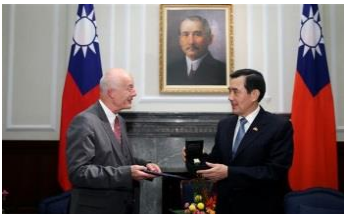




## Headline News

### ROC's new commitment to reducing carbon emissions

On 17 September, the ROC government pledged to reduce its 2030 carbon emissions by 50% under its new Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC). The target of 214 million tons is 20% lower than the 2005 level, helping bring Taiwan's total emissions in 2050 to half that of 2005. A government spokesperson said Taiwan's INDC goal underscores its commitment to meeting the standards set down by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. "It also places local industry on notice that development must be carried out with a view to minimizing emissions and eliminating this issue as a possible trade barrier."



Although it is not a contracting party of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Taiwan will continue its carbon reduction efforts, ROC President Ma Ying-jeou said, while meeting Hans Joachim Schellnhuber, founder and director of the German-based Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research.

## Economic News

### Taiwan leads seminar at APEC women's economic forum

The first-ever seminar organized by Taiwan on capacity-building for women took place on 16 September during the Asia-Pacific Economic

Cooperation (APEC) 'Women and the Economy' fora in Manila. Themed 'Empowering Women through Information Communications Technology for Inclusive Growth', the one-day event underscored Taiwan's commitment to promoting gender-balanced economic development throughout the Asia-Pacific region. The seminar is part of the 'Innovation for Women and Economic Development' project, initiated by Taiwan in collaboration with Australia, Chile, South Korea and the Philippines in May 2013.



In her opening remarks, ROC Minister without portfolio Joyce Yen Feng, said that this project is to address the huge digital gender gap. "It is important that women be encouraged to use ICT tools to build up digital capabilities, establish business networks and form corporate alliances." During the event, business managers and experts discussed women-friendly ICT applications, and laid the foundation for ongoing collaboration between the public, private and NGO sectors.

## International News

### ROC assists Asia-Pacific rural revitalization

On 14 September, Taiwan welcomed an international observation group organized by the ROC Council of Agriculture (COA). The five-day mission is comprised of 42 experts and industry professionals from 18 Asian and Pacific countries, who will study Taiwan's success in developing its rural economy, by

touring the rural communities. COA Minister Chen Bao-ji said Taiwan can make a real contribution to building prosperity and sustainability in the Asia-Pacific area, and is very pleased to host the initiative. 2,000 rural villages are already participating in a project aimed at encouraging youth to engage in agriculture through a series of incentives. "We are working to create a brighter and more prosperous future for our rural communities and believe that our example can inspire similar initiatives throughout the Asia-Pacific region."

## Local Activities

### Taiwan's tea ceramics on exhibit at International Chawan Exhibition in Belgium

For its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the International Chawan Exhibition returned to its origins in Belgium with a successful display of traditional tea cups and ceramics in the St-Bernardus Abbey in Hemiksem. This year, the exhibit focuses on Taiwan in particular, which boasts a rich tea culture, displaying the works of 19 ceramic artists from Taiwan and introducing the subtleties of its tea culture to Belgium. Other artists came from France, Denmark, Singapore and Switzerland, thereby strengthening exchanges between eastern and western ceramic art. Deputy of Antwerp Province, Rik Röttger, attended the opening as well as Deputy Representative of the Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium, Dr. Wan-li Wang.

