







TAEF BRIEF

September 13, 2021 No. 76

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TAEF UPDATES

Creating a New Era of the New Southbound Policy in the Post-Pandemic World



September 27, 2021

On the occasion of the fifth year of the New Southbound Policy and the celebration of our third anniversary, Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation organized a forum to discuss new directions of the New Southbound Policy in the post-pandemic world, in which the Indo-Pacific has become one of the key areas in the international scene. Core executors of the policy were invited to this dialogue moderated by Ms. Jing-Wen Zou, the editor-in-chief of the Liberty Times, to share their visions.

Minister Without Portfolio John Deng, in charge of Taiwan's trade negotiation, underlined the necessity of further exchanges in education with the 18 New Southbound Policy countries, which will not only respond to the regional industries' needs in young talents but also mitigate the demographic challenge that Taiwan is facing due to its declining birthrate.

TAEF Chairman Dr. Michael Hsiao added that voices from the private sector should be heard. The public-private partnership will enhance further developments of the New Southbound Policy.

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Taiwan Launched Asian Dialogue Series, Calling for Building Resilience through Social Innovation



September 4, 2021

The Taiwan Asia Exchange Foundation (TAEF) held a virtual dialogue themed: "2021 Asian Dialogue Series: Building Resilient Cities through Social Innovation" on September 4^{th} in association with Impact Hub Taipei. The forum was established for the

purpose of gathering experts and stakeholders from the public and private sector in Taiwan and around the Asia Pacific Region, to reimagine the development of a resilient society together.

The Asian Dialogue Series invited participants and representatives of diverse industries, governments, academics, media, international non-governmental organizations, and startups. Speakers from Taiwan and 6 other Southeast Asia and South Asia countries (including Vietnam, Singapore, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, and Thailand) discussed the prospect of regional cooperation and building a more resilient city during and after the pandemic.

Mayor of Taoyuan Cheng Wen-tsan (鄭文燦) shared in his keynote speech that as Taiwan's gateway city, Taoyuan faces both challenges of imported cases abroad and domestic transmissions of COVID-19. Therefore, how we revitalize the economy and promote sustainability remains key in their city governance.

Live streaming videos of the forum:

- The morning session on environmental sustainability
- The afternoon session on youth employment and human rights of migrant workers

Master Class of the TFCF International Film Festival "Let's Live Together"



August 29, 2021

Beginning in early June this year, TFCF International Film Festival "LET'S LIVE TOGETHER" came to an end on August 29th by organizing a Master Class entitled "Unbalanced World".

Invited to address his welcome speech at this event, TAEF Chairman Dr. Michael Hsiao expressed on behalf of the foundation his appreciation for being one of the coorganizers of the film festival, which allowed all of us to think about the role that Taiwan could play in the actions of international development and aid.

Other invited speakers to the event included Mr. Li-Chou Yang, a Golden-Horse-Award winner filmmaker, and Dr. Shao-Hua Liu, the research fellow from the Institute of Ethnology, Academia Sinica, who shared their observations on the world and action practices.

Live streaming video of the event

CONSORTIUM UPDATES

Prospect Foundation

MOFA, Prospect Foundation Successfully Hold Ketagalan Forum – 2021 Asia-Pacific Security Dialogue



August 31, 2021

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and the Prospect Foundation held the Ketagalan Forum—2021 Asia-Pacific Security Dialogue on August 31. The forum, this year conducted online due to the COVID-19 pandemic, saw political figures, scholars, and experts from various nations engage in an in-depth discussion on a range of security issues in the post-pandemic era, including Taiwan Strait developments, the prospects for the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD), gray zone coercion, and the building of trusted supply chains.

In her prerecorded opening address to the forum, President Tsai Ing-wen pointed out that with authoritarian regimes' increased assertiveness in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, Taiwan can become a key force in the advancement of regional peace and

prosperity as democracies seek to defend their shared values and systems. President Tsai emphasized that with the revival of QUAD and implantation of the EU-Asia Connectivity Strategy, Taiwan is well-positioned to serve as an indispensable partner in such areas as democratic renewal, renewable energy, and the semiconductor industry.

Ambassador Kelly Craft, former the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations and keynote speaker at the forum, expressed her personal friendship and support for Taiwan. She said that the Biden administration, as with the Trump administration before it, attaches great importance to Taiwan and that during her tenure as Permanent Representative to the UN, she had worked to prevent the UN's systemic discrimination of democratic Taiwan.

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NEW SOUTHBOUND POLICY NEWS

Business Korea

Economic Cooperation Committee Meeting Held by South Korea and Taiwan

September 7, 2021

The Federation of Korean Industries and the Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association held the 45th Korea-Taiwan Economic Cooperation Committee Meeting on Sept. 7 to discuss cooperation in the fields of semiconductor, smart city, biotech, healthcare, etc.

At the meeting, the federation appointed Kyungbang chairman Kim Joon as the South Korean head of the committee. He proposed the conclusion of investment guarantee and double taxation avoidance agreements and both countries' simultaneous accession to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership for further economic cooperation.

"South Korea and Taiwan have complementary industrial structures and are perfect economic cooperation partners," said Korean Mission in Taipei Representative Kang Young-Hoon, adding, "Although the current global economic situations are challenges indeed, the two countries can further expand their collaboration in many markets such as Southeast Asia."

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REGIONAL HEADLINES

Nikkei Asia

Suga to Attend **Quad Summit in** Washington

SCMP

Rodrigo Duterte Accepts Nomination to Run as vice-President in 2022 Phillipine Election

Straits Times

Selangor **Government Drops**

Plan to Raze Malaysia Forest **Reserve After** Uproar

September 9, 2021

apanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga will travel to Washington later this month to attend the first face-to-face leaders summit of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue.

Biden, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi aim to strengthen the four-way partnership in the Indo-Pacific region in response to China's growing clout. The Japanese prime

Suga, U.S. President Joe

kicked off preparations to participate in the Quad summit. Suga will not run in the ruling Liberal

minister on Wednesday

Democratic Party's leadership election in late September, meaning that he will step down as prime minister in a few weeks. But he has decided to attend the meeting in Washington in response to Biden's

invitation. The two

September 8, 2021 **P**hilippine President

Rodrigo Duterte on Wednesday accepted his party's nomination to run for vice-president in next year's election, pushing ahead with a plan criticised by rivals as an attempt to maintain his grip on power.

the constitution from running for a second term and his interest in being vice-president, traditionally a ceremonial role, has prompted accusations he wants to stay in power to avert possible legal

action against him at

But Duterte said his

decision was driven by

home or abroad.

Duterte, 76, is barred by

love of country. "It is really because I want to see the continuity of my efforts

direction, I might be able

to help," Duterte said in

addressing the party.

even though I may not be the one giving

f The Selangor state

controlled by the

divide.

government, which is

September 8, 2021

Pakatan Harapan (PH) coalition, has scrapped plans to develop part of a forest reserve following widespread opposition from Malaysia's indigenous Orang Asli community, environmentalists and lawmakers from both sides of the political

The state government caused an uproar when it revealed on Aug 30 that it had in May degazetted 536.7ha of a 931ha forest reserve in Kuala Langat district for a mixed commercial development by a private company.

Island. The state government had defended its decision to allow parts of the 8,000-year-old North Kuala Langat forest to be developed, saying that it

The affected area is

slightly larger than

Singapore's Sentosa

leaders are also expected to meet on the sidelines of the Quad summit to affirm their cooperation toward peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait, echoing their bilateral meeting in April.

Quad leaders had agreed at their virtual summit in March to meet in person by the end of the year. Though they had stopped short of criticizing China by name in their joint statement from that event, they had pledged to "meet challenges to the rules-based maritime order in the East and South China Seas."

The leaders had also agreed to set up expert working groups on coronavirus vaccines, critical and emerging technologies, and climate change. In Washington, they are expected to discuss how to better distribute vaccines to emerging economies to counter Chinese vaccine diplomacy.

At a separate meeting in August, senior Quad officials had discussed specific areas for cooperation in maritime security and cybersecurity toward a "free and open Indo-Pacific."

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Duterte had wanted long-time aide Christopher "Bong" Go, a senator, to succeed him, but Go declined the party's presidential nomination.

My heart and mind are focused on serving people," Go said.

"What is important is we find someone with the same weight as President Duterte to continue the change."

It was not immediately clear if the party has a second choice ahead of the deadline for registering candidates next month.

Earlier on Wednesday, Senator Panfilo Lacson, a former police chief, was the first to declare his candidacy for the presidential election.

Lacson, 73, made his announcement alongside Senate speaker Vicente Sotto, a former actor, musician and four-term lawmaker who will be his running mate in the separate vice-presidential contest.

Read more

had designated other land parcels in Selangor as replacement areas for the degazetted forest.

However, in a sudden Uturn on Wednesday (Sept 8), it said it would begin regazetting the forest reserve, but insisted that the earlier degazettement process had been done in accordance with the law.

"The state government will stop the proposed development plan for the area and cancel the move to give ownership of the land to the company involved," said Selangor Menteri Besar Amirudin Shari in a statement on Wednesday.

"In relation to that, the Selangor state government will begin the process to regazette the North Kuala Langat forest reserve," he added.

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