilitate participation by Eswatini officials in training programs in Taiwan. The primary science and technology cooperation projects included: Strengthening Cancer Diagnosis & Treatment in Eswatini, Rehabilitation of Mbabane Government Hospital: Out-patient Department & Emergency Complex, Support Towards Curbing the Spread of COVID-19, Feasibility Study for Thermal Power Plant at Lubhuku, Electricity Distribution Network Improvement Survey, Construction of Portable Water and Sanitation Systems in 4 Communities: Ntfontjeni, Mbekelweni, Boyane and Nkamanzi, Building up the ICT Master Plan, NDC-DRC Consultancy and Training Program for Developing ISO2700x Related Security Compliance: Architecture Survey and Backup Data Centre Planning, and Proof of Concept (PoC) Program for Proposed NDC-DRC Solution.

- (6) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 650 ethnic Chinese reside in Eswatini, more than 70 of whom are from Taiwan. The Chinese Association in Swaziland and the Eswatini Golf Association are the main overseas community organizations.
- (7) Mutual visits by dignitaries
  - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by Vice Minister of National Defense Chang Guan-chung.
  - B. Visits from Eswatini were made by Phila Buthelezi, the Deputy Speaker of the House of Assembly and the Chief Officer in the Ministry of Defense, Prince Hlangusemphi.

## **2. Relations with the Federal Republic of Nigeria**

- (1) Background: The Trade Mission of the Republic of China (Taiwan), Lagos, Federal Republic of Nigeria, was established on February 21, 1991, and formally inaugurated on May 18, 1991. Subsequently, on September 1,

2001, the Trade Mission was relocated to Abuja, following its designation as the new capital of Nigeria. On December 7, 2017, the Mission relocated to Lagos, which has since become Nigeria's most prominent commercial hub. It was then renamed the Taipei Trade Office in the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The Nigerian Trade Office in Taiwan, R.O.C., was established in Taipei City in November 1992 and moved to Banqiao District, New Taipei City, in March 2018.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Nigeria reached US\$294 million, with exports from Taiwan amounting to US\$95.3 million and imports from Nigeria totaling US\$199 million. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association, TAIWAN (CIECA), switched to video conferencing to meet with delegates from West Africa and facilitate trade matchmaking. At the same time, TAITRA attended the Lagos International Trade Fair 2020 and related trade meetings online.
- (3) COVID-19 cooperation: In order to assist Nigeria in its efforts against the pandemic, Taiwan donated 200,000 surgical masks to various institutions in Nigeria, including the Federal Ministry of Health, the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment, the National Human Rights Commission, the Nigeria Police Force, and prominent think tanks and political figures. In addition, the representative office in Nigeria donated 20,000 surgical masks to the Cross River State Government in Nigeria on behalf of the Taiwan–Africa Business Association (TABA).
- (4) Cultural and educational relations: Each year, officials recommended by relevant departments in Nigeria are invited to participate in specialized workshops focused on fields including economics, trade, technology, agriculture, and healthcare. The workshops are organized by TaiwanICDF. However, owing to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2020 exchanges were moved online. Taiwan Representative Office in Nigeria also offers Taiwan Scholarship and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship to Nigerian students to study in Taiwan. To promote cultural and educational exchange,

the Taiwan Fellowship is also provided to enable Nigerian scholars to conduct research in Taiwan.

- (5) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 200,000 ethnic Chinese currently live in Nigeria, with the majority residing in the commercial hub and largest city, Lagos. They are also dispersed in other major cities, such as the capital, Abuja, as well as major urban centers, including Kano, Kaduna, and Port Harcourt. Fewer than 100 Taiwanese live in Nigeria, mainly engaged in import/export activities or manufacturing investments. About 30 Taiwanese-owned companies are active, with a total investment of about US\$200 million. In recent years, however, the economic downturn in Nigeria has led to a significant reduction in the number of Taiwanese businessmen residing in Nigeria. The Taiwanese Chambers of Commerce in Nigeria (TCCN) was established on October 9, 2016, in Lagos. In December 2019, Ms. Chen Shu-fang was elected as the third President of TCCN. On November 7, 2020, TCCN established the Taiwanese Emergency Assistance Association Nigeria (TEAAN) to provide immediate assistance to Taiwanese travelers in emergency situations in Nigeria.

### **3. Relations with the Republic of Somaliland**

- (1) Background: In Taipei on February 26, 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Yasin Hagi Mohamoud signed the Bilateral Protocol (Agreements and Conventions) By and Between the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Government of the Republic of Somaliland. An agreement was reached between Taiwan and Somaliland on the mutual establishment of representative offices, named the Taiwan Representative Office in the Republic of Somaliland and the Republic of Somaliland Representative Office in Taiwan. On August 17, 2020, the Taiwan Representative Office was established in the capital city of Somaliland, Hargeisa, while the Somaliland Representative Office was established in Taipei on September 9, 2020.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Somaliland enjoys a strategic geographic location, serving as a gateway to the markets of neighboring East African

countries. It also has abundant natural resources, such as agriculture, fisheries and minerals. The government of Somaliland offers significant tax incentives to investors interested in venturing into the region, further enhancing its attractiveness for investment. On October 7, during the 2020 Africa Business Forum, Taiwan's Representative Office in Somaliland facilitated the signing of a letter of intent for procurement between Taiwanese company Inna Organic and Somaliland business Asli Mills. The inaugural 2020 Taiwan Trade Show was held on October 28–29, providing a platform for high-quality Taiwanese businesses to engage in product exchanges. The event was organized by TAITRA's Taiwan Trade Center in Nairobi, with sessions such as Building Business Connections with Taiwan, Introduction to Taiwan's Prominent Industries, and Taiwan National Epidemic Prevention Pavilion. The sessions were aimed at showcasing Taiwan's world-class products and achievements in epidemic prevention.

- (3) Cultural and educational relations: For many years, the MOFA Taiwan Scholarship has been provided to Somaliland students to enable them to study in Taiwan. Currently, a number of Somaliland students are still studying in Taiwan. For the first time in 2020, the TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarship, set up by TaiwanICDF, incorporated students from Somaliland into the candidate pool to help cultivate future talent for Somaliland. In addition, TaiwanICDF also holds a range of short-term workshops and courses each year, providing opportunities for Somaliland officials and professionals from various sectors to conduct short-term studies in Taiwan. Most of the programs are currently being conducted through video conferencing owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- (4) Agricultural technology cooperation: In accordance with the Agreement on Technical Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Government of the Republic of Somaliland, Taiwan sends technical missions to Somaliland to implement projects such as the Maternal and Infant Health Care Improvement Project, the Improving Production and Quality of Vegetables and Fruits Project, and the Improvement of Governmental E-Governance. In addition, Taiwan sends experts and scholars

to Somaliland for training and selects Somaliland officials to receive training in Taiwan.

- (5) Visits from Somaliland were made by Minister of Foreign Affairs Yasin Hagi Mohamoud and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Liban Yusuf Osman.

#### **4. Relations with the Republic of South Africa**

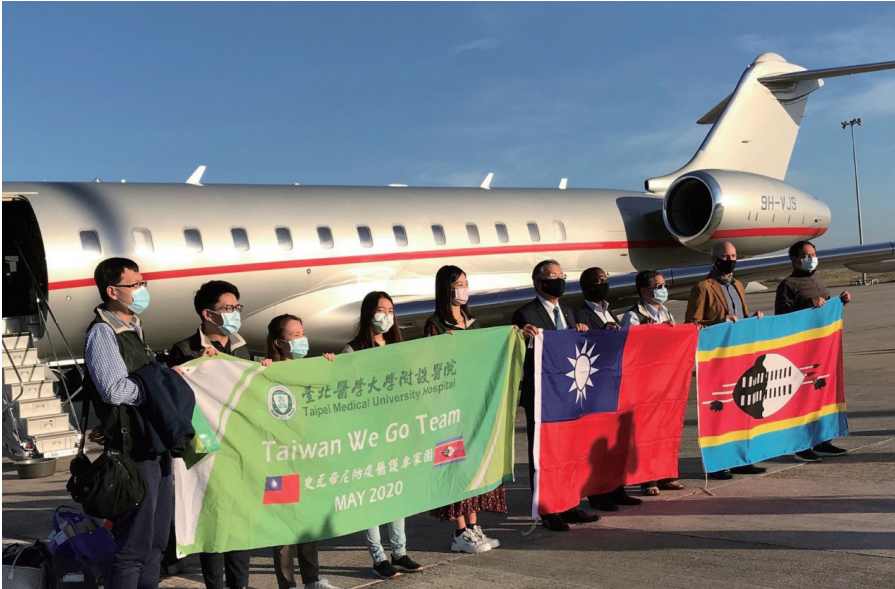
- (1) Background: Taiwan has a long-standing relationship with South Africa. The two countries established diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level on April 26, 1976. Relations were severed on December 31, 1997. On January 1, 1998, the Taipei Liaison Office in the Republic of South Africa was 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
  - A. In 2020, the total bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and South Africa reached US\$954 million. Taiwan's exports were at US\$460 million, while imports from South Africa were US\$494 million. South Africa accounts for 0.13% of Taiwan's exports and ranks as Taiwan's 36th-largest export market. About 450 Taiwanese companies have invested in South Africa, with a total investment of about US\$2 billion.
  - B. In 2020, Taiwan and South Africa held the 11th Taiwan–South Africa Dialogue Forum and the 3rd Taiwan–South Africa Joint Business Councils Meeting by videoconferencing.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: The Taipei Liaison Office in South Africa awarded ten scholarships under the MOE's Taiwan Scholarship and four scholarships under the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship to students from South Africa and other countries under its jurisdiction, facilitating bilateral cultural, educational and technical exchanges.
- (4) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 8,000 Taiwanese are living in South Africa, with around 2,000 participating in conventional overseas Chinese associations.





# **Photographs of Diplomatic Events Africa**





Ambassador to Eswatini Jeremy H. S. Liang (fifth from right) and Eswatini officials welcome a team of epidemic prevention experts from Taipei Medical University Hospital arriving in Eswatini to assist in the country's efforts to combat COVID-19. (May 2, 2020)



Ambassador to Eswatini Jeremy H. S. Liang (second from left) makes a donation of 400 tonnes of rice to Eswatini on behalf of the Government of Taiwan. The donation was received on behalf of Eswatini by the Deputy Prime Minister of Eswatini, Themba Masuku (third from left). (October 12, 2020)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (right) and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Somaliland Yasin Hagi Mohamoud jointly sign the Bilateral Protocol (Agreements and Conventions) By and Between the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Government of the Republic of Somaliland. (February 26, 2020)



Taiwan's first Representative to Somaliland Lou Chen-hwa (left) and Somaliland's Foreign Minister Yasin Hagi Mohamoud jointly unveil the plaque at the opening ceremony of the Taiwan Representative Office in the Republic of Somaliland. (August 17, 2020)





Representative to Nigeria Vincent W. S. Yang (right) makes a donation of 100,000 surgical masks to Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Health on behalf of the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government. (June 9, 2020)



Representative to Nigeria Liu Yih-ping (left) visits Ayoola Olukanni, Director General at Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (NACCIMA). (November 6, 2020)



Lin Yin-tso (left), Director General of the Taipei Liaison Office in Cape Town, attends the 30th Anniversary Conference of the FW de Klerk Foundation and meets former South African President Frederik Willem de Klerk. (January 31, 2020)



Lin Yin-tso (fourth from right), Director General of the Taipei Liaison Office in Cape Town, Chris Hunsinger (right), Member of the South African Parliament, and Raynold Van Rooy (third from right), Mayor of the Bergrivier Municipality in the Western Cape Province of South Africa, jointly preside over a computer donation ceremony. (August 3, 2020)





Acting Representative to South Africa Ho Chung-Yi (center) makes a donation of daily supplies and pandemic supplies to Limpopo Province, South Africa, on behalf of the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government and celebrates Taiwan's National Day with the local community. (October 5, 2020)



Acting Representative to South Africa Ho Chung-Yi (center) makes a donation of daily supplies and pandemic supplies to Mpumalanga Province, South Africa, on behalf of the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government and commemorates Human Rights Day. (December 9, 2020)



## **Item 4 Taiwan's relations with European countries**

### **I. Introduction**

By tradition, Europe includes the European continent and its associated islands, extending to Russia and certain former Soviet states. This region covers an area of more than 10 million square kilometers and supports a population of more than 740 million. Currently, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Department of European Affairs does not cover Russia or former Soviet states. Among these countries, Taiwan maintains diplomatic relations with the Holy See and also has substantive bilateral cooperation and ties with countries where it does not have diplomatic relations.

Taiwan has 28 embassies, missions, and representative offices in Europe, the newest of which, the Bureau Annexe d'Aix-en-Provence of the Bureau de Représentation de Taipei en France, was set up this year in Provence, France. In addition to the embassy from the Holy See, the following 17 countries have established representative offices in Taiwan: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. In addition, the European Union maintains the European Economic and Trade Office in Taiwan.

Taiwan's relations with the EU and European governments have continued to strengthen over the years. The R.O.C. (Taiwan) government is committed to expanding substantive cooperation between Taiwan and European countries on the basis of the fundamental values of democracy, freedom, and the rule of law. In addition, Taiwan's various relations with European countries have continued to deepen since Taiwan was granted a visa waiver for travel within the Schengen area in 2011. Significant progress has been made in areas such as economic and trade cooperation, the signing of double taxation agreements (DTAs), working holiday agreements, reciprocal driving license agreements, and visa waiver or on-arrival privileges, among others.

### **II. Relations with Individual Countries**

#### **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 (Taiwan). Subsequently, on July 4, 1943, Taiwan set up a legation at the Holy See, later elevated to the status of an embassy on June 12, 1959. In parallel, the Vatican opened a legation in the R.O.C. on July 4, 1946, later elevated to the status of an embassy on December 24, 1966.

- (2) COVID-19 cooperation: In response to the global pandemic, the Holy See set up the Vatican COVID-19 Commission. At the height of the pandemic in April, Taiwan continued to donate pandemic supplies to the Holy See, including two batches of supplies containing 480,000 surgical masks, isolation gowns, infrared thermography devices, forehead thermometers, medical gloves, and other essential medical equipment. These supplies were intended to support various Holy See departments, Catholic religious orders, hospitals, and African dioceses, enabling collaborative efforts with the Holy See on a global scale to combat the pandemic.
- (3) Humanitarian assistance: To further strengthen diplomatic relations between Taiwan and the Vatican, and in support of two of Pope Francis's important encyclicals, *Laudato Si'* and *Fratelli tutti*, the Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to the Holy See collaborated with the Office of Papal Charities, the Congregation of the Mission, Caritas Roma, and the Order of Malta. The partnership facilitated various international humanitarian initiatives and charitable relief efforts in Burundi and Honduras.
- (4) Mutual visits by dignitaries
  - A. Visits from Taiwan were made by Deputy Minister Ho Chi-kung from the Ministry of Health and Welfare, among others.
  - B. Visits from the Holy See were made by Andrea Zampetti, Secretary General of Caritas Roma, and Azzero CO2 coordinators Sofia Santori and Enrico Giovanni Facci.

## 2. Relations with the Republic of Austria

- (1) Background: Taiwan severed diplomatic relations with Austria on May 28, 1971. Presently, representation is provided by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Austria, which also oversees engagements with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Austria, in turn, has established the Austrian Office Taipei and Advantage Austria Taipei.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Austria reached US\$1.304 billion, with exports from Taiwan at US\$421 million and imports from Austria at US\$883 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: The MOE and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research jointly executed the Taiwan and Austria Higher Education Science and Research Seed Funding Memorandum of Understanding. In addition, the University of Vienna implemented the Taiwan Research Program and the Mandarin Language Teacher Program to promote Taiwan studies and the use of traditional Chinese characters.
- (4) COVID-19 cooperation: Taiwan donated 300,000 surgical masks to Austria: 150,000 to the Region of Steiermark, 100,000 to the Vienna General Hospital (AKH), and 50,000 to five hospitals affiliated with the Vinzenz Medical Group in Vienna, including the Göttlicher Heiland Hospital.
- (5) Visits from Austria were made by Reinhold Lopatka, Deputy Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee from the Lower Austrian Parliament, along with Members of Parliament Fritz Neugebauer and Romana Deckenbacher.

### **3. Relations with the Kingdom of Belgium**

- (1) Background: The Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Cultural Center was established in the wake of the cessation of diplomatic relations between the R.O.C. (Taiwan) and the Kingdom of Belgium on October 25, 1971. It was subsequently renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office on January 23, 1990; the Taipei Representative Office in Belgium on November 1, 1995; and the Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium on June 20, 2005. The office is responsible for affairs concerning the European Union, Belgium, and Luxembourg. Meanwhile, in August 1979 Belgium established the Belgium Trade Association Taipei, which later adopted the name Belgium Office Taipei in June 2004.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Belgium reached US\$2.189 billion, with exports from Taiwan at US\$1.439 billion and imports at US\$750 million. As of the end of 2020, Belgium's total investment in Taiwan was estimated at around US\$175

million, while Taiwan's total investment in Belgium stood at US\$144 million.

(3) Cultural and educational relations

A. In June 2020, Professor Nicolas Standaert, head of Chinese Studies at Leuven, received the second Distinguished Taiwan Alumni Award from the MOE.

B. In October 2020, the MOE and Wallonie-Bruxelles International embarked on their first collaboration under a signed MOU. The initiative involved the selection and placement of three French-language teaching assistants at Fu Jen Catholic University, National Chengchi University, and Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages to support French-language teaching in Taiwan.

(4) Technological cooperation: The Ministry of Science and Technology, in collaboration with the Fund for Scientific Research (FNRS), executed four bilateral collaborative exchange projects under the 2021–2022 Taiwan–Belgium (MOST–FNRS) program. On December 8, 2020, Representative to the European Union and Belgium Tsai Ming-yen held a virtual meeting with Director-General Jean-Eric Paquet of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation. During the meeting, both sides affirmed their commitment to further promoting the upcoming phase of the Horizon Europe program.

(5) COVID-19 cooperation: In June 2020, a joint technical consultation video conference entitled *Experience Sharing on COVID-19 Tracking through Technology Application* was held by the Flemish Region's Department of Welfare, Public Health and Family and Taiwan's Ministry of Health and Welfare.

#### **4. Relations with the Republic of Bulgaria**

(1) Background: Official representative offices have not yet been set up between Taiwan and Bulgaria. Matters relating to Bulgaria are overseen by the Taipei Representative Office in Greece. In 2005, the Taiwan External Trade Development Council set up the Taiwan Trade Center, Sofia, followed by a business center serving Taiwanese businessmen in 2005. The Bulgarian–



Taiwanese Board, established in 2015, aims to strengthen bilateral private-sector exchanges.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Bulgaria reached US\$170 million, with exports from Taiwan of US\$173 million and imports from Bulgaria of US\$48.42 million.

## 5. Relations with the Republic of Croatia

- (1) Background: Official representative offices have not yet been set up between Taiwan and Croatia. Matters relating to Croatia are overseen by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Austria.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Croatia reached US\$51.57 million, with exports from Taiwan of US\$41.36 million and imports of US\$10.21 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: The Faculty of Political Science at the University of Zagreb offers a course entitled *Republic of China (Taiwan) Lecture Series*. The Taiwan Foundation for Democracy arranged for Taiwanese scholars to participate in the lecture series and provide insight into Taiwan's political and economic development.

## 6. Relations with the Republic of Cyprus

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Cyprus were severed on January 12, 1972. To date, official representative offices have not been set up between Taiwan and Cyprus. Matters relating to Cyprus are overseen by the Taipei Representative Office in Greece.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Cyprus reached US\$24.27 million, with exports from Taiwan at US\$20.79 million and imports from Cyprus at US\$3.48 million.

## 7. Relations with the Czech Republic

- (1) Background: On August 7, 1991, Taiwan set up the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Prague. On November 18, 1993, the Czech Republic set up the Czech Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei. In recent years, Taiwan and the Czech Republic have had frequent exchanges in the areas

of economy, trade, culture, science, technology, and tourism. This has contributed to the development of stable and substantive bilateral relations.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade volume amounted to US\$891 million, an 8.75% growth year-on-year, with Taiwan's exports accounting for approximately US\$521 million and imports from the Czech Republic amounting to US\$370 million.
- (3) COVID-19 cooperation: On April 1, 2020, the representative offices of Taiwan and the Czech Republic jointly announced the Taiwan–Czech Joint Statement on a Partnership against Coronavirus. On the basis of this collaborative framework, Taiwan donated surgical masks, N95 masks, mask production lines, ventilators, and other pandemic supplies to the Czech Republic. The framework ensures the advancement of bilateral partnership against COVID-19. President of the Senate of the Czech Republic Miloš Vystrčil, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Radek Vondráček, and Mayor of Prague Zdeněk Hřib each held joint donation ceremonies with the Representative Office in Prague.
- (4) Cultural and educational relations: The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic offers annual scholarship programs and Slavic-language research summer camp scholarships to Taiwanese students. Meanwhile, Taiwan's MOE offers Taiwan Scholarship and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship to students from the Czech Republic. In September, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced a partnership with Taiwanese universities to provide 50 scholarships to students from the Czech Republic under the Taiwan–Europe Linking Scholarship.
- (5) Mutual visits by dignitaries
  - A. A visit from Taiwan was made by Taipei Mayor Ko Wen-je.
  - B. Visits from the Czech Republic were made by President of the Senate Miloš Vystrčil; First Vice-President of the Czech Republic Senate Jiří Růžička; Senator and Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security Pavel Fischer; Senator and Chair of the Health and Social Policy Committee Lumír Kantor; Mayor of Prague Zdeněk Hřib; and Vice President of the Academy Council of Czech Academy of Sciences Zdeněk Havlas.

## 8. Relations with the Kingdom of Denmark

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Denmark were severed on January 14, 1950. In 1980, Taiwan established the Free China Information Office and the Far East Trade Office in Denmark. The two offices were consolidated on August 7, 1991, into the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Denmark, later renamed the Taipei Representative Office in Denmark on February 15, 1995. Denmark established the Trade Council of Denmark in Taipei on October 28, 1983.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade volume amounted to US\$830 million in 2020, with exports from Taiwan totaling US\$418 million and imports from Denmark of US\$412 million.
- (3) A visit from Denmark was made by Executive Director at Alliance of Democracies Foundation Jonas Parello-Plesner.

## 9. Relations with the Republic of Estonia

- (1) Background: Official representative offices have not yet been set up between Taiwan and Estonia. Matters relating to Estonia are overseen by the Taipei Mission in the Republic of Latvia.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade amounted to US\$110 million, with Taiwan exports at US\$71 million and imports at US\$39 million.
- (3) A visit from Taiwan was made by Taipei Mayor Ko Wen-je.

## 10. Relations with the European Union

- (1) Background
  - A. On March 10, 2003, the European Commission established the European Economic and Trade Office in Taipei. Subsequently, on June 20, 2005, Taiwan restructured the Taipei Representative Office in Belgium as the Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium. The Representative Office oversees all matters relating to the EU, Belgium, and Luxembourg.
  - B. The scope and depth of Taiwan's relations with the EU are steadily expanding. The 32nd EU–Taiwan Consultation was held as an integral component of the annual bilateral consultation meetings. Amidst the global devastation of the COVID-19 pandemic, President Tsai Ing-

wen announced the first wave of Taiwan's international humanitarian assistance efforts on April 1, 2020. As part of this effort, the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government pledged to donate surgical masks to frontline healthcare workers fighting severe outbreaks in Europe and the Americas. On the same day, Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, conveyed her gratitude on behalf of the EU in a tweet, acknowledging Taiwan's donation of masks to the EU and its member states. She commended Taiwan's benevolent gesture as a demonstration of being "Stronger Together."

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and the EU reached US\$51.877 billion, with exports from Taiwan of US\$22.916 billion and imports of US\$28.961 billion. The 32nd EU–Taiwan Trade and Investment Dialogue was held via video conference on December 16, 2020. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Economic Affairs, and European Economic and Trade Office (EETO) jointly held the EU Investment Forum on September 22, 2020. This marked the first collaborative investment promotion event held in Taiwan by the EU and 15 of its member states, establishing a novel platform for investment and exchange between Taiwan and the EU. The European Parliament plenary session passed the resolution on the Implementation of the Common Commercial Policy—Annual Report on October 7, 2020. The resolution on the Trade Policy Review was subsequently adopted on November 26, 2020. These resolutions called upon the European Commission to promptly initiate negotiations on Taiwan–EU investment and define the scope of the investment.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: In November, discussions on cultural and educational exchanges between Taiwan and the EU were held between the Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium and the EU's Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC). Under the EU's Erasmus+ program, 553 Taiwanese students have studied in Europe, and 445 European students have studied in Taiwan.
- (4) Technological cooperation: In October, the Ministry of Science and Technology and the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation co-hosted the first Taiwan–EU Online Dialogue on

Application and Development of AI in Smart Medical (eHealth) Systems. In addition, Taiwan has made significant progress in its participation in the EU's Horizon 2020 transnational research cooperation framework, contributing to a total of 84 projects.

- (5) Fisheries cooperation: In January, the Fisheries Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Executive Yuan, in cooperation with the European Commission's Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), held the first meeting of the Taiwan–EU Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing in Taipei. In December, the European Commission's DG MARE organized a webinar on *Fighting IUU fishing—the EU's vision for healthy oceans*, in which the Taiwan's Fisheries Agency was invited to participate.
- (6) Industry cooperation
  - A. In October, Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua and Director General of the European Commission's Directorate General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs Kerstin Jorna co-chaired the 6th Taiwan–EU Industrial Policy Dialogue by videoconference.
  - B. In December, Chairman Kung Ming-hsin of the National Development Council and Roberto Viola, Director General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (CNECT) of the European Commission, co-hosted the 2nd Taiwan–EU Dialogue on Digital Economy.
- (7) Human rights cooperation: The third Taiwan–European Union Human Rights Consultation was held in July by videoconference. The two sides reaffirmed their shared commitment to upholding and promoting democratic values, human rights, and the rule of law.
- (8) Public diplomacy
  - A. In December, Representative to the EU and Belgium Tsai Ming-yen and Vice President of the European Parliament Nicola Beer co-hosted a joint online press conference entitled *Supporting Taiwan's Freedom and Democracy: Europe's Action towards China in the Aftermath of the Hong Kong Security Law*. During the press conference, Vice President of the Legislative Yuan Tsai Chi-chang participated with a pre-recorded message.

- B. In December, the European Institute for Asian Studies (EIAS) hosted a seminar entitled *Taiwan's Role in the EU's Strategic Autonomy and Diversification of its Supply Chains*, with Representative to the EU and Belgium Tsai Ming-yen delivering the opening remarks. The seminar was attended by Deputy Minister Chen Chern-chyi of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, as well as Christophe Hansen and Seán Kelly, Members of the European Parliament and the Committee on International Trade. The seminar highlighted the importance of opening negotiations on a Bilateral Investment Agreement (BIA) between Taiwan and the EU.

(9) COVID-19 cooperation

- A. In March 2020, President of Academia Sinica James C. Liao and related Directorates General of the European Commission held a videoconference call to discuss topics such as cooperation in the research and development of COVID-19 rapid tests and vaccines, and EU market certifications.
- B. In April 2020, Representative to the EU and Belgium Harry Ho-jen Tseng accepted an invitation from Reinhard Bütikofer, Chairman of the European Parliament's Delegation for relations with the People's Republic of China. During the virtual seminar, Representative Tseng delivered a presentation on Taiwan's pandemic prevention measures and their effectiveness.
- C. In May 2020, the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) and the Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats (CALD) invited Audrey Tang, Minister without Portfolio in the Executive Yuan, to talk at a virtual seminar about Taiwan's effective use of digital tools in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- D. In May 2020, the Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium, in collaboration with Members of the European Parliament Ivan Štefanec and Michaela Šojdrová, co-hosted a webinar entitled *Taiwan's Fight against COVID-19: Implications for EU-Taiwan Relations*.



## 11. Relations with the Republic of Finland

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Finland were severed on October 28, 1950. On April 19, 1990, Taiwan established the Taipei Trade and Cultural Office, which officially began operations on June 1, 1990. The office was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office on December 1, 1992, and subsequently became the Taipei Representative Office in Finland on December 1, 2004. On February 1, 1991, Finland established the Office of Finnish Industry and Transport, which was subsequently renamed the Finland Trade Center on July 1, 1995; Finpro Taiwan, Finland's Trade and Innovation Office in October 2014; and Finland Trade Center in Taiwan on January 1, 2019.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Total bilateral trade amounted to approximately US\$621 million, with Taiwan's exports totaling around US\$222 million and imports from Finland at US\$399 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan has extended the Taiwan Fellowship program to Finnish scholars for research in Sinology or Taiwan studies within Taiwan. Furthermore, the MOE administers the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program (HES) for Finnish students to learn Mandarin in Taiwan. The Taiwan Scholarship is also available to Finnish students seeking higher education opportunities in Taiwan. In 2020, owing to COVID-19 and the resulting border restrictions, bilateral student exchange and study programs between Finland and Taiwan largely shifted to virtual formats.

## 12. Relations with the French Republic

- (1) Background: On August 12, 1972, Taiwan established the Association pour la Promotion des Echanges Commerciaux et Touristiques avec Taïwan in Paris. Subsequently, the MOEA set up the Centre asiatique pour la promotion économique et commerciale on May 2, 1977. The two organizations merged to form the Bureau de Représentation de Taipei en France on May 15, 1995. The Bureau Annexe d'Aix-en-Provence, a representative office belonging to the Bureau de Représentation de Taipei en France, was also set up in

the Provence region of France in December 2020. France established the Association française pour le développement économique avec l'Asie in 1978 and subsequently established the Association française pour le développement culturel et scientifique en Asie in 1980. The representative office was later renamed Bureau français de Taipei (BFT) in 1994.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and France was US\$4.207 billion, with exports from Taiwan of US\$1.237 billion and imports from France of US\$2.97 billion. The 27th Taiwan–France Industrial Cooperation Consultation Meeting (ICCM) and the 9th Taiwan–France Economic and Trade Dialogue were held by videoconference. The Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association (CIECA) and the Mouvement des Entreprises de France International (MEDEF International) jointly organized the 25th Taiwan–France Economic Cooperation Conference. The event facilitated discussion on smart railways, smart grids, and hydrogen energy, and enabled an exchange of insights into industry trends and investment opportunities between Taiwan and France.

- (3) Cultural and educational relations

- A. Culture

- (A) The Bureau de représentation de Taipei en France (Paris) and the Centre culturel de Taïwan à Paris organized a series of cultural events in the fields of visual arts, performing arts, literary publishing, cultural and creative design and technology, film and television, and music. The events were held to showcase Taiwan's cultural offerings to eight European countries: France, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, Monaco, Andorra, and Liechtenstein. In 2020, 17 cultural promotion projects were held, consisting of 104 exhibitions and performances which attracted just under 70,000 visitors in total.

- (B) Minister of Culture Cheng Li-chun visited France in February 2020, where she co-hosted the 24th Prix de la Fondation culturelle franco-taïwanaise with French counterparts. At the Bureau de représentation de Taipei en France, Minister Cheng presented the first-ever cultural medal awards to individuals who have made

outstanding contributions to the promotion of cultural exchanges between Taiwan and France.

- B. Education: Each year, the French government awards 15 technology scholarships to Taiwanese students. In 2020, this allocation was raised to 18 scholarships. In parallel, Taiwan's MOE offers 18 Huayu Enrichment Scholarships and five Taiwan Scholarships to French students every year. Since 2008, Taiwan and France have engaged in an exchange of Mandarin- and French-language teaching assistants. In 2020, a total of 12 Mandarin teaching assistants were sent to France, while 16 French teaching assistants were sent to Taiwan.
- (4) Technological cooperation: The Ministry of Science and Technology has established bilateral research cooperation agreements with various French institutions, including the National Research Agency (ANR), French Academy of Sciences (ADS), French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), French National Cancer Institute (INCA), French National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Automation (INRIA), French National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM), and Bureau français de Taipei (BFT). Under these agreements, researchers from both sides have the opportunity to apply through various channels for collaborative projects and funding support for exchanges. In 2020, Taiwan renewed its contract with INCA and signed a bilateral annex agreement with INSERM to extend collaboration.
- (5) Visits from Taiwan were made by Minister of Culture Cheng Li-chun and Deputy Minister of the Mainland Affairs Council Chen Ming-chi.
- (6) COVID-19 cooperation: Taiwanese companies and French businesses operating in Taiwan, with the collaboration of the Bureau Annexe d'Aix-en-Provence, collectively contributed 200,000 surgical masks, disinfectant sprays, CPAP masks, and other critical pandemic supplies to the Southern Branch of the Croix-Rouge française. In addition, Taoyuan City Government donated 120,000 surgical masks to the city of Colmar in eastern France.

### 13. Relations with the Federal Republic of Germany

#### (1) Background

- A. On October 20, 1980, Taiwan established the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Bonn (then capital of West Germany), which was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in the Federal Republic of Germany on September 23, 1992, and the Taipei Representative Office in the Federal Republic of Germany on July 1, 1997. The office moved to Berlin on October 4, 1999. The Taiwan Cultural Hall (Taiwan Kultursaal) was established under the Representative Office on December 4, 2017. Taiwan also has offices in Hamburg, Frankfurt, and Munich, as well as the Bonn-based Science and Technology Division of the Taipei Representative Office in Germany. The Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) has set up Taiwan Trade Centers in Düsseldorf and Munich. Germany set up the German Institute Taipei, German Trade Office Taipei (AHK Taiwan), and Goethe-Institute Taipei in Taiwan.
- B. On October 19, 2020, the Representative Office in Germany was invited for the first time to jointly organize three hybrid seminars in collaboration with the Human Rights Committee of the German Parliament. Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Harry Ho-jen Tseng and Deputy Minister of the Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) Chiu Chui-cheng were invited to attend.

#### (2) Economic and trade relations

- A. In 2020, bilateral trade between Taiwan and Germany reached approximately US\$16.212 billion. Taiwan's exports to Germany were around US\$6.04 billion, while imports from Germany totaled US\$10.172 billion. Germany holds the position of Taiwan's fifth-largest import source and tenth-largest export destination, making it Taiwan's largest trading partner in Europe. Roughly 250 German businesses are in operation in Taiwan, and 320 Taiwanese businesses in Germany. Notably, the Taiwanese companies are mainly concentrated in the North Rhine–Westphalia region, with a strong presence in the computers and electronics sectors.

- B. Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Economic Affairs Tseng Wen-sheng and Administrative Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications Chi Wen-jong separately held videoconferences with Thomas Bareiß, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy.
- (3) International participation: In January, the German government issued a joint statement on behalf of the European Union to support Taiwan at the World Health Organization (WHO) Executive Board meeting. In May, Jens Spahn, Federal Minister of Health of Germany, expressed his support for Taiwan during the World Health Assembly (WHA) online session.
- (4) Bilateral agreements: Representative to Germany Shieh Jhy-Wey and the German Institute Taipei signed the Declaration of Intent on Mutual Assistance and Cooperation and the Mutual Use of Automated Immigration Clearance for German and R.O.C. (Taiwan) e-Passport Holders.
- (5) Research and environmental cooperation
  - A. In 2020, the Taiwan–Germany Project-Based Personnel Exchange Program facilitated the implementation of two projects.
  - B. The Ministry of Science and Technology, in collaboration with the German Research Foundation, supported 15 bilateral research projects under the Taiwan–German Collaboration in Research program.
  - C. The Ministry of Science and Technology provided funding for six projects under the Project-Related Mobility Program. This initiative enabled six German scholars and researchers to conduct research in Taiwan, while German institutions offered scholarships to 20 Taiwanese scholars and researchers to conduct research in Germany.
  - D. In November, the Ministry of Science and Technology collaborated with the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research to host a presentation of results from the initial phase of joint battery research, along with the commencement of the second phase of collaboration. In the same month, a bilateral Taiwan–Germany videoconference took place, centered on advanced lithium-ion battery technologies, under the title *2020 Taiwan-Germany Joint Workshop on Advanced Lithium-Ion Battery Technologies*.

- E. In December, the Environmental Protection Administration of the Executive Yuan organized a joint video conference on the carbon market with the German Federal Environment Agency.
- (6) Cultural and educational relations
- A. During the 2020 academic year, the MOE granted three Taiwan Scholarships and 12 Huayu Enrichment Scholarships to students from Germany. In the same year, 3,155 Taiwanese students were studying in Germany, and 1,062 German students in Taiwan.
- B. The South Westphalia University of Applied Sciences in Germany and I-Shou University signed an MOU for sister school cooperation. Magdeburg University and Chung Yuan Christian University signed an MOU for sister school cooperation.
- (7) COVID-19 cooperation: Taiwan donated 1 million surgical masks to Germany in April and a further 500,000 in June.
- (8) Media exposure: German national newspaper *Die Welt* interviewed Vice President Chen Chien-jen about Taiwan's pandemic control measures. German public-service television broadcaster Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen (ZDF) conducted an exclusive interview with Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu on China's ambition for global supremacy.
- (9) Public diplomacy: In June, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien held two separate video conference forums with the Mercator Institute for China Studies (MERICS) and the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik). Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu was invited to a virtual conference by the European Council on Foreign Relations in July. During the conference, Minister Wu highlighted the differences between Taiwan's pandemic response model and China's external propaganda, urging like-minded partners to strengthen cooperation based on shared values. In September and October, Minister Without Portfolio Audrey Tang was invited by the Bertelsmann Foundation (Bertelmann Stiftung) and MERICS to give keynote speeches at two separate virtual discussions. During these events, Minister Tang shared insights into Taiwan's pandemic response and experience with citizen engagement.



## 14. Relations with the Hellenic Republic

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Greece were severed on June 5, 1972. Taiwan established the Far East Center in Athens on January 6, 1973. It 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. To date, Greece has not established a representative office in Taiwan.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, the total bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Greece amounted to approximately US\$229 million. Taiwan's exports to Greece were approximately US\$123 million, while imports from Greece totaled US\$106 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan offers annual quotas for the Taiwan Scholarship and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship programs, enabling Greek students to pursue studies in Taiwan. In July, Taiwan's Agricultural Technology Research Institute signed an MOU with the Institute of Agricultural Sciences (IGE) of the Greek Ministry of Rural Development and Food, formalizing the exchange of agreement documents. Taiwanese director Tsai Ming-liang's *Days* won the Mermaid Award at the 61st Thessaloniki International Film Festival.
- (4) Media exposure: In February, the Greek national television channel ANT1 special report "Responding to COVID-19: The Petition of Greeks in Taiwan" highlighted the efforts of Greeks in Taiwan to urge the Greek government to support Taiwan's petition to join the World Health Organization (WHO).

## 15. Relations with Hungary

- (1) Background: On April 2, 1990, Taiwan established the Taipei Trade Office in Hungary, which was subsequently renamed the Taipei Representative Office, Budapest, Hungary, on January 6, 1996. Hungary established the Hungarian Trade Office Taipei on July 26, 1998.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Hungary amounted to US\$991 million. Taiwan's exports to Hungary were US\$661 million, while imports from Hungary totaled US\$330

million. Taiwan's Global Organization of Smart Cities (GO SMART) and Hungary Smart City Cluster signed an MOU in March.

- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan and Hungary signed an MOU for a scholarship program in November. Under this program, each year the Hungarian government offers scholarships to 20 Taiwanese students to pursue bachelor's, master's, integrated master's, and doctoral degree programs in Hungary. Under the Taiwan–Europe Linking Scholarship Program, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs offered scholarships to 30 Hungarian students to study Mandarin in Taiwan.

## 16. Relations with Ireland

- (1) Background: On July 12, 1988, Taiwan established the Free China Center in Dublin, later renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Ireland on May 2, 1991, and the Taipei Representative Office in Ireland on August 18, 1995. In August 1989, Ireland set up the Institute for Trade and Investment of Ireland in Taiwan, which ceased operations in January 2012.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, bilateral trade volume between Taiwan and Ireland amounted to EUR1.032 billion, with Taiwan's exports totaling EUR565 million, and imports from Ireland of EUR467 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations
  - A. The Representative Office in Ireland participated in the Dublin Holiday World Show and set up the Taiwan Pavilion.
  - B. The Taipei Representative Office in Ireland worked with overseas-Chinese community organizations to organize *In the Name of Love: Ireland–Taiwan Online Art Exhibition* and host the *Taiwan Indigenous Clothing Online Exhibition*.
  - C. Taiwan's national team participated in the Tug of War World Indoor Championships 2020, held in Letterkenny, Ireland, winning five gold medals and one silver medal.
- (4) COVID-19 cooperation: Minister Without Portfolio Audrey Tang was invited by the Construction Industry Federation (CIF) to deliver a speech by videoconferencing on the topic *How Digital Innovation Can Fight Pandemics and Strengthen Democracy* at the annual CIF meeting. In the

speech, Minister Tang described Taiwan's success battling the pandemic through effective public dialogue and communication strategies.

- (5) Visits from Ireland were made by Senators Michael McDowell, Gerry Horkan, Aidan Davitt, and Gerard Craughwell, and Deputy Eamon Scanlon.

## 17. Relations with the Italian Republic

- (1) Background: On August 7, 1990, Taiwan established the Taipei Cultural and Economic Association in Rome, Italy; it officially began operations on April 15, 1991. The office was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Italy on June 14, 1995, and the Taipei Representative Office in Italy (Ufficio di Rappresentanza di Taipei in Italia) on May 4, 1996. The Italian Association of Foreign Trade established the Italian Trade and Economic Center in Taiwan in September 1989. Subsequently, the association set up the Italian Economic and Cultural Promotion Office in Taipei in 1995. These two entities were later merged into the Italian Economic, Trade, and Cultural Promotion Office in September 2006.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Italy ranks as Taiwan's 19th-largest trading partner globally and the third-largest trading partner among EU countries. In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Italy amounted to US\$4.269 billion, with Taiwan's exports at US\$1.608 billion and imports from Italy at US\$2.661 billion.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: In 2020, Taiwan granted one Taiwan Fellowship, two Taiwan Scholarships, and 14 Huayu Enrichment Scholarships to Italian students. In September, the Taipei Representative Office in Italy held the second annual Taiwan Film Festival, titled *Flowers of Taiwan*. The Cultural Division of the Taipei Representative Office in Italy was established on October 16, 2020.
- (4) COVID-19 cooperation: Taiwan donated 500,000 surgical masks to the Department of Civil Protection (DPC) under the Prime Minister's Office.
- (5) A visit from Taiwan was made by Deputy Minister Ho Chi-kung from the Ministry of Health and Welfare.

## **18. Relations with the Republic of Latvia**

- (1) Background: On January 29, 1992, Taiwan set up the Consulate General of the Republic of China in Riga, which also managed affairs relating to Estonia and Lithuania. On July 28, 1994, consular-level diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Latvia were severed. The Consulate General was renamed the Taipei Mission in the Republic of Latvia in November 1995. As of 2020, Latvia has not established an official representative office in Taiwan.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade was approximately US\$92 million, with Taiwan's exports totaling US\$80 million and imports from Latvia at US\$11.9 million.
- (3) A visit from Taiwan was made by Taipei Mayor Ko Wen-je.

## **19. Relations with the Republic of Lithuania**

- (1) Background: Official representative offices have not been established between Taiwan and Lithuania. Matters relating to Lithuania are overseen by the Taipei Mission in the Republic of Latvia.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, bilateral trade between Taiwan and Lithuania reached approximately US\$142 million, with Taiwan's exports at around US\$110 million and imports from Lithuania at around US\$32.12 million.
- (3) Visits from Lithuania were made by Egidijus Vareikis, Deputy Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Seimas, and Seimas members Zygimantas Pavilionis, Audronius Azubalis, and Ausrine Armonaite.

## **20. Relations with the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg**

- (1) Background: Taiwan set up the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Center in Luxembourg on June 10, 1975. The center was later renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office on July 13, 1992. The office was closed on October 25, 2002. Luxembourg established the Luxembourg Trade and Investment Office in Taipei on October 13, 2009.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Luxembourg was US\$50.07 million, with exports from Taiwan of US\$18.53 million and imports from Luxembourg of US\$31.54 million.

- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Representative to the EU and Belgium Harry Ho-jen Tseng engaged in discussions with Romain Martin, Chief Advisor of the Luxembourg Ministry of Higher Education and Research, among others, trading insights on educational policies for medical professionals.
- (4) A visit from Taiwan was made by Deputy Minister Ho Chi-kung from the Ministry of Health and Welfare.

## **21. Relations with the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Centre on February 2, 1978. The center was subsequently renamed the Far East Trade Office on August 24, 1979, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office on July 24, 1990, and lastly the Taipei Representative Office in the Netherlands on July 12, 1996. On January 9, 1981, the Netherlands established the Netherlands Council for Trade Promotion, which was renamed the Netherlands Trade and Investment Office on November 1, 1990, and the Netherlands Office in Taipei on April 27, 2020.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and the Netherlands amounted to US\$12.605 billion, with exports from Taiwan of US\$6.048 billion and imports from the Netherlands of US\$6.557 billion.
- (3) City-to-city cooperation: Utrecht City and Taipei City signed the Taipei–Utrecht Memorandum of Understanding, with a focus on economic collaboration.

## **22. Relations with the Kingdom of Norway**

- (1) Background: On August 26, 1980, Taiwan set up the Taipei Trade Center in Oslo, which was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office on December 17, 1992, and the Taipei Representative Office in Norway on October 16, 1999. Operations were suspended on October 1, 2017, and all affairs relating to Norway are now managed by the Taipei Representative Office in Sweden. Norway established the Norwegian Trade Office, Taipei, on October 23, 1989. The office was renamed the Norwegian Trade Council in November 1992 and ceased operations on January 1, 2004.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Norway amounted to approximately US\$487 million, with exports from Taiwan at US\$187 million and imports from Norway at US\$300 million.
- (3) A visit from Taiwan was made by New Taipei City Mayor Hou Yu-ih.

### **23. Relations with the Republic of Poland**

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Poland were severed on October 5, 1949. Taiwan established the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Poland on December 17, 1992. The office 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) COVID-19 cooperation: In April, Representative to Poland Weber V. B. Shih donated 500,000 surgical masks to Poland on behalf of the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government.
- (3) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Poland amounted to US\$1.237 billion, with exports from Taiwan of US\$863 million and imports from Poland of US\$374 million. The 9th Taiwan–Poland Economic Consultations and the 16th Taiwan–Poland Joint Business Council Meeting were held by virtual conference.
- (4) Cultural and educational relations: Poland’s Ministry of Science and Higher Education offered scholarships from the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange to 18 Taiwanese students. In parallel, the MOE provided Taiwan Scholarships to seven Polish students. In addition, TaiwanICDF awarded one TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarship and one Taiwan–Poland Higher Education Science Scholarship to Polish recipients. In 2020, 180 Polish students were studying in Taiwan, and 1,000 Taiwanese students in Poland. The MOE also sent nine Mandarin instructors to universities in Poland to teach and contribute to the promotion of the traditional Chinese script.

### **24. Relations with the Portuguese Republic**

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Portugal were severed on January 6, 1975. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in Portugal



was established on July 1, 1992. Portugal has not established a representative office in Taiwan.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Portugal amounted to US\$548 million, with exports from Taiwan of US\$433 million and imports from Portugal of US\$115 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan signed letters of intent with the Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa and the Universidade Católica Portuguesa to set up an overseas branch of the Taiwan Academy. In 2020, the MOE provided Huayu Enrichment Scholarships for a total of 36 months' study and two Taiwan Scholarships.
- (4) COVID-19 cooperation: Taiwan donated 100,000 surgical masks to the Portuguese Red Cross and Santa Casa da Misericórdia through the Portuguese National Authority for Emergency and Civil Protection (ANEPC).
- (5) Technological cooperation: Taiwan's National Applied Research Laboratories (NARLabs) and Portugal's Institute for Systems and Computer Engineering, Technology and Science (INESC TEC) signed an MOU for collaboration in the fields of information and communication technology and marine research.

## **25. Relations with the Slovak Republic**

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Taipei Representative Office, Bratislava, on August 1, 2003. Slovakia established the Slovak Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei on September 1 of the same year.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Slovakia was approximately US\$300 million, with exports from Taiwan at US\$102 million and imports from Slovakia at US\$198 million.
- (3) COVID-19 cooperation: Slovak Prime Minister Igor Matovič publicly lauded Taiwan for its successful pandemic response. In addition, Slovakia announced Taiwan's inclusion on a Safe Green List of 31 countries, from which arriving travelers would no longer have to undergo special testing or isolation.

## **26. Relations with the Republic of Slovenia**

- (1) Background: Official representative offices have not been established between Taiwan and Slovenia. Matters relating to Slovenia are overseen by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Austria.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Slovenia was approximately US\$157 million, with exports from Taiwan at US\$120 million and imports from Slovenia at US\$37.10 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: The University of Ljubljana set up a Taiwan Studies Center and provides elective courses focused on Taiwan. The MOE also appointed a Mandarin instructor to the Department of Asian Studies at the university to enhance the promotion of Traditional Chinese and Taiwan Studies.
- (4) COVID-19 cooperation: Taiwan donated 150,000 surgical masks to the Slovenian government.

## **27. Relations with the Kingdom of Spain**

- (1) Background: Taiwan established the Sun Yat-sen Center in Spain in Madrid in August 1973. The center was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Spain, in January 1991. On March 25, 1974, Spain set up the Cervantes Center for the Promotion of Commerce and Culture in Taiwan, which was renamed the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in Taiwan in March 1982.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Spain was approximately US\$1.79 billion, with exports from Taiwan of US\$1.037 billion and imports from Spain of US\$753 million.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations
  - A. Taiwan provided three Taiwan Scholarships and four one-year Huayu Enrichment Scholarships to Spanish students, providing them with the opportunity to pursue degrees or language studies in Taiwan. Eight half-year Huayu Enrichment Scholarships were also awarded, and three Spanish scholars received Taiwan Fellowships to conduct research in Taiwan. In 2020, 300 Taiwanese students were pursuing degrees, participating in exchange programs, or undergoing short-term language

training in Spain. Meanwhile, 300 Spanish students were studying or conducting research in Taiwan.

- B. Culture: Taiwanese director Tsai Ming-liang held a special event entitled *Flujos de Soledad* at Cine Doré in Spain. Topic Tolosa also organized an exhibition featuring collections from Taiwan's Taiyuan Asian Puppet Theatre Museum. Seven works by Taiwanese artists Aluan Wang, Chen I-chun, Huang Wen-hao, Yeh Ting-hao, and Chiang Chen-wei were exhibited at the Madrid Digital Art Festival (MADATAC). The Representative Office in Spain and the Spanish dance platform Paso a2 jointly organized the Taiwan–Spain Dance Online Exchange Program. The Representative Office also partnered with the LOOP Fair 2020 in Barcelona, exhibiting animated video works by Taiwanese artist Chang Li-ren.

## **28. Relations with the Kingdom of Sweden**

- (1) Background: In September 1981, Taiwan established the Taipei Trade, Tourism, and Information Office, which was later renamed the Taipei Mission in Sweden in 1994. In December 1982, Sweden set up the Swedish Industries Trade Representative Office, later renamed the Swedish Trade and Investment Council in July 1991.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Sweden was approximately US\$1.248 billion, with exports from Taiwan of US\$565 million and imports from Sweden of US\$683 million. In November, the 2020 Taiwan–Sweden Trade Talks were conducted by virtual conference. The dialogue was co-chaired by Krister Nilsson, State Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Trade of Sweden, and Taiwan Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Chen Chern-chyi.
- (3) Technological cooperation: The Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research (SSF) signed an MOU on science and technology cooperation with Taiwan, providing 60 million Swedish Krona to facilitate research collaboration between six universities in Taiwan and Sweden.
- (4) Visits from Sweden were made by Members of Parliament Cecilia Widegren, Ann Britt Åsöbol, David Josefsson, and Hampus Hagman.

## **29. Relations with Swiss Confederation**

- (1) Background: In 1973, Taiwan set up the Far Eastern Service Center in Switzerland, which was later renamed the Taipei Trade Office on January 1, 1992. In June 1979, Taiwan also established the Sun Yat-sen Culture Center, which was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office on November 28, 1990. On December 16, 1997, Taiwan set up the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Geneva. It was merged with the Taipei Trade Office on October 1, 2007. Switzerland established the Trade Office of Swiss Industries on November 20, 1982.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and Switzerland amounted to approximately US\$2.771 billion, with exports from Taiwan of US\$538 million and imports from Switzerland of US\$2.233 billion.
- (3) Visits from Taiwan were made by Congressman Hsu Yu-jen and Deputy Minister of the Mainland Affairs Council Chen Ming-chi.

## **30. Relations with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**

- (1) Background
  - A. Diplomatic relations between Taiwan and the UK were severed on January 6, 1950. Taiwan established the Free China Information Office in June of the same year. The office was renamed the Free Chinese Center in September 1963 and later became the Taipei Representative Office in the UK on April 15, 1992. The Taipei Representative Office in the UK, Edinburgh Office, was set up on April 25, 1998. The UK set up the Anglo-Taiwan Trade Committee in February 1976, which was renamed the British Trade and Cultural Office on October 15, 1993, and British Office Taipei on May 26, 2015.
  - B. Taiwan and the UK have set up regular dialogue mechanisms at the deputy ministerial level for economic and trade consultations, including the annual UK–Taiwan Renewable Energy Roundtable Meeting, Taiwan/UK Railway Forum, and Smart City Summit. The two countries are also dedicated to fostering agricultural cooperation and maintaining

other partnerships. The UK continues to support Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations and mechanisms such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The UK government also supports Taiwan's meaningful contribution to international affairs, including efforts to combat organized crime. The UK Parliament's British–Taiwanese All-Party Parliamentary Group (Taiwan APPG) consists of approximately 140 members from the House of Commons and the House of Lords, making it one of the largest active cross-party parliamentary groups of its kind.

- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, total bilateral trade between Taiwan and the UK amounted to approximately US\$5.24 billion, with exports from Taiwan of US\$3.34 billion and imports from the UK of US\$1.9 billion. In 2020, the 23rd Taiwan–UK Trade Talks were held by videoconference and co-chaired by Greg Hands, the UK's Minister of State for Trade Policy in the Department for International Trade (DIT), and Chen Chern-chyi, Taiwan Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs.
- (3) Educational relations: The UK is the top destination in Europe for Taiwanese students seeking education abroad. In recent years, the number of Taiwanese students studying in the UK has steadily increased. This includes students enrolled on standard academic programs and short-term courses, an annual total of approximately 12,000 students. The first UK–Taiwan Higher Education Forum took place in 2019. In 2020, owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, the forum was held online. It was attended by more than 200 participants from over 100 universities in Taiwan and the UK. The MOE and the British Office Taipei signed a letter of intent on education cooperation on October 21, 2020. On October 22, MOFA announced the availability of 100 scholarships for British students to study Mandarin in Taiwan.
- (4) Cultural relations: In 2020, Taiwan's cultural activities covered 11 programs, with notable highlights including performances by Cloud Gate Dance Theatre in *13 Tongues* and *Dust*. The Taiwan Season online forum and proposal presentation were featured at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, while

the *Transcending Boundaries: Contemporary Lacquer Art & Metalwork in Taiwan* exhibition was showcased during London Craft Week. Taiwan also showcased the *Misused Ironmongery Taiwanese & British Hardware* exhibition at the London Design Festival. The representative office's cultural division also organized the 2020 Taiwan Film Festival Edinburgh. Meanwhile, King's College curated the 2020–2021 edition of Taiwan's Lost Commercial Cinema—Recovered and Restored, which included touring Taiwanese-language films around the UK and Europe. Taiwan also participated in the London East Asia Film Festival.

- (5) Technological cooperation: The Ministry of Science and Technology signed an agreement with the Economic and Social Research Council, marking the first extensive collaboration between Taiwan and the UK in the field of social sciences.
- (6) COVID-19 cooperation: Former Vice President Chen Chien-jen and Minister Without Portfolio Audrey Tang were invited to take part in hearings conducted by the Health and Social Care Committee of the House of Commons and the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee of the House of Lords in June and September, respectively. These sessions took place through video conferencing. During the hearings, Vice President Chen and Minister Tang shared valuable insights into Taiwan's effective management of COVID-19 and discussed their experiences. During the parliamentary sessions in September, Deputy Chief Medical Officer for England Jonathan Van-Tam and UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office Ministers Lord Ahmad and Nigel Adams expressed their support for Taiwan's receiving observer status at the World Health Assembly (WHA). In November, 73 bipartisan members of the UK Parliament jointly signed a letter addressed to WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, expressing their support for Taiwan's participation in WHO. In addition, 62 UK Parliament members joined more than 600 parliamentarians from 25 European countries in signing a letter to the WHO Director-General, endorsing Taiwan's participation in the resumed WHA session on November 9. The Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China (IPAC) also issued a statement, urging WHO to invite Taiwan to participate



in the resumed WHA session, as well as in WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities. In addition to hosting five online forums, the Representative Office in the UK held joint videoconferences with British counterparts to set up a collaborative platform for academic, industrial, and research cooperation in the fight against the pandemic.



# **Photographs of Diplomatic Events Europe**





Ambassador to the Holy See Matthew S. M. Lee (right) donates food and electric pots to the homeless. The donation was accepted by Cardinal Konrad Krajewski of the Office of Pontifical Charities. (April 27, 2020)



Czech Republic Senate President Miloš Vystrčil (second from left) and Representative to the Czech Republic Ke Liang-ruey (right), jointly preside over the mask donation ceremony. (April 15, 2020)



Representative to Denmark Lee Shying-jow (center) is pictured with Pia Kjærsgaard, Deputy Speaker of the Danish Parliament (left), and Svend E. Hovmand, President of the Taiwan–Denmark Association (right), during a ceremony to mark donation of surgical masks to Denmark. (April 20, 2020)



Representative to the EU and Belgium Tsai Ming-yen delivers opening remarks at the online seminar entitled *Taiwan's Role in the EU's Strategic Autonomy and Diversification of its Supply Chains*. The seminar was held by the European Institute for Asian Studies (EIAS) and commissioned by the Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium. Among the participants were Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Chen Chern-chyi and Members of the European Parliament and the Committee on International Trade (INTA) Christophe Hansen and Seán Kelly. (December 10, 2020)





Vice President of the European Parliament Nicola Beer and Representative to the EU and Belgium Tsai Ming-yen host a joint online press conference under the title, *Supporting Taiwan's Freedom and Democracy: Europe's Action towards China in the Aftermath of the Hong Kong Security Law*. Vice President of the Legislative Yuan Tsai Chi-chang delivered a pre-recorded message. (December 3, 2020)



Representative to Finland Janet Chang (left) presides over the donation of 200,000 surgical masks to Finland. (May 26, 2020)



Minister of Culture Cheng Li-chun (fourth from left) and Representative to France Wu Chih-chung (right) with the six recipients of the cultural medal awards. (L–R) Pierre Charau, former Secretary of the Moral and Political Sciences Academy under the Institut de France, academy members Pierre Delvolvé and Daniel Andler, Minister Cheng, Chancellor Xavier Darcos, academy member Marianne Bastid-Bruguère, Perpetual Secretary of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences Jean-Robert Pitte, and Representative to France Wu. (February 3, 2020)



Representative to Germany Shieh Jhy-vey (third from left), European Parliament–Taiwan Friendship Group Chair Michael Gahler (left), German Bundestag Member and Chairman of the German branch of the World League for Freedom and Democracy Axel Fischer (second from left), Deputy Chair of the German–Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group and former Deputy Chairman of the German Bundestag Dr. Hermann Solms (fourth from right), Hesse State Parliament Member and Chairman of the Hesse–Taiwan Friendship Association Ismail Tipi (third from right), German–Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group Chairman Klaus-Peter Willsch (second from right), and Chairman of the German Bundestag’s Committee on Health Erwin Rüdgel (right) jointly witness Taiwan’s donation of one million surgical masks and other pandemic supplies to Germany at Frankfurt Airport. (April 9, 2020)



Representative to Germany Shieh Jhy-wei (third from left) and Director Hsu Tsung-ming of the Taiwan Representative Office in Munich at the inaugural meeting of the Taiwan Friendship Group of the Bavarian State Parliament with Deputy Speaker Markus Rinderspacher (fourth from left) and bipartisan lawmakers. (October 8, 2020)



Representative to Greece Kuo Shih-nan (right) attends the signing ceremony of a memorandum of understanding between Taiwan's Agricultural Technology Research Institute and the Institute of Agricultural Sciences of the Greek Ministry of Rural Development and Food. (July 30, 2020)





Representative to Hungary Liu Shih-chung (on screen) and Dániel Lőrincz, Representative of the Hungarian Trade Office in Taiwan (left) sign a Memorandum of Understanding on Taiwan–Hungary Scholarship Cooperation. Witnessing the event is Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Harry Ho-jen Tseng. (November 4, 2020)



Representative to Hungary Liu Shih-chung (right) meets with Budapest Mayor Gergely Karácsony (left) during an official visit to exchange views on strengthening exchanges and cooperation between Taiwanese and Hungarian cities. (October 26, 2020)



Taoyuan Mayor Cheng Wen-tsan, Budapest Mayor Gergely Karácsony, and Representative to Hungary Liu Shih-chung witness a videoconference donation ceremony where Taoyuan City donates 300,000 surgical masks to Budapest. (December 14, 2020)



The Taiwan national team participates in the Tug of War World Indoor Championships 2020, winning five gold medals and one silver medal. (Representative to Ireland Yang Tzu-pao stands on the left of the central podium.) (February 20, 2020)





Taiwan's donation of pandemic supplies to Kilkenny, Ireland: Representative to Ireland Yang Tzu-pao (third from left); John McGuinness (fourth from right), Parliament Member and Chairman of the Ireland–Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Society; and Andrew McGuinness (fourth from left), Chairman of the Kilkenny City Council. (June 12, 2020)



Representative to Italy Lee Sing-ying (center) donates 500,000 surgical masks to Italy. (April 15, 2020)





Representative to Latvia Chin Hsing (center) at Taiwan's National Day celebration reception with Gintaras Steponavicius (right), Member of the Seimas and Deputy Chair of the Liberals Movement Political Group, and Member of the Seimas Ingrida Simonyte. (October 9, 2020)



Members of the Seimas (L-R) Zygimantas Pavilionis, Gintaras Steponavicius, and Mantas Adomenas raise the two national flags to mark Taiwan's donation of 100,000 surgical masks to Lithuania. (April 20, 2020)



Representative to the Netherlands, Chen Hsing-hsing (third from right), presides over a donation ceremony. Ronald Middleburg (third from left) receives the 600,000 surgical masks on behalf of the government of the Netherlands. (April 7, 2020)



Representative to Poland Weber V. B. Shih (center) signs a memorandum of understanding with the Memorial and Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau. (December 14, 2020)



Representative to Portugal Chang Chun-fei (second from right) presides over a ceremony to mark the donation of 100,000 surgical masks to the Portuguese Red Cross and Santa Casa da Misericórdia. Also present is Paulo Rios de Oliveira (second from left), head of the Parliamentary Taiwan Friendship Group. (June 18, 2020)



Representative to Spain Liu Der-li (center) visits the Taiwan booths at the opening ceremony of the 2020 International Tourism Trade Fair of Madrid (2020 FITUR). Members of the Cortes Generales Carlos Rojas and Eloy Suárez Lamata (fifth and fourth from left), and María Concepción García, Vice Chancellor of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (fifth from right), pose for a group photo with leaders of the Taiwanese overseas community in Spain. (January 22, 2020)





Representative to Sweden Vincent Chin-Hsiang Yao hosts the 2020 National Day Celebration at the National Swedish History Museum. (October 7, 2020)



Representative to Switzerland Huang Wei-feng (right) signs a Taiwan Studies Project Memorandum on behalf of the Ministry of Education of Taiwan. The project is a collaboration with the University of Zurich's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. (September 29, 2020)



During the World Health Assembly (WHA) meeting, Taiwan displays a prominent 3D sign that reads “#Taiwan Can Help” in front of the United Nations Office at Geneva. Ambassador Andrew Bremberg, Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the Office of the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva, is photographed with the sign to convey his support. (November 9, 2020)



Representative to the UK David Y. L. Lin (right), representing the Tourism Bureau of Taiwan’s Ministry of Transportation and Communications, presents the Award for Special Contribution to Taiwan Tourism to Lord Faulkner of Worcester, the UK Prime Minister’s Trade Envoy to Taiwan. (January 29, 2020)





## **Item 5 Taiwan's relations with North American countries**

### **I. Introduction**

North America includes two nations, the United States and Canada, both of which maintain mutual representative offices with Taiwan. Taiwan maintains representative offices in the capitals Washington, D.C., and Ottawa. An additional 14 economic and cultural offices are maintained in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Denver, Guam, Honolulu, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, San Francisco, and Seattle in the US and in Toronto and Vancouver in Canada.

In recent years, Taiwan and the US have continued to cooperate closely on regional and global political, security, and economic issues, moving towards a comprehensive partnership. Examples include the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019 and the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020, both of which were successfully ratified. This year, the US announced six arms sales to Taiwan, reflecting a normalizing trend. The US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II and the US Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment Keith Krach headed delegations to Taiwan—the highest ranking US cabinet official and State Department official, respectively, to visit Taiwan since 1979. Agreements, Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs), and Joint Declarations were signed for medical cooperation, 5G security, infrastructure development, science and technology, and international education cooperation. The Economic Prosperity Partnership Dialogue (EPPD) was also established, and Taiwan reopened the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Guam.

Canada continues to build substantive and friendly ties with Taiwan and supports our meaningful participation in global multilateral organizations.

### **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 set up on January 8, 1991, and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Ottawa was

set up on July 9, 1992. On August 3, 1993, the main diplomatic mission in Canada was moved to Ottawa and renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Canada (TECO in Canada). The Vancouver and Toronto offices were set up in 1991 and 1994, respectively. The Canadian Trade Office in Taipei opened on October 25, 1986.

(2) Government relations

- A. The Canadian government shares common values with Taiwan and supports Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations. At a parliamentary meeting on January 29 of this year, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for the first time publicly voiced support for Taiwan's participation as an observer in the World Health Assembly (WHA). On May 13, Opposition House leader Andrew Scheer responded to questions in the Parliament and reiterated Canada's continuing support for Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations, including the World Health Organization (WHO).
- B. On April 29, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada Chrystia Freeland publicly emphasized in Parliament the Canadian government's clear endorsement of Taiwan's receiving observer status at WHO, saying that Taiwan was an important partner in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.
- C. On May 7, Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs François-Philippe Champagne responded to questions in Parliament by affirming Taiwan's achievement in containing the pandemic and by supporting Taiwan's participation as an observer at the World Health Assembly (WHA).
- D. In May of this year, 90 members from the Senate and the House of Commons gathered 104 signatures for three joint letters to the Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs François-Philippe Champagne, petitioning the Canadian government to support Taiwan's participation in WHO, International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), INTERPOL, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and other international organizations and mechanisms. The letters also called for support for Taiwan's bid to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), as well as to begin

exploratory talks for a Foreign Investment Promotion Agreement with Taiwan.

- E. Taiwan donated 1.5 million surgical masks, 100,000 N95 respirators, 80,000 isolation gowns, and 20,000 protective suits to Canada—a total of 1.7 million pieces of personal protective equipment (PPE). Canadian Minister of International Trade Mani Singh expressed her gratitude in a tweet on May 7. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau also publicly expressed his thanks during a routine press conference on May 8.
  - F. On June 11, the Taiwan Financial Supervisory Committee (FSC) signed a financial technology (fintech) cooperation agreement with members of the Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA), the securities regulatory authority in Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Québec and Saskatchewan. The agreement expands Taiwan's presence on the international market for financial innovation.
  - G. On June 23, Taiwan Representative to Canada Winston Wen-yi Chen was invited to talk about Taiwan's experience with the pandemic at a COVID-19 hearing with the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health.
  - H. On December 14, Taiwan Representative to Canada Winston Wen-yi Chen and Executive Director of the Canadian Trade Office in Taipei Jordan Reeves signed the MOU on Taiwan–Canada transport safety, witnessed by Chairperson of the Taiwan Transportation Safety Board (TTSB) Hong-Tsu Young and Chairperson of the Transportation Safety Board (TSB) of Canada Kathy Fox.
- (3) Economic and trade relations
- A. According to Taiwan's Customs Administration, this year, Canada's exports to Taiwan amounted to US\$1.53 billion, down 15.44% from 2019. Canada's imports from Taiwan amounted to US\$2.17 billion, down 8.81% from 2019. Total trade between Taiwan and Canada in 2020 was US\$3.7 billion, down 11.68% from 2019. Taiwan is Canada's 13th-largest source of imports, 18th-largest export market, 15th-largest global trading partner, and 6th-largest trading partner in Asia. Canada is Taiwan's 23rd-largest global trading partner, 18th-largest export market, and 25th-largest source of imports.

- B. In a phone call with Taiwan's Minister of Economic Affairs Shen Jong-chin on May 7, Canadian Minister of International Trade Mary Ng discussed bilateral trade issues and expressed gratitude for Taiwan's donation of pandemic supplies. In a phone conference with Taiwan's Minister Without Portfolio John Deng on July 23, Minister Ng shared her thoughts on the APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade Meeting and bilateral economic and trade issues.
  - C. The Annual Canada–Taiwan Economic Consultations are the most important regular consultation mechanisms between Taiwan and Canada. Taipei and Ottawa held the 16th Annual Canada–Taiwan Economic Consultation by video conference on November 24. The consultation was presided over by Director of the Bureau of Foreign Trade Jiang Wen-ruo and high-ranking officials from Global Affairs Canada (GAC).
- (4) Technological cooperation
- A. Research institutions in Taiwan have signed MOUs with Canadian counterparts, including the National Research Council Canada (NRC), Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), Communications Research Centre (CRC), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), Canadian Institutes of Health Research–Institute of Genetics (CIHR-IG), and Terry Fox Research Institute (TFRI), carrying out collaborative projects and personnel training on vaccine, communications, cancer, information science, earthquake research, and other areas.
  - B. In addition, the University of Ottawa, University of Toronto, University of British Columbia, and other Canadian institutions of higher learning took part in the Taiwan Ministry of Science and Technology's Dragon Gate Program.
  - C. TECO in Canada held the New Challenge of COVID-19 for New Normal conference online on May 12. Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Shieh Dar-bin and researchers from Academia Sinica and the National Research Council of Canada were in attendance to support collaboration on COVID-19 rapid testing.

(5) Cultural and educational relations

- A. In 2020, Taiwan awarded the Taiwan Scholarship and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship to 12 Canadian students. Approximately 300 Canadian students are studying in Taiwan, and 4,000 Taiwanese students are studying in Canada.
- B. The Ministry of Education signed agreements under the Taiwan Studies Program with the University of Toronto, McGill University, and the University of Ottawa.

(6) Other

- A. Approximately 200,000 Taiwan nationals currently reside in Canada, and about 60,000 Canadian citizens (including people with dual nationality) reside in Taiwan.
- B. This year, Canada made 1,000 working holiday visas available to Taiwanese young people.
- C. Owing to the pandemic, however, travel between Taiwan and Canada plummeted this year. According to Taiwan's Tourism Bureau, 19,000 Canadians visited Taiwan this year, while the number of Taiwanese visitors to Canada was around 32,000.

## 2. Relations with the United States of America

- (1) Background: International travel and public engagements ground to a halt this year owing to the pandemic. Nevertheless, Taiwan and the United States continued to reach significant milestones in bilateral relations on the basis of a solid foundation of mutual trust. Taiwan's outstanding achievements in containing the pandemic have increased its visibility in wider society in the United States. Taiwan and the US both held presidential elections this year and continue to collaborate closely across different levels and fields on the basis of shared democratic values.

A. High-level interactions and diplomatic courtesies

- (A) After Taiwan's presidential election in January, various US officials and members of Congress extended their congratulations to President Tsai Ing-wen on her re-election victory and to the people of Taiwan for another successful democratic election. This included

the National Security Council at the White House, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), and Senate Pro Tempore Charles Grassley (R-IA), along with 79 other senators and representatives. Congratulations were conveyed through speeches, public statements, letters, and social media posts.

- (B) Vice President-elect Lai Ching-te was invited to Washington, D.C., from February 3 to 8 to attend the National Prayer Breakfast. During the visit, he met with high-ranking officials from the National Security Council and the State Department at the White House. He also met with Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Senate Pro Tempore and Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee Charles Grassley (R-IA), and various senators, representatives, and academics from major think tanks.
- (C) Chairman of Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia Cory Gardner (R-CO) and Ranking Member for the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation Ted Yoho (R-FL) introduced resolutions in the Senate on February 27 and the House on March 25 to congratulate President Tsai Ing-wen on her re-election. The resolutions also called on the US government to send high-level officials to attend the inauguration ceremony.
- (D) On May 19, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo released a statement congratulating President Tsai Ing-wen on her inauguration and emphasizing that the US considers Taiwan a “force for good in the world” and a reliable partner. He also mentioned that the US support for Taiwan is bipartisan. This marks the first time the Secretary of State has made a formal statement congratulating a Taiwan president on their inauguration. Principal Deputy National Security Advisor Matt Pottinger, Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs David R. Stilwell, and other prominent senators and representatives recorded a video congratulating President Tsai Ing-wen on her inauguration and expressing their anticipation of closer cooperation with Taiwan in the future.



- (E) On August 9, Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II headed a delegation to Taiwan for a four-day visit, meeting with President Tsai Ing-wen and presiding over the signing of the MOU on health cooperation. Secretary Azar also signed a joint statement with Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung and paid his respects to late former President Lee Teng-hui on behalf of the American people. Secretary Azar is the highest-ranking US cabinet official to visit Taiwan since 1979.
  - (F) On September 17, Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Keith Krach headed a delegation on a three-day visit, the highest-ranking State Department official to visit Taiwan since 1979. During the visit, he attended the memorial service for late former President Lee Teng-hui and met with President Tsai Ing-wen, as well as many other high-ranking Taiwan officials.
- B. The Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances as cornerstones of Taiwan–US relations
- (A) On August 31, the Taipei Office of the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT/T) released declassified telegrams from the State Department regarding the 1982 Six Assurances. On the same day, Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs David R. Stilwell publicly read the Six Assurances and explained their significance during an online seminar hosted by the Heritage Foundation. He reaffirmed that the Six Assurances constitute a fundamental element of the US policy towards Taiwan and reiterated the US commitment to continue arms sales to Taiwan.
  - (B) The US State Department gave six formal notifications of its intent to sell Taiwan various important defense weapons. The arm sales included items such as the Standoff Land Attack Missile Expanded Response (SLAM-ER), High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) for precision long-range firing, Conformal Fuel Tanks (CFTs) for F-16 aircraft, Coastal Defense Cruise Missiles

(CDCM), MQ-9B drone, and Field Information Communications System (FICS). During President Donald Trump's term, the US made 11 arms sales to Taiwan, demonstrating its full commitment to upholding the Taiwan Relations Act and the security assurances in the Six Assurances, as well as the high level of attention and support it gives to Taiwan's national defense capabilities.

C. Forging a closer partnership with Taiwan

- (A) On May 4, 27 members of the House of Representatives, including Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee Michael McCaul (R-TX), House Representative Guy Reschenthaler (R-PA), and Co-Chair of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus Mario Diaz Balart (R-FL), sent a joint letter to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. In the letter, they emphasized the significance of the Taiwan–US relationship and asked Secretary Pompeo to review the current guidelines for interactions between the United States and Taiwan.
- (B) On December 17, 78 Republican members of the House of Representatives, including Co-Chairs of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus Steve Chabot (R-OH) and Mario Diaz Balart (R-FL), wrote a joint letter to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. In the letter, they supported changing the name of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) to Taiwan Representative Office, asked the State Department to update guidelines for exchanges with Taiwan, and called for support from the executive branch to negotiate a bilateral trade agreement (BTA) with Taiwan.
- (C) In consideration of the ongoing pandemic, TECRO decided to celebrate this year's National Day by recording videos and presenting pandemic kits. Governors or lieutenant governors of Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, and West Virginia, and the mayor of Washington, D.C., each sent congratulatory letters to celebrate the R.O.C. (Taiwan) National Day. Maryland declared October 10 “R.O.C. Double Tenth Celebration,” while Delaware declared it “Taiwan Day.”
- (D) On October 10, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Guam

held a reopening ceremony, further enhancing bilateral economic, cultural, and tourism relations between Taiwan and Guam.

- D. Support for Taiwan's international participation and consolidation of diplomatic ties with allies
- (A) On January 15, while on a visit to attend the inauguration of recently elected President Alejandro Giammattei of Republic of Guatemala, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu held a bilateral meeting with the United States Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross. The first quadrilateral talks between Taiwan, the US, Guatemala, and Honduras also took place at this time and were attended by US International Development Finance Corporation CEO Adam Bohler, Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Chad Wolf, Foreign Minister Wu, President Juan Orlando Hernandez of Honduras, and Guatemalan President Giammattei. The talks discussed in depth the assistance necessary for infrastructure development and economic and trade investment in Guatemala and Honduras.
  - (B) On January 20, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien and United States Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilkie visited the Taiwan Health Center of the Majuro Hospital, located in the capital of the Marshall Islands, and attended a presentation on the center's operations and achievements.
  - (C) On February 2, Spokesperson for the Department of State Morgan Ortagus issued a statement regarding the ICAO's blocking of Twitter accounts that mentioned Taiwan's participation in international organizations, expressing concerns about the ICAO's restriction of freedom of speech and stating that the blocking of the Twitter accounts was unreasonable and unacceptable, and inappropriate action for a UN organization.
  - (D) The United States continues to support Taiwan's participation in WHO, and urges WHO to invite Taiwan to participate as an observer in the World Health Assembly (WHA). On May 6, during

a routine press conference, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo strongly advocated for Taiwan's participation in WHA. Various senior officials from the State Department's Bureau of International Organization Affairs and other bureaus expressed their support through Twitter. On the same day, Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II sent a letter to WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, requesting a return to the past practice of inviting Taiwan to WHA. On May 18, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo issued a press statement condemning the exclusion of Taiwan from WHA. On the same day, Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II attended the online WHA meeting and spoke on Taiwan's pandemic achievements and the importance of Taiwan's participation in the WHA.

- (E) On June 4, Taiwan and the US held the Virtual Pacific Islands Dialogue on COVID-19 Assistance, hosted by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hsu Szu-chien and Sandra Oudkirk, the US Senior Official for APEC and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands. The discussion centered on Taiwan-US collaboration on pandemic management within the Pacific region. Officials from the United States Department of the Interior, Department of Health and Human Services, and United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and Taiwan and the US ambassadors to Taiwan's diplomatic allies in the Pacific were also in attendance.
- (F) On July 28, the US Department of State issued a joint statement following the 30th Australia-United States Ministerial Consultations (AUSMIN). The statement reaffirmed the significance of Taiwan's role in the Indo-Pacific region, expressed support for Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations, and committed to enhancing coordination with Taiwan on donations. It particularly emphasized the provision of development assistance to Pacific island countries.

- (G) On November 5, Taiwan, the United States, and Saint Lucia held an online meeting with the Partnership Opportunity Delegation (POD) to facilitate investment interest from Taiwan and American companies in Saint Lucia.
- (H) The Senate and the House of Representatives passed the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019, which was promptly signed into law by President Trump on March 26.
- (I) On May 11, the US Senate unanimously passed 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.
- (J) On January 31, seven senators, including Chairman of Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia Cory Gardner (R-CO), sent a joint letter to the WHO Director General, urging WHO to accord Taiwan observer status.
- (K) On November 20, a group of five senators, including Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL), wrote a joint letter to the WHO Director General, expressing their disappointment with Taiwan's exclusion from the resumed session of this year's World Health Assembly (WHA), held from November 9 to 14. They urged WHO to invite Taiwan's meaningful participation at future meetings.
- (L) On May 14, Co-Chairs of the House Taiwan Caucus Steve Chabot (R-OH), Albio Sires (D-NJ), and Gerry Connolly (D-VA) led an initiative in which 205 members of the House of Representatives signed a letter to the WHO Director-General, strongly urging WHO to accord Taiwan observer status at the current session of the WHA.
- (M) On May 6, Co-Chair of the House Taiwan Caucus Mario Diaz Balart (R-FL) wrote to the US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, criticizing the Chinese government for withholding information on the pandemic and urging Secretary Pompeo to consider measures to enhance Taiwan's international standing and participation in international organizations and multilateral decision-making mechanisms.

- (N) On May 8, Chairman James Risch (R-ID) and Ranking Member Robert Menendez (D-NJ) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Chairman Eliot Engel (D-NY) and Ranking Member Michael McCaul (R-TX) of the House Foreign Affairs Committee sent a joint letter to the leaders of like-minded nations and to the European Union, with copies also sent to the foreign ministers or key parliamentary leaders of those countries. The letter urged the governments of those countries to support Taiwan to be invited to participate in this year's WHA and be included in meetings at all levels of WHO.
- (O) On February 3, Chairman Eliot Engel (D-NY) and Ranking Member Michael McCaul (R-TX) of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Chairman Ami Bera (D-CA) and Ranking Member Ted Yoho (R-FL) of the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation, and the four Co-Chairs of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus sent a joint letter to ICAO President of the Council Salvatore Sciacchitano expressing concerns about the ICAO's extensive blocking of accounts of Taiwanese individuals and urged the organization to include Taiwan. On February 6, Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) wrote to ICAO Secretary General Fang Liu in support of Taiwan's participation in the ICAO.
- (P) On January 7, the four leaders of the US Senate and House Foreign Relations Committees: Chairman James Risch (R-ID) and Ranking Member Robert Menendez (D-NJ) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Chairman Eliot Engel (D-NY) and Ranking Member Michael McCaul (R-TX) of the House Foreign Affairs Committee sent a joint letter to President of the World Bank David Malpass, expressing concerns about the bank's requirement for its Taiwanese staff to hold Chinese passports.
- (Q) The state legislatures of West Virginia, both the Senate and the House of Delegates, have separately passed resolutions reaffirming the 40th anniversary of sister-state relations, recognizing Taiwan as a beacon of democracy, supporting the signing of a bilateral



trade agreement (BTA) between Taiwan and the US, considering re-establishing the West Virginia Trade Office in Taiwan, and endorsing Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations.

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

- (A) On December 8, the US House of Representatives passed the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2021; the Senate subsequently passed it on December 11. The act includes provisions reaffirming the Taiwan Relations Act, committing to arms sales to Taiwan, underscoring the Taiwan–US partnership on medical health and security, and advocating for fair employment of Taiwanese personnel at international financial institutions, among other provisions that strengthen the friendship between Taiwan and the US.
- (B) On June 10, Senator Josh Hawley (R-MO) proposed the Taiwan Defense Act, asking the US to uphold its obligations under the Taiwan Relations Act and ensure that the US Department of Defense maintains the capability to repel any aggression from China that could result in a “fait accompli” in Taiwan, as well as providing regular progress reports to Congress regarding this policy goal.
- (C) On July 29, Ranking Member for the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation Ted Yoho (R-FL) put forward the Taiwan Invasion Prevention Act, which would clarify and strengthen the US commitment to defending Taiwan against military aggression, and urging the US to establish a clear red line against China with regards to Taiwan. On September 17, Senator Rick Scott (R-FL) introduced a similar bill in the Senate.
- (D) On June 24, four US Senators, namely Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Robert Menendez (D-NJ), Acting Chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee Marco Rubio

(R-FL), Chair of the Subcommittee on Airland (Committee on Armed Services) Tom Cotton (R-AR), and member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chris Coons (D-DE), wrote a joint letter to Secretary of Defense Mark Esper, requesting that the US Department of Defense extend an invitation to the Taiwan military to play a suitable participatory role in the Rim of the Pacific Exercise (RIMPAC) 2020.

- (E) On September 30, China Task Force, the US House of Representatives released a policy report on China. The report included several recommendations to the executive branch and Congress regarding Taiwan, suggesting that Congress should encourage and approve arms sales to Taiwan and support Taiwan in acquiring the asymmetric capabilities needed for self-defense and implementing an Overall Defense Concept (ODC).
- (F) On December 1, the US–China Economic and Security Review Commission (USCC) released its 2020 Annual Report, which underlined the importance of safeguarding Taiwan from Chinese coercion and recognized Taiwan’s efforts in managing the COVID-19 pandemic.

F. Strengthening global and regional cooperation

- (A) Taiwan Representative to the US Bi-khim Hsiao and US International Development Finance Corporation CEO Adam Boehler jointly announced the establishment of the 2X Women’s Initiative, which will advocate for the economic empowerment of women across the world.
- (B) Taiwan donated US\$500,000 to the Basic Education project at the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS (D-ISIS Coalition), which aims to support the restoration of normal education for Syrian children who were deprived of schooling during the ISIS occupation, through actions such as rebuilding schools and training teachers.
- (C) On June 1, Taiwan, the United States, and Japan issued a joint statement in recognition of the 5th anniversary of the establishment

of the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF), emphasizing their commitment to expanding the use of this platform to address various global challenges and to actively assist public and private sectors and civil society to enhance capacity-building efforts. In-person events decreased this year owing to the pandemic, but seven GCTF events were conducted online. Australia, Guatemala, and the Netherlands co-hosted separate events on this platform.

- (D) On September 17, Taiwan and the United States signed the Framework to Strengthen Infrastructure Finance and Market Building Cooperation, an agreement involving collaboration between the Taiwan and US finance departments and related agencies to explore investments in infrastructure projects in the Americas and the Indo-Pacific region. The framework complements Taiwan's New Southbound Policy and the United States' Indo-Pacific Strategy, contributing to the deepening of the global partnership between Taiwan and the US.
- (E) On December 27, President Trump signed into law the US\$1.4 trillion Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2021. The act includes the full text of the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020 and allocates \$3 million to the GCTF for related projects.

## (2) Economic and trade relations

- A. On November 20, the inaugural US–Taiwan Economic Prosperity Partnership Dialogue (EPPD) took place online by video conference. The dialogue was led by Taiwanese Minister Without Portfolio John Deng and the US Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment Keith Krach. Taiwan's Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Chen Chern-chyi also headed a delegation to Washington, D.C., to exchange views with the US. The two sides signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to serve as a foundation for future annual high-level dialogues. Discussions during the meeting covered various topics, including science and technology, 5G and telecommunications

security, supply chains, women's economic empowerment, infrastructure cooperation, investment screening, and global health security.

- B. On December 15, Taiwan Representative to the US Bi-khim Hsiao and AIT Managing Director Ingrid Larson signed the US–Taiwan Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement. The signing was witnessed online by Taiwan's Minister of Science and Technology Wu Tsung-Tsong and Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu, and the US Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment Keith Krach and Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs David R. Stilwell. This agreement represents the first substantive achievement under the US–Taiwan EPPD, which was held on November 20. The purpose is to enhance cooperation and exchange between Taiwan and the US in the field of technology.
- C. On December 17, Senator Pat Toomey (R-PA) and Representative Guy Reschenthaler (R-PA) introduced separate resolutions in the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, in support of negotiating a BTA with Taiwan. The resolutions were originally co-sponsored by 25 Republican Senators and six Republican Representatives.
- D. On October 1, a bipartisan group of 50 senators led by Co-Chairs of the Senate Taiwan Caucus James Inhofe (R-OK) and Robert Menendez (D-NJ) sent a joint letter to US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, urging the Trump administration to initiate negotiations for a bilateral trade agreement with Taiwan.
- E. Letters were sent to Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, urging the Trump administration to initiate negotiations for a bilateral trade agreement with Taiwan, by Chairman of Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy Cory Gardner (R-CO) on July 29 and Senator Rick Scott (R-FL) on September 1.
- F. On September 10, Acting Chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee Marco Rubio (R-FL) wrote a letter to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, a copy of which was sent to Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, urging the US government to send Under Secretary of State for

Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment Keith Krach to Taiwan to lay the groundwork for negotiations on a US–Taiwan Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

- G. On August 28, over 60 members of Congress, including Senate President Pro Tempore and Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee Charles Grassley (R-IA), issued statements through press releases or social media posts to acknowledge and express appreciation for Taiwan’s decision to ease restrictions on the import of US beef and pork.
- H. The National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) revised and re-adopted the Resolution Supporting US–Taiwan Bilateral Trade and Investment, originally passed in 2015. This resolution reaffirms support for ongoing efforts to strengthen and expand bilateral economic, trade, and investment opportunities between the United States and Taiwan. The revised resolution will remain in effect until 2025.
- I. On December 3, the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) presented President Tsai Ing-wen with the International Pioneer Award for Leadership, recognizing her outstanding leadership, commitment to free markets, dedication to global freedom, and achievements during the pandemic.

### (3) Cultural and educational relations

- A. On December 2, Taiwan Representative to the US Bi-khim Hsiao and AIT Managing Director Ingrid Larson signed the US Taiwan MOU on International Education Cooperation. Deputy Secretary of Education Mitchell Zais and Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs Marie Royce witnessed the signing, which marked the launch of the Taiwan–US Education Initiative.
- B. On June 26, Chairman Ami Bera (D-CA) and Ranking Member Ted Yoho (R-FL) of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation proposed the Taiwan Fellowship Act in the House of Representatives. On July 27 of the same year, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia and the Pacific Edward Markey (D-MA) and Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) proposed the Taiwan Fellowship Act in the Senate.

- C. US State Department Critical Language Scholarship Program: In response to the pandemic this year, National Cheng Kung University, under the supervision and support of the US State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, created the 2020 CLS Virtual Tainan Institute to offer online courses. A total of 15 US students attended the program.
  - D. Promotion of Mandarin-language teaching in the US and scholarships for studying in Taiwan: The Ministry of Education sent four Mandarin-language teachers and eight teaching assistants to different US universities, organized one TOCFL exam with American Chinese schools, and awarded three MOE Taiwan Scholarships to US students.
  - E. Promotion of Taiwan studies in the United States: The MOE worked with George Mason University to put on the Taiwan Studies Program, offering three courses: Taiwan history, issues in modern Taiwan, and an introduction to Taiwanese literature.
- (4) COVID-19 cooperation
- A. On March 18, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the AIT/T released the Taiwan–US Joint Statement on a Partnership against Coronavirus. The statement expressed both sides’ commitment to collaborate and exchange information in various areas, including the development of rapid testing kits, vaccine and drug research and production, contact tracing technology, joint meetings of scientists and experts, and cooperation on pandemic and medical supplies and equipment.
  - B. On April 24, Vice President Chen Chien-jen participated in a virtual conference at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, where he talked about Taiwan’s successful fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - C. On May 8, Vice Premier Chen Chi-mai was invited to deliver a keynote speech at an online conference hosted by US think tank the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). During the conference, he talked about Taiwan’s successful fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and engaged in dialogue with US Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services Eric Hargan.



- D. On June 11, Vice President Lai Ching-te participated in an online seminar at Harvard University discussing the past, present, and future impact of COVID-19 on Taiwan. During the seminar, he talked about Taiwan's experience of pandemic control.
- E. TECRO and Taipei Economic and Cultural Offices in the US donated 12,655,000 surgical masks to the US federal government and state governments this year. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, other high-ranking federal officials, and a number of state governors publicly expressed gratitude for Taiwan's generous contribution.

(5) Agriculture and fisheries cooperation

- A. US–Taiwan Organic Equivalence Arrangement: Following several rounds of technical consultation, Taiwan's Council of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) signed the bilateral organic equivalence agreement. On June 5, TECRO and AIT completed the exchange of documents, strengthening the trade of organic products and enhancing bilateral agricultural cooperation. Under this agreement, Taiwanese organic agricultural producers are no longer required to obtain individual US organic certification. In addition, American organic food processors can use a wider range of Taiwanese organic agricultural products as ingredients. This agreement opens up broader export channels for Taiwanese organic agricultural products, enabling producers to tap into new opportunities in the US market.
- B. Consultations on agricultural science, technology, and sanitation
  - (A) The 2020 Bilateral Cooperation Meeting on Agricultural Science and Technology between USDA-ARS/AIT and COA/TECRO was conducted by video conference on October 29, with Council of Agriculture (COA) Deputy Minister Chen Junne-jih and Administrator of the Agriculture Research Service Chavonda Jacobs-Young presiding. During the meeting, the two parties confirmed that the collaborative project had yielded considerable results and jointly proposed 13 new projects on topics of mutual interest for cooperation. It was agreed each side would allocate

budgets to support collaborative research and substantive exchanges. The meeting will enable agricultural research scholars and experts to participate in US-led national agricultural projects through the platform and jointly publish research outcomes from both sides.

- (B) The 27th Session of the AIT-TECRO Sanitary, Phytosanitary and Agricultural Standards Working Group Consultations was held by video conference from October 27 to 30. The two sides discussed issues relating to quarantine techniques for animals and plants, inspection and quarantine technology, and food safety and hygiene management in agricultural products. The consultation meetings are an important platform for Taiwan and US exchange.

(6) Scientific and technological cooperation

- A. On August 11, the US State Department released a factual document entitled “The Clean Network to Safeguard America’s Assets” via its spokesperson, including Taiwan as a partner for the Clean Network.
- B. On August 26, Foreign Minister Jaushieh Joseph Wu and AIT/T Director Brent Christensen announced the Joint Declaration on 5G Security, which ensures a foundation of free and fair competition, transparency, and the rule of law, and protects 5G networks from disruption or manipulation.

C. Bilateral meetings

- (A) In May, Taiwan Environmental Protection Administration Deputy Minister Hung-Teh Tsai hosted a video conference meeting together with the US Environmental Protection Agency Assistant Administrator Jane Nishida, during which they discussed progress on Implementing Arrangement 13 of the Technical Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection, as well as related environmental issues.
- (B) In October, the US Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Neil Jacobs attended the 5th

International Conference on GPS Radio Occultation in 2020, hosted by the National Space Organization of the National Applied Research Labs, and delivered opening remarks and the keynote speech.

- (C) In July, the Executive Yuan's Atomic Energy Council was invited to the US Nuclear Threat Initiative's 2020 Nuclear Security Index Launch Event.
  - D. Important science and technology agreements: TECRO and AIT signed the second Extension of the Radiation Protection Code Analysis and Maintenance Program, the Scope of Work for the second year of Implementing Arrangement 16 to the Technical Cooperation in Meteorology and Forecast Systems Development, implementing guidelines on an MOU on lung cancer research, Implementing Arrangement 13 to the Technical Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection, and the US–Taiwan Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement.
  - E. Mutual visits by technology officials and talent fostering: From March 9 to 12, Executive Yuan Office of Science and Technology Policy Director Chingteng Hsiao headed a 20-person delegation to Satellite 2020 in Washington, D.C.
- (7) Mutual visits by dignitaries
- A. Visits from Taiwan were made by Vice President-Elect Lai Ching-te, Minister Without Portfolio Audrey Tang, and Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Chen Chern-chyi.
  - B. Visits from the US were made by HHS Secretary Alex Azar II; HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response Robert Kadlec; Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment Keith Krach; Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Robert Destro; Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues Kelly Currie; and Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Global Markets Ian Steff.



# **Photographs of Diplomatic Events North America**







Taiwan Representative to Canada Winston Wen-yi Chen (fifth from left) attends a reception with members of the Canadian Senate and House of Commons. (February 3, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to Canada Winston Wen-yi Chen (second from left) donates surgical masks to the Canadian Red Cross on behalf of Taiwan. President of the Canadian Red Cross Conrad Sauvé (second from right), Conservative Party Leader Andrew Scheer (left) and Member of Parliament Chandra Arya (right) witness the donation. (May 4, 2020)



Representative to Canada Winston Wen-yi Chen and Director-General of TECO Vancouver Andy Chen Kang-I jointly preside over the opening ceremony for the Taiwan Pavilion at GLOBE 2020. Attendees include Members of Parliament Don Davies, Alice Wong, Hedy Fry, Kerry-Lynne Findlay, and Kenny Chiu, and Senator Yonah Martin. (February 11, 2020)



TECO Toronto Director-General Catherine Y. M. Hsu (center) donates 50,000 surgical masks to the Government of Ontario on behalf of Taiwan. Government House Leader Paul Calandra (right) and Minister of Education Stephen Lecce (left) accept the donation on behalf of the Ontario Government. (April 30, 2020)





Ontario Minister of Health and Deputy Premier Christine Elliott (right) and Education Minister Stephen Lecce (left) accept a donation of medical supplies from members of the Taiwan community on behalf of hospitals in the area. (July 16, 2020)



The Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce of North America (TCCNA) and the Taiwan Merchant Association of Toronto (TMAT) donate 100,000 surgical masks to 23 social welfare facilities in Ontario. (July 22, 2020)



Director-General of TECO Vancouver Andy Chen Kang-I (center) donates surgical masks to the British Columbia government on behalf of Taiwan. Minister of Citizens' Services Anne Kang (right) and Minister of State for Child Care Katrina Chen (left) accept the donation on behalf of British Columbia. (May 4, 2020)



Director-General of TECO Vancouver Andy Chen Kang-I (left) meets with Alberta Premier Jason Kenney (center) to donate 25,000 surgical masks to the Province of Alberta on behalf of Taiwan. (May 13, 2020)



Taiwan Representative to the US Bi-khim Hsiao (center) donates surgical masks to the American Legion on behalf of Taiwan and poses for a photo with American Legion National Commander James W. Oxford (left) and House Representative Ted Yoho (R-FL) (right). (July 28, 2020)



The inaugural EPPD begins as Taiwan Representative to the US Bi-khim Hsiao (right) and AIT Managing Director Ingrid Larson (left) sign an MOU in Washington, D.C. Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment Keith Krach (second from left) and Taiwan's Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Chen Chern-chyi (second from right) are witnesses to the signing. (November 20, 2020)





Director-General of TECO Atlanta Elliot Yi-lung Wang (left) donates 10,000 surgical masks to Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) on behalf of Taiwan. GEMA Director Homer Bryson accepts the donation. (August 1, 2020)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu attends an online interview with President of the Atlanta Council on International Relations Robert Kennedy. (September 10, 2020)





Director-General of TECO Atlanta Elliot Yi-lung Wang presides over the 109th Virtual National Day Celebration. Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear (above) and former US Ambassador to the U.N. Nikki Haley (below) record video messages of congratulation. (October 10, 2020)



Director-General Jerry Chang (left) donates the first shipment of 100,000 surgical masks to Colorado on behalf of Taiwan. (April 10, 2020)



At the invitation of the Colorado State Governor's Office, Director-General Jerry Chang (fifth from left) visits the emergency command center to see how medical supplies donated by Taiwan are being used. (June 8, 2020)



Director-General of TECO Houston Peter C. Y. Chen (center) donates 100,000 surgical masks to Louisiana on behalf of Taiwan and poses for a photo with State Governor John Bel Edwards (right) and Secretary of Louisiana Economic Development Don Pierson. (April 20, 2020)



Director-General of TECO Houston Robert Fu-Wen Lo (right) presents Governor of Oklahoma Kevin Stitt with a commemorative gift on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of sister relations between Taiwan and Oklahoma. (December 3, 2020)





Director-General of TECO Los Angeles Abraham W.S. Chu and his wife, along with Representative Judy Chu (D-CA) (center left) and other distinguished guests, attend the opening ceremony for the first batch of Taiwan guavas exported to the US market. (January 22, 2020)



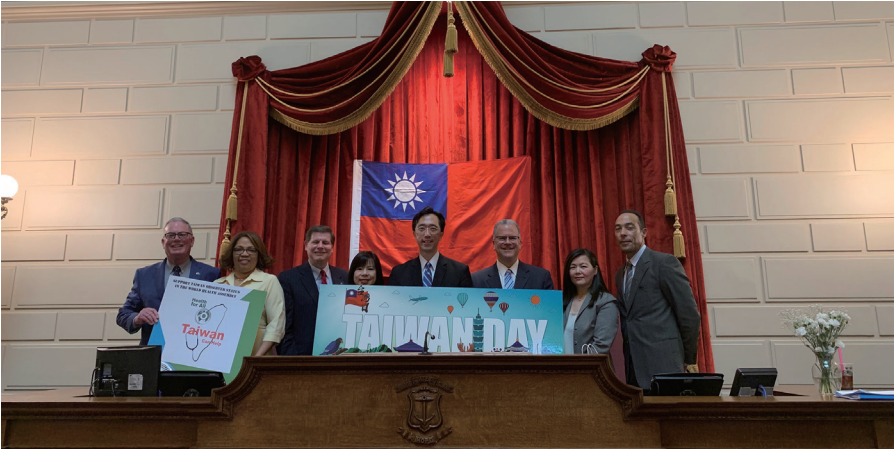
Director-General of TECO Los Angeles Louis M. Huang (center) donates 90,000 surgical masks on behalf of Taiwan and President of the Taiwanese-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Los Angeles (TACCLA) Kenneth Chen (second from right) donates 200,000 surgical masks on behalf of TACCLA to the city of Los Angeles. Deputy Mayor Nina Hachigian (second from left) accepts the donations on behalf of Los Angeles. (August 25, 2020)



Former Vice President Chen Chien-jen (top, center) and Director General of TECO New York James K. J. Lee (top, right) attend The Taiwan Model: On a Resolute Path to the SDGs in the COVID-19 Pandemic, an online video conference. (September 17, 2020)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (middle row, center), US Ambassador to the U.N. Kelly Craft (top, center), and Director General of TECO New York James K. J. Lee (bottom, center) attend the vGCTF on Advancing International Development through Public Private Partnership. (September 29, 2020)



Taiwan Day at the Rhode Island House of Representatives. Attendees include House Speaker Nicholas Mattiello (third from right), Speaker Pro Tempore Brian Kennedy (third from left), Deputy Majority leader Jean Barros (right), Chair of the Health, Education, and Welfare Committee Joseph McNamara (left), Chairwoman of the Legislative Commission on Child Care Grace Diaz (second from left), and Director-General Douglas Hsu of TECO Boston and his wife (fourth from right, fourth from left). (March 11, 2020)



The Pawtucket City Government holds a ceremony at the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council in recognition of Taiwan's donation of surgical masks. Attendees include Lieutenant Governor Daniel McKee (third from right), Central Falls Mayor James Diossa (left), President of the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council Bob Billington (second from left), Director of International Trade Programs at the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation Katherine Therieau (third from left), TECO Boston Director-General Douglas Hsu (fourth from left), Director Louis Yip (second from right) and President Sunny Ng (right) of the Rhode Island Association of Chinese-Americans. (June 5, 2020)



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

### **I. Introduction**

Of the 33 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, Taiwan maintains formal diplomatic ties with nine: Belize, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. Taiwan also operates consulates general in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, and Ciudad del Este, Paraguay, and has representative offices in seven countries with which it does not currently have diplomatic relations: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, and Peru. An additional office is also maintained in São Paulo, Brazil. Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Peru all have trade offices in Taiwan.

While Taiwan continues to bolster diplomatic relations with Latin American and Caribbean allies through cooperation and exchange, the government is also actively furthering substantive ties with other countries in regions, with which Taiwan does not have diplomatic relations. The COVID-19 pandemic swept across the world in 2020, having an especially serious impact on Latin American and Caribbean countries. The government and people of the R.O.C. (Taiwan) generously donated pandemic supplies and shared their experience of containing the pandemic. In addition to garnering goodwill from governments and peoples in foreign countries, these actions also enhanced friendship and cooperation between Taiwan and other nations.

### **II. Relations with individual countries**

#### **1. Relations with Belize**

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with Belize on October 11, 1989, and subsequently set up the embassy on October 25 of that year. The Embassy of Belize in Taiwan was set up on September 21, 1992.
- (2) Economic and trade relations
  - A. Bilateral trade between Taiwan and Belize totaled US\$6.764 million in 2020, with Taiwan's exports to Belize at US\$6.096 million and imports from Belize at US\$668,000. Around 20 Taiwan companies have invested a total of US\$30.6 million in Belize.

- B. Taiwan and Belize signed an Economic Cooperation Agreement (ECA) on September 30, 2020. The ECA was signed remotely by the Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and Minister of State at the Ministry of Economic Development, Petroleum, Investment, Trade & Commerce Tracy Panton of Belize, and was subsequently approved by the Belizean Senate on October 8 of the same year, concluding all internal legal proceedings in Belize. The ECA will be submitted through the corresponding channels to Taiwan's Legislative Yuan for approval, after which the two sides will exchange written notifications.
- C. The ECA will then officially come into effect, which will confer preferential tariffs for 199 types of imported Belizean products and 33 types of Taiwanese industrial exports. The two sides also continue to seek opportunities to expand economic and trade cooperation through capacity building in trade and investment facilitation, sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures, product development, and food safety standards.
- D. The two sides cancelled their economic and trade missions in response to the pandemic. However, Hello Body, a Belizean company, was able to attend the Giftionery & Culture Creative Expo in Taipei in November, with the coordinated efforts of the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) and the Embassy of R.O.C. (Taiwan) in Belize. Also, BELTRAIDE provided a "Made in Belize" product catalogue and asked businesses to provide marketing posters for the Kaohsiung Food Show in October and Food Taipei and International Agriculture & Fisheries Expo Taiwan in December.
- E. The Embassy of R.O.C. (Taiwan) in Belize worked with TAITRA to introduce seven seafood providers from Belize (including Rainforest Seafoods Limited) to multiple Taiwan seafood importers through online matchmaking. Taiwan seafood importers procured US\$420,000 worth of lobsters from Belize.

## (3) Bilateral cooperation

- A. Basic Infrastructure: Taiwan worked with Belize on the Rehabilitation of Hummingbird Highway Project and the Airport Link Road Project. Belize signed a loan agreement to finance the Corozal–Sarteneja Road Project, which includes the building of two bridges. Construction began on February 1.
- B. Urban Resilience and Disaster Prevention Project: Taiwan and Belize signed the three-year 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 on April 2, 2019. Geographic Information System (GIS) is being used to significantly enhance the disaster reduction capabilities of the Belizean government, in alignment with UN SDG 13 “Climate Action” and UNSDG 17 “Partnerships for the Goals.”
- C. Medical cooperation
  - (A) On February 10, 2016, Taiwan and Belize signed the five-year Public Health and Medical Skills Cooperation Agreement between the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Government of Belize. On November 18, 2019, the four-year Project for Strengthening Medical Imaging System in Belize (“Belize Imaging Project”) was signed in the hope of improving Belize’s medical imaging system in order to lower healthcare costs and improve patient welfare. Once the Belize Imaging Project was underway, the Belizean Ministry of Health sent two radiologists to Taiwan in December of the same year to receive three years’ radiology training.
  - (B) On February 27, 2019, Deputy Superintendent of the Chi Mei Medical Center Dr. Yu-Feng Tian and Minister of Health of Belize Pablo Marin signed a Letter of Intent for medical cooperation. The Belizean Ministry of Health then sent five nurses, to Taiwan in February this year, to receive 18 months’ training to become operating room nurses.

D. Agriculture and livestock cooperation: On March 26 of this year, Taiwan and Belize signed the Breeding Sheep and Goat Production and Guidance System Enhancement Project, helping Belizean sheep farmers improve the quality of their sheep, designing marketing strategies to promote the consumption of sheep and goat products, and enhancing the traceability of sheep to improve value chain efficiency and the quality of sheep products.

(4) Cultural and educational relations

A. Scholarship programs: Taiwan set up the TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarship in 2002 and the Taiwan Scholarship in 2004 to provide Belizean students with the opportunity to pursue bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees across various fields in Taiwan. To date, a total of 411 Belizean students have pursued degrees at higher education institutions in Taiwan, and over a hundred scholarship recipients have successfully completed their studies and returned to Belize.

B. Seminars and training courses: Taiwan typically offers around 25 opportunities each year for Belizean mid- and high-level officials and experts to attend various short-term training courses and seminars in Taiwan. However, activities were suspended this year due to the pandemic.

C. Vocational education: The Embassy of R.O.C. (Taiwan) in Belize worked closely with the Belizean Institute for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ITVET) to comprehensively improve the school's teaching equipment and facilities. This initiative aims to increase talent development in various sectors in Belize, further implementing President Tsai Ing-wen's commitment to the importance of vocational education and capacity building among disadvantaged communities in Belize.

D. Arts, sports, and youth exchanges

(A) Taiwan sponsored Belize Independence Day celebrations organized by the National Institute of Culture and History (NICH).

(B) Taiwan sponsored the annual El Carnaval de San Pedro, organized by the San Pedro city government, which celebrates local culture

and promotes tourism. This major Belizean cultural celebration takes place annually.

- (5) Humanitarian assistance: In November of this year, Belize experienced two hurricanes in quick succession, resulting in ongoing flooding in various areas. The R.O.C. (Taiwan) Embassy assisted the Taiwan International Health Action (TaiwanIHA) team provide emergency medical supply kits to enable Belize to effectively respond to the disaster.
- (6) COVID-19 cooperation: Taiwan actively helped Belize contain the pandemic, donated pandemic supplies, and shared experience on pandemic prevention. Taiwan donated pandemic supplies such as surgical masks, N-95 respirators, isolation gowns, protective suits, infrared and forehead thermometers, nucleic acid analyzers, specific reagents, nasal sampling swabs, automated forehead temperature sensor systems, rapid antibody tests, and ventilators. The R.O.C. (Taiwan) Embassy also set up several video conferences so that Taiwanese medical and pandemic teams could share their experience with the Ministry of Health and major media outlets in Belize.

## **2. Relations with the Republic of Guatemala**

- (1) Background: The Republic of China (Taiwan) established diplomatic relations with Guatemala on June 15, 1933, and opened a consulate general in Guatemala City. It was reclassified as a legation on December 22, 1954, and upgraded to an embassy on September 22, 1960. The technical mission was posted to Guatemala on February 14, 1973, and the Taiwan Investment and Trade Service Mission in Central America was stationed in Guatemala on October 18, 2000. Guatemala established a 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\$112 million in 2020, while imports from Guatemala were US\$79.16 million. According to data from the Investment Committee of the MOEA, eight Taiwanese investment cases are currently active in Guatemala, with a cumulative value of US\$22.87 million. Forty Taiwanese businesspeople went to Guatemala on business trips.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan provided 21 Taiwan Scholarships and 15 TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarships to

Guatemalan students. Taiwan also sponsored a one-year Mandarin course at the College of Foreign Languages, National University of San Carlos. TaiwanICDF dispatched Mandarin teachers to carry out a Mandarin-language education project catering to Guatemalan diplomats and students from the Technical Institute for Productivity and Training (INTECAP), and assist the R.O.C. Elementary School in Guatemala City with Mandarin courses. On September 8, Taiwan and Guatemala jointly held an online international seminar under the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF) of Taiwan, the US, and Japan, marking the first time a GCTF event was held outside Taiwan.

- (4) Technical cooperation: Taiwan has maintained an active technical mission in Guatemala for 47 years. Current projects include: the Bamboo Industries Project, the Project for the Strengthening of Marketing Capacity in Family Farming, the Project for the Capacity Strengthening to Support the Incubation and Entrepreneurship for MIPYMEs, the Project for the Revitalization of Crafts and Youth Entrepreneurship in Antigua Guatemala and Surrounding Municipalities in Sacatepéquez, the Project for Promotion of Medical Technology for Improvement of Maternal-Neonatal Health in Guatemala, and the Financial Technician Deployment Program.
- (5) Bilateral cooperation: Taiwan and Guatemala signed MOUs for infrastructure development, medicine and public health, education, technology, and economics and trade.
- (6) Technological cooperation: The Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in Guatemala organized a video conference with the National Secretariat for Science and Technology of Guatemala (SENACYT) to discuss national science and technology development and how to cultivate a highly educated workforce. Taiwan also made donations to the Guatemalan Ministry of Foreign Affairs for institutional modernization projects such as digital signatures, green buildings, and project consultants.
- (7) Overseas community affairs
  - A. Around 17,050 overseas compatriots (including Guatemalans of Chinese descent) reside in Guatemala. Since 1981, over 600 Taiwan nationals have taken up residence in Guatemala. Most are engaged in the following



sectors: imports, wholesale, retail, dining, food processing, agriculture, and digital entertainment.

- B. Overseas community organizations: By current estimates, organizations in Guatemala include the Overseas Chinese Association, Taiwanese Chambers of Commerce, World Kwong Tong Community Association, Lions Clubs International, Tzu Chi Guatemala, Golf Club, Lions Clubs International of the New Generation of Chinese, Chinese Chamber of Commerce, and Taiwan Chamber of Commerce & Industry.
- (8) Humanitarian assistance
- A. Taiwan donated a shipment of rice to Guatemala to assist 100,000 people living in the Eastern areas, which are commonly affected by drought, resulting in widespread malnutrition.
  - B. Taiwan provided disaster relief supplies to areas in Guatemala affected by Hurricanes Eta and Iota.
  - C. Taiwan donated food supplies to the Mixco City Government to help with food shortages at municipal shelters.
- (9) A visit to Guatemala was made by Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu and his wife.

### **3. Relations with the Republic of 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 Ambassador to Japan, presented his credentials on April 8, 1980. On August 16, 1981, the Haitian Chargé d’Affaires arrived in Taipei to establish the embassy.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: In 2020, bilateral trade between Taiwan and

Haiti totaled US\$29.53 million, with Taiwan's exports to Haiti at US\$24.94 million and imports from Haiti at US\$4.59 million.

- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan established the TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarship in 2002 and the MOFA Taiwan Scholarship in 2004. This year, Taiwan awarded TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarships to five Haitian students to study in Taiwan. Taiwan sent Mandarin teachers to hold Mandarin classes in Haiti and also assisted Haiti in building vocational schools, agricultural vocational schools and clothing manufacturing training centers. Other areas of assistance include training in clothes design and creation, Artisanat en Fête, and the distribution of solar backpacks to allow for greater access to education for rural students.
- (4) Agriculture and fisheries cooperation: Under the National Rice Seed Production Enhancement Project, three modern rice-seed treatment centers were set up in the northern, central, and southern regions of Haiti.
- (5) Bilateral cooperation: In line with the direction of Haiti government policy, the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government launched cooperation projects to address issues with the electricity supply, humanitarian assistance for underprivileged communities, food security, and healthcare. Current projects include: power grid enhancement (Projet de Renforcement des Réseaux Électriques en Haïti), solar-powered water pumps for irrigation (Projet de système de pompage de l'eau par le solaire photovoltaïque), improving water, hygiene, and sanitation in Les Cayes (Eau, Hygiène et Assainissement dans la 6ème Section Communale des Cayes), and increasing the capacity of the National Ambulance Center (Projet de Renforcement de la Capacité Opérationnelle du Centre Ambulancier National).
- (6) COVID-19 cooperation: Taiwan donated surgical masks, N95 respirators, protective suits, isolation gowns, forehead thermometers, automated temperature sensors, quinine, PCR machines, reagents, and other medical supplies. Taiwan also held video conferences with the Haitian government to share Taiwan's experience of containing the pandemic and so helped them prevent further transmission of COVID-19.
- (7) Medical cooperation: Taiwan implemented the Projet de Renforcement de la Capacité Opérationnelle du Centre Ambulancier National (CAN) to increase

the capacity of the Haitian National Ambulance Center and reduce response times.

- (8) Humanitarian assistance: Taiwan donated rice to the Haitian government and also partnered with Food For The Poor (FFTP) to donate rice to underprivileged communities. The R.O.C. (Taiwan) Embassy donated one 40-foot container of aid equipment on behalf of the Pu-Hsein Educational Foundation and the Cao Zhong Zhi Foundation, one container of humanitarian supplies on behalf of the SimplyHelp Foundation, and one 40-foot container of fabric materials to Haiti on behalf of the Wu Thun-Chih Foundation for Charity and Public Welfare.
- (9) A visit from Haiti was made by Governor of the Bank of the Republic of Haiti (BRH) Jean Baden Dubois.

#### **4. Relations with the Republic of Honduras**

- (1) Background
  - A. 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, and it was upgraded to an embassy in May 1965. Taiwan set up a consulate general in San Pedro Sula in December 1997. Honduras established an embassy in Taiwan in June 1985. High-level officials from both sides frequently pay visits and sign agreements on free trade, technical cooperation, electrical power technology cooperation, investment promotion and protection, audit cooperation, volunteer work, journalism, and cultural exchange.
  - B. In addition to multiple instances of bilateral cooperation between Taiwan and Honduras, Taiwan also set up the Technical and Taipower Missions in Honduras. Along with NGOs, the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government regularly donates humanitarian aid supplies or medical services, which has won recognition and support among the people of Honduras.
- (2) Support for Taiwan's international participation: Honduras has been a strong advocate for Taiwan at such important international forums as the United Nations (UN), World Health Organization (WHO), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate

Change (UNFCCC) conferences. Honduras has also supported Taiwan's participation in international organizations.

(3) Economic and trade relations

- A. Bilateral trade in 2020 totaled US\$163 million (down 1.8% from 2019), with Taiwan's exports worth US\$58 million (down 22.3%) and imports valued at US\$105 million (up 14.7%).
- B. Taiwan and Honduras have been actively promoting economic and trade cooperation projects for many years, fostering substantial economic and trade ties. When the Taiwan–Honduras Free Trade Agreement came into effect in July 2008, manufacturers began to use 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 provide loans to Honduran companies to enable them to purchase Taiwanese machinery.
- C. For several years now, the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) have organized missions to Honduras to procure seafood and coffee and hold the annual Taiwan Expo in Honduras. During the pandemic, the expo was held online to help Taiwan businesses expand into the Honduran market. Honduran businesses were also invited to attend Food Taipei, the Kaohsiung Food Show, and the Taiwan International Fisheries and Seafood Show (TIFSS) to help expand marketing opportunities and raise product value.
- D. Representatives from Taiwanese businesses continue to visit Honduras to assess the investment environment, seek investment opportunities, and export industrial technologies. This has facilitated Honduras's economic development and deepened the substantive economic and trade cooperation between the two countries.

- (4) Technical cooperation: Taiwan has helped Honduras develop its agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and animal husbandry, as well as providing technical consultations and technology transfers. To date, the followings have been introduced to Honduras: Tilapia cage culture, white shrimp and pig breeding techniques, Asian vegetables and rice, orchids, Indian dates, guava cultivation, and measures to control huanglongbing (HLB) in citrus.

Ongoing projects include the Healthy Avocado Seedling Production Project, Honduras Expanding Avocado Cultivation Project, Forest Pest Management Project, Pig Breeding and Reproduction Project, Farmers' Organization Production and Marketing Enhancement Project, Overseas Professional Mandarin Teaching Project, Innovation Project for Using Biofuel Techniques to Convert Discarded Wood and Leaves into Household Energy. Thanks to the successful promotion of projects involving Asian vegetables, white shrimp, Tilapia fish, and guava, these products have become important agricultural and fisheries products in Honduras.

- (5) Cultural and educational relations: Since 2005, Taiwan has been promoting scholarship programs in Honduras, enhancing bilateral academic and cultural exchange. This year, Taiwan awarded the Taiwan Scholarship and TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarship to 46 outstanding students from Honduras to study in Taiwan. Since 2009, the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government has also built and repaired classrooms in rural areas, in cooperation with Canal 10 and *La Tribuna* in Honduras. To date nearly 700 classrooms have been completed.
- (6) Bilateral cooperation
  - A. General cooperation projects: In line with the principles of steadfast diplomacy and mutual assistance for mutual benefits, Taiwan actively promotes various bilateral cooperation projects with Honduras. Taiwan has continued to actively promote projects that contribute to the well-being of Honduran people. These include advocating energy-saving practices, building capacity for government agencies dedicated to the elderly, enhancing arrival/departure biosecurity for the immigration authority, helping female entrepreneurs set up sewing businesses in their communities, donating air traffic control tower equipment to the Ramon Villeda Morales International Airport located in San Pedro Sula, donating backpacks and stationary to rural children, providing toys for children on Christmas in 2020, and donating communication equipment to Honduran firefighters.
  - B. Cultural and sports cooperation: The Ministry of Education implemented a project to promote basic infrastructure and environmental sanitation

- at Santa Bárbara public schools, and continues to improve farm school facilities.
- C. Military cooperation: To promote military exchanges, Taiwan helped the Armed Forces of Honduras set up dental clinics.
  - D. Medical cooperation: When the COVID-19 pandemic struck, Taiwan promptly airlifted supplies to Honduras, donating pandemic supplies, medical equipment, and medication. Taiwan also made a financial contribution to the Honduran pandemic effort, using bilateral and multilateral cooperation to enable Honduras to procure ambulances, dedicated vehicles, X-ray machines, and pathology lab equipment. Taiwan held video conferences to share its experience fighting the pandemic. Taiwan also donated COVID-19 PPE, helped upgrade and expand the OB/GYN ward at RSC Hospital in La Paz, and donated pandemic supplies to Ciudad Mujer.
  - E. Environmental cooperation: Taiwan helped the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment on projects to construct river embankments in drought-prone regions, protect sea turtles along Honduras's Pacific coastline, and promote rainwater harvesting systems for churches.
- (7) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 4,000 ethnic Chinese live in Honduras, mostly immigrants and the children of immigrants, including recent immigrants from China. The 30 or so Taiwan nationals mostly 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: Honduras was hit by Hurricane Eta and Iota in quick succession, causing massive damage and loss. The R.O.C. (Taiwan) government worked in collaboration with the private sector to provide financial aid, food, supplies, and large-scale water purification equipment to help affected populations. Taiwan also worked with the Honduras government to plan future reconstruction efforts, and collaborated with Christians Assisting Burned (CRISAQ) to donate specialist materials for



pressure garments for burn patients and provide donations of rice to rural and underprivileged families.

- (9) A visit to Honduras was made by Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu.

## 5. Relations with the Republic of 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 consulate general was set up in Managua. On May 18, 1955, the two countries established diplomatic relations and the consulate general became a legation, later upgraded to an embassy on September 20, 1962. Diplomatic relations were severed on December 7, 1985, and resumed on November 5, 1990. The R.O.C. (Taiwan) government reopened the embassy on November 13 of the same year. Nicaragua appointed its first Concurrent Minister to Taiwan in 1960. The position was upgraded to 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 2020 totaled US\$167 million, with Taiwan's exports at US\$22.94 million and imports of US\$144 million. Both total trade volume and import/export volumes reached historical highs. Taiwan businesses invested about US\$145 million in Nicaragua through 31 investments, creating roughly 7,000 jobs.
  - B. On December 2, the 3rd Free Trade Commission Meeting of the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Nicaragua and Taiwan was held online, co-hosted by Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua and Nicaraguan Minister of Development, Industry and Trade Orlando Solorzano Delgadillo.
  - C. Taiwan Chunghwa Post signed an agreement with its Nicaraguan counterpart (Empresa Correos de Nicaragua) to improve communications and express parcel services.

- D. The Central American Trade Office sent a commercial mission to Nicaragua with a focus on business opportunities in the coffee industry. Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) held three events: an online seminar on pandemic products with diplomatic allies in Latin America, Taiwan Virtual Expo 2020, and the Central and South American Seafood and Beef Procurement Reception Taiwanese Bando Banquet. Nicaraguan businesses were invited to participate. The R.O.C. (Taiwan) Embassy in Nicaragua also sent samples to the Giftionery & Culture Creative Taipei, Food Taipei, International Agriculture & Fisheries Expo Taiwan, and the Kaohsiung Food Show.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan awarded Taiwan Scholarships to 15 Nicaraguan students and Taiwan Fellowships to three Nicaraguan scholars. Two professional Mandarin teachers and three English volunteers were sent to Nicaragua. The Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) held the TOCFL exam (Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language), attended the Christmas Gastronomic Festival, and offered online occupational training courses organized by TaiwanICDF, in which 29 people enrolled.
- (4) Bilateral cooperation: Taiwan collaborated on eight occasions with various Nicaraguan public bodies: the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports; Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure; National Police of Nicaragua (Policía Nacional); and the Nicaraguan Armed Forces (Fuerzas Armadas). These collaborations were related to food security, social welfare, public health and medicine, education, infrastructure development, and institutional capacity building.
- (5) Agriculture and fisheries cooperation: The TaiwanICDF Technical Mission implemented the following nine projects: the Rice Seed Research, Development and Production Extension Project (Investigación e Innovación para mejorar la Productividad de la Semilla de Arroz), Bamboo Cultivation and Handicraft Production Efficiency Enhancement Project (Cultivo de Bambú y Mejoramiento de la Eficiencia en la Producción de Artesanías), Common Bean Research, Development and Production Extension Project (Investigación y Desarrollo para el Fomento de la Productividad de la

Semilla de Frijol), Plantain Development Project (Desarrollo del Cultivo de Plátano), Fruit and Vegetable Production Improvement Project (Producción de Plantas de Frutas y Hortalizas), One Town, One Product Project (Un pueblo, Un producto), Mariculture Project (Maricultura), Strengthen Capacity for GIS metadata and Disaster Resilience Project (Fortalecimiento de Capacidades ante Amenazas Naturales), and the Project for Strengthening Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Prevention and Control System (Fortalecimiento del Sistema de Prevención y Tratamiento de la Enfermedad Renal Crónica). An additional ten substitute military service personnel were sent to Nicaragua to assist as technicians on various projects.

- (6) COVID-19 cooperation: After the global outbreak of COVID-19, Taiwan enhanced collaboration with Nicaragua, working on pandemic containment and donating pandemic supplies such as surgical masks, isolation gowns, protective suits, forehead thermometers, thermal imaging equipment, rapid test reagents, ventilators, nucleic acid analyzers, and medication. Three online meetings were also held to share Taiwan's experience dealing with the pandemic.
- (7) Medical cooperation: Taiwan collaborated with the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare of the Republic of Nicaragua (MSPAS) on the Project for Strengthening Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Prevention and Control System and helped to renovate hospitals, maternal care homes, and medical stations, upgrade equipment for rehabilitation homes for disabled people, and procure medical, pharmaceutical, and pandemic supplies, as well as working on the Healthcare Personnel Training Program.
- (8) Humanitarian assistance: Taiwan donated rice and financial aid to the Nicaraguan government; built 157 homes for the economically disadvantaged (Construcción de Viviendas Solidarias); helped the Nicaraguan Red Cross (La Cruz Roja Nicaragüense) organize Plan Verano 2020; passed on small donations to the CONANCA (Comisión Nicaragüense de Ayuda al Niño con Cáncer) annual fund-raising event with over 30 charity organizations and schools; and donated aid supplies to Colonia Taiwán during the annual visit. Taiwan also donated five 40-foot containers of humanitarian supplies on behalf of the SimplyHelp Foundation, Wu

Thun-Chih Foundation for Charity and Public Welfare, Cao Zhong Zhi Foundation, and Pu-Hsien Educational Foundation.

- (9) Overseas community affairs: More than 2,000 ethnic Chinese live in Nicaragua, and about 300 overseas Taiwanese citizens work in various industries. The primary overseas community organization is the Chinese Association, founded in 1942. The current president is Iván Quant. Association members are mostly Nicaraguans of Chinese descent. The Taiwan Chamber of Commerce was established in 1998, and the current president is Lin Chi-ming. In its more than two decades of existence, the Taiwan Chamber has consisted of Taiwan businesses operating in Nicaragua or investing in the processing zone.
- (10) Mutual visits by dignitaries
  - A. A visit to Nicaragua was made by Vice Chief of the General Staff and Executive Officer Hsu Yen-pu.
  - B. Visits from Nicaragua were made by Minister of Foreign Affairs Denis Moncada, Minister of Finance and Public Credit Iván Acosta, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Edward Centeno, and Minister-Director of the National System for the Prevention, Mitigation and Attention of Disasters (SINAPRED) Guillermo González.

## **6. Relations with the Republic of Paraguay**

- (1) Background: The Republic of China (Taiwan) and Paraguay established diplomatic relations on July 12, 1957, and the R.O.C. (Taiwan) embassy was set up 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. Reciprocal visa exemption has been in effect between Taiwan and Paraguay since July 12, 2017. Citizens of the two countries holding ordinary passports are eligible for a 90-day visa-free stay. The two governments also signed an agreement in Taipei exempting official documentation from duplicate certification.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade totaled US\$155 million, with Taiwan exports to Paraguay worth US\$32.03 million and imports of US\$123 million. On September 24, Paraguayan Minister of Industry and Commerce

Liz Cramer and Minister of Economic Affairs Wang Mei-hua co-chaired the online Twentieth ROC–Paraguay Economic Cooperation Conference. On October 15, Minister Cramer and Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Chen Chern-chyi co-chaired the Third Joint Committee Meeting of the Agreement on Economic Cooperation between Taiwan and Paraguay. Minister of Industry and Commerce Luis Alberto Castiglioni and Minister Wang Mei-hua jointly presided over the Investment Webinar Taiwan–Paraguay on November 20. The Letter of Intent on Cooperation to Promote Technical Cooperation between the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Republic of Paraguay was signed remotely by Director General of the National Institute of Technology, Standardization and Metrology (INTN) Lira R. Giménez and Director General of the Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection Lien Ching-Chang. Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) held three virtual and physical marketing events: the Paraguayan Beef Online Procurement Meeting 2020, Latin America Online Trade Day 2020, and Food Taipei 2020.

- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan awarded Taiwan Scholarships to 40 Paraguayan students, Huayu Enrichment Scholarships to nine Paraguayan students, and TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarships to two Paraguayan students to study in Taiwan. Taiwan also sponsored two Paraguayan government officials to study at the E-Learning Executive Master's Program in Asia-Pacific Studies at Tamkang University. The Taiwan–Paraguay Polytechnic University (Universidad Politécnica Taiwán Paraguay) held its second entrance examination on February 8 and offered the online Vocational Training Project for Latin American and the Caribbean.
- (4) Technical cooperation: Taiwan and Paraguay conducted the following technical projects: the Surubí Fingerling Breeding and Cultivation Project, Health Information Management Efficiency Enhancement Project (Phase II), Project to Strengthen Capacity to Support Development of MSMEs, and Project to Strengthen Capacity for Commercial Production of Orchids.
- (5) Bilateral cooperation: In line with the policy platform of President Mario Abdo Benítez of Paraguay, the six major areas of cooperation include:

humanitarian and social assistance, education, housing, road infrastructure, security and defense, and public health. To help Paraguay combat the COVID-19 pandemic, Taiwan donated pandemic and medical equipment and supplies to the Paraguayan government and civil society organizations, as well as holding video conferences on pandemic management for Paraguayan officials of all levels.

- (6) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 4,000 compatriots live in Paraguay, mainly from Taiwan. They are engaged in business, with a few operating small factories or work in dining, tourism, or education. Compatriots have set up more than 30 different associations, according to their professions and interests. Aside from actively cooperating with overseas communities, they also frequently hold charity events.
- (7) Humanitarian assistance: The Pu-Hsien Educational Foundation donated wheelchairs and crutches for adults and children to the office of the First Lady of Paraguay.
- (8) Visits from Paraguay were made by the following congressional members: Chairman of the Industry, Commerce, Tourism and Cooperatives Committee (Industria, Comercio, Turismo y Cooperativismo) Ángel Paniagua, Chairman of the Science and Technology Committee (Ciencia y Tecnología) Carlos Sebastián Ramón García, and Chairman of the Public Works, Public Services, and Communications Committee (Obras, Servicios Públicos y Comunicaciones) Hugo Manuel Ibarra.

## **7. Relations with the Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis**

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with St. Kitts and Nevis on October 9, 1983, and set up an embassy on August 5, 1984. St. Kitts and Nevis set up an embassy in Taiwan on January 28, 2008.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade between Taiwan and St. Kitts and Nevis totaled US\$5.64 million in 2020, with Taiwan's exports at US\$5.52 million and imports from St. Kitts and Nevis at US\$118,000. Taiwanese enterprises participating in public works and bilateral projects with St. Kitts and Nevis include Kuang Jun Construction Co. Ltd., Vivotek Inc., Hyweb Technology Co. Ltd., and International Integrated Systems



Inc. The Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in Saint Christopher and Nevis also periodically provides product information from Taiwanese enterprises for the reference of the St. Kitts & Nevis Chamber of Industry and Commerce, as well as facilitating matchmaking between businesses in the two countries in order to set up procurement partnerships.

- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan sponsored 14 outstanding students from St. Kitts & Nevis to study Mandarin and attend university in Taiwan. Grants were also provided to 174 outstanding elementary and middle school students under the Human Resources Development Project. TaiwanICDF sent teachers to St. Kitts & Nevis to offer Mandarin courses and recruited Overseas Volunteers.
- (4) Medical cooperation: After completing the Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Chronic Kidney Disease, Taiwan moved on to the Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Metabolic Chronic Diseases to help St. Kitts and Nevis formulate a preventative strategy against chronic diseases, improve care capacity at medical institutions, and raise health awareness in local communities.
- (5) Humanitarian assistance: Donations were made to the social welfare service organization Acccess Hope Social Club, which provides high-quality care for the elderly and disabled communities. In collaboration with St. Kitts and Nevis Ministry of Education, the Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) donated humanitarian supplies and goods to the charitable organizations in the country on behalf of the SimplyHelp Foundation.
- (6) COVID-19 cooperation: To help St. Kitts and Nevis improve their pandemic containment policy, Taiwan experts reviewed their policy and provided suggestions. The pandemic team at Chi Mei Medical Centre held an online meeting with Joseph N. France (JNF) General Hospital staff to share their experience and discuss pandemic containment measures. Taiwan also donated surgical masks, personal protective equipment, infrared forehead thermometers, thermal imaging equipment, and other pandemic supplies.
- (7) Agriculture and fisheries cooperation: Taiwan continues to work with St. Kitts and Nevis on the Enhancing Agricultural Adaptive Capacity to Climate

Variability Project, assisting with the development of smart agriculture, enhancing agricultural resilience, and strengthening food security.

- (8) Media exposure: Maintaining positive relationships with the press and other media in St. Kitts and Nevis has contributed significantly to the advancement of Taiwan's policies and participation in international organizations such as the United Nations, World Health Assembly, and INTERPOL. Taiwan's achievements are periodically featured in interviews, articles, and other forms of coverage to highlight its technology and culture, increase Taiwan's visibility in St. Kitts and Nevis, and enhance the relationship between the two nations.
- (9) Technological cooperation: Taiwan continues to work with St. Kitts and Nevis on the Land Administration Information System Project, Closed-circuit Television Project (Phase II), and Pinney's Beach Park Project, promoting sustainable development in the nation through ICT technology and green buildings.
- (10) Sports: National Director for Special Olympics St Kitts and Nevis Ivor Blake is a member of the TaiwanICDF Alumni Association. Taiwan continues to maintain cooperation with St. Kitts and Nevis in the area of sports.
- (11) Overseas community affairs: Few Taiwanese citizens travel to or reside in St. Kitts and Nevis. Just over twenty Taiwanese nationals live there, including employees of Taiwanese contractors, embassy and technical mission personnel, their families, and volunteers.

## **8. Relations with Saint Lucia**

- (1) Background: Taiwan and St. Lucia established diplomatic relations for the first time in May 1984. Relations were severed in June 1997 after a transition of power in St. Lucia. The two countries resumed diplomatic relations in April 2007, and Taiwan reopened an embassy in St. Lucia. Since then, the relationship between the two countries has grown steadily. In 2015, St. Lucia opened an embassy in Taiwan, its first overseas mission in Asia, with Prime Minister Kenny Anthony hosting the opening ceremony.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Taiwan actively assists St. Lucia with expanding business opportunities. On November 5, Taiwan, the US, and

Saint Lucia held an online video conference for the Partnership Opportunity Delegation to facilitate exchanges between Taiwanese and American companies interested in visiting St. Lucia to assess the possibility of investments once the pandemic subsides. Taiwan Ambassador to St. Lucia Peter Chia-yen Chen, US Ambassador to Barbados Linda Taglialatela, and St. Lucian Minister for Commerce, Industry, Investment, Enterprise Development and Consumer Affairs Bradley Felix all attended and delivered remarks.

- (3) Cultural and educational relations: Taiwan awarded the Taiwan Scholarship and the TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarship to 27 outstanding St. Lucian students, an increase of 23% from last year and the highest number of scholarships ever awarded to St. Lucia. In June, Guting Elementary school also signed an MOU on educational exchange with the Gordon and Walcott Memorial Methodist School under the ICT in Education Programme.
- (6) COVID-19 cooperation: Taiwan donated masks, isolation gowns, protective suits, forehead thermometers, automatic thermometers, thermal imagers, viral detectors, rapid test reagents, testing reagents, and monetary aid. The Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce of North America (TCCNA) also responded to the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government's request to donate 30,000 surgical masks to the St. Lucian government. Taiwan also held six pandemic conferences and invited over 20 officials and experts from St. Lucia to attend.
- (5) Agricultural cooperation: Cooperation between Taiwan and Saint Lucia covers a wide range of areas, including infrastructure development, community development, sustainability, education, healthcare, agriculture, and information and communication technology. Taiwan and St. Lucia are currently working on the Banana Productivity Improvement Project and the Project for Enhancing the Efficiency of Production–Distribution Supply Chain in Fruit and Vegetable Sector. The former will help Saint Lucia increase banana production per unit area and expand export markets, while the latter focuses on capacity building and strengthening the production and supply-chain systems, which will help improve Saint Lucia's food self-

sufficiency and food security while addressing the challenges posed by climate change.

- (6) Technological cooperation: In November, Taiwan, the US, and Saint Lucia jointly organized their first-ever Virtual Online Startup Workshop, aimed at strengthening mutually beneficial economic and trade exchange and technological cooperation among the three countries. Experts from industry, government, and academia were invited to share their experience, including Chief Administrative Officer of Asia Silicon Valley Development Agency Paul Lee, Executive Director of Global Entrepreneurship Network Susan Amat, and Invest Saint Lucia Project Coordinator Dave Headley.

## **9. Relations with Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**

- (1) Background: Taiwan established diplomatic relations with St. Vincent and the Grenadines on August, 15, 1981. The Embassy of the R.O.C. (Taiwan) in St. Vincent and the Grenadines officially opened on March 24, 1983, and the Embassy of St. Vincent and the Grenadines in Taiwan opened in Taipei on August 8, 2019. Taiwan and St. Vincent and the Grenadines have signed the Treaty of Extradition between the Republic of China and St. Vincent and the Grenadines; a treaty of friendship; the Agreement of Technical Cooperation Between the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, among other agreements to implement technical cooperation; the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of China and the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on ICDF volunteers; the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines for the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments; the Agreement between the Anti-money Laundering Division, Investigation Bureau, Ministry of Justice of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Financial Intelligence Unit of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines concerning the Exchange of Financial Intelligence Related to Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing; the Agreement between the Republic of China (Taiwan) and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on Police Cooperation; the Agreement between the Republic of China (Taiwan) and Saint Vincent and

the Grenadines Concerning Cooperation in Immigration Affairs and Human Trafficking Prevention; the Agreement on Public Finance Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on Combating Transnational Crimes; and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines on Human Resources Development.

(2) Bilateral technical cooperation

- A. This year, TaiwanICDF dispatched technical missions to implement three technical cooperation projects: the Banana Revitalization Project in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Intelligent Bus Management and Monitoring System Project, and Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Diabetes in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. In addition to sending Mandarin-language teachers to teach Mandarin, TaiwanICDF also dispatched one long-term overseas volunteer with specialties in geographical information system (GIS), computer aided design (CAD), and public health to assist the government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines in building a community database on non-communicable diseases and archiving information relating to education and public health. TaiwanICDF and the International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training held several training programs in Taiwan for government officials from St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- B. The R.O.C. (Taiwan) government donated a Mobile Health Education Vehicle in March to assist with the implementation and promotion of the Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Diabetes in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. In November, intervention studies were completed on test subjects. In December, an international conference was held, which drew 295 participants, including government officials and members of the public. Also in the same month, 94 health education advocates completed their training.

- C. On July 21, the E-Bus Security Operation Centre was launched for the Intelligent Bus Management and Monitoring System Project. The Centre uses information and internet technologies to help St. Vincent and the Grenadines build smart cities. CCTV systems were also installed to improve public safety.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations: MOFA awarded 15 Taiwan Scholarships and seven TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarships. In collaboration with the Ministry of Education of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the R.O.C. (Taiwan) Embassy provided grants to 525 outstanding students of all ages from underprivileged families under the Taiwan Bursaries. The R.O.C. (Taiwan) government also invited officials from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to attend a range of training courses and workshops in Taiwan.
- (4) Medical cooperation and humanitarian assistance
- A. In collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the R.O.C. (Taiwan) Embassy donated 736 boxes of charitable goods and resources to social welfare organizations and educational departments in St. Vincent on behalf of the US-based SimplyHelp Foundation.
- B. To assist St. Vincent and the Grenadines in combating the COVID-19 pandemic, Taiwan provided pandemic supplies such as rapid test reagents, automatic forehead thermometers, N95 masks, isolation gowns, protective suits, infrared thermometers, respirators, and surgical masks to various medical institutions for frontline pandemic prevention personnel.
- C. On March 30, Chi Mei Medical Centre and Milton Cato Memorial Hospital held a video conference on “COVID-19 Prevention Experiences and Response Measures” to help St. Vincent and the Grenadines combat the COVID-19 pandemic by sharing Taiwan’s experience. On September 8, Taiwan invited government officials from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to attend the GCTF Virtual Engagement Series for Latin America and the Caribbean: COVID-19 and Digital Economy to help participating countries use digital tools in their pandemic response.



## 10. Relations with the Argentine Republic

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between the R.O.C. and Argentina were established on May 30, 1945, and terminated on February 19, 1972. As a result, the R.O.C. (Taiwan) Embassy was closed on August 10, 1972. On January 6, 1973, the Taiwan Trade Office in Argentina was established, later renamed the Taipei Commercial Office in Argentina on January 26, 1996. On July 9, 1992, the Argentina Trade and Cultural Office was set up in Taipei.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade between Taiwan and Argentina amounted to US\$449 million, with imports from Argentina of US\$261 million and exports at US\$188 million, resulting in a trade surplus of US\$73.02 million in favor of Argentina. Argentina is Taiwan's 51st-largest export market, 50th-largest source of imports, and fourth-largest trading country in Latin America, after Mexico, Brazil, and Chile.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations
  - A. Taiwan offered the Taiwan Fellowship, Huayu Enrichment Scholarship, and Taiwan Scholarships to seven Argentinian recipients to support their research or studies in Taiwan.
  - B. Taiwan co-organized the Taiwan Cultural Festival with the Library of the National Congress of Argentina and invited Ignacio Huang, a Taiwanese glove puppetry performer based in Argentina, to talk about Taiwanese glove puppetry culture online.
  - C. Antonio Hsieh, the Taiwan Representative to Argentina, was invited to talk about Taiwan's epidemic prevention experience to Argentinian media outlets, including *Clarín*, *La Nación*, Canal 26, ABC Mundial, and Radio Belgrano. Representative Hsieh was also invited to speak at a video conference organized by Rotary Club Argentina and gave a keynote speech at an online lecture on "Taiwan Shares Experience in Fighting COVID-19", organized by the Fundación Feredalismo y Libertad (Federalism and Liberty Foundation). On March 12, an Argentine media outlet held an online interview with Ludmila Zárate, a female taekwondo instructor teaching in Taiwan, in which she lauded Taiwan's success in containing the COVID-19 pandemic. During the

pandemic, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Argentina helped several Argentine patients afflicted with rare diseases travel to Taiwan for ETS reversal surgery. Conrado Estol, a renowned Argentine neurologist, personally recorded a video touting Taiwan's successful response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The video was uploaded to social media and received significant coverage in the Argentine media.

## **11. Relations with the Federative Republic of Brazil**

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between the R.O.C. and Brazil were established on April 8, 1913, and terminated 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, the center was renamed the Taipei Business Center in Brazil. On January 10, 1992, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Brazil was set up in Brasilia. 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 Commercial Office of Brazil to Taipei was set up.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade between Taiwan and Brazil amounted to US\$3.098 billion, with imports from Brazil of US\$2.015015 billion and exports to Brazil of US\$1.083 billion.
- (3) Cultural and educational relations
  - A. Scholarships: Taiwan awarded two Taiwan Scholarships, four Huayu Enrichment Scholarships, and one TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarship to Brazilian students. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of R.O.C. (Taiwan) also granted the Taiwan Fellowship to Brazilian scholars conducting research in Taiwan.
  - B. Training programs: TaiwanICDF, International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training, and National Development Program invited Brazilian government officials to travel to Taiwan for training.
- (4) Humanitarian assistance
  - A. Taiwan implemented an anti-poverty program with three NGOs: the Instituto Acesso de Promoção Cultural Esportiva e Social de São

Sebastião-DF (Institute for the Advancement of Sports Culture and Social Promotion of São Sebastião-DF), Associação dos Portadores de Deficiência do Distrito Federal (Association of People with Disabilities of the Federal District), and Associação de Amparo às Famílias Carentes (Association for the Support of Impoverished Families). The program purchased essential supplies and sent them to 1,050 impoverished households and 250 households with disabled members in four satellite cities in Brazil's Federal District: Taguatinga, Cidade Estrutural, Ceilândia, and São Sebastião. The anti-poverty program helped a total of 1,300 households.

- B. Taiwan also collaborated with NGO the Brazilian Red Cross to carry out an anti-poverty program giving essential supplies to 350 impoverished households in the remote Northern Brazilian cities of Uruburetama and Itapipoca in the State of Ceará. The anti-poverty program helped a total of 1,400 residents.
- (5) COVID-19 cooperation: In the spirit of “Taiwan can help” (“Taiwan pode ajudar”), Taiwan initiated a surgical mask donation program to demonstrate Taiwan’s friendship with Brazil and commitment to assisting the Brazilian government and medical institutions in their efforts against the COVID-19 pandemic. Recipients of the donations included the Secretaria Estadual da Saúde do Estado do Paraná (State Secretariat of Health of Paraná), Secretaria Municipal da Saúde da Prefeitura de Manaus do Estado do Amazonas (Municipal Health Secretariat of Manaus), Secretaria Estadual da Saúde do Estado do Amapá (State Secretariat of Health of Amapá), Irmandade da Santa Casa de Misericórdia de São José do Rio Pret, do Estado de São Paulo (Santa Casa Sisterhood of Charity Hospital in São José dos Campos in the State of São Paulo), Hospital Universitário da Universidade de Brasília (University of Brasilia Hospital in the Federal District), and NGO Organização das Voluntárias de Goiás (Goiás Volunteer Organization) in the State of Goiás.
  - (6) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 310,000 ethnic Chinese and 72,000 Taiwanese citizens live in Brazil, 90% of them in the two major cities of São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. The majority of leaders in the overseas

community actively participate in charitable endeavors and public welfare efforts. More than 60 overseas Chinese groups of various types are active in Brazil, including business, social, leisure, local associations, public welfare, and religious groups.

## **12. Relations with the Republic of Chile**

- (1) Background: Diplomatic relations between the R.O.C. and Chile were established on February 18, 1915, and terminated on January 5, 1971. On September 30, 1975, Taiwan set up the Far East Trade Office in Santiago de Chile, the capital. The office was renamed the Taipei Commercial Office in Chile on December 22, 1990, and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chile on June 26, 1992. The Chilean Trade Office was established in Taipei on September 22, 1989. On January 1, 2012, Taiwan and Chile agreed to the mutual exemption of tourist visa fees. On January 1, 2016, the mutual waiver of tourist visas was agreed, and on July 1 of that year the mutual exemption of visas for holders of diplomatic and official passport visas was agreed.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Bilateral trade between Taiwan and Chile amounted to US\$1.409 billion, with exports to Chile of US\$214 million and imports from Chile of US\$1.195 billion.
- (3) Bilateral agreements
  - A. The Chilean Olympic Committee and Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee signed a bilateral cooperation agreement remotely by video conference.
  - B. The University of Chile Clinical Hospital and the Tungs' Taichung Metro Harbor Hospital of Taiwan signed a memorandum of understanding remotely.
- (4) Cultural exchanges
  - A. In January, Taiwan's Contemporary Legend Theatre performed at the Las Condes Municipal Theatre and La Pintana Municipal Theatre in Santiago.
  - B. Taiwan's Tjimur Dance Theatre, an indigenous Paiwan dance troupe, was invited by the Identidad Festival to attend their online performance

and panel discussion for the International Festival of Performing Arts in the Atacama Desert in October.

- (5) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 2,000 Taiwanese citizens live in Chile, mostly in Santiago de Chile and the northern city of Iquique. Since COVID-19 broke out in early March and throughout the intensifying pandemic in May and June, the overseas Taiwanese community in Chile took the initiative to donate funds and masks, protective suits, and essential supplies. Working with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chile, Taiwan's overseas community fully demonstrated Taiwan's commitment to humanitarian aid and raised Taiwan's profile in Chile by supporting Chile's efforts against the pandemic.

### **13. Relations with the Republic of Colombia**

#### **(1) Background**

- A. Diplomatic relations between the R.O.C. (Taiwan) and Colombia were established on May 8, 1947. The Republic of China legation in Colombia was officially opened on November 6 of the same year and upgraded to an embassy on April 6, 1961. The Consulate of the Republic of China in Barranquilla was set up on March 28, 1972, and it started offering services to the public on May 20 of the same year. On November 19, 1979, the Consulate was upgraded to a consulate general. Diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Colombia were terminated on February 8, 1980. The Far East Commercial Office in Colombia was established on June 14, 1980, and started offering services to the public with the Barranquilla Office of the Far East Commercial Office in Colombia on August 26. On November 27, 1990, the two offices were renamed the Taipei Commercial Office in Bogota, Colombia, and the Taipei Commercial Office in Barranquilla, Colombia, respectively. On July 1, 1991, the Taipei Commercial Office in Barranquilla, Colombia was closed. On May 7, 1993, Colombia set up a commercial office in Taiwan; however, it was closed in December 2002 owing to lack of funding.
- B. To expand substantive ties and strengthen economic, trade, cultural, and academic exchanges between Taiwan and Colombia, the Taipei

Commercial Office in Colombia has been actively seeking the help of Colombians friendly toward Taiwan across various sectors to advocate for Colombia to reestablish its office in Taiwan. The Congress of Colombia has strong ties with the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government and on November 6, 2019, established La Asociación de Amistad de Congresistas entre Colombia y Taiwán (Friendship Association of Congress Members between Colombia and Taiwan).

(2) Economic and trade relations

A. Bilateral trade: In 2020, bilateral trade between Taiwan and Colombia amounted to US\$342 million, with exports to Colombia of US\$257 million and imports from Colombia of US\$85.20 million. Colombia is Taiwan's 58th-largest trade partner and third-largest export market in Latin America, after Mexico and Brazil.

B. Economic and trade exchanges

(A) In January, the Taiwan Textile Federation led a delegation to Colombia to attend the 2020 Colombiatex and set up a cooperation platform with Inexmoda.

(B) In June, Justin Huang, President of the Taiwan Textile Federation, was invited to an international online conference at the 2020 Colombiamoda, during which he described the strategies adopted by Taiwan's high-tech textile industry during the COVID-19 pandemic.

(C) In September, the Taiwan External Trade Development Council hosted an online trade talk titled "2020 Online Trade Mission to Latin America" and invited Colombian businesspeople to attend.

(D) In August, Juan Sebastian González, Secretary of Digital Innovation for Medellín, attended the 2020 Smart City Mayors' Summit, and talked about his city's successful use of AI and big data to develop epidemic prevention systems against COVID-19.

(E) The Taipei Commercial Office in Colombia held two online Presentations of Taiwan Products for the 50th Anniversary of TAITRA in September to promote Taiwan trade and pandemic supplies.



- (F) The Taipei Commercial Office in Colombia also invited 20 Colombian businesspeople to attend trade promotion events organized by the Taiwan External Trade Development Council, such as the 2020 Mask and PPE Online One-on-One Trade Meeting, 2020 Latin America Online Trade Day, and 2020 Sourcing Taiwan Online.
- (3) Humanitarian assistance: In 2020, Taiwan carried out several humanitarian assistance programs, including making donations to the Pandemic Supplies & Relief Articles Program for Remote Areas in the Department of Nariño, Musical Equipment and Music Education Program for the Ebérico City Orchestra in the Department of Antioquia, Relief Articles Program for Itagüi in the Department Antioquia, and the Epidemic Prevention and Relief Articles Program for Disadvantaged Cities and Prison Facilities in the Department of Caquetá, Relief Articles Program for Impoverished Villages in the Department of Guanía, End-of-Year Toy and Children Supply Fundraiser for Remote Areas in the Department of Nariño, Coffee Industry Support Program for the Department of Norte de Santander, and End-of-Year Toy Program for Children of Remote Areas in Bogotá. In addition, Taiwan supported disaster relief programs after Hurricane Iota swept through the San Andrés archipelago, food donation programs organized by the Banco de Alimentos Bogotá (Food Bank of Bogota) during the pandemic, and food donation programs organized by the Fundación El Nogal (El Nogal Foundation) also during the pandemic. Taiwan also participated in 11 programs donating pandemic supplies, working with the NPO Minuto de Dios (Minute of God), many major NGOs, such as the Medical Federation of Colombia and Red Cross, the National University of Colombia, and several local governments.
- (4) Cultural and educational relations: The Taipei Commercial Office in Colombia collaborated with national Colombian television to broadcast Taiwanese dramas such as *The New World*, *The Fierce Wife*, and *A Good Wife*. In addition, the Commercial Office hosted three Taiwan film sessions with the National University of Colombia; took part in eight interviews with television, newspapers, radio, and new media on the state of Taiwan and

economic, trade, and cultural exchange between Taiwan and Colombia; and worked with academic institutes and think tanks in Colombia to organize five online seminars and information sessions on Taiwan's economic development, its successful COVID-19 response, support for Taiwan's international participation, and Taiwan scholarships.

## **14. Relations with the Republic of Ecuador**

### **(1) Background**

- A. The R.O.C. withdrew from the United Nations on October 25, 1971, and Ecuador terminated diplomatic relations with Taiwan on November 17, 1971.
- B. On October 17, 1974, Taiwan established the Taiwan Consular Agency in Guayaquil, the largest city in Ecuador. On April 12, 1977, the Trade Office of the R.O.C. (Taiwan) was set up in Quito, the capital. On May 1, 1977, the Taiwan Consular Agency in Guayaquil was renamed the Guayaquil Branch of the Trade Office of the R.O.C. (Taiwan) in Ecuador. It was later closed on October 31, 1998. In March 2017, the Ecuadorian government unilaterally requested Taiwan rename the representative office in Ecuador the Taipei Commercial Office.
- C. Ecuador established a commercial office in Taiwan on March 25, 1983, and later closed it in July 1988.

### **(2) Economic and trade relations**

- A. Bilateral trade between Taiwan and Ecuador amounted to US\$141 million, with imports from Ecuador of US\$16.7 million and exports to Ecuador of US\$124 million.
- B. To collaborate on expanding bilateral trade, exports, and sales, the Taipei Commercial Office in Ecuador has established connections with important industrial and commercial groups, such as the National Federation of Chambers of Industries of Ecuador, National Federation of Chambers of Commerce of Ecuador, Ecuadorian Business Committee, Export and Investment Promotion Corporation, Industries and Production Chamber, Quito Chamber of Commerce, Guayaquil Chamber of Commerce, Guayaquil Chamber of Industries, Ecuadorian Federation

- of Exporters, and Pichincha Chamber of Small and Medium Enterprises.
- C. The Taipei Commercial Office in Ecuador was invited to attend the Ecuador Textile Manufacturing and Fashion Trade Show and the Open House for Foreign Trade, the latter being co-organized by the National Federation of Chambers of Commerce of Ecuador and the Guayaquil Chamber of Commerce to showcase catalogues from various industries and to introduce and promote the B2B portal website Taiwantrade and the Export-Import Bank of the Republic of China's relending facility program.
  - D. The Taipei Commercial Office in Ecuador attended the Expo Minas Exhibition & Conference, organized by the Ministry of Energy and Non-Renewable Natural Resources, the Ecuador International Footwear and Accessories Fair, organized by the National Chamber of Footwear, and the Productive Expo Fair, organized by the National Chamber of Small and Medium Enterprises in Ecuador.
  - E. Taiwan Representative to Ecuador Jaime Chuang was invited by the National Chamber of Footwear, Chamber of Commerce of Quito, and Destination Freedom Foundation to deliver a keynote speech for the online conference on Taiwan's Success in Fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, promoting the Epidemic Prevention Products section on Taiwantrade and business opportunities for related industries in Taiwan.
- (3) Technical cooperation: On December 6, 1978, Taiwan sent a technical mission to Ecuador to work on rice, vegetables, pig farming, orchids, small-scale agricultural machinery, IT education, aquaculture, food processing, and vegetable and grain production and marketing. Taiwan's technical mission in Ecuador completed their projects on December 31, 2013. The two projects in Ecuador, Santa Elena Province Bamboo Industry Development Project and Oyster Cultivation Development Project, were handed over to the Ecuadorian side in November 2017 and November 2020 respectively.
  - (4) Cultural and educational relations
    - A. Academic exchanges
      - (A) The Taipei Commercial Office in Ecuador established connections with the Central University of Ecuador, Armed Forces University–

ESPE, University of Guayaquil, University of the Arts in Guayaquil, Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador, University of the Americas, International SEK University. Through the international exchange units of these schools, the Taipei Commercial Office in Ecuador has been sharing information on the Taiwan Fellowship—International Scholar-in-Residence Research Program, and the Taiwan Scholarship, Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program, TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarship.

- (B) The Taipei Commercial Office in Ecuador was also invited by the University of the Americas to attend their first UDLA Around the World.
- (C) Three Ecuadorian students received the Taiwan Scholarship and five received the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program.
- (D) Rotary Clubs across Taiwan and Ecuador also participated in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, sending exchange students to study in each other's countries.

B. Cultural exchanges

- (A) The Taipei Commercial Office in Ecuador worked with Ecuador TV, a public news outlet, and Gamavisión to broadcast the Taiwanese dramas *The New World* and *The Way We Were*, respectively.
  - (B) The Taipei Commercial Office in Ecuador and the Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador co-hosted the Taiwan Film Festival online, screening four outstanding films from Taiwan.
  - (C) The Taipei Commercial Office in Ecuador supported Jorge Luis Villalba, an Ecuadorian wood sculptor, in his entry for the 2020 Taiwan International Wood Sculpture Competition.
- (5) Media exposure: The Taipei Commercial Office in Ecuador established connections with major Ecuadorian media outlets such as Gamavisión, Ecuavisa, Radio Ecuador, Radio Suceso, and Radio América; and with newspapers such as *El Universo*, *El Comercio*, *Expreso*, *La Hora*, and *Metro*. The office also established connections with the National Federation of Journalists.

- (6) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 800 Taiwanese citizens live in Ecuador, with 14 overseas community organizations. Most of these Taiwanese expatriates reside in the cities Quito, Guayaquil, or Mahora.

## 15. Relations with the United Mexican States

### (1) Background

- A. Diplomatic relations between the Republic of China (Taiwan) and Mexico were terminated on November 16, 1971. On April 19, 1989, Taiwan set up the Far East Trade Service Center 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, responsible for foreign trade and investment, opened an office in Taiwan in June 1990 under the name of Mexican Trade Services. The Oficina de Enlace de México en Taiwán (Mexican Trade Services Documentation and Cultural Office) was established under Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to strengthen economic, trade, and cultural relations between the two countries. The office issues visas directly and functions as the official agency representing Mexico in Taiwan. In 1997, the Mexico Secretariat of Economy established ProMéxico to replace the defunct Mexican Trade Services. ProMéxico was tasked with dispatching commercial representatives to manage Mexico's commercial offices. As a result of austerity policies, the Mexican government closed 48 offices around the world, including the one in Taipei in January 2019.
- B. On May 1, 2010, Mexico announced that foreign nationals (including Taiwanese citizens) with valid US visas or permanent residency from the EU, UK, or Japan would enjoy visa-free entry into Mexico. On November 1, 2022, the US announced the entry of Taiwan into the Visa Waiver Program, whereby Taiwanese citizens with approved ESTAs (Electronic System for Travel Authorization) are granted visa-free entry into the US. Without conventional physical US visas (B1/B2/H), however, Taiwanese citizens would no longer enjoy visa-free entry into Mexico (whether by land, air, or sea) and would be required to apply for entry visas.

- C. Thirteen deputies from the Chamber of Deputies, led by Carmina Yadira Regalado Mardueño, and 20 deputies from the Chamber of Deputies, led by Franciso Javier Guzmán de la Torre, wrote separately to Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus of the World Health Organization, supporting Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization and World Health Assembly.
- (2) Economic and trade relations: Mexico is an important Latin American trading partner for Taiwan. According to Taiwan customs statistics, this year bilateral trade between Taiwan and Mexico amounted to US\$3.77 billion, with imports from Mexico of US\$1.074 billion and exports to Mexico of US\$2.696 billion. According to statistics from the Mexican government, from 1999 to 2020 Taiwanese companies invested a total of US\$1.088 billion in 292 businesses in Mexico.
- (3) COVID-19 cooperation and humanitarian assistance
  - A. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Mexico purchased one million surgical masks locally and donated them to collaborative efforts against COVID-19 and to humanitarian aid initiatives in Latin America.
  - B. Taiwan Representative to Mexico Armando Cheng signed donation certificates with Senator María Guadalupe Murguía, Vice President of the Senate, as well as Senator José Luis Pech Vázquez of the Foreign Affairs Committee for the Asia-Pacific Region, Deputy Carlos Elhier Cinta Rodriguez, Deputy Lorena del Socorro Jiménez Andrade, Deputy Simey Olvera Bautista, Deputy Katia Alejandra Castillo Lozano, Deputy Carmina Yadira Regalado Mardueño, Deputy Juanita Guerra Mena, Deputy Hilda Patricia Ortega Nájera, Deputy José Martín López Cisneros, and Deputy María de Lourdes Montes Hernández of the Foreign Affairs Committee, working together to donate food to families in need across Mexico.
  - C. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Mexico signed donation certificates of smartphones and chips from Taiwan to Deputy Carlos Elhier Cinta Rodríguez for schools in need in the city of León.
  - D. To support local efforts against the COVID-19 pandemic, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Mexico donated a total of 155,000



surgical masks to 13 recipients, including Vice President Dolores Padierna of the Chamber of Deputies, Chairman Miroslava Sánchez of the United Mexican States House Committee on Health, the airport office of the Migration National Institute, Chief Ángel Alarcón Tello of the 5th District Transit Police of the Department of Public Security of the Mexico City, Chief Olga Lidia Olivares Luna of the Foreign Affairs Police Service of Mexico City, the Department of Welfare of Tlaxcala of the United Mexican States, the National Agricultural Council of Mexico, the Confederation of Industrial Chambers of Mexico, the Mexican Business Council for Foreign Trade, the National Chamber of the Transformation Industry, and El Universal and El Sol de México. This practical action vividly demonstrated that “Taiwan can Help and Taiwan is Helping”.

- (4) Cultural and educational relations
  - A. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Mexico awarded a total of 33 scholarships, namely 22 students with the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program and 11 students with the Taiwan Scholarship.
  - B. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Mexico also awarded four TaiwanICDF International Higher Education Scholarships, and one Taiwan Fellowship to enable a scholar to conduct research in Taiwan.
- (5) Overseas community affairs: Approximately 1,500 overseas Taiwanese live in Mexico, most of them businesspeople residing in various major cities across Mexico. There are five overseas community organizations: the Chamber of Commerce of Taiwan in Mexico City, the Association of Taiwanese People in Mexico, the Taiwanese Compatriots Association of Solidarity and Help in Mexico, the Chamber of Commerce of Taiwan in Juárez City, and the Taiwan Chamber of Commerce in Baja California.
- (6) A visit from Mexico was made by President Francisco Cervantes of the Confederation of Industrial Chambers of Mexico.

## 16. Relations with Peru

- (1) Background: The Qing Dynasty and Peru signed a treaty of friendship on December 11, 1875. On November 2, 1971, diplomatic relations between

the Republic of China (Taiwan) and Peru were terminated. On January 1, 1978, the Far East Trade Center in Peru was set up in the capital Lima. In November 1990, it was renamed the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Peru. In August 1988, Peru set up the Peru Promotion and Commercial Information Agency in the R.O.C. (Taiwan), which was closed the following year. Peru established the Commercial Office of Peru in Taiwan in May 1994 and granted 90-day visa-free entry to Taiwanese citizens in 1995. On January 12, 2016, Taiwan announced that Peruvian passport holders would be eligible to apply for eVisas online for the purpose of business or tourism.

(2) Economic and trade relations

- A. Bilateral trade: Owing to impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, bilateral trade between Taiwan and Peru amounted to US\$486 million in 2020, with exports to Peru of US\$200 million and imports of US\$286 million. Peru enjoyed a trade surplus of US\$86.68 million.
- B. Economic and trade exchanges: On July 21, Yolanda Torriani, President of the Lima Chamber of Commerce, and Po-Chih Huang, Vice Chairman of the Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association, co-chaired the 14th Taiwan–Peru Joint Business Councils. In September, the Taiwan External Trade Development Council held an event to expand sales in Peru under the Online Trade Mission to Latin America.

(3) COVID-19 cooperation and humanitarian assistance

- A. Taiwan donated medical equipment and a second-hand ambulance to Lima, the capital of Peru.
- B. Taiwan continued to donate pandemic supplies to the Headquarters of the Peruvian Army under the Ministry of Defense, Archbishop Loayza National Hospital, the Carabayllo District Office in Lima Province, the Ministry of Health's Santa Rosa Hospital, the Department of Moquegua, the National Institute of Civil Defense, the Department of Immigration and Naturalization, the Department of Cusco, the National Defense Intelligence College, and agencies under the Ministry of the Interior responsible for police and health.
- C. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Peru donated pandemic supplies such as thermometers and surgical masks, IT equipment, and

Christmas toys to members of the Congress of the Republic of Peru representing major provinces, the Asociación de Municipalidades del Perú (Association of Peruvian Municipalities), and the Taiwan–Peru Friendship Association.

(4) General cooperation

- A. On February 25, Mayor Jorge Muñoz, mayor of Lima, the capital of Peru, signed an agreement for Lima to become a sister city of Taipei City.
- B. On March 28, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Peru coordinated efforts with the Japan Embassy, Malaysia Embassy, and Singapore Embassy in Peru to charter a second flight to repatriate 55 Taiwanese citizens stranded in Cusco, Arequipa, and Lima.
- C. In 2015, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Peru and the National Institute for the Defense of Free Competition and the Protection of Intellectual Property signed an MOU on public key infrastructure, whereby Taiwan will help Peru develop a digitalized mechanism. Visits and training continued in 2020.
- D. On September 15, the National Jury of Elections of Peru and the Central Election Commission of Taiwan signed the Memorandum of Understanding.

(5) Cultural and educational relations

- A. Taipei's para badminton team participated in the Peru Para Badminton International in February.
- B. Since 2004, over 200 young students and professors from Peru have applied for and received Taiwan Scholarships, Huayu Enrichment Scholarships, and Taiwan Fellowships to learn Mandarin, study, or carry out research in Taiwan.
- C. The College of Medicine at Taipei Medical University and the Faculty of Medicine at National University of San Marcos signed a memorandum of understanding on academic cooperation in October.
- D. A Taiwan Segment was launched for the 11th Central and Eastern European Film Festival, held in Peru in October, screening Taiwanese films such as *A Time To Live*, *A Time To Die*, *Growing Up*, *Nina Wu*, and

*Synapses.* Director Tsai Ming-liang was also invited to deliver a keynote speech at an online “master’s panel”.

- (6) Overseas community affairs: Approximately two million ethnic Chinese live in Peru, only around 300 of them Taiwanese citizens.
- (7) A visit from Peru was made by Advisor to the Minister of the Interior María Rojas Aguilar.

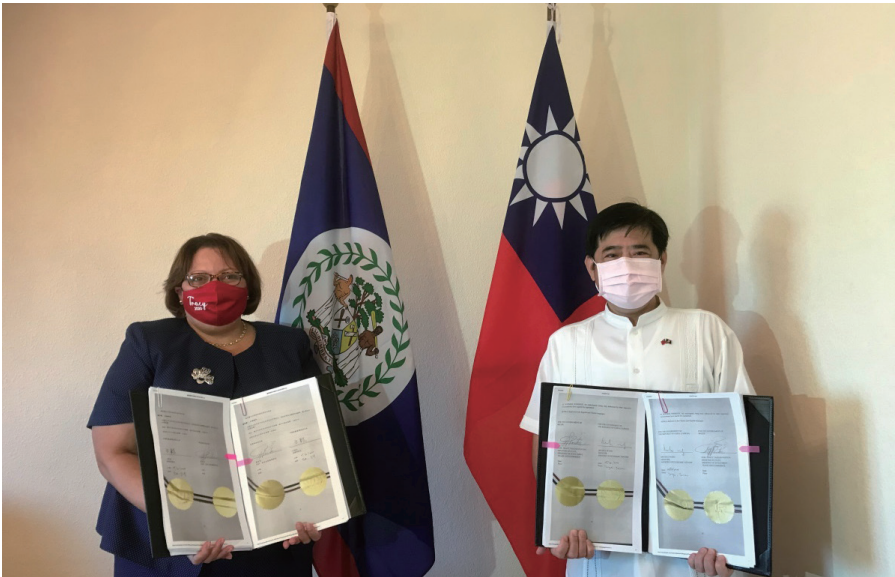
# **Photographs of Diplomatic Events Latin America and the Caribbean**



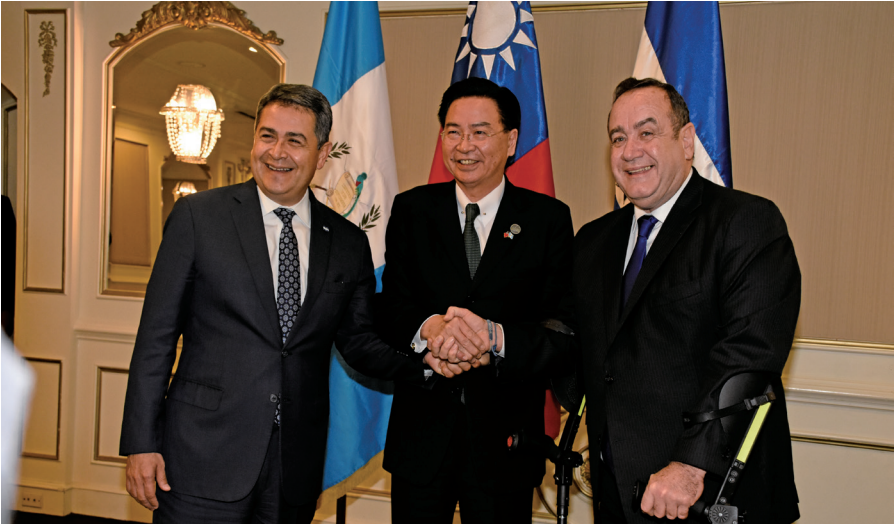




Remus Li-Kuo Chen (left), Ambassador to Belize, presents COVID-19 rapid antibody test kits on behalf of Taiwan to the government of Belize, represented by Prime Minister Dean Barrow. (July 1, 2020)



Remus Li-Kuo Chen (right), Ambassador to Belize, witnesses the remote signing of the Economic Cooperation Agreement between the R.O.C. (Taiwan) and Belize by Tracy Panton (left), Minister of State at the Ministry of Economic Development, Petroleum, Investment, Trade & Commerce of Belize, and Wang Mei-hua, Minister of Economic Affairs of the Republic of China (Taiwan). (September 30, 2020)



While heading a delegation to Guatemala to attend the inauguration of Guatemalan President Alejandro Giammattei (right), Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (center) poses with Honduras President Juan Orlando Hernández (left). (January 13, 2020)



Ambassador to Guatemala Li-Cheng Cheng (third from left) attends an open donation ceremony presided over by Guatemala President Alejandro Giammattei (center). Also in attendance were Minister of Foreign Affairs Pedro Brolo (second from left), Minister of Social Development Raúl Romero (third from right), and Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Food José Ángel López (second from right). The R.O.C. (Taiwan) government donated 1,000 tonnes of white rice to Guatemala. (July 31, 2020)



Wen Jiann Ku (fifth from left), Ambassador to Haiti, co-hosts groundbreaking ceremony for the Project for the Strengthening of Electrical Networks in Haiti with President of Haiti Jovenel Moïse (sixth from left). (September 5, 2020)



Ambassador to Haiti Wen Jiann Ku (sixth from left) inaugurates a solar-powered water pump for irrigation in the village of Lassere in western Haiti with President of Haiti Jovenel Moïse (third from left). (August 22, 2020)

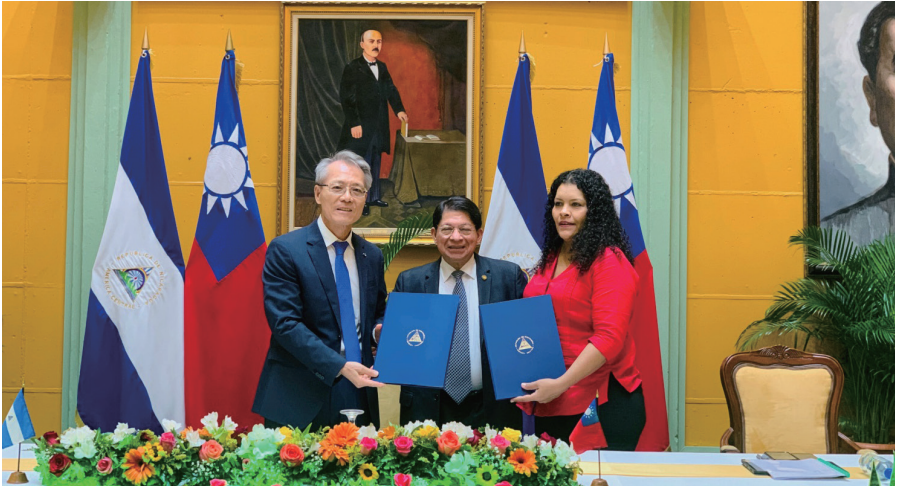




Ambassador to Honduras Diego Wen (left) co-hosts an inauguration ceremony for the seedling farm in the Comayagua Municipality under the Health Avocado Seedling Production Project with President of Honduras Juan Orlando Hernández. (October 27, 2020)



Ambassador to Honduras Diego Wen (second from left), President of Honduras Juan Orlando Hernández (right), Minister of Foreign Affairs Lisandro Rosales (left), and Minister of Development and Social Inclusion Zoila Patricia Cruz (second from right) attend a ceremony at which Taiwan presents disaster relief supplies for those affected by Hurricanes Eta and Iota. (November 18, 2020)



Ambassador to Nicaragua Chin-mu Wu (left), Minister of Foreign Affairs Denis Moncada (center), and Minister for Family, Community, and Cooperative and Associative Economy Justa Pérez (right) co-host a donation ceremony for the 2020 Food Production Bonus Program. (September 4, 2020)



Ambassador to Nicaragua Chin-mu Wu (right) co-hosts a donation ceremony with Minister of Health Martha Reyes. Taiwan donated pandemic supplies including N95 masks, isolation gowns, and protective suits. (June 22, 2020)





Ambassador to Paraguay José Han (right) introduces the *Oncidium flexuosum*, cultivated by Taiwan's technical mission, and orchids endemic to Paraguay to President of Paraguay Mario Abdo Benítez and the First Lady. (August 10, 2020)



Ambassador José Han (third from right) donates 15,000 surubi fingerling fry to the government of Paraguay, represented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock. The fry are bred by the Taiwan technical mission in Paraguay on behalf of Taiwan at the National Fry Production Center in the city of Eusebio Ayala. (December 11, 2020)

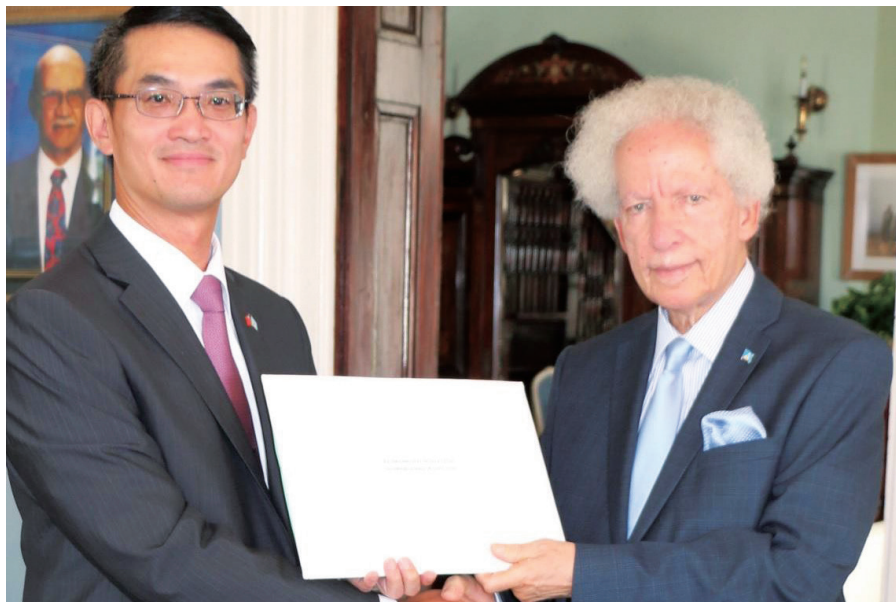




Ambassador to St. Kitts and Nevis Tom Chih-chiang Lee (right) co-hosts a donation ceremony with Mark Brantley (left), Minister of Foreign Affairs and Aviation and Premier of Nevis. Taiwan donated surgical masks, personal protective equipment, and other pandemic supplies to St. Kitts and Nevis. (June 26, 2020)



Ambassador to St. Kitts and Nevis Tom Chih-chiang Lee (right) and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Aviation and Premier of Nevis Mark Brantley (second from right) inspect the Pinney's Beach Park Project. (September 15, 2020)



Ambassador to Saint Lucia Peter Chia-yen Chen (left) calls upon Sir Emmanuel Neville Cenac, Governor-General of Saint Lucia, to present his letter of credence. (August 10, 2020)



Ambassador to St. Vincent and the Grenadines Calvin C. H. Ho (fourth from right) presides over the 2020 Awards Ceremony for the Taiwan Scholarship at the National Public Library of St. Vincent. Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves (fifth from right) and Minister of Education St. Clair Prince (sixth from right) are invited to give remarks and present scholarships. (September 16, 2020)



Ambassador to St. Vincent and the Grenadines Calvin C. H. Ho (right) donates pandemic supplies on behalf of Taiwan to the government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, represented by Luke Browne, Minister of Health, Wellness, and the Environment. (June 17, 2020)



Ambassador to St. Vincent and the Grenadines Calvin C. H. Ho (left) attends the inauguration ceremony for the E-Bus and Security Operation Centre, part of the Intelligent Bus Management and Monitoring System Project, and unveils the center's plaque with Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves (second from left). Minister Camillo Gonsalves of Finance, Economic Planning and Information Technology (right) and Police Commissioner Colin John (second from right) are also in attendance. (July 21, 2020)





Representative to Argentina Antonio Hsieh (third from left) hosts a donation ceremony at which Taiwan donates surgical masks to La Rioja of Argentina. Also in attendance were Vice Governor of La Rioja and President of the Legislature of the La Rioja Province María Florencia López (third from right) and four La Rioja legislators: Antonio Godoy (left), Elio Díaz Moreno (second from left), José Ángel Albarracín (second from right), and Carlos Renzo Castro (right). (October 20, 2020)



Representative to Argentina Antonio Hsieh (right) hosts a donation ceremony at which Taiwan donates surgical masks to First Vice President Teresita Leonor Madera (left) of the Legislature of the La Rioja Province. (December 4, 2020)



Representative to Brazil Tsung-che Chang (third from left) donates essential supplies on behalf of Taiwan to the satellite city of Taguatinga in Brazil's Federal District. (December 11, 2020)



Representative to Brazil Tsung-che Chang co-hosts a donation ceremony with President Elza Noronha of the University of Brasília Hospital in the Federal District. Taiwan donates surgical masks to the University of Brasília Hospital. (December 29, 2020)



Distinguished guests from Taiwan and Chile attending in person and online at the 12th Joint Meeting between CIECA and SOFOFA: (top row, L–R) Deputy Director Silvia Yu Chi Liu of the Department of Latin American and Caribbean Affairs, MOFA, Senior Vice-President Charles Kimber of Commercial & Corporate Affairs at Arauco, and Director George Hu of Latin American Affairs for CIECA.

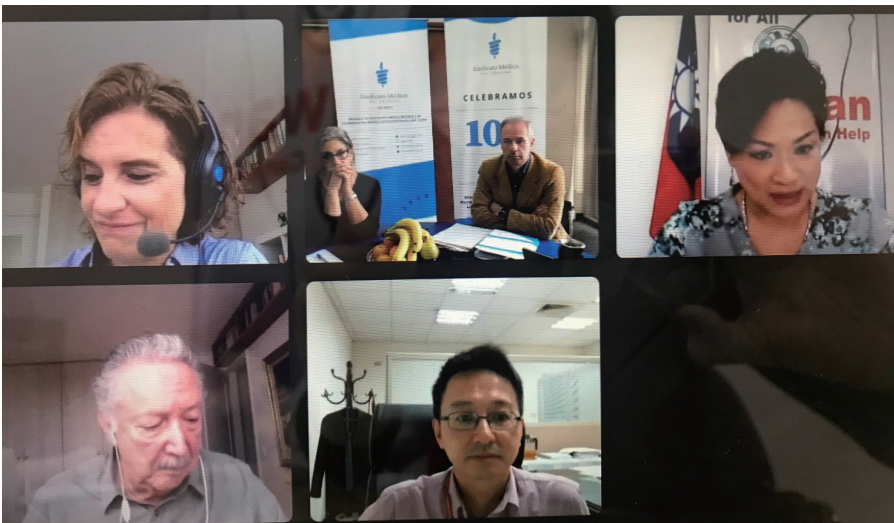
Middle row (L–R): General Director Jorge O’Ryan of ProChile, Vice Chairman Robert Ouyang of CIECA, and President Bernardo Larraín of SOFOFA.

Bottom row (L–R): Director Agustín Alejandro Cases Nardocci of the Chilean Trade Office, National Director Lorena Sepúlveda of ProChile, Director Ming-ya Lin of the Economic Division at the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chile. (November 12, 2020)





The Chilean Olympic Committee and Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee sign a bilateral cooperation agreement remotely in a video conference. Pictured is the signing ceremony held in Taipei. Director of the Department of Latin American and Caribbean Alexander Tah-ray Yui (fourth from left) with President of the Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee Hong-dow Lin (center). (October 29, 2020)



Representative to Colombia Francisca Yu-Tsz Chang (top right) and Deputy Director-General of the Taiwan Centers for Disease Control Yi-chun Lo (bottom center) attend the Medical Federation of Colombia's international online forum titled "Taiwan's and Paraguay's Successful Responses to COVID-19". (October 28, 2020)



Representative to Colombia Francisca Yu-Tsz Chang (right) calls upon Representative Nidia Osorio and takes a tour of the National Capitol. (December 24, 2020)



Representative to Ecuador Jaime Chuang (right) donates pandemic supplies to the Pablo Arturo Suárez Hospital in Quito, capital of Ecuador, on behalf of the Importers & Exporters Association of Taipei and the Quito Chamber of Commerce. (September 17, 2020)



Surgical masks purchased locally by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Mexico are donated to collaborative efforts against COVID-19 and to humanitarian aid initiatives in Latin America. (May 25, 2020)



Representative to Mexico Armando Cheng (right) and Deputy Carlos Elhier Cinta Rodríguez sign donation certificates of smartphones and IC chips from Taiwan to schools in need in León, Guanajuato. (November 17, 2020)





Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Peru repatriates 55 Taiwanese citizens stranded in Cusco, Arequipa, and Lima on a chartered flight. (March 28, 2020)



Representative to Peru Iván Yueh-Jung Lee and Colonel José Luis Reyes Ascencio, President of the National Defense Intelligence College, co-host a donation ceremony for medical and pandemic supplies. (September 1, 2020)

## **Section 2 International Organizations, Conferences and Activities**

### **I. Campaign for UN Participation**

Since its withdrawal from the United Nations in 1971, Taiwan has been excluded from UN meetings, mechanisms, and conventions. With significant progress in Taiwan's political, economic, and social landscapes, there has been a growing focus among the people of Taiwan on pursuing stronger engagement in the international community. As Taiwan's inclusion in the UN system is a goal shared by the citizens of Taiwan, the government launched a campaign in 1993 to advocate for this cause. The campaign continues, uninterrupted, to this day.

Following the approach of steadfast diplomacy and mutual assistance for mutual benefits, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs continues to actively demonstrate Taiwan's desire and capacity to participate in the specialized agencies of the UN, as well as its potential contributions. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs urges the UN to recognize the importance and necessity of Taiwan's involvement. Taiwan will also actively seek support from the international community. Taiwan's campaign has three main strands. First, that the UN should take immediate action to resolve the inappropriate exclusion of Taiwan's 23.5 million people from the UN system. Second, that the UN's discriminatory policy against Taiwanese passport holders and journalists violates their fundamental human rights and should be rectified immediately. Third, that the UN should ensure that Taiwan has the right to participate in an equal and dignified manner in meetings, mechanisms, and activities related to the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, so that Taiwan can make meaningful contributions.

In 2020, 14 permanent representatives to the UN from Taiwan's diplomatic allies jointly or individually wrote to the UN Secretary General to express support for the inclusion of Taiwan. Twelve heads of state, heads of government, or representatives of Taiwan's diplomatic allies spoke in support of Taiwan during the General Debate at the UN General Assembly. During the UN High-level Meeting, two diplomatic allies also expressed support for Taiwan's involvement in achieving the UN SDGs, and urged the UN to uphold its commitment to Leave No One Behind, to take action to include Taiwan, and to redress the serious issue of the exclusion of the 23.5 million people of Taiwan from the UN system.

Like-minded countries have supported Taiwan's campaign in a wide variety of ways. During the UN General Assembly, Kelly Craft, US Ambassador to the UN, dined with James K. J. Lee, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York, and publicly expressed support for Taiwan through media outlets. Ambassador Craft also attended the first online Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF) event held jointly by Taiwan, the US, and Japan, and advocated for Taiwan on social media platforms. Nigel Adams, UK Minister of State for Asia, expressed support for Taiwan's international engagement when responding to written inquiries from the UK Parliament, marking the first time in recent years that the UK has expressed support for Taiwan's campaign. Offices representing Australia, Japan, and the US in Taiwan posted on social media and shared *Blessings from Taiwan*, a short promotional video supporting Taiwan's UN campaign, in recognition of Taiwan's contributions to UN SDG fulfillment.

In the midst of this year's COVID-19 pandemic, Taiwan continued to organize three online side events during the UN General Assembly to spotlight topics of concern to the UN, including SDGs, international development, and women's issues, demonstrating to the international community that Taiwan is a constructive partner in UN SDG fulfillment. Speakers included former Vice President Chien-jen Chen, Deputy Minister of the Environmental Protection Administration Hung-Teh Tsai, Taiwan Representative to the US Bi-khim Hsiao, and US Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues Kelley Currie.

## II. Campaign for WHO Participation

The vision of the World Health Organization (WHO) is a world in which all peoples attain the highest possible level of health. WHO provides health assistance and technical services and raises awareness about various diseases and environmental health to help governments across the world improve their people's health. Taiwan was a founding member of WHO until May 1972, when the World Health Assembly (WHA), WHO's decision-making body, passed WHA Resolution 25.1 and thereby excluded Taiwan from WHO. This meant that health officials from Taiwan were no longer able to participate in WHO discussions on global healthcare and health. Channels of communication with WHO's technical departments were also discontinued. To remedy the situation, in 1997 the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government launched a campaign to advocate for Taiwan's involvement in WHO. After 12 years' efforts by the government and civic groups, Taiwan was included in the



implementation of the International Health Regulations (IHR) in 2009. On April 28, 2009, then WHO Director-General Margaret Chan extended an invitation to Minister of Health Ching-chuan Yeh to attend the 62nd WHA as an observer under the name “Chinese Taipei”. Taiwan’s health minister was invited to attend the WHA for eight consecutive years.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 73rd session of the WHA was held online in two sessions, one in May and one in November. Yielded to political pressure, WHO did not extend an invitation to Taiwan. To demonstrate Taiwan’s dedication to global cooperation on health, and to safeguard the health and well-being of Taiwanese citizens, 14 diplomatic allies of the R.O.C. (Taiwan) requested the WHO to include “Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer” on the agenda of 73rd session of the WHA. Four diplomatic allies—Nauru, Eswatini, the Marshall Islands, and Honduras—engaged in two-on-two debates in the WHA General Committee and in the plenary session. Given the success of the Taiwan Model against COVID-19 and the clear need to learn from Taiwan’s experience, their professional and pragmatic arguments resonated with many other member countries, who agreed it was important that Taiwan be involved in global efforts and mechanisms to fight COVID-19. In two online meetings, 14 diplomatic allies and like-minded countries such as the US, Japan, the UK, France, Germany, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the Czech Republic advocated for Taiwan.

Owing to Taiwan’s success in containing the COVID-19 pandemic, support for Taiwan from the international community has reached unprecedented levels. Heads of government such as Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Australia Scott Morrison, and Prime Minister of New Zealand Jacinda Ardern, as well as high-level officials from Denmark, the EU, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, the UK, and the US publicly expressed support for Taiwan’s campaign for WHO participation through public statements, responses to parliamentary or media inquiries, and posts on social media. Offices in Taiwan representing the US, Japan, the UK, France, Canada, and Australia also publicly expressed support for Taiwan. Over 1,700 national legislators from more than 80 countries around the world lent their support to Taiwan’s campaign in various ways, including writing to the Director-General of WHO, issuing statements, or posting on social media. The Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China, a cross-party alliance of parliamentarians from 18 countries across five

continents and the European Parliament, also expressed public support for Taiwan's meaningful participation in the meetings, mechanisms, and activities of the WHA and WHO.

Taiwan held a forum titled "Review of COVID-19 Prevention and Control Strategies" during the WHA session in May and a forum titled "Innovation of the National Cancer Registry" during the resumed WHA session in November. Hundreds of health officials and experts from the US, Japan, Canada, the UK, and the Netherlands were invited to the online side events that explained the success of the Taiwan Model at containing COVID-19 and Taiwan's experience in cancer prevention with international communities. These concrete actions are a demonstration of the slogans "Taiwan Can Help", and "Taiwan is Helping".

Taiwan will continue to pursue equal and dignified participation in the WHA and urges WHO and related parties to acknowledge Taiwan's long-term contributions to global public health, epidemic prevention, and the right to health, as well as Taiwan's medical partnerships with WHO member countries, and to facilitate Taiwan's professional, pragmatic, and constructive engagement in the WHA and to gradually expand Taiwan's involvement in WHO mechanisms, meetings, and activities.

### **III. Campaign for ICAO Participation**

As a responsible member of the international community, Taiwan is willing to join relevant global efforts to safeguard global and region air safety so as to contribute to global aviation development. Taiwan has jurisdiction over the Taipei Flight Information Region (Taipei FIR), an FIR in East Asia that accommodates heavy air traffic. The region is a crucial part of the global aviation network; therefore, Taiwan should participate in the meetings, activities, and mechanisms of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). In 2013, Taiwan attended the 38th ICAO Assembly as a guest of the ICAO Council President under the name Chinese Taipei. Taiwan delegation was led by Jean Shen, then Director-General of the Civil Aeronautics Administration of Taiwan.

In 2019, the G7 Foreign Ministers urged the ICAO to include Taiwan. The R.O.C. (Taiwan) government continues to pursue ICAO participation through various channels and to gather support from the international community.

Taiwan will continue to follow the approach of steadfast diplomacy and mutual assistance for mutual benefits, as well as maintaining close cooperation

with countries and stakeholders. Taiwan will continue to advocate for Taiwan's participation in the ICAO, in the assembly as well as in other technical meetings, activities, and mechanisms.

#### **IV. Campaign for INTERPOL Participation**

The mission of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) is to enable police around the world to work together to prevent and fight crime. In 1961, Taiwan joined INTERPOL as the National Central Bureau of the Republic of China. In 1984, Taiwan withdrew from INTERPOL after the organization approved China's application to join and passed a resolution imposed by China.

As a member of the international community, Taiwan is willing and able to cooperate with other countries to combat the growing threats of terrorism and transnational crimes. Therefore, Taiwan launched a campaign in 2016 to advocate for Taiwan's participation in INTERPOL as an observer. Taiwan's appeals have gradually gained public support from like-minded countries such as the US and UK. The international community has also shown increased support for Taiwan's campaign over the years.

Though the 89th INTERPOL General Assembly was postponed due to the impact of COVID-19, Taiwan continues to seek support from the international community. Nigel Adams, the UK Minister of State for Asia, reiterated his support for Taiwan's attending the INTERPOL General Assembly as an observer. Councilors from Japan's Yokohama City also issued a joint statement supporting Taiwan's entry to INTERPOL, and 11 Argentine deputies submitted a joint statement to the Chamber of Deputies in favor of Taiwan.

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

#### **V. Taiwan's Membership in Intergovernmental Organizations**

While continuing the campaign for participation in the UN system, Taiwan also continues to leverage its political, economic, and technological strengths to bolster and deepen its existing memberships in intergovernmental organizations through flexible and pragmatic approaches in order to secure member status and rights.

In addition, Taiwan will continue to advocate for participation in and strengthen effective connections with international organizations.

Taiwan has membership in 40 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), 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 (NPFC), 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), Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA), Global Financial Innovation Network (GFIN), and International Cooperation on Cosmetics Regulation (ICCR).

Taiwan also participates as observer or with similar status in 25 intergovernmental organizations, conventions, or affiliated institutions, including La Conferencia de las Fuerzas Armadas Centroamericanas (CFAC), the General Conference on Weights and Measures (GCWM), 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), International Consumer Protection and Enforcement Network (ICPEN), 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), and Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP). Taiwan was included in the implementation of the International Health Regulations (IHR) of the World Health Organization (WHO) and enjoyed limited attendance at WHO technical meetings.

Significant advancements in Taiwan's participation in inter-governmental organizations are outlined below:

### **1. Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)**

- (1) TSMC founder Dr. Morris Chang was designated to represent Taiwan at the 27th APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (AELM), held online on November 20, and met with Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong in a bilateral online meeting before the AELM.
- (2) In 2020, ministers and deputy ministers across various ministries received international exposure a total of nine times at APEC, including six ministerial meetings (trade, finance, health, SMEs, food security, and women) and the APEC Ministerial Meeting (AMM). Two ministers also

served as speakers at the APEC CEO Dialogues, marking the first time a Taiwanese official of ministerial level has been invited to give a speech there.

- (3) In 2020, Taiwan held 13 bilateral online meetings with high-level officials from other APEC member economies within the APEC framework. These meetings involved Taiwan leader representative Dr. Morris Chang, Executive Yuan's Minister without Portfolio Chen-Chung Deng, and Minister of Economic Affairs Mei-hua Wang.

- 2. Asian Development Bank (ADB):** Established in 1966, the ADB is headquartered in Manila and currently consists of 68 members. Taiwan is one of the founding members and belongs to a voting group with Korea, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan, and Vanuatu. In 1983, Taiwan became a donor country of the ADB's Asian Development Fund and has committed to donating the 13th replenishment of funds this year, based on holding percentage. In 2020, TaiwanICDF signed a cooperation agreement with the ADB's Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC) to help the ADB promote geospatial technology and share Taiwan's valuable experience of using satellite imaging for agricultural development and disaster prevention.
- 3. Inter-American Development Bank (IDB):** Founded in 1959 and headquartered in Washington D.C., the IDB aims to promote economic and social development in member states in the region by providing loans and technical assistance to government agencies and private enterprises. The IDB has invited Taiwan to its annual Board of Governors meetings as an observer since 1991. In turn, the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government sends delegations to the assembly each year to actively strengthen Taiwan-IDB cooperation. In 2006, TaiwanICDF set up the Specialized Financial Intermediary Development Fund through the IDB's Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) to provide financing to intermediary financial institutions, allowing them to increase financial autonomy, help small rural businesses to participate in the formal economy, and expand lending operations to lower-income populations to improve their residential properties.
- 4. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD):** Founded in 1961 and headquartered in Paris, France, the OECD currently has 37 member states. The OECD is an important economic organization used by



the governments of developed countries to facilitate progress in economic and social welfare and provide assistance to developing countries. With more than 300 specialized committees and working groups, the OECD has considerable scale. Since its initial participation in the Dynamic Non-Member Economies (DNMEs) seminars in Paris in January 1989, Taiwan has been actively seizing opportunities for substantive participation in the OECD. Taiwan regularly attends meetings and events by the Competition Committee, the Steel Committee, and the Fisheries Committee as a “participant” (i.e. observer).

5. **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD):** Founded in 1991 and headquartered in London, EBRD currently has 71 members, including 38 countries of operations. In 1991, Taiwan set up the Technical Cooperation Fund at EBRD to help the bank facilitate economic and social development in its countries of operations. Since then, Taiwan has been regularly invited to participate in EBRD’s annual meetings of the Board of Governors and related events, attending as a special observer since 1998. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Finance have both sent representatives to EBRD headquarters. Though affected by COVID-19 this year, Taiwan continued to roll out 15 technical cooperations with EBRD in a variety of domains including climate change, renewable energy, SMEs, public health, gender equality, blockchain technologies, and information technologies. Taiwan also organized eight business networking events and conferences to continue deepening the partnership between Taiwan and EBRD.
6. **Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI):** Founded in 1960 and headquartered in Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, CABEI currently has 15 member countries. In 1992, Taiwan joined CABEI as a non-regional member. In 2020, Taiwan invested heavily in CABEI’s eighth capital increase and became the bank’s largest shareholder. While COVID-19 ravaged Latin America in 2020, TaiwanICDF offered preferential loans to CABEI plans targeting COVID-19 and economic recovery.
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 to assist disaster prevention efforts in the Latin America and Caribbean region. The Fund has been renewed several times. In 2020, it focused on projects to improve disaster prevention and epidemic control in Guatemala.

- 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 the end of this year, GFIN members include 44 supervisory agencies across 28 countries and regions, and seven observers, including the World Bank Group and the IMF. Taiwan's Financial Supervisory Commission became a member of the GFIN in May 2019, sharing Taiwan's experience overseeing and monitoring fintech to give insight into the latest global trends in fintech and propel fintech development in Taiwan.
- 9. Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG):** Established in February 1997, the APG is a multilateral mechanism to prevent money laundering in the Asia-Pacific region. Headquartered in Sydney, Australia, the APG currently comprises 41 members. To deepen its involvement in the APG, Taiwan joined the group in 1997 and launched cooperation projects with the group starting in 2011. This cooperation has delivered related training and capacity-building to Pacific island nations and yielded notable results. 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 added to the "Regular Follow-up List", the best rating available and an upgrade from the previous rating of "Enhanced Follow-up" in 2011.
- 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. The secretariat is located in Ottawa, Canada, and the group 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 its annual meetings. Through this platform, as of this year Taiwan has signed a total of 51 bilateral anti-money laundering cooperation agreements or memoranda with other member jurisdictions. Taiwan has been participating in EG conference training programs since 2014, and its contributions have been widely recognized by the group's secretariat and member jurisdictions.
- 11. Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs):** Taiwan is a global leader in distant-water fisheries, with fishing operations spanning three major oceans. Recognizing the need to conserve marine resources and combat illegal fishing, the international community deems it necessary to include Taiwan in the

international fisheries management system. Given Taiwan's unique international status, the concept of a "fishing entity" was introduced to allow Taiwan to participate in negotiations on conventions within various Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs). To date, Taiwan has joined seven RFMOs as a "fishing entity", including the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC), Extended Commission of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC), South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO), Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA), and International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). Taiwan is actively seeking further participation in RFMOs in order to contribute to the conservation and sustainable development of marine fisheries resources worldwide while safeguarding rights to equal participation.

**12. International Agricultural Organizations:** Taiwan has a strong foundation and past success in the development of agricultural technology, precision agriculture, rural development, and sustainable agricultural management. Two international agricultural organizations, the World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) and the Food and Fertilizer Technology Center for the Asian and Pacific Region (FFTC), are headquartered in Taiwan, underscoring Taiwan's international reputation for promoting global agricultural cooperation. The government uses donations, international workshops, and collaborative projects that leverage Taiwan's advantages to deepen engagement with organizations such as WorldVeg, FFTC, the African–Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO), the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC), and the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA). At the same time, efforts are being made to strengthen communication and connections with countries targeted under the New Southbound Policy. Through regional and multilateral cooperation, Taiwan seeks to enhance exchanges and partnerships with ASEAN and South Asian countries, expanding the overall effectiveness of Taiwan's international participation.

**13. World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE):** Founded in 1924 and headquartered in Paris, France, OIE currently has 182 members. Taiwan joined OIE in 1954. OIE is now the largest international organization (in terms

of member count) in which Taiwan holds membership. The organization's objectives are to promote international collaboration in animal health, ensure safe international animal and animal product trading, and establish global animal health and quarantine standards. This year, the OIE recognized Taiwan, including the main island, Penghu, and Matsu, as a "non-vaccination zone for foot-and-mouth disease", marking a significant milestone in Taiwan's animal disease prevention efforts since the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in 1997. This is also an important result of Taiwan's participation in the OIE, aiding in expanding the international market for Taiwan's meat exports.

**14. Asia Productivity Organization (APO):** Founded in 1961 and headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, APO currently comprises 21 members. The APO aims to increase productivity in the Asia-Pacific region through mutual cooperation and to facilitate sustainable social and economic development. Taiwan is a founding member of the APO and made successful bids to set up the Center of Excellence on Green Productivity in 2013 and the Center of Excellence on Smart Manufacturing in 2019, both in Taiwan. The establishment of two APO centers in Taiwan indicates that Taiwan is recognized internationally for its achievements and expertise in related domains. Taiwan has also used this platform to send experts to expand cooperation with APO members in South Asia and Southeast Asia in order to create favorable conditions for Taiwan's New Southbound Policy.

**15. International Cooperation on Cosmetics Regulation (ICCR):** Established in 2007, the ICCR is an international organization comprised of cosmetics regulatory authorities across different countries. The ICCR currently has seven members and aims to eliminate trade barriers and protect the interests of global consumers through regulatory convergence and cooperation between cosmetics authorities. The Taiwan Food and Drug Administration was unanimously accepted as a formal member during the 14th ICCR Annual Meeting this year. Taiwan's membership is the result of the government's pragmatic, professional, and constructive efforts to actively expand participation in intergovernmental organizations.

## 16. World Trade Organization (WTO)

- (1) Founded in 1995 and headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, the WTO promotes free, fair, and predictable international trade. The WTO currently has 164 members and 25 observers. Taiwan joined the organization in 2002 and has since actively engaged in multilateral and plurilateral trade negotiations and protected Taiwanese industries through WTO's dispute settlement system.
- (2) To expand markets and promote the interest of Taiwanese industries, Taiwan is actively involved in WTO meetings, specifically the regular meetings held by the General Council, Council for Trade in Goods, Committee on Market Access, Council for Trade in Services, Trade Negotiation Committee, Committee on Trade Facilitation, Committee on Government Procurement, Council for TRIPS, Committee on Trade and Environments, Committee on Regional Trade Agreements, Committee on TRIMS, Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade, Committee on Agriculture, Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Committee on Rules of Origin, 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) Taiwan is involved in the aforementioned official WTO committees and councils, as well as informal working groups and subgroups formed by like-minded WTO members, to roll out work plans or trade regulations on specific issues. For example, Taiwan is a member of the Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform (FFSR) and among the countries supporting the group's ministerial statement advocating the phasing out of ineffective and wasteful fossil fuel subsidies during the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference. Taiwan is also a member of the Friends of Advanced Sustainable Trade (FAST), a group advocating the formulation of an environmental work plan under the WTO framework before the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference or the future drafting of trade regulations to work toward sustainable environments and sustainable development. Taiwan is also an active member of WTO's MSMEs Informal Working Group and supports the group's goal to draft work plans empowering micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in global trade before the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference.

## **17. 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 (UNFCCC) in 2009, actively demonstrating and showcasing to the world Taiwan's efforts to combat climate change.
- (2) The UNFCCC COP 26 was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and later held in November 2021 in Glasgow, UK. To prepare for COP 26, the British Office Taipei invited the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to meet online with Ken O'Flaherty, the UK government's COP 26 Regional Ambassador to Asia-Pacific and South Asia, marking a significant step for Taiwan's future campaign for greater inclusion in the global community. During the meeting, the UK delegation gave a brief introduction to plans and objectives of COP 26 and the EPA then provided a brief introduction to Taiwan's climate policies. Following the presentations, both sides exchanged views on energy transition, carbon reduction on transportation, green finance, international cooperation, and Taiwan's involvement at COP 26, and concluded with fruitful results.
- (3) To sustain Taiwan's campaigns for greater involvement in the international community, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs actively worked with local NGOs, such as the Taiwan Institute for Sustainable Energy, Taiwan Research Institute, and Industrial Technology Research Institute, to host online conferences on climate change such as the 2020 Climate Change & Sustainable Development Conference, 2020 International Climate Finance Forum, and Forum on Global Climate Actions Inspired from Experiences from the COVID-19 Pandemic, respectively. Experts and scholars from Taiwan and beyond are invited to exchange their views on important issues on climate change in order to enhance understanding of climate action and its progress and strengthen Taiwan's international connections.

## **VI. Current Participation in International NGOs**

1. In 2020, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Taiwanese civic groups filed fewer applications for MOFA grants and subsidies to engage in international



activities. Of the 186 applications, 71 received funding under the Directions for the Provision of Subsidies by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to Civil Associations Engaged in International Exchanges and Activities, indicating that the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government has continued to lend support to civic groups for international exchange and activities throughout the pandemic as it seeks to strengthen partnerships between local NGOs and governments using a practical approach.

2. MOFA compiled a budget for the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy in accordance with relevant laws and regulations to support NGOs, international NGOs (INGOs), think tanks, and political parties for democracy in building partnerships and connections with international groups supporting democracy.
3. MOFA helped INGOs to set up operations in Taiwan: To create an INGO-friendly legal environment, MOFA coordinated with the Ministry of the Interior to improve regulations on the establishment of INGO offices in Taiwan, and enacted the “Regulations for Foreign International Cooperation Foundations Applying with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Recognition” in compliance with the Foundations Act. The Setting Up an INGO in Taiwan website, a one-stop Mandarin/English information center providing information services, was also set up, along with designated personnel assigned to offer guidance. These services were publicized through various channels, such as Taiwan’s embassies, offices, and social media, to attract major INGOs to Taiwan. To date, MOFA has helped the National Democratic Institute (US) register with the Ministry of the Interior (MOI), and assisted the STUF United Fund/World Taiwan Foundation with applications to establish an Asia-Pacific center. MOFA has also been consulted by major NGOs, such as the International Republican Institute (US), Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (Germany), and European Values Center for Security Policy (Czech Republic), regarding plans to establish offices in Taiwan in 2021. Their presence in Taiwan could help Taiwan build connections with the international community and improve global visibility.
4. MOFA collaborated with NGOs in Taiwan to implement the Women’s Empowerment Diplomacy Program: The Ministry held its first international online conference and workshop on gender equity, titled “Women’s Leadership: Redesigning the Post COVID-19 Era”. Taiwan Representative to the US Bi-khim Hsiao, Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women’s Issues Kelley Currie, and other

female leaders from around the world were invited to the conference, which integrated social media resources from the Office of the President, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, overseas embassies and offices, and TaiwanICDF. MOFA also worked with over 25 local and international NGOs to share the event online, including the Foundation of Women's Rights Promotion and Development. The conference received significant coverage from conventional and social media, leading to 1,300 online viewers of the livestream and a total reach of four million on social media. This online success helps demonstrate Taiwan's achievements in gender equality to the international community and strengthens its involvement in the international community by advocating for women's empowerment.

5. MOFA promoted Taiwan NGO's capacity and achievements around the world: MOFA compiled "NGOs of Taiwan: A Force for Good in the World", a pamphlet available in both Mandarin and English that introduces 18 major NGOs of Taiwan across six major domains, including democracy and human rights, gender equality, environmental sustainability, public health, humanitarian assistance, arts, and athletics. The pamphlet presents the wide-ranging capacities and achievements of Taiwan's NGOs around the world to showcase Taiwan's "warm power" and commitment to the common good.
6. MOFA encouraged Taiwan NGOs to host annual INGO meetings or major international conferences in Taiwan, also providing help with execution, or helping them to attend such conferences overseas. For example:
  - (1) MOFA assisted the Taiwan headquarters of the World League for Freedom and Democracy (WLFD) with online international conferences such as the 2020 WLFD European Regional Organization Video Forum in June on the impacts and challenges of COVID-19 on freedom, democracy, and human rights; the 2020 Asia Pacific Video Roundtable in July, hosted jointly with the Asia Pacific League for Freedom and Democracy; the 2020 WLFD North American Regional Organization Video Forum in August; and the 2020 WLFD Latin American Regional Organization Video Forum in September.
  - (2) MOFA assisted the Institute of Urban Diversity & Mobility (UDM) with their 2020 Asia Pacific Social Innovation Digital Summit & Social Enterprise World Forum (SEWF) Digital held in Taiwan in September, where 34 international heavyweights in the field of social innovation were

invited to speak, attracting sign-ups from over 2,000 local and international participants.

- (3) MOFA assisted the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society of Taiwan with their MasterClass in Vaccinology in Taiwan in September. Over 650 health experts from Taiwan and abroad attended the MasterClass, allowing the Ministry to share Taiwan's success against COVID-19 and highlight its achievements in this area.
  - (4) MOFA assisted the Taiwan Nurses Association with the Taiwan International Nursing Conference held in Taiwan in September, where over 2,000 nursing experts from over 130 countries participated in exchanges either in person or online.
  - (5) MOFA assisted the Taiwan Medical Association with their active role in the 2020 World Medical Association (WMA) General Assembly in October, with the WMA expressing support for Taiwan's participation in the World Health Assembly (WHA) on the eve of the WHA's second session in November.
  - (6) MOFA assisted Slow Food Taiwan with their 46-person delegation to Germany for the quadrennial 2020 IKA/Culinary Olympics in Germany. Against 3,000 competitors from over 70 countries, Slow Food Taiwan secured 1 super gold, 9 gold medals, 8 silver medals, and 9 bronzes.
  - (7) MOFA assisted the Alliance for Sustainable Development Goals with their 3rd Global Corporate Sustainability Forum, held in Taiwan in November.
  - (8) MOFA assisted the Chinese (Taiwan) Society of International Law with the publication of their journal and annual English report in December in order to maintain regular communications with experts on international law around the world and ensure insight into the latest trends and emerging issues in international law.
7. MOFA supported the UN SDGs and assisted Taiwan NGOs and INGOs with international cooperation projects.
- (1) MOFA assisted The Border Consortium, a UK NGO, with the Nutrition Program, offering nutritional support to refugee camps along the Thailand–Myanmar border and training local nutrition professionals.

- (2) MOFA helped the Zhi-Shan Foundation Taiwan with the Reading Room Project in Primary Schools in Central Vietnam to build reading rooms, update facilities in libraries, procure books, and organize local library management training. The project aims to promote reading activities and provide disadvantaged children in Vietnam with high-quality reading environments.
- (3) MOFA assisted the Zhi-Shan Foundation Taiwan and Meikswe Myanmar with the Myanmar Community Childcare Program, which has set up daycare centers and holds parenting courses to increase the quality of childcare in local communities
- (4) MOFA assisted the Eden Social Welfare Foundation (Taiwan) and the Leprosy Mission Myanmar for the Three-Year Program for Prosthetic Donations and Occupational Therapy Training. Under the program, the two NGOs have donated 300 sets of prosthetics and provide occupational training to local victims of land mines.
- (5) MOFA assisted the Pu-Hsein Educational Foundation (Taiwan) and Amitofo Care Center (Taiwan) with their program teaching traditional Chinese abroad. The two NGOs provide humanities education relating to Taiwan and skills training to orphans in Malawi, Lesotho, Eswatini, Mozambique, and Namibia.
- (6) MOFA helped the SimplyHelp Foundation (US) with their humanitarian aid program to send essential supplies to nations in need. Under the program, essential supplies and textiles were sent to diplomatic allies and friendly nations in Latin America and the Pacific.
- (7) MOFA helped the Garden of Hope Foundation (Taiwan) to organize their Three-Year Project of the Asian Network of Women's Shelters (2018–2020) and 2020 Asian Girls Campaign to advocate for the safeguarding of women's rights and interests around the world.
- (8) MOFA assisted the Mae Tao Clinic (Thailand) and Suwannimit Foundation (Thailand) with their program to reduce the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on marginalized communities in the Tak Province along the Thai–Myanmar border and to improve healthcare. The project will provide health services and healthcare to the displaced along the Thai–Myanmar border.

- (9) MOFA assisted the Taiwan Alliance in International Development and Children Believe (Canada) with their Creative Learning Center Model Project, which aims to provide child-friendly communities and environments conducive to learning for the children and young people of Paraguay and India.
- (10) MOFA assisted the Sunshine Social Welfare Foundation and APROQUEN (Nicaragua) with their Training Program for Burn Rehabilitation Professionals in Central America, training burn-rehabilitation professionals and pressure-garment makers in Nicaragua and Honduras.
8. MOFA organized a series of events to mark the 20th anniversary of the MOFA Department of NGO International Affairs. The events include:
  - (1) MOFA held the NGO Leaders Forum from October 13 to 14, 2020. Over 400 Taiwan NGO leaders, government representatives, ambassadors and foreign representatives in Taiwan, and corporate representatives were invited to explore the humanitarian aid provided by Taiwanese NGOs to other nations during the COVID-19 pandemic, strengthen the involvement of Taiwan NGOs across the world, and discuss responses to oppression from China. A joint statement was also issued during the forum.
  - (2) In honor of the 20th anniversary of the MOFA Department of NGO International Affairs, the Ministry organized a celebration on October 14, 2020, that was hosted by Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu. In attendance were over 400 esteemed NGO partners from Taiwan, previous directors general of the Department of NGO International Affairs, ambassadors and representatives of countries where Taiwan NGOs operate, and government representatives. Outstanding Contribution Awards in six categories were presented to Taiwan NGOs at the celebration, and 45 NGOs set up booths to showcase their international participation and exchanges across the world.
9. MOFA organized talent cultivation programs to build the capacity of Taiwan NGOs and youths to be active around the world.
  - (1) Under the International Youth Ambassadors Exchange Program, each year MOFA selects college students to visit diplomatic allies and friendly

nations and carry out exchanges, showcasing Taiwan's soft power through the innovation and perspectives of its younger generation. The program was put on hold this year, owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. To maintain the program's momentum, MOFA held the Solidarity Night and Seminar on Youth Leadership in the Post-COVID-19 Era on December 29, inviting around 200 former youth ambassadors and students in Taiwan from countries targeted under the New Southbound Policy. The goal was to generate interest in foreign policy amongst young people in Taiwan and explore leadership roles for the younger generation in culture, art, healthcare, and digital technologies in the post-pandemic era.

- (2) This year's MOFA NGO International Training Program had the theme "SDGs for NGOs—Taiwan Can Help". The program aims to build competence in NGO partners and those wishing to engage in international affairs for NGOs. Four sessions were held in Taipei, Taichung, Kaohsiung, and Hualien from October to November. Around 300 trainees participated.





TSMC Founder Dr. Morris Chang representing Taiwan at the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting. (November 20, 2020)



World leaders, including TSMC founder and Taiwan representative Dr. Morris Chang (bottom, second from left), at the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting. (November 20, 2020)



Video conference between representatives from related government agencies in Taiwan, Catherine Nettleton, Representative of the British Office in Taipei (top third from left), and Ken O'Flaherty, the UK government's COP 26 Regional Ambassador to Asia-Pacific and South Asia (bottom first from right). (November 19, 2020)



Hsu Szu-chien, Deputy Secretary-General of National Security Council (second from right), and Tien Chung-kwang, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs (second from left), co-chaired the Taiwan-UK video conference on climate cooperation. (November 19, 2020)





Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (sixth from left) hosts a reception celebrating the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Department of NGO International Affairs. (October 14, 2020)



Group photo of Director General Constance H. Wang of the MOFA Department of NGO International Affairs (front center) with participants at the Taipei session of the 2020 NGO International Training Program. (October 31, 2020)



## Section 3 Treaties, Agreements and Legal Affairs

### I. Overview of Treaties and Agreements

In 2020, Taiwan signed 25 treaties and agreements with 14 countries: Australia, Belize, Canada, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Israel, Kosovo, New Zealand, Poland, Somaliland, South Korea, Switzerland, and the US. Taiwan also signed agreements with three international organizations: the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). The scope of the treaties and agreements covers economics and trade, agriculture, forestry, fisheries and animal husbandry, technical cooperation, fair trade, information and communication, anti-money laundering, intellectual property rights, transportation, aviation and traffic rights, development cooperation and financial assistance, energy, legal affairs, standards, customs, and other areas for cooperation.

All the above-mentioned treaties and agreements may be found individually on the MOFA website and in the *Treaties between the Republic of China (Taiwan) and Foreign States Volume XXIII, 2020-2021*. To promote cultural diplomacy and to enhance Taiwan's global visibility, since 2020 MOFA has been assisting the National Central Library with publication exchanges with other major libraries and academic/research institutes abroad.

### II. Research and Consultation on Treaties, Agreements, and Law Involving Foreign Elements

At the request of various MOFA departments and offices and other related authorities and agencies, the Ministry researched and gave opinions on 3,416 cases relating to treaties, agreements, and legal matters.

### III. Foreign Affairs and Legal Affairs

1. Taiwan's courts and other agencies entrust MOFA with the serving of litigation documents and evidence-gathering overseas. The Ministry also handles cases in which foreign courts or other judicial authorities seek to serve documents or gather evidence in Taiwan. In 2020, MOFA handled 14,325 cases involving the serving of litigation documents for Taiwanese courts or other agencies, evidence-gathering overseas, and mutual assistance with Taiwanese judicial authorities on legal matters consigned by foreign courts.

2. In 2020, MOFA assisted with around 800 cases involving Taiwanese citizens abroad applying for loss of nationality, revocation of the loss of nationality, or document verification for acquisition of nationality or naturalization.

#### **IV. Appeals Review Committee**

In accordance with the Organizational Regulations for Administrative Appeals Review Committee of the Executive Yuan and Administrative Agencies at All Levels, MOFA set up the Appeals Review Committee (henceforth “Appeals Committee”) to handle appeals. With the director-general of the Department of Treaty and Legal Affairs serving as chairman of the Review Committee, in 2020 there were 15 members (including the chairman): ten legal scholars and experts and five heads and deputy heads of MOFA units. Most of the appeals are filed by a small number of applicants who wish to contest decisions made by the Bureau of Consular Affairs, such as the denying of visas or passport renewals, or the withholding or revoking of passports. In 2020, a total of 166 appeals have been filed to the Executive Yuan regarding overseas embassies and offices rejecting visa and passport renewal applications, refusing to accept documents for marriage verification, or detaining or canceling passports, all of which were 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 Surrounding Waters**

President Tsai Ing-wen has reiterated the government’s commitment to defending Taiwan 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. The principles are: disputes should be resolved by setting aside differences and promoting joint development; Taiwan should be included in multilateral mechanisms aimed at resolving disputes; concerned states have an obligation to uphold 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, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The government vows to defend fishing rights, seek multilateral consultations, facilitate scientific collaboration, carry out humanitarian assistance and rescue operations, and cultivate experts on the law of the sea.



To such ends, MOFA dispatched staff to take part in international maritime research workshops, recruited diplomatic and consular professionals with backgrounds 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. In 2020, MOFA began admitting new entrants to the international law track through the Special Examination for Diplomatic Personnel and subject and practical training.

The South China Sea Islands are territories of the R.O.C. The R.O.C. (Taiwan) government remains unwavering in its efforts to defend R.O.C. (Taiwan) sovereignty and rights over the South China Sea Islands. In the future, the government will continue to consolidate sovereignty, protect fishing rights, actively settle disputes, and work hand in hand with the relevant states to maintain peace and stability in the South China Sea.



## Section 4 International Communication and Public Diplomacy

### Item 1 International Communication Campaigns

#### I. Current Goals in International Communication

The purpose of international communication is to promote Taiwan's major policies and soft power in coordination with overall diplomacy, enhance national image, sway international public opinion in Taiwan's favor, and win recognition and support from 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, in addition to traditional communication channels, social media platforms such as YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram are used to make sure that Taiwan is seen, understood, and recognized around the world.

#### II. Tangible Steps in International Communication

##### 1. International Media Interviews with the President and Vice President

- (1) MOFA set up a BBC interview with President Tsai Ing-wen after the 2020 presidential election. Videos of the interview were published three times, including on the BBC's Mandarin and English websites and on their social media.
- (2) MOFA arranged for then Vice President Chen Chien-jen to be interviewed by BBC World News (UK), *The Daily Telegraph* (UK), *The New York Times* (US), and France 24's flagship program *The Interview*. MOFA arranged for former Vice President Chen Chien-jen (who left office on May 20) to be interviewed by Television New Zealand and *Calcalist* (Israel) about Taiwan's success in handling COVID-19. The interview received coverage from 11 major international media outlets. To support important campaigns,

the former vice president appeared on CNN's *Fareed Zakaria GPS* in an interview titled "Learning from Taiwan's COVID-19 Response". During the World Health Assembly session, it was also arranged for the former vice president to be interviewed by *Die Welt*, a major German media outlet.

## **2. International Media Interviews with the Minister of Foreign Affairs**

Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu accepted interviews and received press corps from major international media outlets, including, National Public Radio, *The Washington Post*, CNN, *The Atlantic*, Fox News, *The Globe and Mail*, Sky News, *Monocle*, *The Guardian*, Australian Broadcasting Corporation, NHK, *Mainichi Shimbun*, World Is One News, *The Times of India*, *The Hindu*, *India Today*, Deutsche Welle, Nederlandse Omroep Stichting, El Diario ABC, ČT24, France24, *Le Figaro*, and Radio France Internationale. In 2020, Minister Wu gave 53 interviews and received 184 journalists from 149 international media outlets, leading to a total of 135 published reports.

## **3. International Communication by Issue**

### **(1) New Southbound Policy**

- A. In 2020, the TV Production Cooperation Project was continued with New Southbound Partner Countries to promote Taiwan's New Southbound Policy, working with major TV channels in the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, and Malaysia to produce the second and third seasons of *Embracing Taiwan*. This series describes Taiwan's policy of promoting the Six Core Strategic Industries and shows life in Taiwan during the COVID-19 pandemic, Taiwan customs, tech innovations and industry applications. The program was aired at prime time on TV channels around the world, generating a cumulative viewership of up to 168.80 million.
- B. MOFA New Southbound Policy Portal: In 2020, 11,513 press releases were published on the New Southbound Policy Portal, a multilingual platform available in five languages. Page views reached over 1.559 million.
- C. *Taiwan Today*: A digital publication available in Vietnamese, Thai, and Indonesian. To date, 3,032 news reports have been published on the

*Taiwan Today* website to enable New Southbound Partner Countries to learn more about Taiwan's political and economic landscape of Taiwan.

- D. *Taiwan Review*: Six reports on the New Southbound Policy were published in the English version of *Taiwan Review* in 2020.
- E. *Taiwan Panorama*: Available in six languages—Mandarin, English, Japanese, Vietnamese, Thai, and Indonesian—*Taiwan Panorama* has published 136 features on Southeast Asia and New Southbound Partner Countries and has compiled the Ride Taiwan calendar in various languages.

(2) Campaign for Participation in International Organizations

A. Campaign for the 73rd World Health Assembly (WHA)

(A) A total of 2,780 features on Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung and reports favorable to Taiwan were published by major international media outlets such as *The New York Times* (US), *The Washington Post* (US), CBC (Canada), *The Times* (UK), Euronews (UK), and *Mainichi Shimbun* (Japan) during the campaign. A WHA issue was also compiled for overseas embassies and offices to support the campaign.

(B) MOFA and overseas embassies and offices made 15,000 posts on social medial platforms. MOFA also produced the promotional short *Looking Up Again* for new media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram. *Looking Up Again* was viewed over 13.67 million times. MOFA also put up lightbox ads at Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport to salute healthcare workers around the world and aired the ad “The World Against COVID-19” on the airport’s multimedia systems. A total of 1,149 articles on Taiwan’s medical contributions were published on the Leave No One Behind website. A total of 1,178 reports were made available in nine languages on the *Taiwan Today* website. Six in-depth features on Taiwan’s public health response and overseas humanitarian aid were published in *Taiwan Panorama*.

B. Campaign for the 73rd World Health Assembly (WHA) Resumed Session

- (A) During the campaign period, 270 features on Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung, op-eds from overseas Taiwan missions, and reports favorable to Taiwan were published by major international media outlets such as *The Daily Telegraph* (UK), *The National Post* (Canada), *The Times of India* (India), *The Asahi Shimbun* (Japan), *Sankei Shimbun* (Japan), *Die Presse* (Austria), and *The Wall Street Journal* (US). It was also arranged for *The Wall Street Journal* to interview Minister Chen and for *Die Welt* (Germany) to interview former Vice President Chen Chien-jen. The *Die Welt* report celebrated Taiwan as “the island nation that beat COVID-19.”
  - (B) During the session, MOFA produced the promotional short *Never Give Up* for new media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram. *Never Give Up* was viewed over 11.04 million times.
- (3) Campaign for UN Participation
- A. During the campaign, 326 reports were published by major international media outlets such as *The Diplomat* (US), *Sankei Shimbun* (Japan), *Toronto Sun* (Canada), *Le Monde* (France), *The Diplomat in Spain*, and *Times of Eswatini*. This included 221 features on Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu and op-eds from overseas Taiwan missions as well as 105 reports. During the campaign, 11 posts were made on the MOFA Facebook page and 17 tweets on the MOFA Twitter account as well as on the accounts of related publications. The official websites of overseas embassies and offices made a total of 479 posts advocating for Taiwan’s participation in the UN.
  - B. MOFA produced the promotional short *Blessings from Taiwan* for new media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram. *Blessings from Taiwan* was viewed over 11.2 million times. In addition, a total of 87 reports were made available in nine languages in the digital publication *Taiwan Today*.
- (4) Campaign for INTERPOL Participation: During the campaign, 134 articles were featured in international media outlets. A feature on Commissioner Huang Ming-chao (Criminal Investigation Bureau, under the MOI National



Policy Agency) was covered in 107 articles by major international media outlets, including *JoongAng Ilbo* (South Korea, current president of the INTERPOL Executive Committee), Breaking Belize News (largest online media outlet in Belize), and the online edition of Haber Ajanda (Turkey, host country of the 90th INTERPOL General Assembly in 2021). International media outlets also published 27 reports favorable to Taiwan, including press releases, op-eds from overseas Taiwan missions, and interviews with Taiwan representatives. In Taiwanese media, *Taiwan Review* published a feature in the September/October issue on Commissioner Huang Ming-chao of the Criminal Investigation Bureau, while *Taiwan Today* published six reports in nine languages.

#### **4. Securing International Coverage**

In 2020, MOFA collated 15,463 global media reports. MOFA also compiled over 250 briefings based on international media reports and completed 47 analytical reports on major issues relating to Taiwan.

### **III. Interviews with International Journalists and Services for International Correspondents in Taiwan**

1. In 2020, COVID-19 ravaged the world. As a result, MOFA was only able to receive a Cultural Tourism Press Corp in February and a Political and Economic Press Corp in March. Together, the press corps consisted of 13 journalists from major media outlets around the world and delivered over 30 articles favorable to Taiwan.
2. MOFA invited international correspondents in Taiwan to Taichung to cover the 36th Han Kuang Military Exercise overseen by President Tsai Ing-wen.
3. MOFA organized press briefings on the presidential election given by Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu; a gathering for Minister Wu with international correspondents in Taiwan; a panel for international correspondents in Taiwan with the Central Epidemic Command Center; and a gathering for MOFA with international correspondents in Taiwan.
4. MOFA also issued international correspondents with passes and provided news services. The Ministry helped correspondents from the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *The Washington Post* to relocate to Taiwan.

## **IV. International Communication on Taiwan's Soft Power**

1. MOFA subsidized overseas embassies and offices to recommend outstanding Taiwan films to international festivals or collaborate with relevant bodies to screen Taiwan films. In 2020, MOFA assisted a total of 16 overseas embassies and offices with film-related activities, screening a total of 110 Taiwan films at 63 events, with over 170 reports in the press, on TV, and on radio. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, some embassies and offices changed to an online or open-air screening format.
2. To leverage Taiwan's cultural soft power, MOFA produced eight promotional shorts on Taiwan, collectively known as *Taiwan's Buddha*.
3. In 2020, as COVID-19 ravaged the globe, Taiwan's democratic response to the pandemic was recognized around the world. MOFA launched Taiwan's first VR documentary on COVID-19, *Three Crucial Steps*, to give audiences in Taiwan and around the world an overall view of Taiwan's handling of COVID-19. The Ministry also created a VR experience area in the Office of the President to deliver an immersive experience to distinguished guests.
4. MOFA collaborated with the Discovery channel to produce 45-minute episodes on agricultural and biomedical technologies. The episodes cover Taiwan's 5+2 Industrial Innovation Plan and the R&D' and manufacture of COVID-19 vaccines and rapid test kits, showcasing Taiwan's capacity for technology and R&D as well as its comprehensive industry supply chain. The program was aired on the Discovery Channel across the Asia-Pacific region, promoting Taiwan's "warm power" and innovative industry models to facilitate international exchange and collaboration.

## **V. Improving the Quality and Efficacy of International Communication**

1. MOFA is responsible for compiling news articles and features for print publications and digital publications in various languages to support government policy, Taiwan's foreign policy positions, and important topics requiring international communication.
2. For the 2020 National Day Issue, advertisements on the Taiwan Model, Paradigm of Democracy, and Key Power were designed. Text and graphics were provided to overseas embassies and offices for promotional purposes.

3. MOFA compiled and printed “Taiwan at a Glance,” a pamphlet describing Taiwan in twelve languages: English, French, Spanish, German, Russian, Japanese, Arabic, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Thai, and Malaysian.
4. MOFA produced DVDs of the second and third seasons of *Embracing Taiwan*, a TV Production Cooperation Project with New Southbound Partner Countries. MOFA also produced a deluxe boxset of MOFA’s 45-minute episodes on agricultural and biomedical technologies in collaboration with the Discovery channel. The DVDs were delivered to Southeast Asian representative offices in Taiwan, the Taiwan Asia Exchange Foundation, the Global Workers’ Organization Taiwan, the TransAsia Sisters Association of Taiwan, the National Education Radio, the National Central Library Arts and Audiovisual Center for their collection; and to overseas embassies and offices to use at their discretion. The videos were also uploaded to YouTube for public access.
5. *Taiwan Panorama* held four panels on topics closely tied to government policy, including Southeast Asia, translation, photography, and overseas interviews. Panelists engaged in in-depth discussion with over 2,000 readers in attendance. Magazine articles were provided to the MOFA New Southbound Policy Portal, the Taiwan NGO website, and the National Academy for Educational Research; and were reprinted by *The Independent* (Russia), NHK (Japan), and other media outlets. The monograph *Ilha Formosa! The Beautiful Isle!* was also published and shared with overseas embassies and offices for them to use at their discretion.
6. MOFA applied the key visuals from Taiwan Can Help to Taiwan’s campaign for WHA participation and designed a promotional sun hat.

## VI. Innovative Communication Approaches

1. MOFA created the Trending Taiwan YouTube channel in July 2015 and has uploaded 1,499 shorts as of the end of 2020. The channel has brought in 32.56 million views and 27,575 subscribers. In February 2016, MOFA created the Trending Taiwan Facebook Fan Page to share information on a range of issues in Taiwan. As of the end of 2020, the Trending Taiwan Facebook Fan Page has 35,977 followers.

2. The MOFA Twitter account (@MOFA\_Taiwan) was created in April 2018 and has since posted 3,662 tweets, reaching over 132.79 million users and amassing 241,400 followers.
3. MOFA organized the sixth Trending Taiwan Short Film Competition and tryouts for the Taiwan team to the Young Lions Competition, calling for innovative short films by young people and uploading them to social media platforms to share in Taiwan and abroad.
4. In 2020, MOFA reached 33.6 million views on its six major websites for international communication: R.O.C. Embassies and Missions Abroad, the Taiwan Today website available in nine languages, the English portal to the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government websites, the Taiwan Panorama website, the New Southbound Policy Portal, and the Leave No One Behind website.
5. MOFA used new media platforms, including YouTube (Trending Taiwan), Facebook (@mofa.gov.tw), Twitter (@MOFA\_Taiwan), and Instagram (@mofa\_taiwan) to amplify Taiwan's voice in the world.

## **Item 2 Public Diplomacy**

### **I. Communicating Taiwan's Foreign Policy and Positions**

1. To effectively communicate Taiwan's foreign policy and positions and to improve communication with the media, the director general of the Public Diplomacy Coordination Council, who also serves as MOFA spokesperson, speaks on behalf of MOFA and responds to reporter inquiries.
2. To increase public awareness of and support for Taiwan's diplomatic endeavors, MOFA issues statements, press releases, and background information. When necessary, MOFA also submits letters to the editor and contacts media outlets to correct erroneous reporting. In 2020, MOFA issued two statements, 363 press releases, and 71 documents with background information in Mandarin and English.
3. MOFA regularly holds departmental press briefings, where heads of departments report to the media and respond to press inquiries. For important issues and emergencies concerning foreign affairs, special press conferences are held where the minister, deputy or vice ministers, spokesperson, or relevant department heads can explain MOFA's position and actions in order to respond accurately, proactively, and promptly. In 2020, MOFA held 86 departmental press briefings and 15 press conferences and media interviews on Taiwan's foreign policy and current events.
4. Every day, MOFA collates important news on diplomatic, political, economic, military, and cross-strait issues; sends morning and evening domestic news briefings to the minister, deputy and vice ministers, and department heads; and compiles a list of clippings from Taiwanese newspapers for reference by staff at MOFA offices at home and abroad.
5. MOFA designs and maintains an official website to provide timely, comprehensive, and accurate information in a diversified and accessible manner to promote policy and further public diplomacy.
6. MOFA drafts remarks and reference materials on major diplomatic issues for senior government officials, including the 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 policy both at home and abroad. The topics cover

initiatives that help Taiwan connect with the world, such as the New Southbound Policy, humanitarian aid and international cooperation, trade and investment opportunities in diplomatic allies, Taiwan's international participation, visa privileges for R.O.C. citizens (including visa exemptions, landing visas, and e-visas), reciprocal driver's license agreements, and working holiday programs.

## **II. Enhancing Online Information Service Functions and Promotional Materials**

1. MOFA continues to enhance the functionality of the MOFA website, the Youth Taiwan website, and other websites, and organize all online information to effectively promote government policy and performance.
2. MOFA produces promotional videos that are used to enhance the audio-visual services of the official MOFA website and enrich the MOFA YouTube channel so as to strengthen the public's understanding of and support for foreign policy.
3. MOFA publishes *Statements and Communiques* and the *MOFA Quarterly* for its offices at home and abroad. The publications are also provided to other government agencies, NGOs, universities, and secondary schools, as well as to public and private libraries in Taiwan and overseas, for public access.
4. The Minister's Mailbox serves as a window to the general public, enabling them to inquire by email about issues relating to foreign affairs. A total of 6,456 emails were received and processed in 2020.
5. MOFA provides its overseas missions with materials and information, including printed publications; updates on relevant laws, regulations, and policy measures; as well as promotional videos. In order to better promote Taiwan's achievements in freedom and democracy, economic development, humanitarian assistance, and the cultural and creative industries, MOFA also purchases books, videos, online information, cultural replicas, and related materials for its overseas missions. MOFA sent out 10,217 batches of promotional materials in 2020.
6. MOFA purchases books and subscribes to newspapers, magazines, and online news databases, published in Taiwan and abroad for staff at its offices at home and abroad.

## **III. Other Public Diplomacy Projects**

1. MOFA collaborates with the Ministry of Education (MOE) to hold English contests for the Teen Diplomatic Envoys program and send winning teams



abroad, encouraging senior high school and vocational high school students in Taiwan to develop an interest in the English language, international affairs, and Taiwan's foreign policy. In 2019, the three winning teams were from Taoyuan Municipal Wu-Ling Senior High School, St. Dominic Catholic High School in Kaohsiung, and Changhua County Ching Cheng High School. The winners were sent by MOFA to Indonesia and New Zealand in January and February 2020, where they interacted with political, economic, and overseas compatriot community leaders, as well as students from local universities and high schools. In 2020, 112 senior high schools and vocational high schools competed in the English contest. The top three teams hailed from Changhua County Ching Cheng High School, Taoyuan Municipal Wu-Ling Senior High School, and Tainan City Deguang Catholic Senior High School.

2. To promote Taiwan's abundant soft power and develop cultural diplomacy, MOFA encourages and supports outstanding art troupes in touring overseas and helps the Ministry of Culture set up overseas locations and hubs for Taiwan Academies. Currently, there are Taiwan Academies in four locations—Washington, DC; New York; Los Angeles; and Houston—and 216 contact points in 64 countries, where they introduce Taiwan's unique culture and arts to the international community.
3. The Working Holiday Scheme was launched in 2004. Since then, MOFA has signed working holiday agreements with 17 nations—New Zealand, Australia, Japan, Canada, Germany, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Belgium, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary, Austria, the Czech Republic, France, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands. The program is incredibly popular among young people in Taiwan, with over 320,000 youth having participated. Australia, Japan, and Canada are the most popular destinations. To better support young people on working holidays, MOFA periodically invites the Ministry of the Interior, MOE, Overseas Community Affairs Council, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Transportation and Communication, Ministry of Labor, Financial Supervisory Commission, Ministry of Economic Affairs, and Council of Agriculture (COA) to convene interministerial coordination meetings. This system facilitates communication among the ministries, allowing them to better integrate related resources and information and also explore concrete measures to attract young people from overseas to come to Taiwan for working holidays. MOFA and the MOE also continue to raise awareness about working holidays

through media interviews and Facebook fan pages to help Taiwanese young people develop a better understanding of working holidays and acquire the knowledge they need to protect their rights and interests.

4. MOFA and the COA launched the Young Agricultural Ambassadors New Southbound Policy Exchange Program in 2017 to expand youth talent exchanges under the New Southbound Policy. Every year, 30 youths with agricultural expertise and backgrounds are selected and divided into two groups to visit one New Southbound Policy partner country each. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, MOFA and the COA agreed to temporarily suspend the program in 2020.
5. To enhance the public's understanding of Taiwan's current diplomatic landscape and to increase recognition and support for the government's foreign policy, MOFA receives visitors from domestic and foreign high schools, colleges, and universities and arranges for diplomatic personnel to visit schools and talk about their work. In 2020, while following pandemic regulations, 214 related events were held, in which 27,551 students and others participated.
6. To help young people participate in international affairs and better provide information online, MOFA set up the Youth Taiwan website. It contains four major sections—teen diplomatic envoys, youth ambassadors, working holidays, and the Taiwan Study Camp for Future Leaders—with two additional sections on international activities and scholarships. The website serves as a platform where Taiwanese young people can find programs that will help them connect with the international community, expand their horizons, and boost their self-worth and competitiveness.

## **Section 5 Parliamentary Diplomacy**

### **I. The Importance of Parliamentary Diplomacy**

The Legislative Yuan serves an important supervisory role in the execution of Taiwan foreign policy. The depth and breadth of Taiwan's diplomacy are increased by developing substantive ties with non-diplomatic allies through diverse channels such as technology, trade, culture, and education; setting up communication channels with political parties in other nations; and making connections between Taiwan's legislators and the parliamentarians of other nations. These are also critical components of pragmatic diplomacy.

The primary function of parliamentary diplomacy is to develop friendly bilateral relations through exchange and understanding between representatives. The Office of Parliamentary Affairs under MOFA is responsible for communications between the Ministry and the Legislative Yuan's administrative sections and individual legislators, and for cooperation with related authorities assisting legislators with their diplomatic work.

### **II. Reciprocal Visits by Legislators and Parliamentarians**

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2020 only one legislator made foreign visits to promote parliamentary diplomacy, with coordination from MOFA, visiting the US, Switzerland, and the UK.

A total of 28 parliamentarians visited Taiwan, from the following regions:

1. Asia Pacific: 0.
2. West Asia & Africa: 5.
3. Europe: 20.
4. North America: 0.
5. Latin America: 3.

### III. Parliamentary Friendship Organizations and Activities

#### 1. Asia Pacific

- (1) Australia–Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group: established in March 1992, with over 120 members at present.

Legislative Yuan Taiwan–Australia Inter-Parliamentary Amity Association: established on November 20, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chiu Yi-ying.

- (2) Indian Parliamentarians for Friendship with Taiwan: established on April 20, 2005, with around 90 parliamentarians at present.

Legislative Yuan Taiwan–India Parliament Members Friendship Association: established on October 16, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Wu Yu-chin.

- (3) Indonesia Parliament Group for Taiwan: established in 2016 and currently chaired by Chair Meutya Hafid of the First Commission of the People’s Representative Council of Indonesia.

Legislative Yuan Republic of China and Indonesia Parliamentarians Friendship Association: established in July 14, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Liao Kuo-tung.

- (4) Japan

A. Japan–R.O.C. Diet Members’ Consultative Council: Parliamentary Group for Taiwan, the predecessor, was established in March 1973 by representatives of Japan’s Liberal Democratic Party who were friendly to Taiwan. The group was merged with the New Frontier Party’s Japan–R.O.C. Parliamentary Alliance on February 5, 1997 and expanded into the bipartisan Japan–R.O.C. Diet Members’ Consultative Council. The Council is currently chaired by Representative Furuya Keiji and boasts nearly 300 members.

B. Representatives’ Association for Promoting Japan–Taiwan Economic and Cultural Exchanges: established by young Liberal Democratic Party representatives on April 26, 2006, currently with nearly a hundred members and Representative Kishi Nobuo as chair.

- (5) Taiwan–Korean Parliamentary Friendship Group: established in 1996 and currently chaired by Cho Kyoung-tai, a member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea.  
Legislative Yuan East Asia Congressional Association: established on March 13, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Kuo Kuo-wen.
- (6) Taiwan–Philippines Parliamentary Friendship Association: reorganized on October 21, 2020, and currently co-chaired by Senator Ronald dela Rosa, Deputy Speaker and Representative Deogracias Victor Savellano, and Representative Frederick Siao.  
Legislative Yuan Taiwan–Philippines Congressional Association: established on March 13, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chung Chia-pin.
- (7) Legislative Yuan Taiwan–Vietnam Congressional Association: established on March 13, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chiu Chen-yuan.
- (8) Legislative Yuan Taiwan–New Southbound Countries Congressional Association: established on March 13, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chung Chia-pin.
- (9) Legislative Yuan Taiwan–Malaysia Congressional Association: established on March 13, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chung Chia-pin.
- (10) Legislative Yuan Republic of China–Kingdom of Bhutan Parliamentary Friendship Association: established on September 10, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Cheng Li-wun.
- (11) UN Sustainable Development Goals Advisory Council of the Legislative Yuan: established on October 16, 2020, and currently chaired by Vice President Tsai Chi-Chang of the Legislative Yuan.
- (12) Legislative Yuan Taiwan–Association of Southeast Asian Nations Inter-Parliamentary: established on November 3, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chen Ou-po.
- (13) Legislative Yuan The Taiwanese New Immigrants’ Rights Advocacy Alliance: established on November 20, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Loh Meei-ling.
- (14) Legislative Yuan The Taiwan Parliamentary Human Rights Commission: established on November 24, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Wang Ting-yu.

- (15) Legislative Yuan R.O.C. (Taiwan)–Singapore Inter-Parliamentary Amity Association: established on December 4, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chiang Chi-chen.
- (16) Legislative Yuan Taiwan–Thailand Inter-Parliamentary Amity Association: established on December 15, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chao Tien-lin.

## **2. West Asia and Africa**

- (1) Jordan–Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Association: established on August 1, 2015, and currently chaired by MP Khaleel Atieh.
- (2) Russian Parliamentary Group of the State Duma for the Relations with Taiwan: The 7th State Duma of Russia was elected on September 18, 2016, and the Group was subsequently established in June 2018. The Group has over 40 members of the Duma and is currently chaired by Deputy Safaraliev Gadzhemet.
- (3) Mongolia–Taiwan Club of the Great State Khural (Parliament) of Mongolia: established in May 2010, with over 21 members at present.
- (4) Eswatini–Taiwan Parliament Members Association: established on October 4, 2007, and currently chaired by Speaker Petros Mavimbela of the House of Assembly.
- (5) Legislative Yuan Taiwan–Israel Congressional Association: established on March 13, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chung Chia-pin.
- (6) Legislative Yuan Taiwan–African Countries Parliamentary Friendship Association: established on June 29, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chiu Chih-wei.
- (7) Legislative Yuan R.O.C. (Taiwan)–Kazakhstan Parliamentary Amity Association: established on October 16, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Lee Guei-min.

## **3. Europe**

- (1) European Parliament–Taiwan Friendship Group: established on June 12, 1991, and currently chaired by MEP Michael Gahler, with over a hundred members.



- (2) Belgium–Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group: established in December 1993 and currently co-chaired by Julien Uyttendaele (Senate), Benoît Piedboeuf (Chamber of Representatives), Georges Dallemagne (Chamber of Representatives), Samuel Cogolati (Chamber of Representatives), Els Van Hoof (Chamber of Representatives), and Wouter Raskin (Chamber of Representatives).
- (3) Czech Republic–Taiwan Friendship Group: established on February 10, 1994, and currently chaired by Deputy Marek Benda.  
Legislative Yuan Republic of China–Czech Inter-Parliamentary Amity Association: established on August 17, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Wan Mei-ling.
- (4) Danish Parliamentary Association for Friendship with Taiwan: established on April 27, 2004, and currently chaired by Michael Aastrup Jensen, a member of the Folketing.
- (5) Estonia–Taiwan Support Group: established on September 8, 2003, and currently chaired by Kalle Laanet, a member of the Riigikogu.  
Legislative Yuan Taiwan–Baltic states (Lithuania, Estonia & Latvia) Parliamentary Friendship Association: established on September 9, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chiu Chih-wei.
- (6) Taiwan Friendship of Finnish Parliament: established on June 11, 2004, and currently chaired by MP Mikko Kärnä.
- (7) Taiwan–France Friendship Groups  
Senate: Groupe d'échanges et d'Études Sénat–Taiwan: established on December 5, 1984, and currently chaired by Senator Alain Richard.  
National Assembly: Groupe d'Études à Vocation Internationale sur les Questions liées d'Expansion de l'Économie taïwanaise: established on May 19, 1989, and currently chaired by Deputy François de Rugy.  
Legislative Yuan Taiwan–France Interparliamentary Amity Association: established on October 27, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Tsai Shih-ying.
- (8) Parlamentarischer Freundkreis Berlin–Taipeh: the preceding Bonn–Taipei Parliamentary Friendship Group was established on February 29, 1992, and was renamed on November 29, 1999, when the Germany capital moved to

Berlin on October 4 of the same year. The Group is currently chaired by Klaus-Peter Willsch, a member of the Bundestag.

- (9) Hungary–Taiwan Friendship Association: established on October 11, 2006, and currently chaired by MP Istvan Tiba.  
Legislative Yuan Taiwan–Hungary Inter-Parliamentary Amity Association: established on September 25, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Michelle Lin Chu-yin.
- (10) Ireland–Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Society: established on January 31, 2002, and currently chaired by Teachta Dála John McGuinness.
- (11) Gruppo Informale Interparlamentare di Amicizia fra Italia e la Repubblica di Cina: established in June 1994 and currently chaired by Senator Lucio Malan.
- (12) Group for Interparliamentary Relations with Taiwan: established on March 14, 1996, and currently chaired by Deputy Janis Vucans.  
Legislative Yuan Taiwan–Baltic states (Lithuania, Estonia & Latvia) Parliamentary Friendship Association: established on September 9, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chiu Chih-wei.
- (13) Group for Interparliamentary Relations with Taiwan: established in March 1997 and currently chaired by Gintaras Steponavičius, a member of the Seimas.  
Legislative Yuan Taiwan–Baltic states (Lithuania, Estonia & Latvia) Parliamentary Friendship Association: established on September 9, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chiu Chih-wei.
- (14) Taiwan Group in the Norwegian Parliament: established on June 1995 and currently convened by MP Tor-Andre Johnsen.
- (15) Polish–Taiwanese Parliamentarians Group: established on July 17, 1997, and currently chaired by Deputy Waldemar Andzel.
- (16) Grupo Parlamentar de Amizade Portugal–Taiwan: established on April 1, 2004, and currently chaired by Deputy Paulo Rios de Oliveira.
- (17) Slovak–Taiwanese Parliamentary Friendship Group: established on December 14, 2005, and currently chaired by MP Peter Osusky.
- (18) Asociación Independiente de Parlamentarios Amigos de Taiwan–España: established on November 19, 2008, and currently chaired by Deputy Eloy Suárez Lamata.

Legislative Yuan R.O.C. (Taiwan)–Spain Parliamentary Amity Association: established on August 17, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Wu I-ding.

- (19) Swedish–Taiwanese Parliamentarian Association: established on November 26, 1997, and currently chaired by Boriana Åberg, a member of the Riksdag.
- (20) Parlamentarische Gruppe Schweiz–Taiwan: established in September 2017 and currently chaired by Marco Chiesa of the Council of States of Switzerland.

Legislative Yuan Republic of China–Switzerland Inter-Parliamentary Amity Association: established on October 23, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chang Yu-mei.

- (21) British–Taiwanese All-Party Parliamentary Group: hundreds of members and currently co-chaired by Lord Rogan and MP Martin Vickers.

Legislative Yuan Taiwan–UK Inter-Parliamentary Amity Association: established on December 15, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chiang Chi-chen.

- (22) A platform for cross-party European legislators working to enhance relations with Taiwan, the Formosa Club now boasts ten member nations after welcoming Italy, Portugal, Poland, Slovakia, Ireland, Sweden, and Belgium to the original group of founding members: the European Parliament, the U.K., Germany, and France.
- (23) Legislative Yuan Taiwan–Slovenia Inter-Parliamentary Amity Association: established on September 25, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Michelle Lin Chu-yin.

#### **4. North America**

##### **(1) Canada**

The Canada–Taiwan Parliamentary Friendship Group: The group was established in December 1992 with Judy Sgro, a Liberal Member of Parliament from Ontario, as chair. As of 2020, the group had 102 participating members.

##### **(2) The United States**

A. The Congressional Taiwan Caucus: The caucus was set up on April 9, 2002, and was co-chaired by Representatives Albio Sires (D-NJ), Steve

Chabot (R-OH), Gerald E. Connolly (D-VA), and Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL). Just before the 2020 House elections, there were 222 caucus members.

- B. The Senate Taiwan Caucus: The caucus was set up on September 17, 2003, and was co-chaired by Senators James Inhofe (R-OK) and Robert Menendez (D-NJ). Just before the 2020 congressional elections, there were 31 caucus members.
- C. In 2020, the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations was chaired by Senator Jim Risch (R-ID), while the House Committee on Foreign Affairs was chaired by Representative Eliot Engel (D-NY).
- D. The Legislative Yuan USA Caucus was established on July 20, 2020. The caucus is chaired by Legislator Lo Chih-cheng, with Legislative Yuan President Yu Shyi-kun as honorary chairman.

## **5. Latin America and the Caribbean**

- (1) Parlamento Centroamericano (PARLACEN): In July 1999, the Legislative Yuan joined PARLACEN as a permanent observer. In July 2018, to formalize Taiwan's participation in PARLACEN, Legislative Yuan President Su Jia-chyuan and PARLACEN President Tony Raful jointly signed the *Convenio Especifico de Incorporación del Honorable Yuan Legislativo de la República de China (Taiwán)*, como Observador Permanente ante el Parlamento Centroamericano—a special agreement granting Taiwan permanent observer status in PARLACEN. PARLACEN President Irma Amaya, along with five PARLACEN vice presidents, paid an official visit to Taiwan in 2019.
- (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 in December 1999.
- (3) Grupo Parlamentario de Amistad de Nicaragua–República de China (Taiwán): The nine-member group was established on August 16, 2012, and is chaired by José Santos Figueroa Aguilar, the deputy parliamentary leader of the ruling Sandinista Party.

- (4) The Paraguayan Senate and Chamber of Deputies jointly established the Comisión Parlamentaria de Amistad Paraguayo–República de China (Taiwán).  
Legislative Yuan Republic of China (Taiwan)–Republic of Paraguay Inter-Parliamentary Amity Association: established on July 21, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Wen Yu-hsia.
- (5) Grupo de Trabajo Chileno-Taiwanés: The working group was established on October 1, 2002, and was subsequently renamed Grupo de Amistad Chile–Taiwán. The group comprises 10 members.
- (6) Formosa Club Plataforma Interparlamentaria entre los Países Sudamericanos y los Estados Unidos Mexicanos (Formosa Club) was established on December 16, 2019. The club subsequently expanded and was renamed Formosa Club–Capítulo América Latina in November 2020.
- (7) Legislative Yuan Taiwan–Central and South American and Caribbean Countries Parliamentary Friendship Association: established on June 29, 2020, and currently chaired by Legislator Chiu Chih-wei.



Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Tien Chung-kwang (left) attends the Inauguration of Taiwan–ASEAN Parliamentary Friendship Association of the Legislative Yuan. (November 3, 2020) (Photo credit: Legislative Yuan)



## **Section 6 International Cooperation and Economic Activities**

### **I. Taiwan's Achievements from Continued Participation in the World Trade Organization in 2020**

#### **1. Deepening Taiwan's Participation in the WTO**

- (1) Monitoring issues related to WTO reform: The Permanent Mission of the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu to the WTO (hereafter, the “Permanent Mission”) actively participates in discussions relating to WTO reform. The Permanent Mission regularly communicates with delegations of key WTO members to gain insight into their perspectives on WTO reform issues. The aforementioned actions facilitate the formulation of Taiwan's position by the relevant ministries.
- (2) Participating in important negotiations: The Permanent Mission actively participates in WTO discussions, including multilateral, plurilateral, and small group consultations and bilateral dialogues. It promotes dialogue with key WTO members on issues such as agriculture, industry, services, e-commerce, investment facilitation, MSMEs, and trade rule negotiations. In addition, the Permanent Mission tracks the trends and positions of key members on trade issues in order to facilitate policy formulation by the relevant Taiwanese ministries. The Permanent Mission also compiles negotiation documents to assist in trade negotiations.
- (3) Participating in sub-groups: The Permanent Mission actively participates in various sub-groups for negotiations, including the Friends of Systems (FoS) meetings, the Asian Group of Developing Countries, the Informal Group of Developing Countries, the Group of Article XII (NB: newly joined group), the APEC Geneva Caucus, the G-10 (agriculture), and the Friends of the Third-Party Rights. The aim is to proactively advocate for the interests of Taiwan as far as possible within the WTO framework.
- (4) Serving in WTO roles: Secretary of the Permanent Mission Huang Han-ming served as Chair of the Committee on Rules of Origin; Secretary Chiu Wei-

ting served as one of the eight members of the Pension Plan Board elected by the General Council, contributing to matters concerning the operation and efficiency of the WTO Secretariat; Secretary Harvey Hsin-lung Hung served as a member of the Working Capital Fund; and Administrative Officer Mandy Man-chen Yu served as a member of the Working Group for the Selection of an External Auditor.

(5) Expanding industry opportunities

A. The Permanent Mission proactively engaged in dialogue and consultation with WTO members on a range of issues, including agriculture, e-commerce, fisheries, and support for small and medium-sized enterprises. These efforts were aimed at creating avenues for Taiwan's economic and trade growth. In addition, Taiwan actively negotiates with the UK on post-Brexit WTO commitments and market access issues, with the aim of protecting Taiwan's sectoral interests in both the UK and the EU.

B. In 2020, Taiwan took a proactive stance on various regulatory and procedural measures adopted by WTO members that directly affect the export interests of Taiwanese manufacturers. Notable issues in this regard cover a spectrum of concerns, including China's customs duties on certain integrated circuits (multi-component circuits); systemic concerns on proposed modifications of TRQ proposed by the European Union in light of Brexit; China's administrative measures for registration of overseas manufacturers of imported food; the Indonesia Halal Product Assurance Law; the India Phthalic Anhydride Order; proposed new EU rules on composite products, and EU legislation on endocrine disruptors. These concerns have been formally communicated in relevant committees and discussions have been sought through consultations to safeguard Taiwan's interests and rights.

(6) Enhancing exchanges with the WTO Secretariat and key member delegations

A. The Permanent Mission actively participated in electoral activities relating to the election of the new Director-General of the WTO Secretariat, in particular by arranging videoconferences between Taiwanese government officials and candidates during the election

period. This allowed for a comprehensive overview of the election progress and the raising of issues that are of concern to Taiwan.

- B. The Permanent Mission worked with the Friends of Advanced Sustainable Trade (FAST) to set up a seminar on trade and environmental sustainability. The Mission invited high-level speakers from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) and the WTO Secretariat. This initiative was aimed at fostering ongoing cooperation.

- (7) Demonstrating Taiwan's Support for the WTO system: Taiwan has contributed to the Advisory Centre on WTO Law (ACWL), a peripheral organization to the WTO. Lo Chang-fa, Permanent Representative of R.O.C. (Taiwan) to the World Trade Organization, served as a member on its Management Committee. The Permanent Mission also supported the Global Impact Association (GIA), which is affiliated with the World Trade Institute (WTI), including the organizing of joint seminars with WTI on the WTO's Special and Differential Treatment (SDT). In addition, scholarships have been set up for students from Taiwan and least developed countries (LDCs) to foster talent in international trade. These actions effectively showcase Taiwan's contributions to the WTO system.

## **2. Utilizing the WTO Dispute Settlement Mechanism**

In 2020, Taiwan invoked the WTO dispute settlement mechanism on India, the Tariff Treatment on Certain Goods in the Information and Communications Technology Sector (DS588). During the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) meeting, Taiwan requested that a panel be set up and that panel members be appointed. The requests were granted. The proceedings are scheduled to take place in 2021.

## **II. Seeking Participation in the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)**

- 1. The CPTPP, formerly known as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), is a high-standard free trade agreement (FTA). The CPTPP entered into force on December 30, 2018, and the first two Commission meetings took place in

January and October 2019. During the first meeting, it was emphasized that membership applications were open to all economies that embrace the principles of the CPTPP and could meet its rigorous standards. At the second Commission meeting, the commitment to expanding CPTPP membership was reaffirmed and the continuing interest from economies wishing to join was welcomed. In 2020, the CPTPP convened its third Commission meeting, after which a joint statement was issued warmly welcoming the interest shown by several economies to join the CPTPP by demonstrating their willingness to meet the high standards of the agreement.

2. Taiwan's pursuit of CPTPP membership is an important government policy that is critical to the country's long-term economic development. Taiwan's approach focuses on proactive engagement and consultation with CPTPP members in accordance with the agreement's accession provisions. This concerted effort, led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with relevant ministries and representative offices, has successfully conveyed to CPTPP members Taiwan's commitment and readiness to become a CPTPP member.

### **III. Innovation and Creativity in Economic and Trade Diplomacy**

Economic and trade initiatives in 2020 included the organizing of virtual trade exhibitions, online presentations, and 265 video conferences for procurement negotiations. Through these initiatives, Taiwan successfully promoted 1,513 products from 661 domestic SMEs, resulting in procurement agreements totaling US\$32.81 million for seafood and beef products from Latin American allies. Notably, these endeavors led to Paraguay becoming Taiwan's second-largest importer of frozen beef. Furthermore, 11 bilateral letters of intent were signed in the areas of procurement and tourism. These efforts were aimed at stimulating bilateral economic and trade activities, facilitating the introduction of products from allies into the Taiwanese market, enhancing trade relations, and promoting bilateral economic cooperation.

### **IV. Implementation of Taiwan's International Cooperation and Development Efforts**

1. **Mutual Assistance for Mutual Benefits:** Since taking office, on state visits to diplomatic allies, President Tsai Ing-wen has explained the new foreign policy

paradigm of “steadfast diplomacy” and “mutual assistance for mutual benefits”. This paradigm shift in international cooperation projects with diplomatic allies is a change from Taiwan’s previous focus on one-way foreign aid to a model of mutual cooperation that respects the priorities of allies and partners. This approach promotes two-way cooperation while upholding the principles of transparency and openness in funding. At the same time, it takes into account the development of industries and markets to ensure shared, sustainable prosperity for the people of both nations.

2. **Technical Cooperation:** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs commissioned the International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF) to deploy 23 overseas technical missions and investment and trade service missions to implement 77 technical cooperation projects, one Mandarin instructor project, one Taiwan Youth Overseas Service project, and one TaiwanICDF University Youth Overseas Technical Assistance Internship Program. The technical cooperation projects cover 22 countries in the Asia-Pacific, West Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, Central America and South America. A total of 239 overseas specialists and Taiwan Youth Overseas Service personnel implemented projects in the areas of agribusiness, animal husbandry, horticulture, fisheries, technical and vocational education, Mandarin-language teaching, information and communication technology, industry, trade and investment, environmental protection, and public health and medicine. In addition, TaiwanICDF dispatched experts on SMEs and trade and volunteer professionals to provide short-to medium-term guidance and consultation services to diplomatic allies. In response to the challenges posed by COVID-19, TaiwanICDF switched to online training platforms to conduct training for personnel from diplomatic allies and friendly countries. The trainings aimed to facilitate participation in specialized workshops. TaiwanICDF also offered scholarships for undergraduate, master’s, and doctoral programs to help partner countries cultivate talent pools.
3. **Reimbursable Financial Assistance:** COVID-19 has had a negative economic and social impact on developing countries worldwide. In line with Taiwan’s foreign aid policy, the primary work in 2020 was to support diplomatic allies in stable development across the public and private sectors, as well as to promote post-pandemic economic recovery. Taiwan also pooled resources from international development partners to increase the number of new projects aimed at creating social impact. In 2020, Taiwan implemented 39 investment and loan

projects in 17 diplomatic allies and friendly countries in the Asia-Pacific, Africa, Central and South America, the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East.

4. **International Crisis and Humanitarian Aid:** TaiwanICDF collaborated with global partners on the following initiatives: Integrated Action for Children's Nutrition Project with World Vision (Philippines); WASH Recovery Program in Central Sulawesi (Indonesia) with Mercy Corps; Refugees Act and Communicate for Health (REACH): Using Technology to Increase Health Literacy and Health Care Access for Refugees in Turkey (Phases I & II) with the Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University; the Provision of Assistance to the Most Vulnerable Persons Exposed to Protection-Related Threats as a Result of COVID-19 Pandemic and the Economic Crisis in Lebanon with the Polish Center for International Aid (PCPM); and Digital Health Innovation for COVID-19 Response in India with Terre des Hommes.
5. **Taiwan Youth Overseas Service:** In 2019, 88 draftees from the 19th substitute military service in diplomacy program were deployed. The draftees' expertise spanned 22 fields, including agriculture, forestry, fisheries, animal husbandry, public health and medicine, trade and economics, and information and communications technology. The draftees served on 16 technical (medical) missions and one medical project. In response to COVID-19, the draftees began returning to Taiwan ahead of schedule in June 2020. All draftees returned safely to Taiwan and were discharged by September 2020. Furthermore, 100 draftees were recruited for the 20th substitute military service in diplomacy program for 2020. However, owing to the ongoing pandemic, the deployment program was halted and draftees were reassigned to domestic military roles. Of the 100 draftees, 46 chose to serve in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Discharges began in March 2021.
6. **TaiwanICDF University Youth Overseas Technical Assistance Internship Program:** This was a collaborative program with seven universities in Taiwan: National Chengchi University, National Chiayi University, National Pingtung University of Science and Technology, National Yang-Ming Chiao Tung University, National Taiwan University, Providence University, and Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages. In 2020, the program recruited 12 interns. However, owing to COVID-19-related risks and security concerns at overseas internship locations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs suspended the placements. Some of the interns retained their eligibility for internships into 2021.



## V. Overview of International Cooperation Implementation Agencies for Taiwan

### 1. International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF)

#### (1) Establishment

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs officially established the International Cooperation and Development Fund on July 1, 1996. Following the passage of the International Cooperation and Development Act by the Legislative Yuan in May 2010, TaiwanICDF was designated the statutory professional organization commissioned for the implementation of international cooperation and development affairs for Taiwan.

Not only has the establishment of TaiwanICDF facilitated the integration of foreign aid resources, but its organizational structure as a foundation also allows for the flexible use of loans, investments, donations, international technical cooperation, and human resource training. This flexibility of approach can fully realize the foundation's mission and enhance the effectiveness of international cooperation projects. In addition, TaiwanICDF seeks to promote close cooperation between international cooperation initiatives and domestic industries to ensure that economic and trade efforts are aligned with diplomatic objectives. This promotes the development of diplomatic relations through international cooperation while fostering a mutually reinforcing dynamic between diplomacy and trade and economy.

#### (2) Overview of TaiwanICDF Operations

##### A. Technical Cooperation

##### (A) Technical mission statistics for 2020

Region	Number of Countries	Technical Mission			Number of Staff
		Technical Mission (Including Investment and Trade Service Mission)	Projects	Preparatory Project	Number of Deployed Personnel
Asia-Pacific	8	8	12	3	30
West Asia	2	2	5	0	7
Africa	2	2	5	4	13
The Caribbean	4	4	14	1	30

Region		Number of Countries	Technical Mission			Number of Staff
			Technical Mission (Including Investment and Trade Service Mission)	Projects	Preparatory Project	Number of Deployed Personnel
Central America		4	5	24	4	43
South America		2	2	5	0	10
At Large	Mandarin Teachers		0	1	0	18
	Taiwan Youth Overseas Service		0	1	0	88 <sup>1</sup>
	TaiwanICDF University Youth Overseas Technical Assistance Internship Program		0	1	0	0
Total		22	23	68	12	239

#### (B) Overview of Taiwan Technical Missions

Taiwan Technical Mission projects are designed in accordance with Taiwan's agreements with diplomatic allies and friendly countries, and are aimed at optimizing results within the constraints of limited personnel and resources. The focus of TaiwanICDF in 2020 was to continue the implementation of projects commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, while also conducting preparatory work for 24 new projects.

In response to COVID-19, several of Taiwan's diplomatic allies imposed restrictions on cross-border or interprovincial movement, which put limitations on the transportation of resources such as seedlings and fertilizer, as well as food and agricultural supplies. As a result, the focus of the Taiwan Technical Missions around the world in 2020 was to work under the existing agricultural promotion projects to provide production resource subsidies to

1. The 88 draftees were deployed to various locations in 2019 as part of the substitute military service in diplomacy program. The draftees continued to serve until their early discharge in mid-2020 as a result of COVID-19.

farmers and improve technical agricultural guidance so as to stabilize agricultural production and increase sales. The Honduras Pig Breeding and Reproduction Project implemented agricultural production subsidies in the form of a COVID-19 relief solution which provided a free bag of feed for every breeding animal purchased. This initiative helped pig farmers improve their breeding stock and production capacity and also overcome difficulties caused by the pandemic. The Project for Enhancing the Efficiency of the Production-Distribution Supply Chain in the Fruit and Vegetable Sector in St. Lucia enhanced technical guidance by improving produce packaging materials. The Taiwan Technical Mission in St. Lucia offered guidance to the St. Lucia Marketing Board (SLMB) aimed at enhancing packaging techniques and quality at the packaging centers. The goal was to reduce damage to produce and improve the quality of produce displays. As a result, sales increased by 50%, a success which garnered international media attention.

Recognizing the central role of information and communication technology (ICT) in advancing national development, in recent years TaiwanICDF has implemented numerous ICT projects for Taiwan's diplomatic allies in the Caribbean. The primary goal is to enhance the efficiency of governance and improve the quality of public services through the implementation of ICT solutions. For example, the St. Kitts and Nevis Land Administration Information System Project created a land administration management system that set up a land title database, improved data exchange protocols, and adopted standardized land surveying procedures and information security mechanisms. In addition, the project focused on professional capacity development, equipping staff with the skills and tools necessary to improve the efficiency of land administration services. The aim of the project was to increase public satisfaction with government services in St. Kitts and Nevis.

The goal of the Belize Urban Resilience and Disaster Prevention Project was to help the government of Belize set up an early-

warning system for flood areas. The project was designed to use Geographic Information System (GIS) technology to streamline disaster response communications operations and so improve flood preparedness and make disaster response more efficient. In November 2020, Hurricanes Eta and Iota made landfall in Central America within the span of two weeks. The early warning system set up in 2020 sent a warning when water levels rose above five meters, alerting the local government three hours before the flood reached the city. The system effectively reduced loss of life and property damage, and these positive results were recognized by the government of Belize.

To help diplomatic allies adopt environmentally friendly technologies to enhance resilience, Taiwan Technical Missions have implemented projects focusing on circular economy, local production, and environmentally friendly composting in agricultural production in the Pacific Islands. In Nauru, for example, in addition to implementing the Dietary Diversity Extension Project to promote food and agriculture education in schools, efforts were made to set up a new farm within the prison facility with crop and livestock production and circular economy capabilities. As part of this initiative, inmates were trained in vegetable and root crop cultivation techniques and poultry and livestock management, which increased their capacity for agriculture and livestock production. This not only made the prison more self-sufficient in food production, but also significantly improved the crop and livestock production skills of 13 inmates and resulted in the production of 275 kg of vegetables, 6,667 eggs, and 10 meat pigs. Proceeds from the sale of agricultural products were reinvested in production materials, contributing to sustainable production practices.

- (C) Pre-Employment and On-the-Job Training for Overseas Technical Personnel: In 2020, newly deployed personnel or those waiting for deployment in Taiwan faced training disruptions as a result of COVID-19. However, as the situation gradually improved in

Taiwan, TaiwanICDF arranged for them to undergo language and professional pre-deployment training in specialized Taiwan institutions, ensuring readiness for their overseas assignments. In 2020, 12 personnel received training. In-service personnel stationed abroad also felt the impact of the pandemic. While they were unable to return to Taiwan for short-term training as originally planned, they continued to enhance their professional and technical competencies on various online learning platforms.

(D) Overview of Taiwan Technical Missions Dispatched by TaiwanICDF

Region	Country / Technical Mission	Project	Date Established
Asia-Pacific	Taiwan Technical Mission in the Republic of Indonesia	Improving Incubator Agribusiness with Human Resources Development in Bandung (Indonesia; Phase II: Preliminary Preparatory Phase)	Nov. 1976
		Strengthening Incubator Agribusiness with Human Resources Development (Phase II) (Indonesia)	
		High Quality Rice Seed Development Project in South Sulawesi (Indonesia)	
		Karawang Horticulture Development Project (Indonesia)	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Fiji	Guava and Dragon Fruit Production, Marketing Extension, and Capacity Building Project (Fiji) Aquaculture Project (Fiji)	Sept. 1978
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Palau	Horticulture Extension Project (Palau)	May 1985
		Aquaculture Project (Palau; Preliminary Preparatory Phase)	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Papua New Guinea	Livestock Production Project (Palau; Preliminary Preparatory Phase)	Oct. 1990
		Farmers Training Cooperation Project (Papua New Guinea)	
	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	Dietary Diversity Extension Project in Nauru	Mar. 2006
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Thailand	Raising Competency of Farmers' Horticultural Produces Project in Thailand	Jan. 2011

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 Consultant Dispatch Project (Bahrain) Aquaculture Development Consultant Dispatch Project (Bahrain)	Jun. 1987
Africa	Taiwan Technical Mission in the Kingdom of Eswatini	Fruit Tree Production and Marketing Project (Eswatini; Phase II)	Sept. 1969
		Pig Industry Enhancement Project (Eswatini)	
		Technical and Vocational Education and Training Enhancement Project (Eswatini)	
		Capacity Building Project for Microfinance Ecosystem Focusing on Grassroots Women in Eswatini (Preliminary Preparatory Phase)	
		Capacity Building Project for Microfinance Focusing on Grassroots Women in Eswatini	
		Maternal and Infant Health Care Improvement Project in the Kingdom of Eswatini (Phase II)	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in the Republic of Somaliland	Technical Cooperation Project in Somaliland (Preliminary Preparatory Phase)	Aug. 2020
		Somaliland E-government Capability Enhancement Project (Preliminary Preparatory Phase) Maternal and Infant Health Care Improvement Project in Somaliland (Preliminary Preparatory Phase)	
The Caribbean	Taiwan Technical Mission in St. Kitts and Nevis	St. Kitts and Nevis Pinney's Beach Park Project	Oct. 1984
		Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Chronic Metabolic Diseases in St. Kitts and Nevis (Preliminary Preparatory Phase)	
		Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Chronic Metabolic Diseases in St. Kitts and Nevis	
		Enhancing Agricultural Adaptive Capacity to Climate Variability Project (St. Kitts and Nevis)	
		St. Kitts and Nevis Land Administration Information System Project	
		Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Chronic Kidney Disease in St. Kitts and Nevis (St. Kitts and Nevis)	



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
		Intelligent Bus and Monitoring System Project (St. 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, Haiti	May 1972
		National Rice Seed Production Enhancement Project in North/North-East, Haiti	
		National Rice Seed Production Enhancement Project in South, Haiti	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in St. Lucia	Project for Enhancing the Efficiency of Production-Distribution Supply Chain in Fruit and Vegetable Sector in St. Lucia	Jul. 2007
		Banana Productivity Improvement Project in St. Lucia	
		Project for ICT in Education in St. Lucia	
Central America	Taiwan Technical Mission in Honduras	Forest Pest Management Project (Honduras)	Feb. 1972
		Honduras Pig Breeding and Reproduction Project	
		Honduras Expanding Avocado Cultivation Project	
		Healthy Avocado Seedling Production Project in Honduras	
		Farmers' Organization Production and Marketing Capacity Enhancement Project (Preliminary Preparatory Phase)	
		Farmers' Organization Production and Marketing Capacity Enhancement Project	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Guatemala	Bamboo Industries Project	Feb. 1973
		Project for the Strengthening of Marketing Capacity in Family Farming	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Belize	Breeding Sheep and Goat Production and Guidance System Enhancement Project (Preliminary Preparatory Phase; Belize)	Jan. 1991
		Breeding Sheep and Goat Production and Guidance System Enhancement Project (Belize)	
		Belize Urban Resilience and Disaster Prevention Project	
		Project for Strengthening Medical Imaging Systems	
		Belize Motor Vehicle Registration and License System Project	

Region	Country / Technical Mission	Project	Date Established
Central America	Taiwan Technical Mission in Nicaragua	Nicaragua Rice Seed Research, Development, and Production Extension Project	Jul. 1991
		Cultivo de Bambú y Mejoramiento de la Eficiencia en la Producción de Artesanías	
		Investigación y Desarrollo para el Fomento de la Productividad de la Semilla de Frijol	
		Desarrollo del Cultivo de Plátano	
		Mariculture Project in Nicaragua	
		Mariculture Project in Nicaragua (Phase II: Preliminary Preparatory Phase)	
		Mariculture Project in Nicaragua (Phase II)	
		Un Pueblo, Un Producto (OTOP)	
		Fortalecimiento de Capacidades ante Amenazas Naturales (Nicaragua)	
		Producción de Plantas de Frutas y Hortalizas (Nicaragua)	
		Improving Productivity of Rice and Common Bean by Implementing Innovative Technologies Research in Nicaragua (Preliminary Preparatory Phase)	
	Taiwan Investment and Trade Service Mission in Central America	Project for Capacity Strengthening to Support Incubation and Entrepreneurship for MIPYMEs (Guatemala)	Dec. 1999
		Project for the Revitalization of Crafts and Youth Entrepreneurship in Antigua Guatemala and Surrounding Municipalities in Sacatepéquez (Guatemala)	
		Financial Technician Dispatch Mission (Guatemala)	
		Project for the Promotion of Medical Technology for the Improvement of Maternal & Neonatal Health in Guatemala	
South America	Taiwan Technical Mission in Paraguay	Paraguay Project to Improve Capacity to Support Development of MSMEs (Paraguay)	Apr. 1972
		Project to Strengthen Capacity for Commercial Production of Orchids (Paraguay)	
		Health Information Management Efficiency Enhancement Project in Paraguay (Phase II)	
		Surubi Fingerling Breeding and Cultivation Project (Paraguay)	
	Taiwan Technical Mission in Ecuador	Ecuador Oyster Cultivation Development Project	Sept. 1978

Region	Country / Technical Mission	Project	Date Established
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: To facilitate technical exchange and transfer, TaiwanICDF initially set up 16 professional workshops for officials and technical personnel from diplomatic allies. However, the workshops were canceled owing to COVID-19. Despite the cancellations, TaiwanICDF remained committed to carrying out related activities as originally planned. In February, before the global pandemic, TaiwanICDF worked with the Ocean Policy Research Institute of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (OPRI-SPF) and the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) to co-host the Regional Conference and Policy Dialogue on Blue Economy, Ocean Tourism, and Sustainable Blue Financing in Fiji. The Workshop on Ecotourism Promotion in Palau was also planned for December in coordination with the Our Ocean Conference (OOC) and in cooperation with the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF). In February, preliminary meetings were held with private sector entities in Taiwan such as MyTaiwanTour to introduce the MyTaiwanTour platform and promote cooperation between public and private sectors. A trip to Palau with industry stakeholders was planned in order to evaluate the ecotourism program and expand international links. However, the trip was canceled owing to COVID-19.
- (B) Higher Education: In response to growing demand for higher education graduates among diplomatic allies and friendly nations, since 1998 TaiwanICDF has been running the International Higher Education Scholarship Program . As of the end of 2020, TaiwanICDF has partnered with 21 domestic universities to jointly offer 33 programs for bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees.

These programs cover a wide range of fields, including tropical agriculture, aquaculture science, trade and business management, information technology, human resource development, healthcare and nursing, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, electrical engineering, industrial management, journalism and mass communication, and cultural and creative industries. These programs are designed to provide the professional expertise needed for the social and economic development of developing countries. To date, 2,421 international students have benefited from the program. In 2020, 179 new students were enrolled, bringing the total number of international students studying in Taiwan to 456, representing 31 different countries.

- (C) Mandarin Education Promotion: TaiwanICDF initiated the Overseas Professional Mandarin Teaching Project in 2014 to meet the growing global interest in learning Mandarin and to promote a deeper understanding of Taiwan's culture and society among the peoples of diplomatic allies and friendly nations. In 2020, Taiwan sent 18 Mandarin teachers to Nicaragua, Paraguay, St. Vincent, Palau, Jordan, Turkey, Guatemala, Honduras, Belize, St. Lucia, and St. Kitts and Nevis to provide professional instruction in Mandarin.
- (D) Vocational Training Projects: To help diplomatic allies in the Pacific, Latin America, and the Caribbean to train local talent in essential technical skills, TaiwanICDF collaborated with universities and institutions such as Tatung University, MyTaiwanTour, National Kaohsiung University of Science and Technology, HungKuang University, Kun Shan University, and LEE-MING Institute of Technology. The collaboration set up the Vocational Training Project for the Pacific and Vocational Training Project for Latin America and the Caribbean, where 11 specialized technical courses were provided, including Training on Solar Photovoltaic, Training on Tourism Management Planning, Food Processing and Packaging Design, Chinese Cuisine Franchise Corporation and Entrepreneurship, Tourism and Hotel Management, Ecommerce

Platform and Database Application, Solar Photovoltaic System Installation and Application, and Refrigeration & Air-conditioning. In response to COVID-19, the programs were divided into two phases, the first consisting of online preparatory courses, and the second in-person training in Taiwan, which will take place once border restrictions have lifted. TaiwanICDF established the YouTube channel TaiwanICDF School for the first phase of online preparatory courses. Following the original curriculum for the technical training courses, the organizers invited participants from diplomatic allies to participate in classroom discussion and learning activities on the platform. Supplementary materials such as an internship packet were provided. The YouTube channel served as a remote alternative to physical classes. This innovative and creative approach met the learning needs of participants from diplomatic allies during COVID-19.

- C. International Public Health Projects: The seven projects implemented in 2020 were Health Information Management Efficiency Enhancement Project in Paraguay (Phase II), Maternal and Infant Health Care Improvement Project in the Kingdom of Eswatini (Phase 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 the Promotion of Medical Technology for Improvement of Maternal-Neonatal Health in Guatemala, Implementing Arrangement for the Project for Strengthening Medical Imaging Systems Between the Government of Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Government of Belize, and Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Chronic Metabolic Diseases in St. Kitts and Nevis.
- D. TaiwanICDF Overseas Volunteers Program: In 2020, 16 long-term and project volunteers were deployed to serve in 10 countries: Paraguay, Belize, Nicaragua, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Palau, Thailand, Turkey, Eswatini, and Uganda. This brought the total number of volunteers serving overseas to 40. Volunteers

provided services such as instruction in English and mathematics and assistance with public health and medicine, information technology, agriculture, and other specialized projects.

E. Investment and Financing Projects: In 2020, the priority was to support diplomatic allies as they stabilized public and private sector activities during the pandemic and promoted post-pandemic economic recovery. Related projects were facilitated through two approaches: (1) pooling resources with new development partners to implement new types of projects with a social impact, and (2) deepening collaboration with intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations. The key achievements are summarized below.

(A) Five new loan contracts were signed in 2020, including Women and Youth Entrepreneurs and MSMEs Re-lending Project (Palau); a collaboration with the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) on the Emergency Support and Preparedness Program for COVID-19 and Economic Reactivation, Component 3, Credit to Finance Public Sector Operations, and Component 5, Financial Sector Support Facility for Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs); MSEs Re-lending Project (Paraguay); and Women's Livelihood Loan Project in Southeast and South Asia. The aims of the projects were to support the public sector in the implementation of COVID-19-related policies, maintain the liquidity of the financial sector, and provide financing channels for small businesses and women, thereby building resilience during the global crisis.

(B) Expanding Dialogue and Cooperation with Like-Minded Partners: Taiwan has deepened cooperation with multilateral institutions, including the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB Group), and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Taiwan has also strengthened its dialogue with bilateral institutions, including the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). In

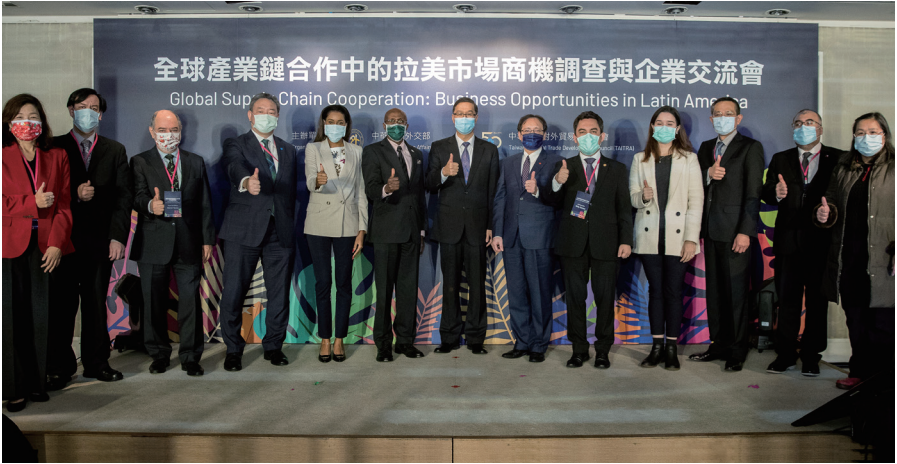


addition, there has been an expansion of innovative collaborations with local impact organizations, including Fundación Paraguaya (FP), the Impact Investment Exchange (IIX) in Singapore, and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in the United States.

- (C) Taiwan's International Profile: TaiwanICDF participated in the seminar Economic Growth during COVID-19: Innovative Solutions for Central America, organized by the American Enterprise Institute (AEI). TaiwanICDF also took part in a global financial forum entitled Innovative Solutions to Promote the International Climate Funds and Technologies Transfer, jointly organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Taiwan Research Institute. TaiwanICDF participated in the online Smart City Summit to inform development partners about Taiwan's development projects focusing on the green economy in response to the pandemic.

## **2. Other Professional Agencies**

In 2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs commissioned and subsidized the International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training and the Training Institute of the Ministry of Finance to organize various advanced training programs for personnel from diplomatic allies. To comply with Taiwan's epidemic prevention efforts, the bringing of foreign participants to Taiwan was suspended until border restrictions were eased.



Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Tsao Li-je (seventh from right) with representatives from the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) and ambassadors, chargés d'affaires and representatives from eight Latin American countries stationed in Taiwan at the Global Supply Chain Cooperation: Business Opportunities in Latin America. (December 23, 2020)



Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu (third from right) and 34 ambassadors and representatives stationed in Taiwan visit Aeonmotor as part of the 2020 Industrial Visit for Ambassadors and Representatives stationed in the Republic of China (Taiwan) organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The visit included three smart technology companies in Tainan City and Kaohsiung City. (November 20, 2020)



Taiwanese Ambassador to Nauru Wang Hai-long (left) and Nauru Minister for Justice and Border Control Maverick EOE (second from right) present certificates of completion to 13 inmates who have completed training in agriculture and animal husbandry. (November 16, 2020)



The TaiwanICDF Project for Promotion of Medical Technology for Improvement of Maternal-Neonatal Health in Guatemala uses locally sourced materials to support the production of face shields for frontline healthcare workers in Guatemala during the pandemic. (April 29, 2020)



Timothy T. Y. Hsiang, Secretary General of TaiwanICDF, and Martin Burt (left), Executive Director of Fundación Paraguaya (FP), jointly hold the online signing ceremony for the MSEs Re-lending Project. Taiwanese Ambassador to Paraguay José Han (second from right) and Paraguayan Minister of Industry and Commerce Liz Cramer (second from left) were invited to address the ceremony. (October 21, 2020)

# Appendix





## **1. Excerpts from President Tsai Ing-wen's Statements on Foreign Policy**

- (1) President Tsai meets Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Denis Ronaldo Moncada Colindres**

<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/5977>

- (2) President Tsai addresses Copenhagen Democracy Summit via video**

<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/6010>

- (3) President Tsai meets US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar**

<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/6026>

- (4) President Tsai addresses Taiwan's diplomatic, security, and economic challenges at videoconference jointly sponsored by US-based think tanks**

<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/6027>

- (5) President Tsai confers decoration on late Czech Senate President Jaroslav Kubera, meets incumbent Senate President Miloš Vystrčil**

<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/6035>

- (6) President Tsai delivers address at 2020 NDI Celebration of Democracy Gala**

<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/6079>

- (7) President Tsai delivers address at Hudson Institute year-end celebration**

<https://english.president.gov.tw/NEWS/6080>



## **2. Excerpts from Premier Su Tseng-chang's Statements on Foreign Policy**

The following are the Executive Yuan's 2021 directions for foreign policy:

- (1) Using a forward-looking and innovative approach, implement the principles of steadfast diplomacy and mutual assistance for mutual benefit; uphold the fundamental values of peace, freedom, democracy, and human rights; devote utmost efforts to consolidate relations with diplomatic allies; and deepen substantive ties with like-minded nations with which Taiwan does not share diplomatic relations.
- (2) 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 seek breakthroughs and actively participate in international community.
- (3) Integrate the strengths, resources, and experiences of the Taiwan government and civil society with those of the global community to enhance international cooperation in such domains as humanitarian relief, medical assistance, disease prevention and control, digital governance, women's empowerment, and media literacy; and establish partnerships with like-minded nations and important domestic and foreign nongovernmental organizations so as to contribute to the regional and global community.
- (4) Actively participate in regional cooperation mechanisms and join forces with related countries in the region to preserve peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific; and strengthen strategic communication and policy research with think tanks in order to remain abreast of international security developments.

(Excerpts from the Executive Yuan's 2021 guidelines detailed by Premier Su Tseng-chang on March 26, 2020)



### **3. Excerpts from Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu's Statements on Foreign Policy**

#### **(1) Report by Jaushieh Joseph Wu, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China (Taiwan), at the Foreign and National Defense Committee of the Legislative Yuan on March 9, 2020**

Taiwan has achieved significant breakthroughs and accomplishments through steadfast diplomacy despite China's intensifying suppression:

- A. Over the past four years, the government has strived to maintain the status quo across the Taiwan Strait. We have neither engaged in provocations nor sought to exacerbate existing circumstances. We maintain that peace, parity, democracy, and dialogue are the keys to positive cross-strait interactions and long-term stable development. However, China has stepped up its suppression of Taiwan in the international arena, attempting to destroy our sovereignty and limit our presence. Not only has China lured away some of our diplomatic allies, it has also hindered Taiwan's international participation, undermining stability across the Taiwan Strait and in the Asia-Pacific region.
- B. In the face of these challenges, our Ministry has promoted steadfast diplomacy in line with the principle of mutual assistance for mutual benefit. In addition to consolidating relations with Taiwan's diplomatic allies, we have bolstered substantive ties with like-minded nations, raising the level of interaction and expanding the scope of cooperation. We have deepened exchanges on such global issues as democratic governance, women's empowerment, religious freedom, public health, climate change, and combating disinformation, enabling Taiwan to contribute to the international community. Strategically, Taiwan will focus on working with like-minded partners, including the United States, Japan, and countries in Europe, to build a values-based alliance and increase our influence in the Indo-Pacific region through the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF).

- C. In terms of regional strategy, our New Southbound Policy has achieved initial success, as reflected in the significant growth in economic, trade, cultural, educational, and tourism exchanges with partner countries. We have aligned this policy with the US Indo-Pacific Strategy, effectively elevating Taiwan's international strategic status. And despite relentless interference from China, our efforts to participate in the World Health Assembly (WHA), United Nations, International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) have gained stronger support from the global community.

Taiwan is facing external changes and challenges in its diplomatic work. The international political and economic landscape has experienced drastic changes and uncertainty exists regarding peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region. Our Ministry is closely monitoring key trends and formulating appropriate responses accordingly. Key developments are as follows:

- A. China's continuous suppression of Taiwan in the international arena

After PRC leader Xi Jinping announced his five-point proposal concerning Taiwan, the Beijing authorities have sought to impose the "one country, two systems" model on Taiwan in an attempt to destroy our democracy. Beijing has stepped up its rhetorical assault and military intimidation against Taiwan, luring away our diplomatic allies, dispatching military aircraft and vessels to conduct military exercises that clearly target Taiwan in areas around the Taiwan Strait, repeatedly declaring publicly that the PRC will not rule out the use of force, as well as interfering in our relations with other countries and our participation in the World Health Organization (WHO), ICAO, and other international bodies. China was also critical of and tried to interfere with governments of countries conveying congratulations to President Tsai Ing-wen on her reelection this January and those planning to send official representatives to attend her inauguration ceremony.

The PRC has relentlessly attempted to limit Taiwan's international presence, ignored the existence of the Republic of China (Taiwan), and



disregarded the fact that the majority of Taiwan's people will never accept the "one country, two systems" framework. Obstinate and unilaterally, China has undermined the status quo of stability in the Taiwan Strait and seriously impacted peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region, causing great concern and unease in the international community.

B. Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Taiwan

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is wreaking havoc worldwide. On the frontlines of epidemic prevention, Taiwan has considerable expertise and effectiveness. We wish to contribute to the international community and are cooperating with the United States and other like-minded nations on disease control. However, due to political factors, UN agencies, such as WHO and ICAO, have incorrectly listed Taiwan under China (PRC) when introducing control measures against COVID-19. Their exclusion of Taiwan from the global disease prevention system shows a complete disregard for our citizen's right to health and has impacted the travel rights of Taiwan nationals as well as the aviation rights of Taiwan airlines.

C. International economic and trade landscape fraught with uncertainty and challenges

The United States and China (PRC) signed a phase-one trade agreement in mid-January, but have yet to resolve disputes in the areas of finance and technology. This factor, as well as the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union and developments in regional economic integration— involving the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) —are expected to have an impact on Taiwan's economy. The spread of COVID-19 has dealt a severe blow to the service, manufacturing, and transportation industries in a number of Asian countries. It has also been detrimental to global economic growth.

D. Uncertainty in regional security

The COVID-19 outbreak has recently become a pandemic, spreading to every continent, and more than 80 countries have reported

confirmed cases. The situation is especially serious in Central and East Asia, the Middle East, and Europe. The Hong Kong protests against an amendment to the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance and Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Legislation, the North Korea situation, and the US-Iran conflict seem to have abated. However, there have been isolated conflicts in the Middle East and the South China Sea, and in early March, North Korea fired test missiles for the first time this year. Overall, the regional security environment is fraught with uncertainty and related developments must be monitored closely.

Key steadfast diplomacy outcomes since the previous Legislative Yuan session:

A. Cordial and frequent high-level mutual visits with diplomatic allies

Last October, the heads or deputy heads of state of diplomatic allies— including Prime Minister Allen Chastanet of Saint Lucia and Vice President Hugo Adalberto Velázquez Moreno of Paraguay— visited Taiwan to attend our National Day celebrations, highlighting our solid bonds with these nations. Immediately after our presidential election in January, the heads of state and government leaders of many diplomatic allies congratulated President Tsai on her reelection and on the smooth election process via letters, phone calls, and public posts on social media. Among them were King Mswati III of Eswatini, President Tommy Remengesau Jr. of Palau, and Prime Minister Kausea Natano of Tuvalu.

Vice President Chen Chien-jen led a delegation to the Holy See to attend the canonization of British Cardinal John Henry Newman and four others last October. Then, in December, Vice President Chen traveled to Palau to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between our countries. During his visit, he met with President Remengesau.

Also in October, I led a delegation to Paraguay, where I met with President Mario Abdo Benítez. This January, I served as the President's envoy to the inauguration of President Alejandro Eduardo Giammatti Falla of Guatemala. On the trip, I also visited Honduras and met with President Juan Orlando Hernández.

Heads of state and political leaders from diplomatic allies have also visited Taiwan. Among them were President Lionel Aingimea of Nauru, then President Hilda C. Heine of the Marshall Islands, President Giammattei of Guatemala, Foreign Minister Simon Robert Kofe of Tuvalu, and Foreign Minister Denis Ronaldo Moncada Colindres of Nicaragua. Last November, when Pope Francis was flying through the Taipei Flight Information Region on his way from Thailand to Japan, he sent special greetings and blessings to President Tsai and the people of Taiwan.

B. Steady advances in Taiwan-US relations

Taiwan-US relations are stable and robust, and continue to advance steadily. In addition to enhancing mutual trust, we have strengthened our partnership through relevant channels, with cooperation expanding to a broader range of domains.

High-ranking US officials have spoken up in support of Taiwan on numerous occasions. Vice President Mike Pence recognized Taiwan's democratic accomplishments during a lecture at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars last October, and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo sent a message of congratulations to President Tsai soon after her reelection.

The Trump administration has announced five arms sales to Taiwan totaling US\$12 billion. On December 20, 2019, President Donald Trump signed the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 into law. The Act expresses support for Taiwan to strengthen its self-defense capabilities and calls for enhanced military exchanges, again underscoring US commitment to Taiwan's security.

The United States has, on numerous occasions, recognized Taiwan's contributions to the Indo-Pacific region and its role in the US Indo-Pacific strategy, which is closely aligned with our New Southbound Policy. This again highlights the values-based partnership between Taiwan and the United States.

Both the US Senate and House of Representatives have shown support for Taiwan. Roughly 80 Congress Members, including Speaker of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and President

Pro Tempore of the Senate Charles Grassley (R-IA), sent messages of congratulations to Taiwan after our general election. Both the Senate and House of Representatives passed the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019. This January, Senator Cory Gardner (R-CO), Chairman of the Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, and some of his colleagues sent a letter to WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, urging WHO to grant Taiwan observer status and assist Taiwan in dealing with the COVID-19 outbreak. Representative Eliot Engel (D-NY), Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, and Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) also wrote letters to ICAO calling for Taiwan's participation.

Last year, Taiwan and the United States jointly held seven workshops under the GCTF, focusing on women's empowerment, public health, energy security, and media literacy. Diplomatic allies participated in the workshops, some of which were cosponsored by Japan, Sweden, and Australia. These developments are gradually transforming the GCTF into a multilateral mechanism.

Last October, Taiwan and the United States hosted the first Pacific Islands Dialogue in Taiwan to explore ways to strengthen cooperation in the Pacific.

C. Taiwan-Japan relations are maintaining a healthy momentum

Taiwan-Japan relations are advancing steadily. Over the past year, Japan has shown greater support for Taiwan in the international arena, an indication that bilateral interactions are beginning to cover multilateral issues. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe reiterated his support for Taiwan's participation in WHO in response to a parliamentary interpellation. Bilateral cooperation has become more comprehensive. The 44th Taiwan-Japan Economic and Trade Meeting held in Tokyo last October concluded with the signing of four agreements. The third Taiwan-Japan Committee on Cooperation in Third Country Markets and the fourth Taiwan-Japan Maritime Affairs Cooperation Dialogue Forum were also a success last year. These developments further institutionalized negotiation mechanisms between our countries.

Parliamentary exchanges at both the central and local levels have increased significantly. Last October, more than 20 members of Japan's National Diet attended the National Day parade in Taiwan, representing the largest delegation from a foreign nation. Local government and people-to-people exchanges have also increased in momentum, as evidenced by the sisterhood and friendly alliances that cities and counties in Taiwan have established with 131 counterparts in Japan. Bilateral visits between our peoples reached a record high last year, topping the seven-million mark for the first time.

D. Taiwan-EU cooperation has been enhanced through values-based diplomacy

Taiwan-EU relations have maintained a healthy momentum, with both sides continuing to deepen exchanges and cooperation based on shared core beliefs and the values of democracy, freedom, and human rights. Taiwan has become a values-based partner in Asia for Europe.

Taiwan and the EU have diverse and healthy institutionalized consultation mechanisms in place. Last year, the two sides held the Human Rights Consultations, the Labor Consultation, and the Dialogue on Digital Economy, deepening and enhancing bilateral cooperation.

On December 4, 2019, the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs adopted a resolution expressing concern that autocratic regimes, by means of disinformation campaigns, cyberattacks, and other tactics, were posing a threat to Asian democracies and regional stability. The resolution also reiterated EU support for Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations. It was followed by the passage of additional resolutions during a plenary EP session in Strasbourg on January 15 this year, emphasizing the importance the EU attaches to regional security and democracy. That the resolutions were passed after Taiwan's general election is of great significance. The European Commission and more than 150 parliamentarians from 26 European nations publicly congratulated Taiwan following our general election in January, demonstrating their support for Taiwan.

Last October, Taiwan friendship groups from the EP and the German, French, and UK parliaments established the Formosa Club to

consolidate support for Taiwan's bids for international participation. When WHO erroneously listed Taiwan under China this February, the Formosa Club promptly wrote a letter to the WHO Director-General expressing concern and demanding a correction. Friendly members of the EP and parliaments of nearly a dozen European countries, including Italy, Latvia, and the Czech Republic, spoke up on our behalf. This indicates growing support for Taiwan's international participation among like-minded European partners.

We have also engaged in exchanges and cooperation across various domains with a number of European countries. Last December, we signed an MOU for a working holiday program with the Netherlands, making it the 12th country in Europe and the 17th worldwide to reach such an agreement with Taiwan. We also signed a reciprocal driver's license agreement with Germany, which took effect on December 31, 2019. This February, the Czech Republic ratified an agreement signed with Taiwan on avoidance of double taxation and prevention of tax evasion, which will take effect in 2021. This is the 16th accord of its kind that we have concluded with a European nation.

E. The New Southbound Policy is achieving substantial success

We have steadily deepened diverse exchanges with New Southbound Policy partner countries and achieved substantial success.

Last year saw steady growth in trade and investment between Taiwan and New Southbound Policy partner countries. Trade volume reached US\$111.9 billion, while 645 cases of inward investment by these nations totaling US\$1.096 billion were approved. Industrial collaboration forums were held in six partner countries, which led to the signing of 40 letters of intent and numerous agreements on cooperation in such industries as smart cities, green technology, and food biotechnology.

With regard to personnel exchanges, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has rolled out visa facilitation measures in phases under the New Southbound Policy, attracting more tourists from partner countries. Last year, citizens from these countries made more than 2.77 million visits to Taiwan, up 6.8 percent from the previous year. We have also forged



ahead with talent exchange and incubation programs. These include the Young Agricultural Ambassadors New Southbound Policy Exchange Program and the Taiwan Fellowships and Scholarships Program.

In resource sharing, our Ministry remains committed to the One Country, One Center initiative, under which Taiwanese medical centers engaged in health care cooperation and development in eight partner countries last year, including India, Indonesia, and Myanmar. As for regional connectivity, Taiwan signed numerous agreements with New Southbound Policy partners, among them an investment protection pact with Vietnam and an MOU on food safety information exchange with Australia.

The third annual Yushan Forum, themed “Deepening Progressive Partnerships in Asia,” was held in Taipei last October. Former Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper, US Deputy Assistant Secretary for Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands Sandra Oudkirk, and former White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders delivered keynote speeches at the event. More than 1,000 opinion leaders, scholars, experts, ambassadors, and representatives from 31 countries attended, gaining a better understanding of Taiwan’s commitment to implementing the New Southbound Policy.

F. Increasing momentum for greater international participation

Owing to China’s interference, Taiwan has been unable to participate in the UN system. However, the international community widely recognizes that Taiwan can help. An ever increasing number of nations, including their executive and legislative branches of government, media, and citizens, are speaking up for Taiwan, underscoring the fact that our appeal for international participation is both appropriate and legitimate.

At a meeting to discuss COVID-19 during the 146th session of the WHO Executive Board this year, eight diplomatic allies voiced their support for Taiwan, while such like-minded nations as the United States, Japan, Germany (on behalf of the EU), and Australia strongly endorsed our participation. High-ranking officials worldwide, including US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II, Canadian Prime Minister Justin

Trudeau, and officials at the European External Action Service, as well as parliamentarians from nearly 20 friendly nations also backed Taiwan.

Moreover, we have achieved considerable success with our participation in the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum. Last year, Taiwan attended 117 APEC meetings and activities, hosted or jointly organized with fellow APEC members 32 seminars and events, and received APEC funding for 10 initiatives, ranking Taiwan fifth among members in terms of APEC funded projects. Taiwan's contributions were duly noted in the *Report on the Outcomes of APEC Chile 2019*, which listed 20 key initiatives and projects we had proposed or completed. Taiwan also participated in this year's First Senior Officials' Meeting and will continue to foster high-level bilateral exchanges with other APEC members.

Our Ministry's bid to participate in the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) garnered wider support last year than ever before. Eleven diplomatic allies sent letters to INTERPOL President Kim Jong Yang or spoke up for Taiwan during the General Assembly. High-level police officials from eight allies filmed a video endorsing Taiwan's participation. Like-minded nations extended unprecedented support, including then US Acting Assistant Secretary of State Patrick Murphy. The parliaments of more than 14 countries also conveyed their support in various ways.

During the 25th Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC held last December, Taiwan's delegation participated in 13 side events and held 42 bilateral meetings. Our Ministry released a short promotional film entitled *Riding the Wind*, recounting Taiwan's efforts and contributions toward reducing carbon emissions. Meanwhile, parliamentarians from 13 diplomatic allies and 12 friendly nations sent letters individually, spoke up, or expressed support in other ways.

G. Taking proactive steps to make our voice heard internationally

Our Ministry continues to employ a variety of approaches to speak up and let Taiwan's voice be heard throughout the world. From last October to this February, I gave 21 interviews and met with journalists from 120 foreign media outlets, including the *Washington Post* and

other prominent news agencies from a number of countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, and Japan. A total of 139 news reports were issued in relation to these interviews. Our presidential election garnered significant foreign media attention. Before the election, I held an international press conference and spoke about Taiwan's democracy. Journalists from more than 50 media outlets attended and over 40 new reports were issued.

In addition, our Ministry's official Facebook page has attracted over 120,000 followers since its launch, and the Facebook pages of our overseas missions have a combined total of nearly 330,000 followers. Our bids to participate in international organizations are promoted via the 93 Facebook accounts and 226 websites of our overseas missions. Meanwhile, through our official Twitter account, we have reached more than 61 million users in the one-plus year since its launch. These have effectively raised Taiwan's international visibility.

Today, we face a complex international landscape and formidable challenges. Our Ministry will continue to forge ahead with steadfast diplomacy in the following ways:

A. Consolidating ties with diplomatic allies

We are making a concerted effort to consolidate relations with diplomatic allies. Firstly, we are enhancing human and other resources at our embassies and strengthening intelligence gathering. We will also continue to promote mutual visits by high-ranking officials and build on current strong foundations to advance bilateral initiatives. We will work with the United States and other friendly countries to support diplomatic allies and safeguard democracy and the rule of law in the Pacific region. I want to reiterate that Taiwan will not engage in pointless checkbook diplomacy competitions with the PRC.

B. Deepening relations with like-minded countries and other nations with which Taiwan does not maintain diplomatic relations

Making good use of the current international climate, which is favorable to Taiwan, we will 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, stability, and prosperity.

C. Implementing the New Southbound Policy

The government will build on existing foundations to further promote the New Southbound Policy and strengthen its alignment 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, creating new mutually beneficial cooperation models, and promoting a "Taiwan helps Asia, and Asia helps Taiwan" spirit, we will seek to contribute to the prosperous development of the Indo-Pacific region.

D. Increasing international participation and making proactive contributions

Participating in the UN system and other international organizations is a broad aspiration of our people and the set policy and long-term goal of our government. Based on the principles of professionalism, pragmatism, and making contributions, we will dedicate all available resources and expertise to promoting 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. In particular, in light of the COVID-19 outbreak, our Ministry will work with other ministries and agencies to take preventative measures to protect the health of our people. We will actively seek to participate in related WHO meetings and mechanisms as well as cooperating with friendly nations to contain the disease, thereby concretely contributing to regional and global disease prevention efforts. Furthermore, given that Taiwan's nongovernmental organizations are well-equipped to play a role in global affairs, our Ministry will continue to work with them in all domains to increase our 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 CPTPP. We

are currently focusing on integrating internal and external resources to establish a CPTPP track for informal interactions with CPTPP member states and to seek their support through bilateral channels and multilateral talks in order to build momentum for formal consultations.

F. Making our voice heard internationally

Our Ministry continues to employ diverse approaches to speak out and share our contributions and achievements with 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 social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube, to demonstrate the positive effects of public diplomacy.

G. Fulfilling international responsibilities

Taiwan continues to work closely with like-minded nations to counter challenges and threats. We will also further implement the UN Sustainable Development Goals 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 will safeguard shared values and the rules-based international order.

H. Optimizing public services and facilitating greater travel convenience

Our Ministry will continue to improve public services and facilitate greater travel convenience. As of today, ROC nationals are granted visa exemptions, landing visas, or electronic visas by 169 countries and territories, and can enter many of these countries via automated customs clearance systems. Last year, Taiwan was incorporated into Russia's electronic visa program, was one of the first countries to be eligible for Saudi Arabia's electronic tourism visa, and was accorded multiple-entry and fee-exempt electronic visa treatment by Turkey. This year, Taiwan and North Macedonia have agreed to extend reciprocal visa-free treatment for five years.

Due to the spread of COVID-19, several countries have banned flights by Taiwan airlines and imposed travel bans on Taiwan nationals. After proactive negotiations by our Ministry, our airlines were able to

resume flights to Vietnam and the Philippines lifted its travel ban on our citizens. We will continue to negotiate with other countries to correct similar oversights.

During the initial outbreak of COVID-19 in January, before the disease had spread globally, our Ministry notified all overseas missions to be prepared to activate their emergency response plans and to conduct timely reviews and take enhancement measures in accordance with developments in their host countries. Before the Lunar New Year, our Ministry established an emergency response team and mechanism, which I personally oversee. We have taken these steps to protect the rights and safety of our citizens traveling overseas and to ensure that our overseas missions can operate normally should the COVID-19 situation deteriorate.

Despite the rapidly changing international landscape, challenges to regional security, and relentless pressure from the PRC, we will forge ahead with our work under steadfast diplomacy. While seeking stability, adaptability, and progress, we will show the world Taiwan's vitality, professionalism, and resilience. We will safeguard Taiwan's sovereignty, dignity, and democratic values.

**(2) Report by Jaushieh Joseph Wu, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China (Taiwan), at the Foreign and National Defense Committee of the Legislative Yuan on September 28, 2020**

The global political and economic situation is in flux. At the same time, security in the Indo-Pacific region is fraught with destabilizing factors. The Ministry will continue to pay close attention to these situations and respond accordingly. Among the most important developments are the following:

- A. China's continuous suppression of Taiwan in the international arena  
China has never ceased attempts to suppress Taiwan in the international arena. Recently China has faced domestic crises and external difficulties, leading it to seek out a scapegoat so that it can undergird its legitimacy. As such, it is pressing forward with attempts to impose the "one country, two systems" model on Taiwan and has continued to intensify its rhetorical assault and military intimidation. Following on Hong



Kong, Taiwan has become China's next target. China's egregious acts have been a unilateral attempt to undermine the status quo of stability across the Taiwan Strait. They also seriously threaten peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region, causing great concern and unease in the international community.

B. The spread of COVID-19 around the world

The COVID-19 outbreak continues to spread around the world, with over 31 million cases and nearly a million deaths. In recent months, a second wave of cases has gradually begun around the world. People's lives continue to be threatened. This has had a drastic impact on transportation, trade, and travel and has been devastating for many nations' economies. Taiwan has seen good results from its antipandemic efforts, but continues to be affected by the global spread of the disease.

C. Potential concerns for regional security

We have witnessed increased confrontation between the US and China; tension in the South China Sea; the military standoff between India and China along their shared border; China's passage of the Hong Kong national security law, increased controls put in place over Xinjiang, Tibet, and Inner Mongolia; increased military intimidation of Taiwan; and the continuing North Korean nuclear threat. Thus, there remain many challenges in the regional security environment.

D. International economic situation fraught with variables

COVID-19 has been a major shock to the global economy and is forcing a restructuring of global supply chains. The World Trade Organization predicted months ago that global trade would fall 13 percent this year. While a phase-one trade agreement between the US and China was signed at the beginning of this year, the two sides have yet to resolve disputes over finance and technology. Free trade agreements signed between other countries and the trend toward regional economic integration through the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) have had effects on Taiwan's economy.

Significant breakthroughs and accomplishments through steadfast diplomacy since the last legislative session:

- A. Increased international antipandemic cooperation has helped the world see Taiwan

COVID-19 has again proven that disease knows no borders, and that there should be no gaps in global disease prevention efforts. It has also shown the importance of global cooperation on public health. Taiwan is working through bilateral and multilateral frameworks to cooperate with the international community to stop the spread of disease. We have donated antipandemic supplies including infrared thermal imaging cameras and over 53 million medical masks to over 80 countries. We are also cooperating on developing vaccines and conducting exchanges on disease prevention. We are sharing the Taiwan Model and realizing the spirit of “Taiwan can help, and Taiwan is helping.”

Our efforts and contributions have been affirmed by the international community. US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, then Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen, and prominent political figures from many other countries all publicly expressed thanks for our donations.

As concerns connecting to the world, while personnel exchanges are at a standstill during the pandemic, we are making use of high-tech solutions including videoconferencing and video interviews with international media to increase Taiwan’s international visibility. We continue to promote having key government officials, including the President, share Taiwan’s antipandemic experience with foreign politicians, academics, important media outlets, and members of the public. Former Vice President Chen Chien-jen attended via videoconference a hearing hosted by the UK House of Commons’ Health and Social Care Committee, effectively raising Taiwan’s international visibility.

- B. Stable and cordial ties with diplomatic allies

This year, COVID-19 prevented President Tsai from traveling to diplomatic allies and the heads of state or high-ranking government

officials of our allies from visiting Taiwan. The only exception was Second Vice President of the Honduran National Congress Denis Armando Castro Bobadila, who visited Taiwan with his wife.

The leaders or deputy leaders of diplomatic allies including King Mswati III of Eswatini, President Alejandro Giammattei of Guatemala, President Juan Orlando Hernández of Honduras, Prime Minister Allen Chastanet of St. Lucia, and President Lionel Aingimea of Nauru, sent video congratulations to President Tsai on her inauguration, highlighting the strength of our alliances. Key political figures from many diplomatic allies expressed congratulations in letters or via social media. Eleven heads of state and many key political figures from our diplomatic allies expressed condolences on the passing of former President Lee Teng-hui in a variety of ways.

On July 18, President Tsai attended a Mass for the installation of Taipei Archbishop Chung An-chu. In remarks at the event, the President affirmed the contributions of the Catholic Church in Taiwan to social welfare, education, and medicine. This showed Taiwan's high regard for Catholic groups and demonstrated that cooperation between Taiwan and the Holy See is close and friendly.

Various cooperation projects with our diplomatic allies are proceeding smoothly. We continue to sign cooperation agreements, such as the Implementation Agreement of the Capacity Building Project for the Prevention and Control of Chronic Metabolic Disease with St. Christopher and Nevis and the Cooperative Agreement on the Breeding Sheep and Goat Production and Guidance System Enhancement Project with Belize.

Heads of state and key political figures from our diplomatic allies have repeatedly thanked Taiwan for assisting in agricultural technology, basic infrastructure, and antipandemic supplies. They have also reaffirmed the strong ties with Taiwan and expressed strong support for Taiwan's bids to participate in international organizations.

#### C. Steady advances in Taiwan-US relations

Taiwan-US relations are stable and robust, and continue to advance steadily. In addition to enhancing mutual trust, we have strengthened

our partnership through relevant channels, with cooperation expanding to a broader range of domains.

On March 26, US President Donald Trump signed into law the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative Act of 2019, or TAIPEI Act. The TAIPEI Act supports further strengthening of the bilateral trade relationship between the United States and Taiwan and Taiwan's participation in international organizations. The American Institute in Taiwan's Taipei Office posted recently declassified cables on its website relating to the 1982 Six Assurances and the August 17 Communique, and reiterated that the Six Assurances are a foundational element of US policy toward Taiwan.

US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II led a delegation to Taiwan in early August. He was the highest-ranking US Cabinet official to visit Taiwan since 1979. While in Taiwan, he witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding on health cooperation. Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Keith Krach visited Taiwan in mid-September, becoming the highest-ranking State Department official to visit Taiwan since 1979. During his visit, the two sides exchanged opinions on many issues as well as prospects for future cooperation.

High-ranking members of the US government have expressed support for Taiwan on many occasions. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on May 19 publicly congratulated President Tsai on her inauguration. In a July 23 speech, he once again recognized Taiwan's democratic development. On July 28, the US and Australia reaffirmed Taiwan's important role in the Indo-Pacific region in a joint statement released at the Australia-US Ministerial Consultations.

The Trump administration has announced seven arms sales to Taiwan totaling US\$13.25 billion. On May 21, the White House released the US Strategic Approach to the People's Republic of China, in which it reaffirmed its security pledges to Taiwan under the Taiwan Relations Act. The US Senate and House of Representatives support Taiwan. In May, the Senate passed unanimously an act to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in

the World Health Organization (WHO), which was proposed by Sen. James Inhofe (R-OK), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services. The Cochairmen of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus led 205 House members in sending a letter to WHO Director-General Tedros Ghebreyesus, calling on him to invite Taiwan to attend this year's World Health Assembly (WHA).

This year, the US, Japan, and Taiwan have held three activities under the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF), and held the GCTF Fifth Anniversary Press Conference at the Ministry on June 1, releasing the Joint Statement on the 5th Anniversary of the GCTF, showing the three countries' resolution to reinforce their partnership.

The Ministry announced on July 3 that it would be reopening the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Guam. On August 28, President Tsai announced that Taiwan would open up to imports of US pork and beef, an action affirmed by over 80 prominent figures from various US sectors including Vice President Mike Pence.

#### D. Continued enhancement of Taiwan-Japan relations

Taiwan-Japan relations have been steady and cordial, with Japan showing even greater support for Taiwan in the international arena in recent years, demonstrating that bilateral interactions have gradually carried over into multilateral issues. For instance, Shinzo Abe, then Prime Minister of Japan, reiterated his support for Taiwan's participation in WHO in response to a parliamentary interpellation. At this year's WHA, Katsunobu Kato, then Japan's Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare (currently Chief Cabinet Secretary), raised the issue of Taiwan in his speech, revealing how Japan's statements have become clearer and more direct.

Bilateral cooperation has become more comprehensive. For example, on July 28 a midterm review of progress made on and the effects of resolutions taken at the 44th Taiwan-Japan Economic and Trade Meeting was held as a videoconference. On July 29, the Taiwan-Japan Commission on Cooperation in Third Country Markets conducted its third meeting by videoconference to discuss a wide range of issues.

Parliamentary exchanges between Taiwan and Japan have also highlighted the deep friendship between the two countries. Former Japanese Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori led two cross-party parliamentary delegations, one in August and one in September, to pay tribute to late President Lee Teng-hui and attend his memorial service. In addition, 16 local assemblies issued statements or passed resolutions extending support for Taiwan's participation in the WHA.

The government of Taiwan expressed concern and donated relief funds after floods ravaged Japan this July. We hope that the two countries can strengthen exchanges and cooperation with respect to disaster relief, preparedness, response, and reconstruction.

E. Steady advancement of Taiwan-Europe relations

Taiwan-Europe relations have maintained a healthy momentum, with both sides continuing to advance exchanges and cooperation based on the shared values of democracy, freedom, and human rights. Taiwan has become a values-based partner in Asia for Europe.

Taiwan and the EU have diverse and robust institutionalized consultation mechanisms in place. Through the Human Rights Consultations, the Labor Consultation, the Dialogue on Digital Economy, and the Industrial Policy Dialogue, the two sides have fortified bilateral cooperation.

Senior officials, parliamentarians, members of the European Parliament, and other key figures friendly to Taiwan from 15 European countries released statements, wrote letters, sent tweets, or created video clips congratulating President Tsai Ing-wen on her second-term inauguration, thereby affirming Taiwan's democratic achievements. At the invitation of the Alliance of Democracies, President Tsai addressed the virtual Copenhagen Democracy Summit by video on June 19. She shared Taiwan's successful COVID-19 response measures and democratic experience, stressing that like-minded democratic countries across the world should work more closely together.

Areas of exchange and cooperation between Taiwan and European countries have grown more comprehensive. For example, a memorandum



of understanding on a working holiday program signed with the Netherlands entered into effect on April 1. The Netherlands Trade and Investment Office in Taiwan changed its name to the Netherlands Office Taipei on April 27, reflecting the overall development of our bilateral relations. In addition, on August 25, Taiwan announced that it would open a representative office in Aix-en-Provence in Southern France.

The European Parliament and the legislatures of many European countries have been staunch supporters of Taiwan, with many countries having taken great pains to support Taiwan's WHA bid. Over 190 EP members wrote letters to Josep Borrell, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, and the Ministers of Health of EU member nations, calling on them to support Taiwan's WHA bid. At the invitation of Legislative Yuan President You Si-kun, President of the Senate of the Czech Republic Miloš Vystrčil led a Czech delegation of parliamentarians and industry representatives to Taiwan in late August, thus solidifying Taiwan-Czech relations. The legislatures of 10 European countries, including Germany and the United Kingdom, have sent letters to the WHO Director-General or passed resolutions in support of Taiwan's bid. Former Vice President Chen Chien-jen was invited by Jeremy Hunt, Chair of the UK House of Commons Health and Social Care Committee, to join a hearing via videoconference on June 3, giving him the opportunity to discuss Taiwan's experience in combating COVID-19. On July 16, the Belgian Chamber of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a resolution on Taiwan's position in the international community, calling on the Belgian government to encourage the resumption of cross-strait dialogue and the discontinuation of attempts to unilaterally change the status quo.

F. Further deepening of the New Southbound Policy

Taiwan will continue to deepen its diverse exchanges with New Southbound Policy partner countries, and has already achieved some results.

On the economic and trade front, as of this June, trade between Taiwan and New Southbound Policy partner countries had reached US\$51.9 billion. In the third quarter, virtual bilateral collaboration

forums will connect Taiwan with six partner countries to discuss COVID-19 containment and such industries as smart cities, green energy technologies, and food biotechnology.

With respect to people-to-people exchanges, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused the number of tourists to fall. However, exchanges are still being promoted through social media and other platforms, such as the *Embracing Taiwan* television series that MOFA has coproduced with and aired in four countries this year (Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam), introducing Taiwan's recent development.

In terms of resource sharing, through the One Country, One Center initiative and in coordination with eight partner countries, including India, Indonesia, and Myanmar, videoconferences and virtual lectures have been held on more than 10 occasions to share Taiwan's experience in containing the COVID-19 pandemic. As of the end of June, Taiwan had also provided training to more than 30 healthcare professionals from New Southbound Policy partner countries. As for regional connectivity, Taiwan has signed numerous agreements and engaged in cooperation with these partner countries, including a revised investment protection pact with Vietnam that entered into effect at the end of May. The 4th Yushan Forum will be held in October in Taipei. The theme will be "Forging a Resilient Future Together." This will showcase Taiwan's ability to further the New Southbound Policy in the postpandemic era.

G. Continuing to build momentum for Taiwan's international participation

Owing to China's interference, Taiwan has been unable to participate in the UN system. However, the international community widely recognizes that Taiwan can help. An ever-increasing number of nations, including their executive and legislative branches of government, media, and citizens, are speaking up for Taiwan, underscoring the fact that our appeal for international participation is both appropriate and legitimate.

This year, international support for Taiwan's participation in the WHA was of an unprecedented magnitude. In addition to our diplomatic allies, highlevel figures from many countries—including then Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau,

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar II, and US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo—as well as government ministries, legislatures, and political and opinion leaders in numerous nations, used a variety of methods to publicly support Taiwan's involvement in the WHA as an Observer.

This year's campaign for UN participation again promoted the idea that Taiwan is a key partner in the global implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A promotional film, *Blessings from Taiwan*, shared with the international community Taiwanese people's hopes of participating in the UN system, and showed that Taiwan has stood firmly alongside its partners in global pandemic containment and recovery. This year we asked our diplomatic allies to continue to speak up for Taiwan during the UN General Debate and write letters to UN Secretary-General António Guterres urging the UN to include Taiwan in a suitable manner.

Taiwan's cooperative relations with APEC continue to advance, and 14 Taiwanese experts have been reappointed or selected to chair APEC subfora. Although a good deal of this year's meetings have been cancelled or organized via videoconference due to the disruption of COVID-19, Taiwan has remained an active participant. To date, we have attended or organized no less than 96 physical or virtual meetings, and ensured that important APEC statements included Taiwan's government policies and Taiwan's antipandemic achievements. In addition, Taiwan's 15 APEC projects have received US\$1.23 million in funding this year, exceeding our contributions of US\$900,000.

On June 16, the World Organisation for Animal Health declared Taiwan a foot and mouth disease-free zone where vaccination is not practiced. Our government and private sector had worked for many years to eradicate the disease after discovering its presence in Taiwan. Obtaining the recognition of this international organization was a major milestone.

Taiwan continues to strengthen relations with development banks and help Taiwanese enterprises secure business opportunities.

Owing to COVID-19, this year's business opportunities meetings with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development have been held online. In July, we assisted the TaiwanICDF in signing a cooperation agreement with the Asian Development Bank's Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department which will involve cooperation and exchanges concerning Earth observation technology. In August, the Central American Bank for Economic Integration Board of Directors approved TaiwanICDF preferential loans that will assist in the Central American region's economic recovery. Taiwan also continued to deepen cooperation with the Association of World Election Bodies: since July, the association's Secretariat has had a Taiwanese member of staff.

H. Taking proactive steps to make our voice heard internationally

Our Ministry continues to employ a variety of approaches to speak up and let Taiwan's voice be heard throughout the world. From March to September, I gave 36 interviews and spoke with journalists from CNN, Fox News, and other mainstream media outlets from such countries as the US, UK, Germany, and Japan. A total of 58 news reports were issued in relation to these interviews. Our Ministry has also facilitated media interviews with former Vice President Chen Chien-jen and other officials and scholars to share Taiwan's successful experience of containing COVID-19.

In addition, our Ministry's official Facebook page has attracted over 180,000 followers since its launch, and the Facebook pages of our overseas missions have a combined total of nearly 420,000 followers. Our bids to participate in international organizations are promoted via the 96 Facebook accounts and 224 websites of our overseas missions. Meanwhile, through our official Twitter account, we have reached more than 104.61 million users. These have effectively raised Taiwan's international visibility.

I. Mutual establishment of Representative Offices with Republic of Somaliland

On August 17, the Taiwan Representative Office in the Republic of Somaliland officially opened and our countries signed a technical

cooperation agreement. The Somaliland Representative Office in Taiwan opened on September 9. This adds another base for promoting our work in Africa.

Today, we face a complex international landscape and formidable challenges. Our Ministry will continue to forge ahead with steadfast diplomacy in the following ways:

A. Consolidating ties with diplomatic allies

We are making a concerted effort to consolidate relations with diplomatic allies. Firstly, we are enhancing resources at our embassies and strengthening intelligence gathering. We will also continue to promote high-ranking exchanges and build on current foundations to advance bilateral initiatives. We will work with the United States and other friendly countries to support diplomatic allies; however, Taiwan will not engage in pointless checkbook diplomacy competitions with China.

B. Deepening relations with like-minded countries and other nations with which Taiwan does not maintain diplomatic relations

Making good use of the current international climate, which is favorable to Taiwan, we will 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 challenges and threats and advance regional peace, stability, and prosperity.

C. Increasing international participation and making proactive contributions

Based on the principles of professionalism, pragmatism, and making contributions, we will dedicate all available resources and expertise to promoting our bids to join more international organizations. In addition, we will safeguard our rights in organizations to which we already belong. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, our Ministry has actively sought to participate in related WHO meetings and mechanisms

as well as cooperated with friendly nations to contain the disease, thereby concretely contributing to global disease prevention efforts. Furthermore, given that Taiwan's nongovernmental organizations are well-equipped to play a role in global affairs, our Ministry will continue to work with them in all domains to increase our international presence through public-private coordination.

D. Strengthening implementation of the New Southbound Policy

The government will build on existing foundations to further promote the New Southbound Policy and strengthen its alignment with the US IndoPacific 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, creating new mutually beneficial cooperation models, we will seek to contribute to the prosperous development of the IndoPacific region.

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 CPTPP. We are currently focusing on integrating internal and external resources to establish a CPTPP track for interactions with CPTPP member states and actively seek their support through bilateral channels and multilateral forums.

F. Making our voice heard internationally

Our Ministry continues to employ diverse approaches to speak out and share our contributions and achievements with the international community so that the world can gain a better understanding of and extend greater support to Taiwan. In particular, we will expand use of social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube, to demonstrate the positive effects of public diplomacy.

G. Fulfilling international responsibilities

Taiwan continues to work closely with like-minded nations to counter challenges and threats. We will also 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 will safeguard shared values of freedom and democracy and the rules-based international order.

H. Optimizing public services and facilitating greater travel convenience

Our Ministry will continue to improve public services and facilitate greater travel convenience. As of today, Taiwan nationals are granted visa exemptions, landing visas, or electronic visas by 170 countries and territories, and can enter many of these countries via automated customs clearance systems. Furthermore, to improve recognition of Taiwan on the cover of our country's passport and enhance citizens' travel rights and convenience, we have refined the design of passport covers, enlarging the word *Taiwan*. This new version of the passport is scheduled to be issued from January 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many countries have closed their borders or implemented isolation and quarantine measures for inbound travelers. Over the past months, our Ministry has helped bring home many Taiwanese, while also negotiating with other governments to ease entry restrictions for Taiwanese nationals. We will continue to strengthen such efforts going forward.

I would like to once again thank the Legislative Yuan and the distinguished Members of the Committee for your support and encouragement of our Ministry. Despite the rapidly changing international landscape, challenges and threats to regional security, and China's ever-growing rhetorical assault and military intimidation, we will continue to forge ahead with our work under steadfast diplomacy. We will show the world Taiwan's vitality, professionalism, and resilience. We will safeguard Taiwan's sovereignty, dignity, and democratic values.



## 4. Statements of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### (1) Joint Statement on the 5th Anniversary of the Global Cooperation and Training Framework

#### No. 001

On June 1, 2015, the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF) was established to provide a platform through which Taiwan could contribute to global problem solving and share its expertise with partners across the region. Taiwan's frequent exclusion from international bodies has largely deprived the world of its humanitarian assistance, technical know-how, and rich experience as a democratic success story. GCTF workshops have allowed Taiwan to partner with the American Institute in Taiwan, and as of last year, the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association, to share its expertise with countries across the Indo-Pacific and around the globe.

On the fifth anniversary of the GCTF, we are proud to celebrate the many ways that this platform has addressed critical global challenges and built the capacity of government officials, private sector actors, and civil society. Together, we have provided extensive training to hundreds of participants representing dozens of countries from every region. Training has covered a diverse collection of topics, such as public health, energy security, disaster relief, law enforcement, media literacy, and women's empowerment.

To further strengthen this trilateral partnership, we will seek greater cooperation in the following areas:

- Expand the frequency, size, and scope of the GCTF workshops, including holding more events outside Taiwan;
- Expand the depth and breadth of participation from like-minded countries, including co-hosting programs;
- Establish a GCTF task force under the Department of North American Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the GCTF Secretariat;
- Establish the GCTF Alumni Network to build and expand networks and organize reunions for former GCTF participants.

We are proud of what we have accomplished over these past five years, but our work is far from finished. We look forward to continuing and expanding this partnership that has benefited so many people around the world.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

***Minister Jaushieh Joseph Wu***

American Institute in Taiwan

***Director Brent Christensen***

Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association Taipei Office

***Chief Representative Hiroyasu Izumi***

**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	Central and South America	Economics and Trade	GUATEMALA, REPUBLIC OF	DECISION NO. 15 MODIFICATION PURSUANT TO THE TARIFF TREATMENT FOR 2 PRODUCT ITEMS OF ANNEX 3.04 OF THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA	2020/01/03 2020/01/10 / 2020/04/01
2	Asia-Pacific	Agriculture, Fishery, Forestry and Animal Husbandry	AUSTRALIA, COMMON-WEALTH OF	ARRANGEMENT GOVERNING THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF ORGANIC EQUIVALENCE BETWEEN THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE IN AUSTRALIA AND THE AUSTRALIAN OFFICE IN TAIPEI	2020/01/20 2020/01/23 / 2020/01/23
3	Central and South America	Technical Cooperation	HONDURAS, REPUBLIC OF	CANJE DE NOTAS DEL CONVENIO DE COOPERACIÓN TÉCNICA ENTRE EL GOBIERNO DE LA REPÚBLICA DE CHINA (TAIWÁN) Y EL GOBIERNO DE LA REPÚBLICA DE HONDURAS	2020/02/28 2020/05/25 / 2020/05/25
4	Asia-Pacific	Legal Affairs	INDONESIA, REPUBLIC OF	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE, JAKARTA, INDONESIA AND THE INDONESIAN ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE TO TAIPEI REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF COMPETITION LAWS	2020/03/19 2020/04/23 / 2020/04/23

NO	REGION	CATEGORY	SIGNATORY	NAME OF TREATY	DATE OF SIGNATURE/ DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE
5	Central and South America	Agriculture, Fishery, Forestry and Animal Husbandry	BELIZE	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE ON THE COOPERATION IN BREEDING SHEEP AND GOAT PRODUCTION AND GUIDANCE SYSTEM ENHANCEMENT PROJECT	2020/03/26 / 2020/03/26
6	Central and South America	Information and Communication Technology	BELIZE	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE ON COOPERATION IN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) (2019-2024)	2020/04/09 / 2019/05/30
7	Asia-Pacific	Legal Affairs	INDONESIA, REPUBLIC OF	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE, JAKARTA, INDONESIA AND THE INDONESIAN ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE TO TAIPEI ON TRADE PROMOTION COOPERATION	2020/04/23 2020/05/06 / 2020/05/06
8	Europe	Anti-money Laundering	KOSOVO, REPUBLIC OF	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING DIVISION, INVESTIGATION BUREAU, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT, REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO CONCERNING COOPERATION IN THE EXCHANGE OF FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE RELATED TO MONEY LAUNDERING, ASSOCIATED PREDICATE OFFENCES AND TERRORISM FINANCING	2020/05/19 2020/06/01 / 2020/06/01



NO	REGION	CATEGORY	SIGNATORY	NAME OF TREATY	DATE OF SIGNATURE/ DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE
9	North America	Agriculture, Fishery, Forestry and Animal Husbandry	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONCERNING THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF ORGANIC EQUIVALENCE BETWEEN THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN TAIWAN	2020/06/05 / 2020/05/30
10	Asia-Pacific	Intellectual Property	KOREA, REPUBLIC OF	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE PATENT PROSECUTION HIGHWAY MOTTAINAI BETWEEN THE TAIPEI MISSION IN KOREA AND THE KOREAN MISSION IN TAIPEI (EXCHANGE OF LETTERS)	2020/06/18 2020/06/23 / 2020/06/23
11	Asia-Pacific	Agriculture, Fishery, Forestry and Animal Husbandry	APAARI	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURE (COA) TAIPEI, TAIWAN AND THE ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS (APAARI) BANGKOK, THAILAND FOR APAARI-COA COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMME ON ASIA-PACIFIC CONSORTIUM ON AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIORESOURCES (APCOAB)	2020/07/10 2020/08/11 / 2019/01/01
12	Europe	Agriculture, Fishery, Forestry and Animal Husbandry	POLAND, REPUBLIC OF	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE EXCHANGE OF LIVESTOCK TECHNOLOGY BETWEEN LIVESTOCK RESEARCH INSTITUTE, COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURE, EXECUTIVE YUAN, TAIWAN AND NATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION, POLAND	2020/07/23 2020/08/20 / 2020/08/20

NO	REGION	CATEGORY	SIGNATORY	NAME OF TREATY	DATE OF SIGNATURE/ DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE
13	Asia-Pacific	Intellectual Property	KOREA, REPUBLIC OF	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TAIPEI MISSION IN KOREA AND THE KOREAN MISSION IN TAIPEI FOR THE MUTUAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PATENT PROCEDURE	2020/08/07 2020/08/17 / 2020/08/17
14	Africa	Technical Cooperation	SOMALILAND, REPUBLIC OF	AGREEMENT ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOMALILAND	2020/08/17 / 2020/08/17
15	West Asia	Transportation	ISRAEL, STATE OF	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE IN TEL AVIV AND THE ISRAEL ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE IN TAIPEI ON THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION AND EXCHANGE OF DRIVING LICENSES	2020/08/24 / 2020/08/24
16	Central and South America	Legal Affairs	BELIZE	TREATY ON MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE	2020/09/26 2020/09/28 / 2021/7/30
17	Central and South America	Aviation and Traffic Rights	BELIZE	AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE	2020/09/28 / 2020/11/25

NO	REGION	CATEGORY	SIGNATORY	NAME OF TREATY	DATE OF SIGNATURE/ DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE
18	Asia-Pacific	Agriculture, Fishery, Forestry and Animal Husbandry	THE INTERNATIONAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE INTERNATIONAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE	2020/10/01 2020/10/27 / 2020/01/26
19	Asia-Pacific	Development Assistance Cooperation	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	2020/11/04 / 2020/11/04
20	Asia-Pacific	Energy	AUSTRALIA, COMMON-WEALTH OF	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE IN AUSTRALIA AND THE AUSTRALIAN OFFICE, TAIPEI ON COOPERATION WITHIN THE FIELDS OF ENERGY AND MINERALS	2020/11/12 / 2020/11/12
21	Europe	Judicial Affairs	SWISS CONFEDERATION	AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TAIPEI CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC DELEGATION AND THE TRADE OFFICE OF SWISS INDUSTRIES ON THE TRANSFER OF SENTENCED PERSONS	2020/11/13 2020/12/11 / 2020/12/11
22	West Asia	General	ISRAEL, STATE OF	GENERAL AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION	2020/11/25 / 2020/11/25

NO	REGION	CATEGORY	SIGNATORY	NAME OF TREATY	DATE OF SIGNATURE/ DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE
23	West Asia	Other	ISRAEL, STATE OF	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON COOPERATION IN VOLUNTEERING BETWEEN THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE IN TEL-AVIV AND THE ISRAEL ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE IN TAIPEI	2020/12/01 2020/12/25 / 2020/12/25
24	North America	Transportation	CANADA	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE IN CANADA AND THE CANADIAN TRADE OFFICE IN TAIPEI REGARDING COOPERATION IN TRANSPORTATION SAFETY	2020/12/09 2020/12/15 / 2020/12/15
25	Asia-Pacific	Customs Affairs	NEW ZEALAND	ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE IN NEW ZEALAND AND THE NEW ZEALAND COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OFFICE REGARDING THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF THE AUTHORISED ECONOMIC OPERATOR PROGRAMME IN TAIWAN AND THE SECURE EXPORTS SCHEME PROGRAMME IN NEW ZEALAND	2020/12/14 2020/12/18 / 2020/12/18

## 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
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

	Year of Accession	Acronym	Year of Accession
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
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
40.	International Cooperation on Cosmetics Regulation	ICCR	2020



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
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

	Year of Accession	Acronym	Year of Accession
21.	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	UNFCCC	2009
22.	International Consumer Protection and Enforcement Network	ICPEN	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.



