

# **Cross-Party Group on Taiwan**

Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022 6:00pm

Minute

Present

MSPs

- **Rhoda Grant MSP**
- **Jamie Greene MSP**
- **Jeremy Balfour MSP**

Invited guests

- **Kuan-ping Liu**

Non-MSP Group Members

- **Director General Chia-cheng Chang**
- **Mindy Chang**
- **Danielle Thomson**
- **Liza Gilhooly**
- **Ian McKee**
- **Sandy Sneddon**
- **Paul Behrens**
- **Philip Chan**
- **Scotland Taiwanese Association**

Apologies

- **Ian Irvine**
- **Ian Baxter**
- **Sarah Boyack**
- **Chris White**
- **Simon Wallace**

## Agenda item 1: Welcome Remarks

**Rhoda Grant MSP** chaired the AGM meeting and warmly welcomed the members and friends of the CPG on Taiwan to the meeting. She gave a review of the previous year in which two meetings were held where updates on Taiwan were given as well as a presentation and discussion of Taiwan's experience on handling Covid-19 and its participation in the WHO shared by **Dr Ching-Yi Lin** in the second meeting.

**Welcome remarks from Chia-Cheng Chang**, the Director General of the Taipei representative Office in the UK Edinburgh Office

- **DG Chia-Cheng Chang** introduced himself as the new Director General of the Taipei Representative Office in the UK Edinburgh Office, having just recently completed his post as Deputy Representative of the Taipei Representative Office in the UK (in London).
- He thanked members and friends of the CPG on Taiwan for their continuous support in facilitating the cultural, educational and economic links between Taiwan and Scotland.
- He noted that the war in Ukraine has been a reminder of the global contest between democracy and authoritative regimes. Taiwan stands on the front line of this contest and the maintenance of peace and stability of the Taiwan Strait remains an interest in the international community, while safeguarding shared values and rules based international order is important to us all.
- The DG is grateful for the unwavering support of the friends in the Scottish Parliament through tabling motions and promoting parliamentary exchanges.
- The 41<sup>st</sup> session of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) will be held from the 27<sup>th</sup> of September to 7<sup>th</sup> October, this session aims to promote global aviation recovery under the theme of *Reconnecting the World*. Taiwan has contributed to the international community of aviation with the Taipei Flight Information Region acting as the hub for air transportation in East Asia and by the maintenance of a high standard of service and safety for civil aviation in line with ICAO's standard and recommended practices. Taiwan is willing to share its expertise by participating in ICAO and their activities, along with their mission to reconnect the world.

## Agenda item 2: AGM

- Co-convenors:
  - **Rhoda Grant MSP, James Dornan MSP, and Jamie Greene MSP** were nominated and agreed as co-convenors of the CPG on Taiwan by the group.
- Secretary:
  - **Danielle Thomson** was nominated and agreed as secretary of the CPG on Taiwan.

## Agenda item 3: Guest Presentation

Taiwan on Screen: an introduction to Taiwan Film Festival Edinburgh by **Kuan-Ping Liu**, curator of Taiwan Film Festival Edinburgh

- Taiwan Film Festival Edinburgh was first developed in 2019 as a response to the global surge in interest in Taiwanese cinematography. It has since then developed and expanded over the years from taking place fully online to in-person broadcasts and features.
- They have introduced a wide variety of films from historical black & white films, Taiwan's up and coming short films and legacy films to documentaries and Queer East films. They also participated in COP26, creating an environmental film programme featured in the Glasgow Film Theatre.
- The mission to further introduce Taiwan's films to the local audience was ensued through local collaborations such as in the screening of the movie Deng Nan-guang in a live score feature with Scottish Musician Rory Green and the screening of Le Moulin with the Scottish poet Heather H Yeung.
- The Taiwan Film Festival group will continue to strive to introduce Taiwanese films to local audiences in the UK, with the hopes of expanding the festival to a wider platform featuring films from the East Asian regions.

### *Discussion on presentation*

- A suggestion was raised to share the events of the film festival through the channel of the CPG mailing list
- The geographical reach of the Film Festival
  - Although online events are accessible to the UK, many of the in-person events are based in Edinburgh and selected towns and cities in Scotland.
  - The upcoming October festival will be fully in person. In the future, if circumstances allow, an online platform would be a welcomed expansion to make the films available to those located outside of Edinburgh.
- 'Scene Taiwan'- Online screening of Taiwan films founded by the Scotland-Taiwanese Association
  - The Scotland-Taiwanese Association highlighted the 'Scene Taiwan' film festival taking place online for those who are interested to seeing Taiwanese films who don't have access to in person film screening.

## Agenda item 4: General Discussion on CPG

- This year marks the 150-year anniversary of the first Scottish women missionary to travel to Taiwan. A reminder of the long friendship between Scotland and Taiwan and hopes of many more to come.
- A question was raised about ways to generate more MSPs interest in Taiwan, answered by the Director General **Chia-Cheng Chang**.

- There have been many recent visits from important figures in the world in support of Taiwan's democracy and peace. He welcomes the members of the Scottish Parliament of the CPG to visit Taiwan.
- The CPG welcomes suggestions and ideas for future meetings for the group
- Next meeting date to be confirmed