

Statement on the Safety of International Events Held in Taiwan

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Department: MEET TAIWAN

Background and Issues

Reports of international media regarding the situation in the Taiwan Strait in recent years have raised concern among some business travelers worldwide about the safety of attending international exhibitions and holding international conferences in Taiwan. This situation has resulted in Taiwanese NGOs often being asked about safety in Taiwan.

To answer such questions, MEET TAIWAN has specially compiled this Statement on the Safety of International Events Held in Taiwan, which includes statistics of Taiwan's excellent international rankings, exceptional economic and trade performance, and abundance of conventions, in addition to highlighting Taiwan's key role in the semiconductor industry, friendliness, tolerance, and good public order, showing all sectors that Taiwan is a safe destination.

Taiwan highly recognized by international society with excellent international rankings

The past 70 years have seen Taiwan actively communicating with different parties to replace confrontation with mutual benefit, flexibly adjusting strategies to manage stability. This has enabled Taiwan to maintain a prosperous society where people can live and work in peace. Taiwan's performance in various fields has been praised and recognized by international society, often among the top in major international rankings, which is an important factor for international events choosing Taiwan (see Appendix 1 for details).

According to the 2022 IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook released by the International Institute for Management Development(IMD), Taiwan ranked 7th among the 63 countries considered for its overall performance in the categories of Business Efficiency, Infrastructure, Government Efficiency, and Economic Performance. This is the 4th consecutive year that Taiwan's overall ranking has improved—a strong indication that Taiwan has achieved excellent performance

in its overall social environment, governance, and economy.

In addition, the IMD World Talent Ranking 2021 pointed out that Taiwan was 3rd in Asia in the Investment & Development factor, only behind Singapore and Hong Kong. This shows that Taiwan is actively cultivating talent with academic expertise and practical skills that will enable them to respond to market changes and different needs.

Excellent economic and trade performance attracts foreign investment

Taiwan's durable resilience is obvious in its response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, US-China trade war, and Russo-Ukrainian War, which is transforming each crisis into an opportunity to take the next leap—while maintaining a stable economy and trade market. For example, Taiwan's investment, export, and economic and trade performance have shown stable growth, and many well-known foreign companies, such as Google, ASML, and Entegris have carefully evaluated long-term investment plans in Taiwan, choosing to partner with Taiwanese companies.

Data:

1. Overseas Chinese and Foreign Investment

According to Ministry of Economic Affairs' (MOEA) Investment Commission statistics, overseas Chinese and foreign investments during January to November 2022 amounted to US\$12.40955 billion (approximately equal to NT\$372.28650 billion), an increase of 84.71% compared with the same period last year (see Figure 1 and Table 1 for details).

Fig. 1: Overseas Chinese and foreign investment in Taiwan (2018 to November 2022)

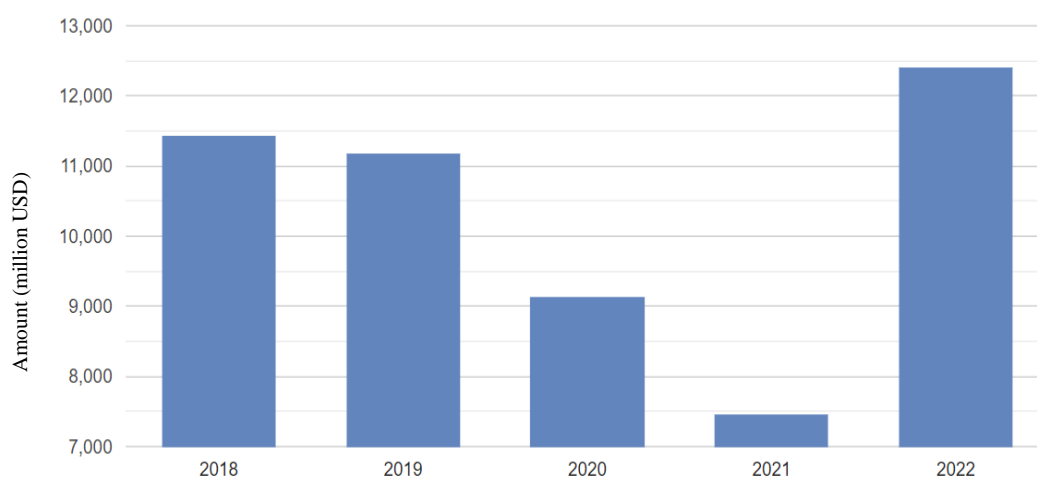


Table 1: Overseas Chinese and foreign investment in Taiwan (2018 to November 2022)

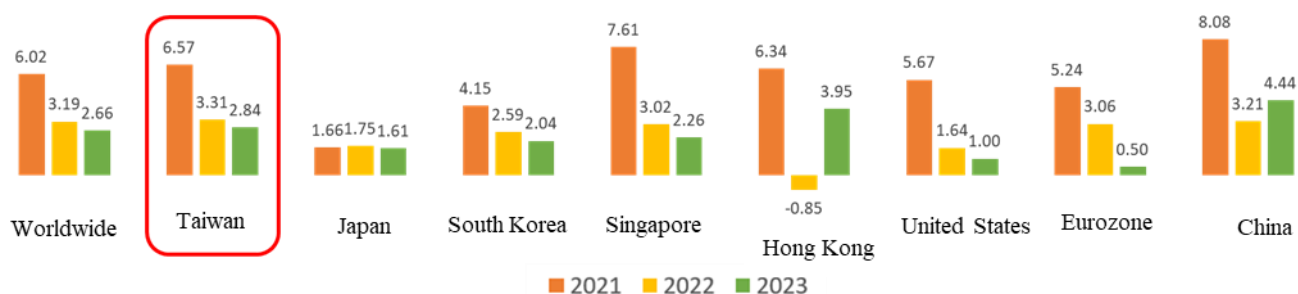
Year	Amount (thousand USD)
2018	11,440,233.81
2019	11,195,974.87
2020	9,144,336.22
2021	7,476,273.33
2022(to November)	12,409,550.38

Source: MOEA Investment Commission ([Business Statistics](#), [Press Release](#))

2. Economic growth

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) forecasts in their October 2022 report, Taiwan's economic growth in 2023 is expected to be 2.84%, higher than global economic growth of 2.66% (see Figure 2 for details).

Fig 2: IMF economic growth forecasts for major economies (2021 to 2023)



Source: [IMF \(2022/10/11\)](#)

3. Trade growth

Ministry of Finance statistics point out that Taiwan's total imports and exports was US\$828.3 billion in 2021, ranking 16th in the world and moving up one place from the previous year according to WTO data. Total trade was up 11.7% in January to November 2022 at US\$840.4 billion (see Table 2 for details).

Table 2: Taiwan's imports and exports (2017 to November 2022)

Year	Total Trade		Total Exports		Total Imports		Trade Balance	
	Amount	Growth (%)	Amount	Growth (%)	Amount	Growth (%)	Amount	Growth (%)
2017	5,727.4	12.7	3,155.1	13.0	2,572.3	12.2	582.8	16.6
2018	6,188.5	8.1	3,340.3	5.9	2,848.2	10.7	492.1	-15.6
2019	6,148.4	-0.6	3,291.7	-1.5	2,856.8	0.3	434.9	-11.6
2020	6,313.1	2.7	3,451.4	4.9	2,861.8	0.2	589.6	35.6
2021	8,283.7	31.2	4,463.9	29.3	3,819.8	33.5	644.0	9.2
2022(to Nov.)	8,404.5	11.7	4,437.9	9.4	3,966.6	14.3	471.3	-19.6

Source: [Customs Administration, Ministry of Finance, WTO](#)

International events continue to be held in Taiwan

Taiwan is a popular destination for hosting international events thanks to its stunning scenery, rich cultural background, and professional venues and services. Many major international conferences, exhibitions, and sports events have been and will continue to be held in Taiwan, attracting many business travelers, tourists, and professional athletes to the island nation (see Appendix 2 and Appendix 3 for details).

With regard to international conferences, the 32nd International Symposium on Antimicrobial Agents and Resistance in 2023, 35th Conference of the International Society of Environmental Epidemiology in 2023, and 23rd International Conference on Emergency Medicine in 2024 will be held in Taiwan with over 2,000 participants.

As for international exhibitions, the largest international bicycle exhibition in Asia—Taipei Cycle, the world's 4th largest and Asia's 2nd largest auto parts exhibition duo—Taipei AMPA and AutoTronics Taipei, the world's 2nd largest and Asia's largest computer exhibition—COMPUTEX Taipei, the world's 3rd largest and Asia's 2nd largest machine tool exhibition—TIMTOS, and the world's 2nd largest semiconductor exhibition—SEMICON Taiwan will also be held in Taiwan with thousands of foreign buyers anticipated.

International sports events that will be held in Taiwan include: Tour de Taiwan, which is part of the UCI Asia Tour; the U-12 Baseball World Cup, held in Taiwan for eight consecutive years since 2013; the 2025 Summer World Masters Games, which is a comprehensive international sports event; and the 5th World Baseball Classic in Taichung in March 2023.

Exceptional supply chains provide optimum support for international partners

Taiwan plays a decisive role in global supply chains, with several industries providing essentials to the rest of the world. In particular, Taiwan semiconductors have become increasingly important as key components for precision machinery, and even the FIFA World Cup. Total Taiwan trade grew 11.7% for January to November 2022, while exports have grown for consecutive years.

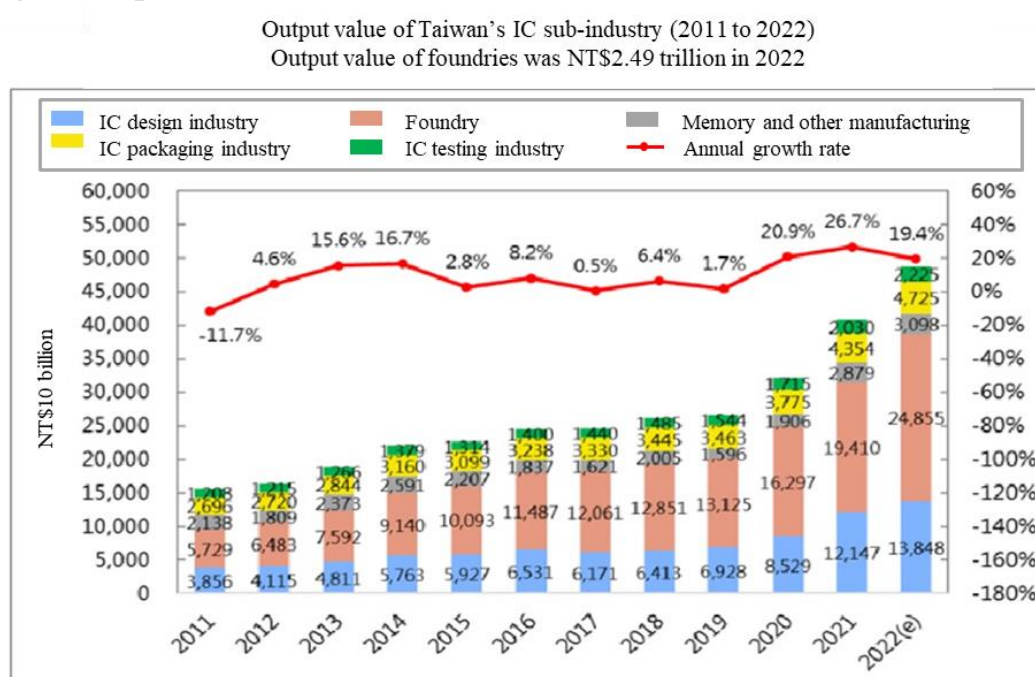
Taiwan's top 10 trade partners worldwide, including China, the U.S.A., Japan, Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore, Australia, Germany, and Vietnam, all recognize Taiwan's important role in supply chains, showing the resilience of Taiwan.

Data:

1. Taiwan is the world’s main semiconductor production base

Taiwan’s semiconductor industry leads the world. From the perspective of output value categories, IC design ranked 2nd worldwide accounting for 27% of global output value in 2021, IC packaging and testing ranked 1st worldwide at 20%, and foundry has secured the position of global leader at 64%. In terms of revenue from foundries, Taiwan and TSMC accounted for 64% and 53% in 2021, respectively, and this figure increased to 66% and 56% in 2022, respectively (see Figure 3 and Table 3 for details).

Fig 3: Output value of Taiwan’s IC sub-industries (2011 to 2022)



Source: [Smart Electronics Industry Project Promotion Office](#), [TrendForce](#)

Table 3: Market share of foundries and forecasts (2021 to 2022)

	2021	2022
Foundry revenue	US\$107.542 billion	US\$128.784 billion
Market share by region	Taiwan 64%, South Korea 18%, China 7%, Other 10%	Taiwan 66%, South Korea 17%, China 8%, Other 9%
Market share of top four companies	TSMC 53%, Samsung 18%, UMC 7%, Global Foundries 6%	TSMC 56%, Samsung 16%, UMC 7%, Global Foundries 6%

Source: [Commercial Times](#)

2. Advanced process technologies to be proud of
 Among the top five foundries worldwide, TSMC is far ahead in advanced processes with over 50% market share in 5 nm and 7/10 nm processes, which accounted for over 50% of revenue in 2021 (see Table 4 for details).

Table 4: Top five foundries worldwide and revenue from their advanced processes (2021)

	TSMC	Samsung	UMC	Global Foundries	SMIC
2021 revenue (million USD)	56,674	8,537	7,606	6,586	5,443
Annual growth (%)	24.4	65.8	26.6	35.8	39.3
Market share (%)	56.6	8.5	7.6	6.6	5.4
Revenue from 5 nm process (million USD)	10,468	487	0	0	0
Revenue from 7/10 nm process (million USD)	17,971	2,954	0	0	0
Percentage accounted for by 5 nm and 7/10 nm (%)	50.2	40.3	0	0	0

Source: [Commercial Times](#)

3. Key components from Taiwan support global industrial products
 Many inconspicuous but extremely important industrial products rely on Taiwan's machinery industry clusters. Taiwan ranks at the top of the world in various sub-domains of the machinery industry with surprisingly high output value despite Taiwan's small population and area (see Table 5 for details).

Table 5: Output value and industrial status of Taiwan's key components

Sub-domain	2021 Output Value (billion USD)	Industrial Status
Machine tools and machine parts	4.09	7th largest producer and 5th largest exporting country in the world
Optoelectronic panels	55.72	10th largest industry scale in the world
Bicycles and components	4.79	2nd largest exporting country in the world

Woodworking machinery	0.75	4th largest exporting country in the world
Hand tools	3.49	5th largest exporting country in the world

Source: [Department of Statistics, MOEA](#)

Nine of Taiwan's top 10 exported products in 2020 were key electronic parts and components and ICT products. Integrated circuits (ICs) is the top export product with exports worldwide reaching US\$614.5 billion and global market share reaching 19.9% (see Table 6 for details).

Table 6: Taiwan's top 10 export products (2020)

HS 4 Code/product category of top 10 products	Global export value (100 million USD)	Total export value (100 million USD)	Global market share (%)
Total of all products	221,342	3,452	1.6
8542 IC	6,145	1,225	19.9
8534 PCB	374	56	15.0
8523 Storage media	697	92	13.2
9013 LCD and components	545	69	12.7
8473 Computer components	1,194	121	10.1
8529 Wireless transmission device components	578	56	9.7
8541 Diode/transistor components	1,211	48	4.0
8471 Computers and peripherals	4,804	106	2.2
8517 Communication devices and components	5,271	89	1.7
2710 Oil refinery products	5,391	57	1.1

Source: GTA, Customs Administration, Ministry of Finance

ICs still accounted for the highest percentage of Taiwan's top 10 export products in 2021, comprising 38% of total exports in the first half of the year, up 10% compared with 2016. As the U.S.A.-China trade war drove Taiwanese businesses back to Taiwan, companies expanded their production capacities, creating higher demand on remote and digital technologies. As a result, computer components and computers and peripherals grew 2.5 times and 1.9 times compared with 2016, respectively (see Table 7 for details).

Table 7: Taiwan's top 10 export products (2022/2021/2016)

Value: 100 million USD

Ranking			Product category (According to HS 4code)	Export value in the first half of 2022	Export value in 2021		Percentage			
2022 H1	2021	2016			Export value in 2021	Change compared with 2016	2022 H1	2021	2016	
1	1	1	8542	IC	928	1,555	98.9	37.6	34.8	28.0
2	2	8	8473	Computer components	92	176	2.5times	3.7	3.9	1.8
4	3	10	8471	Computers and peripherals	68	120	1.9times	2.7	2.7	1.5
6	4	7	8523	Storage media	49	106	92.8	2.0	2.4	2.0
5	5	5	8517	Mobile phones and communication devices	59	102	67.2	2.4	2.3	2.2
3	6	2	2710	Oil refinery products	85	97	2.2	3.4	2.2	3.4
11	7	4	9013	LCD	32	86	15.0	1.3	1.9	2.7
14	8	6	8529	Audiovisual and wireless communication equipment components	28	72	19.1	1.1	1.6	2.2
7	9	9	8534	PCB	35	66	34.2	1.4	1.5	1.8
12	10	3	8541	Diode	30	63	-19.0	1.2	1.4	2.8

Source: [Department of Statistics, Ministry of Finance, Central News Agency](#)

4. Taiwan's hidden champions play an important role in supporting industry systems around the world

Apart from semiconductors and industrial products, the capabilities of Taiwan's consumer goods industry cannot be ignored. Taiwanese enterprises once again drew attention during the FIFA World Cup in Qatar in 2022. The soccer jerseys, shoes, soccer ball, and accessories were all made in Taiwan.

The Taiwanese enterprises that were able to become part of the FIFA World Cup were all among the best and recognized for their quality and technology

Taiwanese enterprises attracted great attention during the FIFA World Cup in Qatar in 2022, and are perhaps the biggest winners of the event. A few the enterprises are listed below (see Figure 4 for details):

- a. Seven of the teams that were in the final tournament in 2022 wore jerseys made by Far Eastern New Century. These were Germany,

- Japan, Spain, Argentina, Mexico, Belgium, and Wales.
- b. Soccer pants were provided by Everest, a subsidiary of Far Eastern New Century.
 - c. The official match ball of the World Cup was made by the Taiwanese company Long Way, which was selected by Adidas to make the official match balls for four consecutive World Cups.
 - d. The shoes worn by Messi, who led Argentina in winning the championship, was made by Sports Gear in Taichung.
 - e. In terms of the World Cup, Taiwan’s supply chain for fibers used in jerseys and pants include Lealea, Nanya, FCFC, and Shinkong Synthetic Fibers; fabric and garments include Eclat Textile, New Wide, Far Eastern New Century, Formosa Taffeta, SCI, Men-Chuen Fibre, and Everest.

Fig. 4: Taiwanese suppliers to the FIFA World Cup

Item	Category	Taiwanese enterprises
Clothes	Fiber	Lealea, Nanya, FCFC, Shinkong Synthetic Fibers, Far Eastern New Century
	Fabric, garments	Eclat Textile, New Wide, Far Eastern New Century, Formosa Taffeta, SCI, Men-Chuen Fibre
	Pants	Everest
Shoes	Upper	Sanfang
	Sole	TNO
	Shoe laces	Paiho
	Shoes	Pou Chen, Dean Shoes, Shoetown, Sports Gear, Diamond
Soccer	Ball skin	Sanfang
	Soccer	Long Way
Accessories	Bag materials	Long Way, Nam Liong
	Protective gear	Long Way

Source: [Wealth Magazine](#)

Taiwan advocates friendliness, inclusion, and democratic values

Taiwan is located in East Asia and serves as a transportation hub that interacts with countries around the world. An increase in the immigrant population has resulted in a society where diverse cultures coexist. Gender equality and human rights are promoted, working towards a fair and equitable social environment.

Taiwan’s government enacted the Act of Gender Equality in Employment in

2002, Gender Equity Education Act in 2004, and became a signatory to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), which is one of the nine core human rights conventions of the UN, in 2007. Furthermore, Taiwan became the first Asian country to legalize same-sex marriage in 2019.

In terms of associations and organizations, quite a few NGOs in Taiwan strive to speak out for the rights and interests of women, children, and minorities. For example: The Garden of Hope Foundation organized the 4th World Conference of Women's Shelters in 2019, the Taiwan Medical Women's Association organized the 32nd International Congress of MWIA in 2022, and the Society of Taiwan Women in Science and Technology organized the 2022/2021 Women in Science & Technology, all held in Taiwan and declaring to the world that Taiwan takes gender equality and human rights issues very seriously.

Taiwan has a safe travel and living environment

Taiwan is recognized by expats for its superior infrastructure, healthcare system, hygienic environment, and transportation network. According to the 2021 Expat Insider survey of InterNations, the largest website for expats worldwide, Taiwan was ranked as the most suitable destination for expats in the world based on four indexes, namely quality of life, ease of settling in, personal finance, and working abroad.

The Expat Insider survey showed that 98% of respondents indicated that Taiwan is very safe, higher than the global average of 81%. NUMBEO data in 2023 shows that Taiwan ranks 3rd in 142 countries in the crime and safety index. These statistics illustrate that Taiwan has excellent public security, and that holding and attending events in Taiwan is a safe choice.

Source: [Expat Insider 2021](#), [Expat Insider 2022](#), [NUMBEO 2023](#)