



### **President Tsai meets senior US delegation sent by President Biden**

On the morning of April 15, President Tsai Ing-wen met a senior delegation sent by US President Joe Biden at the Presidential Office, the first sent to Taiwan since he took office.

President Tsai noted that the delegation's visit highlights the growing partnership between Taiwan and the United States, and demonstrates US bipartisan support for Taiwan. The president expressed optimism that continued cooperation between Taiwan and the United States will strengthen our bilateral partnership and yield even more fruitful results. In her remarks, president Tsai thanked the Biden administration for reiterating on numerous occasions the importance of peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait. Tsai told the U.S. delegation that Chinese military activities in the region alter the status quo in the Indo-Pacific and threaten regional peace and stability. "Taiwan is an active contributor to the international community. We are very willing to work with like-minded countries, including the United States, to jointly safeguard the peace and stability of the Indo-Pacific region and deter aggression and provocation", she said.



In his remarks, US Senator Dodd pointed out that Taiwan and the U.S. share deep economic ties, democratic values, and a "critically important" security partnership. In this year of the 42nd anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA), U.S.-Taiwan relations are "stronger than ever," he said. The former senator emphasized that the bipartisan delegation, sent on behalf of President Joe Biden, was meant to reaffirm U.S. commitment to

the partnership and strengthen cooperation between the two sides.

"As you have so effectively demonstrated over the past year, there are many areas in which Taiwan can help—in fact, Taiwan is helping—and we look forward to working with Taiwan to advance our shared values, prosperity, and security", he added.

### **U.S. representatives introduce draft Taiwan Solidarity Act**

U.S. representatives from both parties introduced a bill on Monday (April 19) -- the Taiwan International Solidarity Act -- to step up U.S. efforts to counter Beijing's growing attempts to isolate Taiwan from international organizations. The TAIPEI Act is intended to advocate Taiwan's participation in international organizations as either a member or an observer, and to promote Taiwan's relations with the U.S., its allies and other countries around the world. The draft bill stipulates that the U.S. opposes "any initiative that seeks to change Taiwan's status without the consent of the people." It rejects Beijing's attempt to claim that Taiwan is part of China.

The United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2758 (XXVI) designates the People's Republic of China as the only lawful representative of China, but it "did not address the issue of representation of Taiwan and its people in the United Nations or any related organizations, nor did the resolution take a position on the relationship between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan or include any statement pertaining to Taiwan's sovereignty," according to the draft bill.

### **WMA votes in favor of Taiwan's participation in WHO**

The World Medical Association (WMA) on Tuesday (April 20) voted overwhelmingly in favor of Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization (WHO), despite objections from China. On Tuesday, the first day of the 217th WMA Council Session, which was held online due to

the pandemic instead of at the originally scheduled venue in Seoul, South Korea, top leaders voted on a resolution to support Taiwan's participation in the World Health Assembly (WHA) and WHO. After a period of intense debate between the Taiwan Medical Association (TMA) and Chinese Medical Doctor Association (CMDA), the motion was passed almost unanimously, with China being the sole dissenter. Cheng Shao-yi, an associate professor at National Taiwan University Hospital, used empirical data to illustrate the obstacles and difficulties Taiwan has faced by being excluded from the WHO and related mechanisms. She then called on member countries to implement the spirit of the WHO charter, asserted that political considerations should not take precedence over health. The association said that amid the ongoing pandemic, the resolution represents "the universal recognition of the international medical community that health is a basic human right and a universal principle, and should not be affected by politics."

### **Taiwan willing to share homegrown COVID vaccines with allies**

Taiwan is willing to share its homegrown coronavirus vaccines with diplomatic allies once the manufacturers secure emergency use authorization for their products, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Tuesday (April 20). During a press conference, Alexander Yui, director-general of the MOFA Department of Latin American and Caribbean Affairs, said the country would not hesitate to provide its locally developed vaccines to allies after domestic demand is met. He said using the vaccines as foreign aid would certainly be an option for the Taiwanese government, as Health Minister Chen Shih-chung had previously suggested. Yui said some allies have already contacted Taiwan about its vaccines and that the government is helping them meet the demand by engaging with other like-minded nations.