

President Tsai welcomes President Giammattei of Guatemala

President Tsai Ing-wen received Guatemala President Alejandro Eduardo Giammattei Falla at the Presidential Office April 25 in Taipei City and pledged to continue deepening ties with the Central American ally.



In response, Giammattei said it is a great honor to come to Taiwan to enhance the bilateral relationship and expand exchanges in areas such as politics, economy and culture.

Tsai first welcomed Giammattei with a full military salute before conferring on him the Order of Brilliant Jade with Grand Cordon and hosting a state luncheon in his honor. The leaders later discussed matters of mutual interest, joined by Vice President Lai Ching-te and Foreign Minister Jaushieh Joseph Wu.

The president praised the hospitality extended to her and her delegation during her visit to Guatemala earlier this month, and added that Giammattei's support is sincerely appreciated by the government and people of Taiwan. According to Tsai, Taiwan and Guatemala are robust partners that have enjoyed steady

expanding trade and economic ties since she first took office in 2016.

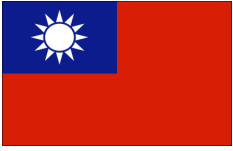
Coffee received particular mention, as Guatemala is the fourth leading supplier of coffee to Taiwan. The president said that both countries regularly stage campaigns to promote the product in Taiwan, including one that she and Giammattei will attend together during his visit.

Tsai also took the opportunity to thank Giammattei for advocating for Taiwan on the international stage since he took office in 2020. Continued cooperation between both governments will benefit the people of both countries, she added.

The allies formed a strong bond when their diplomatic relations began in 1934, Giammattei said. Guatemala's friendship and support for Taiwan will never change, he added, saying that his country will always stand with Taiwan.

Giammattei urged Tsai to continue to demonstrate Taiwan's economic and social progress to the world so the country can serve as a role model when it comes to upholding democratic values. He also called for full U.N. membership and full participation for Taiwan.

In observance of the Workers' Day, the Taipei Liaison office will be closed on Monday, May 1, 2023. In case of an emergency, please call 082-802-9380.



President Tsai receives AIT chair Rosenberger



President Tsai Ing-wen said that Taiwan is committed to engaging in wide-ranging dialogue to strengthen bilateral cooperation with the U.S. while providing even more opportunities for businesses from both countries.

Tsai made the remarks April 19 while receiving American Institute in Taiwan Chair Laura Rosenberger at the Presidential Office in Taipei City.

The U.S. is a staunch partner that

firmly supports Taiwan’s efforts to bolster its self-defense capabilities, Tsai said. She cited as evidence the Biden administration’s frequent reaffirmation of the Taiwan Relations Act and Six Assurances as well as its nine rounds of military sales to Taiwan.

According to Tsai, the two countries enjoy close collaboration in areas including culture and education. Taiwan will also continue to work tirelessly to create a friendlier economic environment to better welcome more U.S. corporate investment, she said.

Tsai also expressed her confidence that the Taiwan-U.S. Initiative on 21st-Century Trade and the signing of an agreement on the avoidance of double taxation will help boost the

two-way economic ties and foster further growth and prosperity.

In her response, Rosenberger said the visit is her first trip to Taiwan since 2017 and her first as AIT chair. She added that she looks forward to meeting other officials and leaders from Taiwan’s business community, civil society and political parties to get a fuller understanding of its vibrant democracy.

Taiwan is a valued friend and important trade partner of the U.S., as well as a force for good in the world, the chair said. Taiwan is critical in maintaining peace and stability, she added, expressing further her hopes that the bilateral partnership will continue to be deepened going forward.

U.S. Virginia State Gov. Youngkin received by President

President Tsai Ing-wen said that the government welcomes the U.S. State of Virginia to establish a trade office in Taiwan and will continue to diversify cooperation going forward.

Tsai made the remarks April 24 while receiving Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin and his delegation at the Presidential Office in Taipei City.

According to Tsai, the state’s support is evidenced by a resolution passed by its House of Delegates in February backing Taiwan’s international participation and is deeply appreciated by the government and people. Taiwan was Virginia’s fifth-largest source of imports and fourth-largest export market in Asia last year, Tsai said, adding that Virginia’s General Assembly has greenlit a proposal to conduct an analysis into setting up



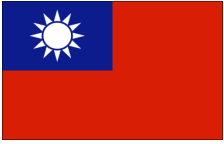
a trade office in Taiwan.

Taiwan has long enjoyed collaboration with Virginia in areas spanning culture and education, Tsai said, citing a second extension of a relevant memorandum of understanding signed last August to promote Mandarin and English language learning.

Tsai added that the visit will further strengthen exchanges in academia and education and raise industrial and technological cooperation.

In response, Youngkin said he is honored to sign the proposal for the trade office which will build on the strong relationship already forged between the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the U.S. and Virginia’s Taiwan friendship caucus. He added that the office will assist in continuing the outstanding trade figures on both sides last year and increase the volume of goods into and out of the state.

Taiwan’s manufacturing expertise has made a mark on companies in Virginia and the state is uniquely positioned to attract semiconductor manufacturers to the U.S. Youngkin said, adding that Virginia is committed to working with Taiwan to strengthen bilateral supply chains and bring prosperity and opportunity to citizens of both sides.



MOFA thanks UK Foreign Secretary Cleverly for statement supporting cross-strait peace

The address delivered April 25 by U.K. Foreign Secretary James Cleverly in which he called for peaceful resolution of cross-strait differences is sincerely welcomed by the government and people of Taiwan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.

In his annual keynote speech on the country's foreign policy at the Lord Mayor's Easter Banquet held at Mansion House in London, Cleverly urged that neither side of the Taiwan Strait take unilateral action to change the status quo.

According to Cleverly, about half of the world's container ships pass through the vital waterway every year. Taiwan is a thriving democracy and a crucial link in global supply chains, particularly for advanced

semiconductors, he added.

He cautioned that a war across the strait would not only be a human tragedy but also destroy world trade, adding that no country could shield itself from the repercussions.

The MOFA said Cleverly's remarks follow similar stances expressed in the Feb. 2 joint statement of the Australia-U.K. Ministerial Consultations, the Integrated Review Refresh 2023 issued March 13 by the British government and Cleverly's April 18 interview with *The Guardian*.

The sentiments demonstrate the U.K.'s unwavering support and highlight the strong consensus among members of the democratic world that cross-strait peace is key to a free



and open Indo-Pacific, the ministry said.

As a responsible member of the international community, Taiwan will continue to work with like-minded partners including the U.K. to enhance democratic resilience and expand cooperation and exchanges across the board to ensure peace, stability, prosperity and sustainability in the region and beyond, the MOFA added.

MOFA thanks St. Vincent and the Grenadines for release supporting Taiwan



The press release issued April 13 by St. Vincent and the Grenadines' Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade calling for cross-strait peace is sincerely appreciated by the government and people, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.

Released following China's recent military exercises in airspace and waters near Taiwan, the document ex-

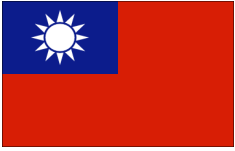
pressed the Caribbean ally's distress at maneuvers threatening Taiwan and undermining peace and security in Asia and around the world.

According to the release, coercive measures, threats and bullying have no place in modern relations between nation-states or territories. Such imperial or hegemonic behavior is abhorrent and contrary to the precepts of the U.N. charter, it said, urging mature diplomacy and constructive engagement as the pathways for peace and prosperity in the Taiwan Strait and beyond.

The MOFA said the statement reaffirmed the rock-solid ties between the two countries. It followed the visit of SVG Prime Minister Ralph

Gonsalves to Taiwan last August, which occurred shortly after Beijing launched large-scale live-fire drills in response to U.S. House of Representatives then-Speaker Nancy Pelosi's trip to the country, the ministry added.

Since Taiwan and SVG established official ties in 1981, bilateral collaboration has spanned such fields as agriculture, education, infrastructure, information and communications technology, public health, medical care and women's empowerment, the MOFA said, adding that the government will continue to work with allies and like-minded partners to maintain the cross-strait and regional status quo.



MOFA thanks G7 foreign ministers for their support of cross-strait peace

The communique issued by the Group of Seven foreign ministers reaffirming the importance of peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait is sincerely welcomed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In a statement following their meeting April 16-18 in Karuizawa, Japan, the G7 foreign ministers called for peaceful resolution of cross-strait issues, the MOFA said. They support Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations, including the World Health Assembly and WHO technical meetings.

According to the MOFA, the ministers also reiterated the importance of a free and open Indo-Pacific and were seriously concerned about the situation in the East and South China Seas. They

strongly oppose any unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion.

The statement reminded China of the need to uphold the purposes and principles of the U.N. Charter and abstain from threats, coercion, intimidation or the use of force. Such unwavering support is greatly appreciated by the government and people, the MOFA added.

The MOFA pointed out that Beijing responded to the statement with its usual ploy of distorting facts and falsely claiming Taiwan is an inseparable part of China. The MOFA strongly protested the assertion and said that only the people of Taiwan can decide their future.

The MOFA said Taiwan and China are not subordinate to each other. This is a long-standing fact and is the current cross-strait status quo.

As a responsible member of the Indo-Pacific, Taiwan will continue to work with like-minded partners such as the G7 countries to safeguard the universal values of freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law, as well as promote prosperity and stability around the world, the ministry said.



MOFA thanks Canada, New Zealand parliaments for support of Taiwan

The recent pronouncements adopted by the parliaments of Canada and New Zealand showing strong support for Taiwan are sincerely appreciated by the government and people, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.

In its special report "Canada and Taiwan: A Strong Relationship in Turbulent Times" released March 30, the Canadian House of Commons analyzed the current state of affairs of its engagement, trade and investment with Taiwan, as well as peace and security in the Indo-Pacific region.

In response to the North American country's Indo-Pacific strategy, the report proposed recommendations to expand bilateral ties in areas spanning foreign affairs, in-

igenous affairs, security, technology and trade and economy. The report concluded that enhanced engagement with Taiwan is important in the face of China's increased aggression.

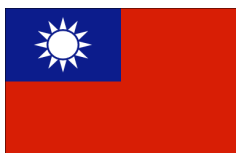
The MOFA said the report underscored the importance the Canadian parliament attaches to cross-strait security and its intention to bolster cooperation with Taiwan. The government will continue to work with Canada to ensure peace, stability and prosperity in the region, it added.

Recently an All-Party Parliamentary Group on Taiwan was launched by 22 New Zealand parliamentarians to support Taiwan and Indo-Pacific security and stability through deeper bilateral re-

lations including economic and trade exchanges.

In a pre-recorded message, Foreign Minister Jaushieh Joseph Wu said the launch of the APPG marked an important milestone in two-way ties and held special significance since it coincided with the 10th anniversary of the Taiwan-New Zealand economic cooperation agreement.

Minister Wu also called on the New Zealand Parliament to support Taiwan's bid for membership of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership to deepen bilateral exchanges across the board.



A beautiful and generous donation by Taiwan Migrants Community Uplifting Programme to Pretoria Technical High School

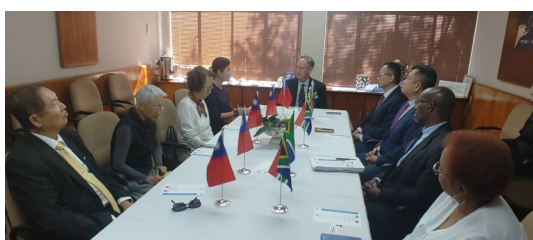
Taipei Liaison Office was proud to have facilitated and invited to a donation ceremony, hosted by Pretoria Technical High School (PTHS), and sponsored by Taiwan Migrants Community Uplifting Programme

(TMCUP).

The donation was to assist the school to establish their digital capabilities to connect and interact with foreign schools and counterparts, with the amount totaling to Rand 105,000.00, plus an additional donation of a large TV set for in-class education purposes. Delegates from TMCUP including Sherry Chen, CEO, Ruby Lui, Director, Vincent



Lin, Director, Eve CY Chang, CFO, official from Department of Education - IDSO; Tshwane South Office and our office were invited to witness and participate in the recemony.



A great reunion with good friends from SAMA

Taipei Liaison Office was proud to be invited to a dinner with good friends from SAMA, the South African Medical Association.

The dinner was hosted by Vice-Chairperson Dr. Edward Ngwenya, along with CEO Dr. Vusumuzi Nhlapho and Special Assistant Ms. Fanisa Nissy. Very glad to see our friendship going from strength to strength.



Great engagement with new and old friends of DENOSA

Taipei Liaison Office met with Gen-

eral Secretary Mr. Kwena Manamela and Deputy General Secretary Mr. Sodidi Khaya of the Democratic Nursing Organisation of South Africa, DENOSA.

uniforms guided by Mr. Kwena Manamela was eye catching. What a rich history!



The meeting was meaningful with more workshops and projects on the way. We shall keep the momentum going.



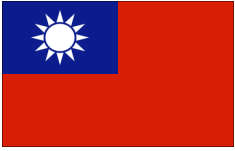
eral Secretary Mr. Kwena Manamela

PS: A tour of the organization and collections of the nurse

Karate Fighting !

Representative Oliver Liao, on behalf of the Taiwan government, generously donated 50,000 Rands to the "Kyokushin Karate Organization of South Africa" on April 25. The president of the organization, Sydney Zilimbola, received the donation. This donation will not only support sports activities but also hopes to reduce the crime rate in the local community by providing karate training for talented youth. Additionally, Representative Liao wished the Kyokushin Karate athletes all the best in their upcoming national tournament, hoping for a very successful performance.





President Tsai receives Marshall Islands Foreign Affairs and Trade Minister

President Tsai said April 13 that Taiwan is committed to supporting the Marshall Islands on the international stage and cooperating with the Pacific ally to strengthen the resilience of global democracy and make greater contributions to the Indo-Pacific.

Tsai made the remarks while receiving a delegation led by the Marshall Islands Foreign Affairs and Trade Minister Kitlang Kabua. The group, which arrived April 12, also includes Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade Anjanette Kattil.

Taiwan and the Marshall Islands have deepened collaboration in agriculture, education and health care, Tsai said. She cited as evidence the Taiwan-Marshall Islands Adaptation and Contingency Fund for Climate Change set up last March, as well as a community farm established last May on the Marshallese island of Ebeby by Taiwan's technical

mission and the ally's government, she said.

The president also took the opportunity to thank Kabua and the Marshallese government for supporting Taiwan's participation in international organizations and speaking up for the country at global occasions such as the U.N. General Assembly and the World Health Assembly.

In response, Kabua said Taiwan is an important friend and ally of the Marshall Islands. Based on the shared values of democracy and respect for human rights, the bilateral relationship has grown stronger since the two sides established official ties in 1998, she added.

The Marshall Islands will continue to back Taiwan's bid to join the U.N. and other international organizations, Kabua said, praising Tsai's steadfast leadership in preserving democratic values in the



face of external intimidation, which she strongly condemned for compromising regional and global peace and security.

Following the meeting, Foreign Minister Jaushieh Joseph Wu and Kabua signed an agreement on diplomatic personnel training and cooperation, as well as a memorandum of understanding on funding climate change mitigation efforts at the MOFA headquarters in Taipei City. The Marshall Islands' minister and her delegation then attended a banquet hosted by Wu.

President Tsai meets Taiwan allies' permanent representatives to the UN and Taiwanese chef and illustrators at the TECO in New York



On the afternoon of March 30 local time (early morning of March 31 Taipei time), President Tsai Ing-wen, on transit through the United States, met the Taiwan allies' permanent representatives to the United Nations (UN) at the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in New York, and interacted with Taiwanese-American Liya Chu (朱如茵), the winner of MasterChef Junior (American season 8), and A ee mi (張雅晴) and Saitemiss (鍾逸婷), two Taiwanese illustrators who will participate in the 2023 MoCCA Arts Fest.

In remarks, President Tsai expressed her

honor at meeting the representatives and reaffirmed our commitment to deepening these valued friendships. She thanked our diplomatic allies for speaking up for Taiwan at several international venues, and added that the people and government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) truly appreciate their continued support as we work to expand our international participation.

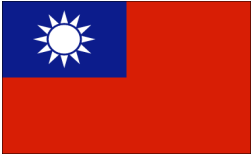
President Tsai said that while we look forward to continuing our cooperation, we will also surely meet many challenges in the future, but expressed that she is confident that standing united behind our values, we can achieve our goals. She ended her remarks with a toast to shared growth and prosperity and to strengthening our friendships and future together.

During the event, young chef Liya presented the president with a desert of sweet glass rice dumplings (the term in Mandarin being homophonous with "fortunate connections") arranged in the

shape of Taiwan, along with a flower arrangement that spelled out "team Taiwan" (the phrase in Mandarin being homophonous with "support Taiwan").

Illustrators A ee mi and Saitemiss presented to the president some of the works they will display at the MoCCA Arts Fest, including the comic book Platonic Love by A ee mi that depicts the free and open atmosphere of today's Taiwanese society, and the works of Saitemiss that often portray themes of romantic love in soft pastel colors, while mixing Eastern forms with Western sentiments. By taking part in the arts festival, these two illustrators hope to show people in the US the creativity of girls from Taiwan.

Also in attendance at the event were Representatives and Permanent Representatives to the UN of the Marshall Islands and other countries, and American Institute in Taiwan Chairperson Laura Rosenberger.



President Tsai and President Alejandro Giammattei of Republic of Guatemala visit RAC Electric Vehicles



On the morning of April 26, President Tsai Ing-wen accompanied President Alejandro Eduardo Giammattei Falla of the Republic of Guatemala on a visit to the RAC Electric Vehicles factory at the Port of Taichung to learn more about the development of Taiwan's electric vehicle industry. In remarks, President Tsai expressed hope that Taiwan and Guatemala will continue to bolster cooperation and expand the international market for Taiwan's electric vehicle industry. The president said that Taiwan is willing to continue sharing the experience and technologies of its electric vehicle industry, and to work together with Guatemala toward the goal of a global transition to net-zero emissions.

Upon arrival, President Tsai and President Giammattei took in a presentation on RAC Electric Vehicles by company Chairman Kim Tsai (蔡裕慶), before touring the factory and viewing an electric bus in order to learn more about the industry.

A translation of President Tsai's remarks follows:

When I visited Guatemala a few weeks ago, President Giammattei told us that his country had passed a law promoting electric vehicles just last year and would very much welcome Taiwanese electric vehicle manufacturers to invest in Guatemala. That is why I have invited President Giammattei to join me in learning more about the development of the electric vehicle industry in Taiwan.

RAC Electric Vehicles, which we are visiting today, set a benchmark for innovation in the electric vehicle industry with

its one-stop service. In addition to electric vehicles, the company provides energy storage systems, smart charge scheduling, and electric bus station construction services, showing its excellence in both software and hardware. A formidable company like RAC Electric Vehicles has naturally had an international presence for some time already, with operations in Japan.

Guatemala already has electric buses from Taiwan in trial operation. I believe that as we continue to bolster our cooperation, we will be able to develop a bigger international market for Taiwan's electric vehicle industry. We hope that as we work to implement energy transformation and promote green transportation, we can also spur the upgrading and development of industry, creating new job opportunities.

We hope this visit will benefit the development of Guatemala's green transportation. We are very happy to continue sharing the experience and technologies of our electric vehicle industry, and to work together with Guatemala toward the goal of a global transition to net-zero emissions.

President Giammattei also delivered remarks, thanking President Tsai for inviting him to visit the RAC Electric Vehicles factory at the Port of Taichung and noting that this government-approved facility is where Taiwan's first domestically made electric bus was produced. The president expressed his belief that the future of the planet depends on investments such as this, which give urban residents a more environmentally and ecologically friendly transportation option, helping reduce carbon emissions and fight against climate change.

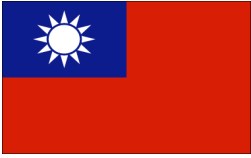
President Giammattei pointed out that Guatemala has been ranked as a highly resilient economy in Central America, and that post-pandemic its economy has been the most stable and the fastest to recover in the region, leading to it being named as one of the countries in the region with a very good investment cli-

mate. He added that Guatemala is initiating a series of policies to attract foreign direct investment, including the provision of tax breaks, free trade zones, and outstanding talent.

The president stated that as the first country in Latin America to pass legislation promoting the development of electric vehicles, Guatemala can produce and purchase electric vehicles without a tax burden. Noting that there are not many countries with these kinds of tax exemptions and laws, the president said he believes this legal framework and favorable investment climate can help companies working to promote electric vehicles and green energy to provide Guatemalan consumers with a more environmentally friendly option.

As it is advantageously located near the considerable market of the North American Free Trade Agreement countries – Canada, the United States, and Mexico – President Giammattei said that Guatemala is suited to provide nearshoring options. He added that with the free trade agreement signed between Central American countries and the US, Central American exports to the US have the benefit of being duty free. President Giammattei said that Guatemala's doors are open to all manufacturers and that it provides many benefits for them. He also invited companies to work with Guatemala to help realize the economic transformation, social development, and prosperity of his country.

President Giammattei commended Taiwan and Taiwanese enterprises for their vision of an innovative and environmentally friendly industry. He then expressed his confidence that the friendship, cooperation, steadfast alliance, and close economic and academic ties between Guatemala and the Republic of China (Taiwan) will give rise to even more innovative, excellent, and mutually beneficial investment opportunities. The president closed by inviting RAC Electric Vehicles to set up a facility in Guatemala or to use Guatemala as a base for its Latin American operations.



Taiwan’s Presidential Office resumes sleepover program

“Spend A Night at Taiwan’s Presidential Office Building,” a contest that offers international visitors the opportunity to experience Taiwan’s historic Presidential Office Building firsthand, was relaunched April 21 in Taipei City.

Organized by the PO, Taipei-based General Association of Chinese Culture, Ministries of Culture and Foreign Affairs and other organizations like the Ministry of Transportation and Communications’ Tourism Bureau, the sleepover program gives winners a unique view of the country’s friendliness, freedom, democracy and diversity.

Secretary-General to the President Lin Chia-lung said at a news conference that the building is both a landmark and a symbol of the country’s

highest office. The program will further enhance foreigners’ understanding of the office as an approachable seat of government rather than a remote authority, he added.

According to Lin, the initial event in 2019 led to enthusiastic online discussion. After the pandemic, the country now stands ready to welcome tourists from around the world, he said, adding that he anticipated the program will make Taiwan a desirable first stop for post-pandemic sightseeing.

Interested individuals who are at least 20 years old and not ROC (Taiwan) citizens can enter to win until June 30 by responding to questions about what attracts them to Taiwan and creating a short self-introduction video explaining how



they would share information about the country if they won. Ten winners will be announced in August and invited to stay overnight in the Lixing Building, a two-story guardhouse adjacent to the PO Building that boasts spectacular, up-close views of the century-old edifice.

Guests will also take part in a customized itinerary prepared by GACC with travel themes including aerospace technology, railway travel, Hakka culture and wartime art.

Tsai presides over launch of New Taima ferry from Keelung to Matsu



President Tsai Ing-wen presided over the launch ceremony of New Taima, a ferry providing services between Taiwan’s main island and outlying Lienchiang County, April 16 in the northern port city of Keelung, according to the Presidential Office.

The ship’s maiden voyage marks an important milestone in strengthening transportation links between Taiwan

and the Matsu archipelago, Tsai said, adding that the achievement can be attributed to the hard work of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications and Lienchiang County Government.

According to Tsai, the service is expected to increase the number of tourists traveling to Matsu to experience its military past and present and augment the local tourism sector. New Taima will also help boost interest in Keelung’s sightseeing activities and the country’s island-hopping trips, she added.

The government will continue to implement infrastructure projects aimed at enhancing convenience and quality of life for residents of the outlying county while promoting the archipelago’s attractions for visitors, Tsai said.

The New Taima’s NT\$1.14 billion (US\$37 million) procurement plan was approved by the Executive Yuan in 2019. The vessel can carry 642 passengers, 45 passenger vehicles and four 20-foot freezers, according to the MOTC.