

I, and the South African Government, have enormous appreciation for the contribution that the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) has made to the commitment of the Government sector in the economic development in Africa. The ROC (Taiwan) further, made a generous and much appreciated contribution to South Africa's transition to democracy.



Statement by President Nelson Mandela—27 November 1996

MOFA Thanks Allies for Supporting Taiwan at WHA

Four diplomatic allies spoke up for Taiwan during the two-on-two debates held during the General Committee and plenary session on Day 1 of the World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA).

The people and government deeply appreciate the backing of Honduras, Kingdom of Eswatini, Marshall Islands and St. Vincent and Grenadines, the MOFA said. The support underscores the importance of Taiwan's WHA participation and how Taiwan Can Help contribute to global health security, the ministry added.

Giampaolo Carmelo Rizzo, Honduras permanent representative to the U.N. Office in Geneva, said many countries can learn from Taiwan's experience in ensuring the health and well-being of its people, providing humanitarian assistance and improving global medical care coverage.

Lizzy Nkosi, Kingdom of Eswatini minister of health, said the participation of Taiwan in the WHA as an observer is a



The strong support for Taiwan's participation in the WHO is deeply appreciated by the government and the people. (CNA)

health matter and issue of basic human rights, adding that the mandate of the World Health Organisation (WHO) to delivering Health For All will never be fulfilled if Taiwan's 23 million people are left out.

Kalani Kaneko, Marshall Islands minister of health and human services, urged the WHO to put political differences aside and place the world's interests first. Taiwan needs to be included in the WHA if the health security of all countries is to be maintained,

he said.

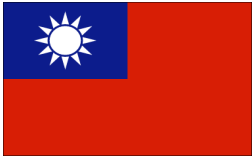
Luke Browne, St. Vincent and the Grenadines minister of health, well-being and the environment, said there is no principled basis for Taiwan's absence from the WHA, adding that its previous participation is an open acknowledgement by China of an inability to adequately represent the interests of Taiwan at the forum.

Delegates from countries such as Australia, Canada, Guatemala, Japan, Palau, Paraguay, and the U.S., also showed support for Taiwan. Among these, Alex Azar—U.S. secretary of health and human services—said his country regrets Taiwan's non-invitation, adding that its 23 million people deserve a voice just as much as everyone else.

The WHA is the annual meeting of the governing body of the WHO. Taiwan is excluded from the 72nd edition running May 20-28 in Geneva at the request of Beijing. **(Source: Taiwan Today)**



Left: Competitors strut their stuff during a promotional event for the upcoming World Dance Sport Federation Grand Slam Latin in Taipei City. (CNA). **Centre:** The 2019 ATTA Taichung International Travel Fair will take place at Taichung International Exhibition Centre from May 31 to June 3. (CNA). **Right:** Liao I-chiu, the 82-year-old prawn farming industry trailblazer from Taiwan, displays his Nikkei Asia Prizes science and technology award May 29 in Tokyo. (CNA)



Taiwan Cultural Festival

The annual Taiwan Carnival was held at the Pretoria Chinese School earlier this month. Attended by hundreds of Taiwanese nationals, together with South African locals, the event which is organised each year by the Taiwanese Association in Southern Africa, once again highlighted the rich tangible and intangible heritage and culture of Taiwan.

Representative Matthew Chou from the Taipei Liaison Office used the opportunity to explain the importance of the inclusion of Taiwan into the World Health Organisation (WHO). In his remarks he said, 'I am proud to say that Taiwan has managed to get tuberculosis (TB) under control and I am eager to urge the SA government and all the health organisations in South Africa, and especially the WHO, to allow Taiwan to share its knowledge and expertise. I am sadly aware that TB is the biggest killer in South Africa and I hope that all the people of South Africa and the world can join hands and hearts to make the world a healthier and better place for all.'

Many countries from the across the globe support Taiwan's bid for participation in the WHO and this support was evident at the Carnival as many attendees signed a petition for Taiwan's inclusion in the international organisation.

The Carnival also offered an array of mouth-watering food stalls, original Taiwanese produce and products, traditional performances and fun activities to keep the little ones busy. **(Dominique Spalovsky)**



Representative Chou delivering his remarks at the Taiwan Carnival.

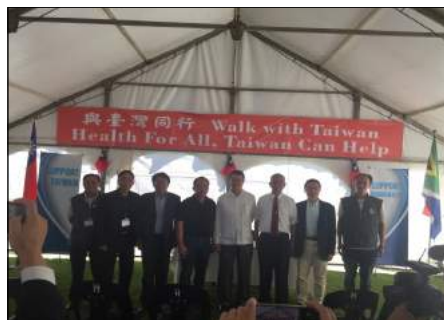


Representative Chou took time to mingle with the community.



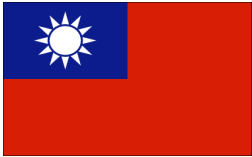
Performers at the Taiwan Carnival.

Taiwan can help South Africa and the world.



Performers at the Taiwan Carnival.

Taiwan can help South Africa and the world.



Tsai Breaks Ground on Indigenous Submarine Facility in Kaohsiung



President Tsai Ing-wen greets well-wishers before breaking ground on an indigenous submarine production facility in Kaohsiung City, southern Taiwan. (Courtesy of Presidential Office)

President Tsai Ing-wen broke ground on an indigenous submarine production facility in Kaohsiung City, southern Taiwan.

The government is beefing up national defence capabilities to safeguard cross-strait and regional peace and stability, Tsai said. Development of home-grown

weapons systems is a core component of this undertaking, she added.

According to Tsai, promoting Taiwan's defence industry also pays dividends in terms of heightened activity in related sectors. No stone will be left unturned in protecting the nation and its 23 million people, as well as creating new opportunities for local R&D talents, she said.

Given Taiwan is an island country, Tsai said, the government is working tirelessly to bolster and integrate the military's asymmetric combat capabilities.

Submarines greatly increase Taiwan's capacity in this regard, Tsai said, adding that deployment of the vessels off the north-eastern and south-western coastlines will deter hostile forces from attempting to blockade or attack the country.

At present, the ROC (Taiwan) navy operates four diesel-electric submarines. The

Haihu and Hailung were purchased from the Netherlands and commissioned in the late 1980s, while the Haipao and Haishih are former U.S. Navy boats acquired in the early 1970s.

Under an agreement concluded in March 2017 by the Ministry of National Defence, Taoyuan City-based National Chung-Shan Institute of Science and Technology and Kaohsiung-headquartered CSBC Corporation, Taiwan, the first domestically built submarine is expected to enter service within 10 years.

Tsai said as commander in chief, she will continue leading by example and ensuring Taiwan's armed forces are well-equipped and meet operational standards at all times **(Source: Taiwan Today)**

TaiwanICDF, World Farmers' Organisation Ink Cooperation Pact

Taipei City-based International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF) and Rome-headquartered World Farmers' Organisation concluded a cooperative memorandum of understanding in Luxembourg.

Signed by TaiwanICDF Secretary-General Timothy T. Y. Hsiang and WFO President Theo De Jager on the sidelines of the WFO General Assembly, the pact calls for the two sides to jointly support farmers' organisations via capacity building activities.

Under the agreement, which runs until year-end 2021, the two sides will prioritise promotional efforts utilising respective experience, know-how and skill sets. Taiwan's successful track record in advancing smart-climate agriculture and small-plot farming is expected to prove extremely beneficial.

One of the short-term objectives is strengthening farmers' engagement in



TaiwanICDF Secretary-General Timothy T. Y. Hsiang (right) and WFO President Theo De Jager are all smiles following the signing of a cooperative memorandum of understanding in Luxembourg. (Courtesy of TaiwanICDF)

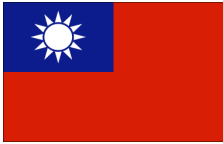
the global dialogue on agriculture and climate change. This is in line with the goal of the Farmers Driven Climate Change Agenda, an initiative launched by the WFO in late 2018 during the 24th

Conference of the Parties to the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change in Poland.

According to Hsiang, around 60 percent of the nearly 100 projects under implementation by its technical missions abroad deal with issues covered by the pact. Outstanding results achieved over many years can be shared with the WFO and its member organisations so as to better address the impact and threat of climate change, he said.

In response, De Jager praised Taiwan as a role model when it comes to the development of farmers' organisations, and said the WFO looks forward to working with TaiwanICDF across a broad spectrum of agriculture-related areas.

Established in 1996 under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, TaiwanICDF is the nation's foremost foreign assistance and cooperation organisation. **(Source: Taiwan Today)**



CPC, Japan's JERA Sign Deal to Co-Purchase LNG from Mozambique

CPC Corporation, Taiwan, is partnering with Japan's JERA Co. Inc. on a long-term agreement to procure liquefied natural gas from Mozambique, the state-run energy supplier announced.

Under the accord inked with Mozambique LNG1 Company Pte. Ltd., CPC and JERA will co-purchase 1.6 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) for a base term of 17 years from the commercial start date of the LNG project. The development in the East African country is scheduled to begin operations in 2024, according to the petrochemical firm based in southern Taiwan's Kaohsiung City.

This marks the first time that CPC and JERA have concluded a long-term co-purchase deal with an international partner, the Taiwan company said, adding that the pact underscores its commit-



LNG shipments from Mozambique are set to be added to Taiwan's energy mix under a long-term co-purchasing agreement sealed by state-run CPC and Japan's JERA. (Courtesy of CPC)

ment to diversifying the nation's overseas energy sources and ensuring the stability of domestic power supplies.

Collaboration with JERA will also strengthen Taiwan-Japan exchanges in this field, lower costs, and provide greater flexibility for both sides by facilitating LNG transfers in accordance with their respective supply needs, CPC said.

The project in Mozambique Offshore Area 1 is spearheaded by U.S.-headquartered Anadarko Petroleum Corp. It comprises the African country's first onshore LNG facilities, consisting initially of two trains, or processing sites, capable of outputting 12.88 MTPA.

Established in 1946, CPC is the leading supplier of petroleum products in Taiwan. The company recorded a market share of about 70 percent and revenues totalling NT\$896.6 billion (US\$28.8 billion) in 2017. **(Source: Taiwan Today)**

President Tsai Praises Taiwan's Improving Business Environment

President Tsai Ing-wen said that Taiwan's business environment is going from strength to strength under a host of progressive policies aimed at bolstering the fundamentals of the national economy.

The time is ripe for businesses to invest in Taiwan and take advantage of its advanced infrastructure development, comprehensive intellectual property rights protection, high-calibre human resources and world-leading industrial clusters, Tsai said.

Tsai made the remarks during the groundbreaking ceremony for an R&D facility operated by U.S.-based Super Micro Computer Inc. in Taoyuan City, northern Taiwan.

According to Tsai, the NT\$2 billion (US\$64.73 million) centre is a vote of confidence by Supermicro in Taiwan's economic outlook. It also augurs well for the success of the high-tech outfit's plans to invest an additional NT\$8 billion in Taiwan and create 2,000 quality jobs for locals, she said.



President Tsai Ing-wen outlines government efforts in bolstering the local business climate during the groundbreaking ceremony of an R&D facility established by U.S.-based Super Micro Computer Inc. April 29 in Taoyuan City, northern Taiwan. (Courtesy of Ministry of Economic Affairs)

Tsai said the government has Taiwan on the development fast track via a multi-pronged approach centred on promoting regulatory easing and industrial innovation, as well as transforming key economic structures.

At the same time, Tsai said, no effort is

being spared in cementing connections with Asia-Pacific partners so as to create a better balanced foreign trade portfolio. This will lead to more opportunities for home-grown talents in a variety of emerging industries while supporting further industrial growth, she added.

Government efforts in this regard over the past three years have earned global recognition, Tsai said, citing Taiwan's 13th ranking in the 2018 Global Competitiveness Report by Geneva-based World Economic Forum and 2019 Doing Business report by Washington-headquartered World Bank.

Equally impressive is the NT\$536.5 billion in major investment projects recorded last year, representing an annual increase of 31 percent and a new high in recent years, Tsai added.

It is hoped more foreign firms will follow the example of Supermicro, Tsai said, by capitalizing on Taiwan's pivotal position in the Asia-Pacific and robust economic climate. **(Source: Taiwan Today)**



Computex Taipei Draws Record Number of Exhibitors



A visitor tries out virtual reality technology at Computex Taipei. (Staff photo/Chin Hung-hao)

Computex Taipei is showcasing products and solutions by a record 1,685 exhibitors from 30 countries and territories, underscoring its status as the largest and most prominent information and communication technology trade show in Asia, according to co-organiser Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA).

the five-day event features 5,508 booths displaying innovations and trends in areas spanning 5G, or fifth generation, wireless technology, artificial intelligence, blockchain, extended reality, gaming and Internet of Things.

Another major highlight is InnoVEX, a communication and exhibition platform aimed at deepening exchanges among start-ups from around the world. A total of 467 accelerators and new ventures from 25 countries and territories are taking part in the forum.

Speaking at the opening of the fair, President Tsai Ing-wen said that since its launch in 1981, Computex Taipei has grown into one of the most anticipated annual events in the ICT industry. The trade show also spotlights Taiwan's crucial role in global tech manufacturing and R&D, she added.

According to Tsai, Taiwan is a major draw for ICT investment due to its highly developed infrastructure, robust intellectual property protections and deep talent pool. The nation's continued strength in the sector is evidenced by global tech giants like Microsoft Corp., Micron Technology Inc. and Super Micro Computer Inc. opening or expanding local operations, as well as the record number of overseas Taiwan firms relocating production back to the country, she said.

TAITRA Chairman James C. F. Huang said that business representatives and experts

from a range of sectors like agriculture and financing have been invited to participate in this year's exhibition. This demonstrates Taiwan's commitment to fostering digital integration and transformation throughout the economy, he added.

Also on display at the event are winners of the Computex d&i awards. Drawing 222 submissions this year, the honours recognise exceptional creativity and quality in ICT products and solutions, according to TAITRA.

The 2019 gold medal winners are an all-in-one gaming chair by Acer Inc., the world's first 7-nanometer gaming graphics processing unit by Advanced Micro Devices Inc. and a smartphone with flip camera by AsusTek Computer Inc.

Computex Taipei is considered one of the world's big three technology exhibitions alongside CeBit in Germany and the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. It is widely credited as playing a key role in building Taiwan into a strategic destination for companies and investors around the world seeking partners in the global ICT sector. **(Source: Taiwan Today)**

Microsoft DevDays Asia Software Development Event Kicks off in Taipei



MOEA Minister Shen Jong-chin (fourth left) is joined by business representatives and officials at the opening of DevDays Asia in Taipei City. (Courtesy of MOEA)

The DevDays Asia forum organised by Microsoft Taiwan kicked off in Taipei City, bringing together local and foreign experts to discuss the latest software development trends and technologies.

Sponsored by the Industrial Development

Bureau under the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA), the three-day event is aimed at deepening Taiwan's talent pool in such fields as artificial intelligence, cloud computing, data analytics and online security.

Keynote speakers include Mark Liao, director of the Institute of Information Science at Academia Sinica, and Daniel Canning, senior product marketing manager for the Microsoft Office ecosystem. More than 30 local and foreign professionals, including staffers from Microsoft's U.S. headquarters, are also sharing their expertise at over 50 workshops.

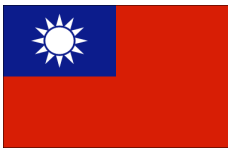
Speaking at the opening of the seminar, MOEA Minister Shen Jong-chin said that promoting AI-led industrial transformation requires a deep talent pool of skilled software developers. To ensure Taiwan remains at the forefront of key emerging sectors, the government is leaving no stone unturned in providing top-level training

opportunities for local tech professionals, he added.

According to Shen, the ministry is also working with Microsoft to foster digital transformation through such projects as AI 100. Launched April 9, the initiative aims to assist Taiwan companies in developing 100 cutting-edge AI solutions through providing expert advice and technical resources.

In his remarks, Microsoft Taiwan General Manager Ken Sun described Taiwan as a technological powerhouse with great potential in emerging sectors. Microsoft is committed to helping transform Taiwan into a regional AI talent hub, he said.

Launched in 2016, DevDays Asia spotlights cutting-edge solutions shown at Microsoft Build, the company's leading developer conference held May 6-8 in Seattle. Microsoft Taiwan is also helping organise a hackathon for local tech talents June 14. **(Source: Taiwan Today)**



Taiwan Pavilion Opens at Venice Biennale International Art Exhibition



A performer (right) watches a film with an exhibition goer during the opening of the Taiwan pavilion "3x3x6" at the 58th International Art Exhibition of the Venice Biennale. (Courtesy of Ministry of Culture)

The Taiwan pavilion at the 58th International Art Exhibition of the Venice Biennale opened, showcasing works by local talent Cheang Shu-lea that explore such themes as gender, sexuality and surveillance.

Organised by Taipei Fine Arts Museum (TFAM), the Taiwan event is running at the 17th-century Palazzo delle Prigioni prison through Nov. 24. It is titled "3x3x6" in reference to a 9-square-meter prison cell

monitored by six cameras and comprises multimedia creations by Cheang, the first female artist selected as a solo exhibitor in the nation's pavilion.

Speaking at the opening of the event, Deputy Minister of Culture Ting Hsiao-ching said that Cheang's works offer sharp insights into often-neglected issues impacting modern society. Through prompting reflection on timely topics like technological surveillance, the show demonstrates the vibrancy and openness of Taiwan's art scene, she added.

Created by Cheang in collaboration with Spanish curator Paul B. Preciado, the centerpiece of the pavilion is a multi-screen video installation displaying footage of 10 characters based on people who were imprisoned or ostracised for their gender, race or sexuality. Among the real-life figures used as inspiration for the piece are French philosopher Michel Foucault and writer Marquis de Sade.

The work also includes 10 short films on the characters, in which they are played by actors with different genders or physical

appearances than the historical people they are based on. This is aimed at challenging stereotypes, according to TFAM.

Photos of visitors—taken with their consent or uploaded via an app—are also featuring as part of the exhibition. A computer program alters the gender or race of the subjects before projecting the images onto screens, TFAM said.

The pavilion aside, five Taiwan artists are included in another show staged on the sidelines of the biennale. Works by painters Julie Hsieh, Kuo Yen-fu and Lien Chien-hsing, interior designer Sharon Tsai and sculptor Liang Ping-cheng feature in the exhibition "Personal Structures—Identities" by the European Cultural Centre in Italy.

Launched in 1895, the Venice Biennale is one of the world's most prestigious cultural events. Taiwan has participated since 1995, while the nation's pavilion has comprised solo exhibitions since 2015. **(Source: Taiwan Today)**

MOC Crafts Exhibition Deepens Cultural Exchanges with Southeast Asia



Indonesian singer-songwriter Leshia (right) performs at the opening of the Southeast Asia Aesthetics Living Exhibition at NTLAC in southern Taiwan's Tainan City. (Courtesy of MOC)

An exhibition highlighting Southeast Asian crafts kicked off at the National Tainan Living Art Centre (NTLAC) in southern Taiwan, underscoring government efforts to deepen cultural and people-to-people exchanges with the region.

Sponsored by the Ministry of Culture

(MOC), the Southeast Asia Aesthetics Living Exhibition spotlights bamboo weaving, fabric dyeing and traditional musical instruments from nations including Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam and Thailand.

Running through July 31, the show is organised under a NTLAC program aimed at fostering awareness of history and heritage from the native countries of Taiwan's new immigrant residents. Launched in 2016, the initiative is helping boost understanding and promote a friendlier society for people from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds, according to the MOC.

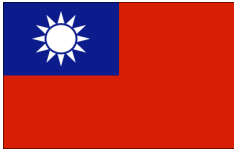
Several activities are set to be held on the sidelines of the exhibition, including workshops in fabric weaving techniques from Thailand and wax-resistant dyeing methods from Indonesia.

Taiwan troupe Puppet and Its Double will stage complimentary performances of its show "Homecoming" at NTLAC. The pro-

duction centres on the relationship between a Vietnamese caregiver and the family employing her in Taiwan.

NTLAC is also organising concerts by jazz outfit The Lights Band from Indonesia and folk rock band Young Man and the Sea from Thailand. The groups will perform in western Taiwan's Yunlin County and central Taiwan's Taichung City.

Established in 1955 as a facility promoting cultural and educational development in southern Taiwan's Tainan City, NTLAC was reconstituted as an arts centre in 2008 and came under Taichung-based National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts in 2012. NTMFA also administers living arts centres in Hsinchu City, Changhua County and Taichung County in northern, central and south-eastern Taiwan, respectively. **(Source: Taiwan Today)**



Taiwan Stages TB Prevention Workshop for Vietnam Officials



Medical professionals and public health officials from Taiwan and Vietnam take part in the TB control and prevention workshop in Taipei City. (Courtesy of CDC)

A workshop on the control and prevention of tuberculosis (TB) for health care professionals from Vietnam kicked off in Taipei City.

Organised by the Centres for Disease Control (CDC) under the Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW), the 12-day event features discussions and seminars

on topics such as clinical treatment, disease screening, and public health management and promotion.

Other activities include visits to key facilities like Taipei-based CDC Centre for Research, Diagnostics and Vaccine Development, Taipei Municipal Wanfang Hospital and MOHW Chest Hospital in Tainan City, southern Taiwan.

The workshop underscores the government's commitment to assisting Vietnam enhance disease management capabilities. It also builds upon progress achieved at the same event last year and two visits to the Southeast Asian nation for Taiwan TB control professionals in March and September 2018.

Based on the latest World Health Organisation (WHO) statistics, the CDC said more than 10 million people around the world contracted TB in 2017. A total of 60 percent reside in the Southeast Asia and West Pacific regions, with Vietnam

one of the countries identified by the WHO as having a high TB incidence rate, the CDC added.

According to the CDC, Taiwan boasts extensive experience in combating the disease via a raft of successful long-term projects. The country's TB incidence rate dropped from 73 cases per 100,000 individuals in 2005 to 39 cases in 2018.

Another valuable initiative co-organised by the CDC is the Taiwan-U.S. Global Cooperation and Training Framework workshop on drug-resistant TB. The four-day event was attended by officials and experts from nine countries in the region.

The CDC said in addition to sharing best practices and leading-edge management strategies, the workshops demonstrate how Taiwan Can Help realise the WHO's goal of ending the TB epidemic by 2035 and primary objective of Health For All. **(Source: Taiwan Today)**

Heart-warming Short Shows How Taiwan Can Help Advance Global Health

A heart-warming short showing how Taiwan Can Help change lives for the better was jointly released by Taipei City-based Noordhoff Craniofacial Foundation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA).

Titled "Plant Love," the 13-minute film documents how three medical professionals from the Vietnam National Children's Hospital are working wonders for cleft lip and palate patients by utilising the advanced training they received at the Craniofacial Centre of Chang Gung Memorial Hospital in Taoyuan City, northern Taiwan.

There is one case of cleft lip and palate in every 600 to 800 newborns in Vietnam. While many foreign medical missions visit the Southeast Asian country to perform corrective procedures, results are not optimal given minimal follow-up care, according to the foundation.



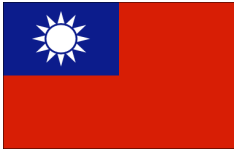
"Plant Love" highlights Taiwan's ability to advance global health and participate in the activities, mechanisms and meetings of the WHO. (Courtesy of Noordhoff Craniofacial Foundation)

To address this situation, the Vietnamese professionals underwent training in surgery, orthodontics and speech therapy. They have since become "seed doctors," and the holistic medical services they offer are making a big difference to many families, the foundation said.

According to the MOFA, in addition to showcasing Taiwan's advanced know-how, the film demonstrates the country is ready, willing and able to take part in the activities, mechanisms and meetings of the World Health Organisation while helping realise its primary objective of Health for All.

Founded in 1990 by the late Dr. Samuel Noordhoff from the U.S., the foundation has organised medical missions and performed surgeries on more than 1,900 individuals with craniofacial anomalies, as well as trained nearly 170 craniofacial specialists in 20 countries. **(Source: Taiwan Today)**

"Plant Land" can be viewed here—
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-d3mys2IBBw&feature=youtu.be>



MOC, AIT Co-Organise Documentary Screening Tour About Women Pioneers



A compilation of short documentaries from the series "Time Firsts: Women Who Are Changing the World." (Courtesy of MOC)

A screening tour for a documentary on groundbreaking women is set to kick off in Taipei City as part of Taiwan-U.S. efforts to strengthen cultural exchanges and celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA40).

Co-organised by the Ministry of Culture (MOC) and the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), the tour is showcasing a 58-minute movie comprised of selected episodes from "Time Firsts: Women Who

Are Changing the World," a short documentary series by Taiwan-American filmmaker Diane Tsai and released by U.S.-based Time magazine.

Figures profiled in the 24 works featured in the compilation include former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, LGBTQ rights advocate and TV show host Ellen DeGeneres, architect Maya Lin, astronaut Kathryn Sullivan and tennis player Serena Williams.

Following the Taipei event, the film is scheduled to be shown in southern Taiwan's Tainan and Kaohsiung cities, respectively, and the south-eastern county of Taitung.

In addition to marking TRA40 and highlighting the strong cultural and people-to-people links between Taiwan and the U.S., it is hoped that the documentary can help spur discussion on women's roles in society, the MOC said.

Following each of the screenings, Tsai will host a talk on topics spanning immigration, indigenous rights, women's em-

powerment, youth participation and the transformative power of documentaries. She will be joined by prominent Taiwan gender equality advocates such as Pecha Lo, director of the Women Make Waves Film Festival Taiwan, and Lin Fu-li, chairperson of Kaohsiung Women Awakening Association.

A graduate of North-western University, Tsai is an in-house video producer at Time. Her other works include "Time Person of the Year 2017: The Silence Breakers" about the people who came forward to report sexual misconduct and launched the #MeToo movement.

The TRA was signed into law April 10, 1979, following the switch of recognition from Taipei to Beijing by the U.S. It authorises the continuation of substantive relations between the two sides in the absence of diplomatic ties, and is an important factor in preserving Indo-Pacific peace, stability and security.

(Source: Taiwan Today)

Kaohsiung Poet Set to Star at Night of Literature in Paris



Taiwan talent Chen Yu-hong is taking part in the world-renowned Night of Literature in Paris. (Courtesy of MOC)

Taiwan writer-translator Chen Yu-hong will present 10 of her emotive and thought-provoking poems at the world-renowned Night of Literature in Paris, according to the Ministry of Culture (MOC).

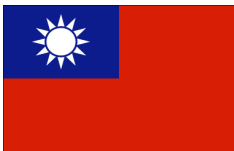
Chen is one of 17 talents selected for the seventh edition of the annual literary showcase by organiser Forum of Foreign Cultural Institutes in Paris. She will be accompanied by France-based Taiwan artist Yilin Yang and respected art, culture and history academic Marie Laureillard.

Born in southern Taiwan's Kaohsiung City, Chen started writing poems in her 50s. She has seven volumes of original works to her name, with 80 translated into French by Laureillard for an anthology released in 2018 by France-headquartered publisher Circe.

Chen is also widely credited with helping raise awareness of American poetry in Taiwan. Some of her most successful translations into Chinese include "The Great Fires" by Jack Gilbert and "The

Wild Iris" by Louise Gluck.

According to the MOC, interest in Taiwan poetry is on the rise in France due to promotional efforts by its Taiwan Cultural Centre in Paris. One of the most successful involves securing a commitment by Circe to publish three local works per year. ***(Source: Taiwan Today)***



Taipei Wins Best Asian Leisure Destination at US Travel Awards for 2nd Year in a Row



Brad Shih (left), an official in the Travel Section of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Los Angeles, gives the thumbs-up to recognition for Taipei City as Best Leisure Destination in Asia alongside Global Magazine publisher and CEO Francis Gallagher at the Leisure Lifestyle Awards in the U.S. (Courtesy of Tourism Bureau)

Taipei City was named Best Leisure Destination in Asia at the Leisure Lifestyle Awards in the U.S., marking the second consecutive year it has claimed the honour at the event organised by Los Angeles-based magazine Global Traveller.

In the reader survey, Taipei topped Seoul and Singapore in second and third, respectively. The top five was rounded out by Tokyo in fourth and Phuket, Thailand, in fifth.

Taiwan also registered success in the Best International Adventure Destination category, ranking second overall behind Thailand and ahead of India, South Africa and New Zealand, in that order.

The nation's main gateway similarly garnered recognition, placing fourth globally in Best Airport for Layovers. Zurich Airport claimed the No. 1 spot ahead of Singapore's Changi Airport and Qatar's Hamad International Airport, with Mu-

nich Airport in fifth.

Brad Shih, an official in the Travel Section of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Los Angeles, said that Taipei's success at the event demonstrates the city is garnering growing international recognition as a top-class visitor destination.

According to Global Traveller, a magazine geared toward business travellers, the winners were chosen via qualified ballots cast by readers from Oct. 1, 2018, to Jan. 31. **(Source: Taiwan Today)**

Taiwan Improves 2 Spots to 3rd in Mastercard's Muslim-Friendly Travel Destination

Taiwan moved up two spots to third among non-Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) destinations in the recently released Mastercard-Crescent Rating Global Muslim Travel Index 2019.

Sitting equal with Japan and the U.K. in the top 10, Taiwan is seen as one of the region's Muslim-friendly stars largely due to government efforts aimed at raising the country's tourism profile. The result is Taiwan's best to date in the non-OIC segment of the annual survey comprising a total 130 destinations.

According to the Tourism Bureau under the Ministry of Transportation and Communications, an important reason for the country's improvement is the launch in March of the Taiwan Tourism Information Centre in the Indonesian capital Jakarta.

The centre is successfully promoting Taiwan as a world-class tourism destination in Indonesia, the bureau said, adding



Landmark Taipei 101 is a magnet for tourists from leading Muslim travel market countries in the Asia-Pacific. (MOFA)

that greater effort and resources will be dedicated to cementing regional connections and cultivating opportunities in the lucrative Muslim travel market.

Another function of the centre, the bu-

reau said, is to provide Indonesian airlines, tourism operators and media outlets with the support required to deliver high-quality travel products and timely information to consumers.

As the centre grows in size and stature, it is expected to play a bigger role in advancing Taiwan-Indonesia relations and deepening friendship between the countries, the bureau added. **(Source: Taiwan Today)**



Badminton Star Tai Tzu-ying Sets Record for Most Total Weeks as World No. 1



Taiwan's Tai Tzu-ying sets a record for most weeks atop the women's singles rankings, according to the BWF. (Staff photo/Chuang Kung-ju)

Taiwan star Tai Tzu-ying set a new record for most accumulated weeks as women's singles world No. 1, according to the latest Badminton World Federation (BWF) rankings released.

Tai has held the top spot for a total of 125 weeks, besting by one the mark she

previously shared with China's Li Xuerui. The Taiwan athlete has headed the women's singles rankings for all but one week since first capturing the crown Dec. 1, 2016.

According to the BWF, Tai's points total stands at 95,667, almost 6,900 ahead of second-placed Nozomi Okuhara of Japan and about 7,700 in front of China's Chen Yufei in third.

Given this healthy lead in the rankings, Tai is expected to remain in first position for the near future. Next up for the 24-year-old is the BWF Sudirman Cup May 19-26 in China.

Tai enjoyed a stellar 2018 season, claiming eight tournament victories including the All England Open, Indonesian Open and Taiwan's first-ever badminton gold at the Asian Games.

In March, the Taiwan star bagged her first championship of 2019 at the Malaysia Open, marking her third consecutive triumph at the event. She followed this up by winning the Singapore Open in early April.

Born in southern Taiwan's Kaohsiung City, Tai became the country's youngest ever top-ranked player at age 16. She is the first Taiwanese to win the women's singles titles at prestigious competitions like the All England Open, Badminton Asia Championships and French Open. **(Source: Taiwan Today)**

Taiwan Recurve Women's Team Win Gold at Archery World Cup



Tan Ya-ting, (right), Lei Chien-ying (left) and Peng Chia-mao (centre). Image taken from Archery World Cup in Turkey Live Stream

Taiwan's recurve women's team won their first gold medal at the Archery World Cup in Turkey, defeating Mexico 5-1, in the third stage of the international circuit.

In the championship round Sunday morning, Tan Ya-ting, Lei Chien-ying and Peng Chia-mao faced off against Alejandra Valencia, Aida Roman and Mariana Avitia of Mexico.

The Taiwanese women scored 9, 8 and 7 with their first shots, which put them on the brink of losing, but they recovered to shoot three 10's in the next round and earn 2 points in the first set.

In the second set, both teams got 1 point and were tied at a score of 56, which gave Taiwan a 3-1 advantage going into the third set, and the team went on to win 5-1.

The tournament is considered the last warm-up for the Taiwan team going into the World Championships in the Netherlands in June, which is a qualifying event for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Taiwan's recurve men and women's teams can secure a place in Tokyo if they finish among the top eight in Den Bosch, Netherlands.

Both teams appear in good shape based on the results of recent competitions.

Taiwan's recurve women team won a bronze medal at the 2019 Archery World

Cup Stage 2 in Shanghai earlier this year, while the men's team finished among the top eight in both Shanghai and Antalya.

The third stage of the 2019 Archery World Cup is being held May 20-26 in the coastal city of Antalya. **(Source: Focus Taiwan)**