

TAIWAN NEWSLETTER

2024 Ketagalan Forum wraps up in Taipei

The eighth annual Ketagalan Forum concluded in Taipei City, August 21, bringing together experts, officials, and political figures from around the world to discuss Indo-Pacific challenges and opportunities.

President Lai Ching-te, in his opening remarks, reaffirmed Taiwan's commitment to serving as a key driver for the development of global democracy, peace, and prosperity. He also outlined his administration's Four Pillars of Peace action plan to maintain cross-strait stability, including bolstering national defence, building economic security, strengthening partnerships with democracies, and maintaining stable and principled cross-strait leadership. The President further urged those in attendance to take collective action to confront the challenges presented by



authoritarianism and defend their shared values.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported approximately 200 in-person attendees from 11 countries, with 3,000 participating online.

Keynote speakers included former Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda, who took the opportunity

to reaffirm his support for Taiwan's international participation; former Slovak Prime Minister Eduard Heger, who urged democracies to confront authoritarianism with courage; and former US Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley, who criticised China's misuse of UN Resolution 2758 to suppress Taiwan's global participation.

MOFA welcomes support from Australia and New Zealand

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) expressed deep appreciation on behalf of the government and people for recent Australian and New Zealand statements supporting Taiwan, August 22. An Australian Senate motion, sponsored August 21 by Senators David Fawcett and Deborah O'Neill, stated that UN Resolution 2758 does not establish China's sovereignty over Taiwan or limit Taiwan's international participation.

Additionally, a joint statement from the Australia-New Zealand Leaders' Meet-

ing reaffirmed the importance of cross-strait peace and stability, and called for the peaceful resolution of relevant issues without coercion or force.

The statement also expressed opposition to unilateral changes to the status quo and concerns about destabilising behaviour in the South China Sea.

MOFA welcomed these supportive actions from like-minded partners, and urged the international community to counter China's misinterpretation of UN Resolution 2758.

Taiwan takes part in APEC energy ministerial meeting

Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Chen Cherng-chyi led a Taiwanese delegation to the 2024 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Energy Ministerial Meeting in Lima, Peru, August 15 and 16.

In remarks at the meeting, Chen reiterated Taiwan's recognition of the importance of fair energy transition and net-zero emissions, showcasing the innovative Aquavoltaics Development policy as an example of promoting a green economy despite the country's limited

land resources. The Deputy Minister also pointed out that the policy was recognised as a best practice by the Energy Smart Communities Initiative and praised by APEC Energy Working Group Lead Shepherd Ariadne BenAissa.

The meeting, convened by Peru's Minister of Energy and Mines Romulo Mucho, focused on energy transition, sustainable growth, and hydrogen development. Participants adopted a joint statement emphasising balanced, predictable, and secure energy transition, among other issues.

Premier Cho unveils strategies to advance economy

Premier Cho Jung-tai reaffirmed the government's commitment to integrating AI technology across government agencies and industries at the joint opening ceremony of two automation exhibitions in Taipei City, August 21.

Cho highlighted Taiwan's progress in smart industries, hardware manufacturing, and software applications, noting the adoption of smart robots in various sectors including national security.

The Premier also announced an NT\$11.6 billion (€330 million) budget to support micro-, small-, and medium-sized enterprises' development.



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