

# Common Core Document Forming Part of the Reports

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Second Report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child  
Republic of China (Taiwan)



November 2021

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## **Common Core Document Forming Part of the Reports**

### **I. Profile of the Nation Submitting the Reports**

#### **A. Demographic, Economic, Social, and Cultural Characteristics**

1. Taiwan is a culturally diverse and prosperous democracy. Its people realize freedom of worship through the practice of a variety of religions. The country boasts diverse terrain features and environments. People of different ethnic backgrounds and national origins have been attracted to this land for hundreds of years. Taiwan's history and culture have been significantly influenced by Chinese and Austronesian culture. The cultural legacy of the colonial regimes of the Netherlands, Spain, and Japan, as well as of new immigrants from Asia, have also influenced Taiwan to varying degrees. This is reflected in Taiwan's cuisines and languages.
2. The Republic of China (ROC) was founded in 1912 and was the first democratic republic in Asia. In December 1949, the ROC government relocated to Taiwan and has since held control over Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen, Matsu, the Tungsha (Pratas) Islands, the Chungsha (Macclesfield Bank) Islands, the Shisha (Paracel) Islands, and the Nansha (Spratly) Islands, all of which hereinafter will collectively be referred to as "Taiwan." The total area under the country's jurisdiction is 36,197 square kilometers.

#### **Demographic Indicators**

3. Han Chinese currently comprise the largest ethnic group in Taiwan, accounting for 96.2% of the island's total population. Of the remainder, 2.4% consists of the indigenous people of Taiwan and immigrants with household registration account for 1.4%<sup>1</sup> of the total population. Inter-marriage between ethnic groups is common, and different groups have converged gradually over time. According to the Ministry of Culture, people of Mongolian origin currently total 446 in 210 households in Taiwan, whereas people of Tibetan origin total 639 in 342 households. According to a survey conducted in 2016, the Hakka population (whether by descent or identification, as defined in the Hakka Basic Act) totaled approximately 4,537,000, representing 19.3% of the total population.
4. As of 2020, there were 875,830 foreigners residing in Taiwan with valid Alien Resident Certificates (ARC), 410,671 (46.89%) of whom were male and 465,159 (53.11%) of whom were female. The majority consists of migrant workers, totaling 704,781 (80.47%). The

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<sup>1</sup> Throughout the document, percentages are rounded off and so may not add up to 100.

number and ratio of migrant workers has continued to increase over the years. The next largest categories of foreigners were dependent immigrants 66,805 (7.63%), students 48,837 (4.66%), professionals 28,823 (3.29%), investors 320 (0.04%), missionaries 1,538 (0.18%), and others 32,726 (3.74%).

5. The most common language remains Chinese (Mandarin). The monolingual policy adopted by the ROC in the past has led to the severe loss of languages of certain groups. To protect and revive the natural languages used by the different ethnic groups in Taiwan and Taiwan Sign Language, the government established (amended) the Indigenous Languages Development Act, Hakka Basic Act, and Development of National Languages Act from 2017 to 2019 and drafted the Hakka Language Development Act in 2020. These acts grant equal status to languages of all ethnicities and Taiwan Sign Language before the law.
6. The ROC population continues to increase. However, the population growth rate has fallen from 2.03‰ in 2016 to -1.77‰ in 2020, whereas the sex ratio has also declined in recent years. The population density has also declined due to negative population growth Table 1 shows Taiwan's total population, population growth, sex ratio, and population density between 2016 and 2020.

**Table 1 Population, Population Growth, Sex Ratio, and Population Density**

Unit: persons; ‰; persons/square kilometer

Item Year	Total population			Population growth	Sex ratio	Population density
	Total	Male	Female			
2016	23,539,816	11,719,270	11,820,546	2.03	99.14	650
2017	23,571,227	11,719,580	11,851,647	1.33	98.89	651
2018	23,588,932	11,129,913	11,876,019	0.75	98.63	652
2019	23,603,121	11,705,186	11,897,935	0.60	98.38	652
2020	23,561,236	11,673,765	11,887,471	-1.77	98.20	651

Source: Ministry of the Interior

7. Between 2016 and 2020, the population aged 0-14 fell from 3,141,881 to 2,963,396 (representing 12.58% of the total), whereas the population aged 15-64 decreased from 17,291,830 to 16,810,525 (representing 71.35% of the total) and the population aged 65 and above increased from 3,106,105 to 3,787,315 (representing 16.07% of the total). This shows a gradual decrease in the number of younger people and a gradual increase in the number of older people.

8. The dependency ratio (measuring the percentage of the population aged 14 and below and 65 and above relative to the population aged 15-64) was 36.13 in 2016, 36.95 in 2017, 37.89 in 2018, 38.96 in 2019, and 40.16 in 2020. This means that every 100 people of the working population are supporting 40.16 dependents. The dependence ratio continues to increase. Demographic statistics for the period 2016-2020 are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2 Demographic Statistics**

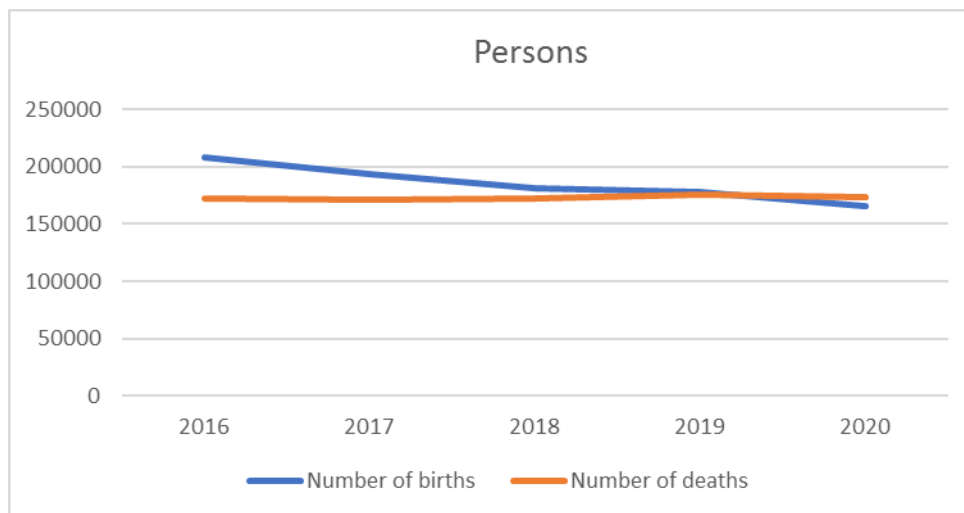
Unit: persons; %; ‰

Item	Age						Dependency ratio	Births		Deaths		Marital status of population aged 15 and above (%)				Total fertility rate	Average no. of people per household	Percentage of households with female head aged 15 and above (%)	
	0-14		15-64		Age 65 and above			Births	Crude birth rate (%)	Deaths	Crude death rate (%)	Unmarried	Married	Divorced	Widowed				
	Population	Ratio (%)	Population	Ratio (%)	Population	Ratio (%)													
Year	2016	3,141,881	13.35	17,291,830	73.46	3,106,105	13.20	36.13	208,440	8.86	172,405	7.33	34.52	50.18	8.20	6.46	1.17	2.75	42.08
	2017	3,091,873	13.12	17,211,341	73.02	3,268,013	13.86	36.95	193,844	8.23	171,242	7.27	34.46	50.61	8.39	6.53	1.12	2.73	42.42
	2018	3,048,227	12.92	17,107,188	72.52	3,433,517	14.56	37.89	181,601	7.70	172,784	7.33	34.36	50.45	8.59	6.60	1.06	2.70	42.75
	2019	3,010,351	12.75	16,985,643	71.96	3,607,127	15.28	38.96	177,767	7.53	176,296	7.47	34.26	50.29	8.78	6.67	1.05	2.67	43.06
	2020	2,963,396	12.25	16,810,525	71.35	3,787,315	16.07	40.16	165,249	7.01	173,156	7.34	34.16	50.11	8.98	6.75	0.99	2.64	43.40

Source: Ministry of the Interior

Note: Birth and death statistics are based on date of registration; total fertility rate is based on date of occurrence.

9. The number of new births decreased from 208,440 in 2016 to 165,249 in 2020. The crude birth rate, on the other hand, decreased from 8.86‰ in 2016 to 7.01‰ in 2020. It is evident that the nation is currently seeing low fertility rates. Meanwhile, the number of deaths was 172,405 in 2016, 171,242 in 2017, 172,784 in 2018, 176,296 in 2019 and 173,156 in 2020. The crude death rate in the last five years was 7.33‰, 7.27‰, 7.33‰, 7.47‰ and 7.34‰, respectively. The number may be shifting but mortality rates are low, as shown in Figure 1.



Source: Ministry of the Interior

**Figure 1 Number of Births and Deaths**

10. The percentages of unmarried, married, divorced, and widowed people aged 15 and above relative to the total population aged 15 and above and children born to married couples or out of wedlock between 2016 and 2020 are explained below: The percentage of unmarried people fell from 34.52% to 34.16%, the percentage of married people fell from 50.18% to 50.11%, the percentage of divorced people increased from 8.20% to 8.98%, and the percentage of widowed people also increased from 6.46% to 6.75%. The percentage of children born to married couples was 96.08% and the percentage of children born out of wedlock (including children without competent parent or guardian) was 3.92%, which fluctuated.
11. The fertility rate of women at childbearing age from 2016 to 2020 was 1.17, 1.13, 1.06, 1.05 and 0.99, respectively, which put the nation among those with low fertility.
12. The average number of people per household also decreased from 2016 to 2020, numbering 2.75 persons, 2.73 persons, 2.70 persons, 2.67 persons, and 2.64 persons.
13. Table 3 shows life expectancy between 2016 and 2020.

**Table 3 Life Expectancy**

Unit: years

Year \ Gender	Total	Male	Female
2016	80.00	76.81	83.42
2017	80.39	77.28	83.70
2018	80.69	77.55	84.05
2019	80.86	77.69	84.23
2020	81.32	78.11	84.75

Source: Ministry of the Interior

14. Regional demographic statistics covering the period 2016-2020 are presented in Table 4.

**Table 4 Regional Demographic Statistics**

Unit: persons; %

Item \ Year and region	Total population	Percentage of total	Sex ratio	0-14	Percentage of total	15-64	Percentage of total	Age 65 and above	Percentage of total	Aging index	Indigenous population	Percentage of total
2016	23,539,816	100.00	99.14	3,141,881	13.35	17,291,830	73.46	3,106,105	13.20	98.86	553,228	2.35
2017	23,571,227	100.00	98.89	3,091,873	13.11	17,211,341	73.02	3,268,013	13.86	105.70	559,426	2.37
2018	23,588,932	100.00	98.63	3,048,227	12.92	17,107,188	72.52	3,433,517	14.56	112.64	565,561	2.40
2019	23,603,121	100.00	98.38	3,010,351	12.75	16,985,549	71.96	3,607,127	15.28	119.82	571,427	2.42
2020	23,561,236	100.00	98.20	2,963,396	12.58	16,810,525	71.35	3,787,315	16.07	127.80	576,792	2.45
Northern region	10,745,030	100.00	95.92	1,417,223	13.19	7,646,188	71.16	1,681,619	15.65	118.66	205,714	1.91
New Taipei City	<b>4,030,954</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>95.55</b>	<b>482,286</b>	<b>11.96</b>	<b>2,930,407</b>	<b>72.70</b>	<b>618,261</b>	<b>15.34</b>	<b>128.19</b>	<b>57,407</b>	<b>1.42</b>
Taipei City	<b>2,602,418</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>90.98</b>	<b>344,525</b>	<b>13.24</b>	<b>1,762,254</b>	<b>67.72</b>	<b>495,639</b>	<b>19.05</b>	<b>143.86</b>	<b>17,131</b>	<b>0.66</b>
Taoyuan City	<b>2,268,807</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>98.52</b>	<b>331,764</b>	<b>14.62</b>	<b>1,644,984</b>	<b>72.50</b>	<b>292,059</b>	<b>12.87</b>	<b>88.03</b>	<b>77,662</b>	<b>3.42</b>
Keelung City	367,577	100.00	99.67	37,499	10.20	265,671	72.28	64,407	17.52	171.76	9,492	2.58
Hsinchu City	451,412	100.00	97.24	76,360	16.92	315,940	69.99	59,112	13.09	77.41	4,374	0.97
Yilan County	453,087	100.00	101.90	52,865	11.67	322,020	71.07	78,202	17.26	147.93	17,664	3.90
Hsinchu County	570,775	100.00	104.25	91,924	16.11	404,912	70.94	73,939	12.95	80.43	21,984	3.85
Central region	5,797,752	100.00	100.97	747,559	12.89	4,140,802	71.42	909,391	15.69	121.65	85,302	1.47
Taichung City	<b>2,820,787</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>96.72</b>	<b>394,806</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>2,041,377</b>	<b>72.37</b>	<b>384,604</b>	<b>13.63</b>	<b>97.42</b>	<b>35,836</b>	<b>1.27</b>
Miaoli County	542,590	100.00	106.48	65,571	12.08	383,908	70.75	93,111	17.16	142.00	11,409	2.10
Changhua County	1,266,670	100.00	103.53	160,083	12.64	895,705	70.71	210,882	16.65	131.73	6,025	0.48
Nantou County	490,832	100.00	104.68	52,375	10.67	346,914	70.68	91,543	18.65	174.78	29,384	5.99
Yunlin County	676,873	100.00	107.41	74,724	11.04	472,898	69.87	129,251	19.10	172.97	2,648	0.39
Southern region	6,324,945	100.00	99.73	721,901	11.41	4,522,993	71.51	1,080,051	17.08	149.61	112,408	1.78
Tainan City	<b>1,874,917</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>99.34</b>	<b>223,484</b>	<b>11.92</b>	<b>1,342,162</b>	<b>71.59</b>	<b>309,271</b>	<b>16.50</b>	<b>138.39</b>	<b>8,406</b>	<b>0.45</b>
Kaohsiung City	<b>2,765,932</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>97.61</b>	<b>323,231</b>	<b>11.69</b>	<b>1,981,308</b>	<b>71.63</b>	<b>461,393</b>	<b>16.68</b>	<b>142.74</b>	<b>35,756</b>	<b>1.29</b>
Chiayi City	266,005	100.00	94.12	35,103	13.20	187,581	70.52	43,321	16.29	123.41	1,153	0.43
Chiayi County	499,481	100.00	108.01	44,930	9.00	352,944	70.66	101,607	20.34	226.15	5,945	1.19



Unit: persons; %

Item Year and region	Total population	Percentage of total	Sex ratio	0-14	Percentage of total	15-64	Percentage of total	Age 65 and above	Percentage of total	Aging index	Indigenous population	Percentage of total
Pingtung County	812,658	100.00	104.10	84,227	10.36	582,078	71.63	146,353	18.01	173.76	60,500	7.44
Penghu County	105,952	100.00	106.60	10,926	10.31	76,920	72.60	18,106	17.09	165.71	648	0.61
Eastern region	539,633	100.00	103.85	62,594	11.60	382,780	70.93	94,259	17.47	150.59	171,964	31.87
Taitung County	215,261	100.00	106.04	24,595	11.43	153,082	71.11	37,584	17.46	152.81	78,514	36.47
Hualien County	324,372	100.00	102.42	37,999	11.71	229,698	70.81	56,675	17.47	149.15	93,450	28.81
Kinmen and Matsu	153,876	100.00	102.31	14,119	9.18	117,762	76.53	21,995	14.29	155.78	1,404	0.91
Kinmen County	140,597	100.00	99.76	12,614	8.97	107,664	76.58	20,319	14.45	161.08	1,160	0.83
Lienchiang County	13,279	100.00	134.23	1,505	11.33	10,098	76.04	1,676	12.62	111.36	244	1.84

Source: Ministry of the Interior

Note: Regions specified in bold fonts are special municipalities.

15. Since the introduction of the Status Act for Indigenous Peoples in 2001, there has been an increase in the number of people seeking to reinstate or acquire indigenous identity. Table 5 shows the population distribution of indigenous peoples over the age of 15 in 2020; Table 6 shows demographic statistics for indigenous people by region in 2020.

**Table 5 Distribution of the Indigenous Population over the Age of 15**

Unit: households; persons; %

Administrative district	Number of households	Population over the age of 15	Population distribution
	2020	2020	2020
Total	202,732	464,879	100.00
Mountain areas	52,258	138,436	29.78
Lowland cities, towns, and townships with significant indigenous populations	51,338	112,845	24.27
Cities, towns, and townships with small indigenous populations	99,136	213,598	45.95

Source: Ministry of the Interior

**Table 6 Population of Indigenous People by Region**

Unit: persons; %

2020																			
Region	Number of persons by tribe																		Not reported
	Total	Ratio	Amis	Atayal	Paivan	Bunun	Rukai	Peinan	Tsou	Saisiat	Yami (Tao)	Thao	Kavalan	Truku	Sakizaya	Seediq	Hla' alua	Kanakanavu	
Total	576,792	100.00	215,377	92,843	103,759	60,101	13,588	14,709	6,715	6,795	4,751	826	1,528	32,811	1,009	10,645	423	375	10,537
New Taipei City	57,407	9.95	33,855	7,695	4,654	3,843	569	1,379	230	552	82	43	298	2,167	55	340	14	-	1,631
Taipei City	17,131	2.97	8,117	2,987	1,725	1,125	254	519	175	193	51	24	41	945	31	253	1	1	689
Taoyuan City	77,662	13.46	37,025	21,575	6,302	4,757	537	1,265	213	1,157	118	36	185	2,484	137	514	1	6	1,350
Taichung City	35,836	6.21	10,704	9,396	6,843	4,743	442	764	294	227	80	163	53	768	14	916	14	23	392
Tainan City	8,406	1.46	2,646	695	2,570	1,179	229	364	106	33	20	16	16	316	7	80	4	6	119
Kaohsiung City	35,756	6.20	10,091	1,463	9,175	9,215	2,681	838	580	70	41	19	35	646	13	182	338	310	59
Taiwan Province	343,190	59.50	112,244	48,865	72,300	35,102	8,853	9,562	5,095	4,544	4,357	523	896	25,400	751	8,345	51	28	6,274
Yilan County	17,664	3.06	2,309	13,441	341	327	53	118	30	34	6	4	16	530	8	46	1	2	398
Hsinchu County	21,984	3.81	2,070	16,340	603	436	72	156	47	1,583	19	9	8	267	12	94	-	1	267
Miaoli County	11,409	1.98	1,492	6,247	438	390	22	97	24	2,327	18	11	14	148	1	63	3	-	114
Changhua County	6,025	1.04	2,211	519	1,412	1,038	143	210	51	29	14	27	25	146	-	107	2	8	83
Nantou County	29,384	5.09	1,033	5,888	533	14,040	75	82	251	43	5	435	3	127	3	6,845	10	2	9
Yunlin County	2,648	0.46	1,073	307	461	363	65	73	47	26	9	-	3	130	2	31	2	-	56
Chiayi County	5,945	1.03	633	212	338	326	35	73	4,068	31	1	20	6	69	1	43	4	1	84
Pingtung County	60,500	10.49	2,434	481	49,340	820	6,121	252	73	30	13	5	12	199	8	43	23	6	640
Taitung County	78,514	13.61	36,055	529	16,936	8,384	2,094	7,727	40	55	4,227	3	112	228	10	35	2	4	2,073
Hualien County	93,450	16.20	53,182	2,710	931	8,322	87	514	33	69	23	-	671	23,092	690	931	4	-	2,191
Penghu County	648	0.11	259	88	152	60	10	24	7	4	1	-	-	24	-	15	-	4	-
Keelung City	9,492	1.65	7,593	673	290	253	16	98	29	16	10	3	15	218	8	43	-	-	227
Hsinchu City	4,374	0.76	1,636	1,339	379	201	40	95	19	289	11	5	4	199	2	33	-	-	122
Chiayi City	1,153	0.20	264	91	146	142	20	43	376	8	-	1	7	23	6	16	-	-	10
Fujian Province	1,404	0.24	695	167	190	137	23	18	22	19	2	2	4	85	1	15	-	1	23
Kinmen County	1,160	0.20	578	134	160	117	21	14	19	18	-	2	2	61	-	11	-	1	22
Lienchiang County	244	0.04	117	33	30	20	2	4	3	1	2	-	2	24	1	4	-	-	1,631

Source: Ministry of the Interior

16. The ratio of people with disabilities as a proportion of total population is 5.08% in 2020.

Analysis of the number of people with disabilities and the gender and disability levels of people with disabilities from 2016 to 2020 is provided in Table 7 and Table 8.

**Table 7 Number of Persons with Disabilities**

Unit: persons

Category Year	Total number of persons with disabilities	Visual Impairment	Hearing Impairment	Motion and balance Impairment	Vocal and Speech Impairment	Moving Functional Limitation	Intellectual and Developmental Disability	Internal Organ Loss Function and Related Disabilities	Facial Disfigurements	Persistent Vegetative State	Dementia	Autism	Chronic Mental Health Conditions	Multiple Disabilities	Intractable Epilepsy	Rare Diseases	Others	Unclassifiable as the result of classification system transformation
2016	1,170,199	57,291	123,186	3,651	14,950	373,291	100,896	153,914	4,712	4,032	49,104	13,476	124,999	127,415	4,872	2,028	3,678	8,704
2017	1,167,450	56,830	122,835	3,501	15,007	366,781	101,428	154,313	4,720	3,684	50,813	13,905	125,932	127,336	4,873	1,937	3,862	9,693
2018	1,173,978	56,582	123,208	3,405	15,145	363,290	101,872	153,140	4,673	3,296	55,578	14,533	127,591	130,577	4,801	1,815	4,091	10,381
2019	1,186,740	56,209	124,485	3,322	15,274	360,234	102,127	154,258	4,666	3,002	61,705	15,439	129,885	133,764	4,753	1,763	4,149	11,705
2020	1,197,939	56,036	124,825	3,300	15,462	357,241	102,149	158,172	4,648	2,776	66,268	16,683	131,624	135,166	4,735	1,751	4,251	12,852

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

**Table 8 Analysis of the Disability Levels of Persons with Disabilities**

Unit: persons; %

			Total	Profound	Severe	Moderate	Minor
2016	Male	Number of persons with disabilities	662,800	75,763	108,399	212,003	266,635
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	56.64	6.47	9.26	18.12	22.79
	Female	Number of persons with disabilities	507,399	67,345	87,831	162,213	190,010
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	43.36	5.76	7.51	13.86	16.24
	Total	Number of persons with disabilities	1,170,199	143,108	196,230	374,216	456,645
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	100.00	12.23	16.77	31.98	39.02
2017	Male	Number of persons with disabilities	658,682	74,405	107,563	210,785	265,929
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	56.42	6.37	9.21	18.06	22.78
	Female	Number of persons with disabilities	508,768	65,765	88,414	162,907	191,682
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	43.58	5.63	7.57	13.95%	16.42

Unit: persons; %

			Total	Profound	Severe	Moderate	Minor
2017	Total	Number of persons with disabilities	1,167,450	140,170	195,977	373,692	457,611
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	100.00	12.01	16.79	32.01	39.20
2018	Male	Number of persons with disabilities	658,673	74,123	109,353	212,063	263,134
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	56.11	6.31	9.31	18.06	22.41
	Female	Number of persons with disabilities	515,305	64,973	90,834	165,171	194,327
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	43.89	5.53	7.74	14.07	16.55
	Total	Number of persons with disabilities	1,173,978	139,096	200,187	377,234	457,461
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	100.00	11.85	17.05	32.13	38.97
2019	Male	Number of persons with disabilities	661,690	75,139	110,585	213,813	262,153
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	55.76	6.33	9.32	18.02	22.10
	Female	Number of persons with disabilities	525,050	65,663	92,880	168,332	198,175
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	44.24	5.53	7.83	14.18	16.70
	Total	Number of persons with disabilities	1,186,740	140,802	203,465	382,145	460,328
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	100.00	11.86	17.14	32.20	38.79
2020	Male	Number of persons with disabilities	665,776	76,207	111,311	214,713	263,545
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	55.58	6.36	9.29	17.92	22.00
	Female	Number of persons with disabilities	532,163	66,356	94,126	170,879	200,802
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	44.42	5.54	7.86	14.26	16.76
	Total	Number of persons with disabilities	1,197,939	142,563	205,437	385,592	464,347
		Percentage of total population with disabilities	100.00	11.90	17.15	32.19	38.76

## **Living Standards among People of Varying Social, Economic, and Cultural Status**

17. The indigenous population remains an economically disadvantaged group, averaging an annual income of NTD 727,600 in 2017, with a 10.57% increase from 2014 and about 56% of the nationwide average. In addition, indigenous populations continue to flow from their homeland to non-indigenous townships and urban areas dominated by other ethnic groups, resulting in relatively low home ownership. Only 74.35% of the indigenous population are homeowners, which, despite having increased by 1.15 percentage points from 2014 (73.2%), was lower than the nationwide average of 89.27%. Furthermore, based on the quintile distribution of income in indigenous households, the disposable income of the top 20% is 7.35 times that of the lowest 20%. Although this is lower than the figure in 2014 (11.93 times), it is much higher than the national average of 6.07. The Gini coefficient that applies to indigenous households, which is 0.42, is also higher than the national average of 0.337. Indigenous households in the lowest quintile struggle to make ends meet and have negative savings rates. The income inequality is quite obvious compared with the average household.
18. The Constitution and the Primary and Junior High School Act require citizens between ages 6 and 15 to receive mandatory education and also specify the regulations for compulsory enrollment in schools, prevention of dropping out as well as the tracking and counseling mechanisms for school reentry.
19. Table 9 shows the amount of average annual compensation of employees and current transfer receipts per household between 2016 and 2020. The amount and percentage of current transfer receipts have been increasing on a long-term basis, with government subsidies and benefits of social insurance accounting for about 73% in 2020.

**Table 9 Average Annual Compensation of Employees and Current Transfer Receipts per Household**

Unit: NTD

Year \ Item	Compensation of Employees	Current Transfer Receipts
2016	674,344	238,909
2017	695,838	249,137
2018	707,123	251,904
2019	724,607	259,930
2020	725,932	279,122

Source: Survey of Family Income and Expenditure by Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan

20. In July 2011, the public assistance threshold under the Public Assistance Act was lowered to allow for assistance to low-to-middle income households. Such households must undergo asset (personal property and real estate) reviews to be identified as low-income or low-to-middle income households. In addition, for low-income households, the monthly average income per person in the family must fall under a threshold, while for low-to-middle income households, the monthly average income per person may not exceed 1.5 times the threshold. The threshold and conditions concerning assets vary from region to region. Before the amendment of the act (June 2011), there were 276,128 people in low-income households, which was 1.19% of the total population in Taiwan. From the implementation of the amended act to 2020, 625,922 people have been counted as being in low-income and low-to-middle households, representing 2.66% of the total population. Among these people, the number of males (323,177 people) is slightly higher than the number of females (302,745 people), and their percentages in the total population of males and that of females are 2.77% and 2.55%, respectively. Since the amendment of the act, 349,794 impoverished people have received care, and the percentage of people given assistance as a percentage of the total population has increased from 1.19% to 2.66%. An overview of low-income/low-to-middle income households before and since the amendment of the act is shown in Table 10.

**Table 10 Overview of Low-Income/Low-to-Middle Income Households Before and After Amendment of the Act**

Unit: persons; %

Year	Low-Income Households			Low-to-Middle Income Households			Low-Income and Low-to-Middle Income Households (Total)			
	Population	Male	Female	Population	Male	Female	Population	Male	Female	
Before Amend ment	Jun. 2011	276,128(1.19)	141,058(1.21)	135,070(1.17)	NA			276,128(1.19)	141,058(1.21)	135,070(1.17)
After Amend ment	2016	331,776(1.41)	173,763(1.48)	158,013(1.34)	358,161(1.52)	178,516(1.52)	179,645(1.52)	689,937(2.93)	352,279(3.01)	337,658(2.86)
	2017	317,257(1.35)	167,287(1.43)	149,970(1.27)	350,425(1.48)	174,377(1.48)	176,048(1.27)	667,682(2.83)	341,664(2.92)	326,018(2.75)
	2018	311,526(1.32)	165,319(1.41)	146,207(1.23)	338,468(1.43)	168,163(1.44)	170,305(1.43)	649,994(2.76)	333,482(2.85)	316,512(2.67)
	2019	304,407(1.28)	162,658(1.39)	141,812(1.19)	334,237(1.42)	165,881(1.41)	168,356(1.42)	638,707(2.71)	328,539(2.81)	310,168(2.61)
	2020	300,241(1.27)	161,390(1.38)	138,851(1.17)	325,681(1.38)	161,787(1.39)	163,894(1.38)	625,922(2.66)	323,177(2.77)	302,745(2.55)

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

Note: The numbers in parentheses are the percentages of the total population in Taiwan.

21. As a result of the worldwide financial crisis, the quintile ratio (i.e., the ratio between the income of the top and bottom quintile) of household disposable income widened to 6.34 in 2009, and the Gini coefficient increased to 0.345. Due to the improvement of the domestic economy, the unemployment rate decreased, the quintile ratio fell to 6.13, and the Gini coefficient improved to 0.340. Analysis of the spending of high- and low-income households revealed housing as the largest expenditure, representing 21.8% in the high-income group and 31.4% in the low-income group. Food was the next largest expenditure, representing 24.0% and 27.6% in the respective income groups. With regard to healthcare expenditure, the wide availability of healthcare services has kept expenditures around 16.7% and 17.5% in the respective income groups. Lastly, education expenditure represented only 0.8% in low-income households given their smaller family size and higher average age; in the high-income group, education expenditure represented 4.3% of total spending. In 2019, national health expenditure (NHE) amounted to NTD 1.2385 trillion (or 6.5% of GDP). The NHE per capita was NTD 52,486. Based on detailed analysis of the NHE, personal healthcare comprised the largest share at 87.6%. Meanwhile, the public sector accounted for 59.8% and the private sector accounted for 40.2%. Households made the largest contribution at 50.2%, followed by the government sector at 27.4%.
22. The net primary school enrollment rate (students aged 6 to 11) was 97.31% in the 2020 academic year: 97.35% for boys and 96.27% for girls (a 0.08 percent difference). The net junior high school enrollment rate (students aged 12 to 14) was 97.40% in the 2020 academic

year: 97.35% for boys and 97.44% for girls (only a 0.09 percent difference). In the last five years, the net primary school and junior high school enrollment rates have both remained between 97% and 98%, with no significant difference.

23. In 2020, 99.03% of the population aged 15 and above were literate. This was a 0.33 percentage point increase over 2016, and the rate is currently on a rising trend. The literacy rate of the population aged 15-24 is almost 100% because of the mandatory nine-year education program. There was no significant difference between literacy rates of the two genders in this age group. However, a small percentage of people aged 25 and above were still affected by traditional values that attached less importance to education for women. Nevertheless, this phenomenon is slowly disappearing. In 2020, the literacy rate of the male population aged 15 and above was 99.82%, 1.56 percentage points higher than the literacy rate of the female population (98.26%).
24. Table 11 shows student-teacher ratios in public schools between the 2016 and 2020 academic years.

**Table 11 Student-Teacher Ratios in Public Schools**

Unit: persons

Academic Year	Total	Primary Education	Secondary Education	Tertiary Education
2016	13.17	12.22	11.97	19.37
2017	12.99	12.00	11.72	19.21
2018	12.77	11.96	11.32	18.93
2019	12.59	11.96	10.90	18.84
2020	12.44	11.94	10.61	18.80

Source: Ministry of Education

25. The labor force participation rates, unemployment rates, and employment rates between 2016 and 2020 are shown in Tables 12 and 13.



**Table 12 Labor Force Participation Rate and Unemployment rate**

Unit: %

Year	LFPR			Unemployment rate		
		Male	Female		Male	Female
2016	58.75	67.05	50.80	3.92	4.19	3.57
2017	58.83	67.13	50.92	3.76	4.00	3.45
2018	58.99	67.24	51.14	3.71	3.89	3.48
2019	59.17	67.34	51.39	3.73	3.85	3.58
2020	59.14	67.24	51.41	3.85	3.92	3.76

Source: Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan

Note: The employed persons include data from the agriculture, forestry, fishing &amp; animal husbandry, industry, and services sectors.

**Table 13 Employment Rate**

Unit: %

Item Year	Total	Male	Female	15-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	Age 65 and above
2016	56.44	64.24	48.99	27.57	84.23	61.08	8.59
2017	56.62	64.44	49.17	28.78	84.79	61.58	8.57
2018	56.81	64.62	49.36	30.38	85.43	61.95	8.42
2019	56.96	64.75	49.55	31.80	86.04	62.25	8.29
2020	56.86	64.61	49.48	32.29	85.99	62.52	8.74

Source: Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan

Note: The employment rate refers to the ratio of employed persons among the total number of civilians aged 15 or above. The civilian population, including those in the labor force and not in the labor force, does not include members of the armed forces (currently active personnel), incarcerated people, and people who have gone missing.

26. At the end of August 2018, 475,698 persons were engaged in street vending, representing a decrease of 16,185 persons, or 3.29%, from 2013. Females accounted for 260,572 persons, or 54.78%, a decrease of 20,139 persons over five years, and males accounted for 215,126 persons, or 45.22%, for a slight growth of 3,954 persons.

27. Table 14 shows the number of labor unions and members between 2016 and 2020.

**Table 14 Labor Unions and Members**

Unit: organizations; persons; %

End of Year	Grand total				Federations of labor unions						Corporate unions		Industrial unions		Professional unions	
	Unions	Institutional members	Personal Members		Others		Corporate and industrial		Profession		Unions	Personal Members	Unions	Personal Members	Unions	Personal Members
				Organization rate		Institutional members		Institutional members		Institutional members						
2016	5,485	5,178	3,348,702	33.2	104	4,247	43	308	108	623	924	553,815	179	79,687	4,127	2,715,200
2017	5,499	5,120	3,380,879	33.2	107	4,194	43	295	110	631	895	581,531	194	85,950	4,150	2,713,398
2018	5,536	5,070	3,369,165	32.9	112	4,152	43	289	110	629	900	585,153	210	87,271	4,161	2,696,741
2019	5,576	5,050	3,353,660	32.5	116	4,133	43	287	110	630	909	588,121	214	84,442	4,184	2,681,097
2020	5,655	5,094	3,363,998	32.6	118	4,160	43	277	111	657	916	590,089	231	86,424	4,236	2,687,485

Source: Ministry of Labor

28. Table 15 shows macroeconomic data between 2016 and 2020, with no foreign debts.

**Table 15 Macroeconomic Overview**

Unit: NTD 100 million; NTD; %

Year	Gross national income (GNI)	Gross domestic product (GDP)	GDP Per capita	Economic growth rate	Annual change of the Consumer Price Index (CPI)
2016	180,064	175,553	746,526	2.17	1.39
2017	184,307	179,833	763,445	3.31	0.62
2018	187,898	183,750	779,260	2.79	1.35
2019	194,090	189,325	802,361	2.96	0.56
2020	203,137	197,662	838,191	3.12	-0.23

Source: Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan

29. Between 2016 and 2020, the percentage of women among all civil servants increased from 42.08% to 42.31%. The percentage of women among political appointees increased from 21.83% to 22.13%. The percentage of women among indigenous civil servants increased from 34.21% to 37.33% and grew year by year.

### Right to Health Indicators

30. The maternal mortality rate in 2020 was 13 per 100,000 live births. The main causes of death were embolism, pregnancy-induced hypertension with (combined or concurrent) significant proteinuria, postpartum hemorrhage, and labor (in labor) and other complications of childbirth.

31. There were 161,288 newborns in 2020. The crude infant death rate was 3.63 deaths per 1,000 live births and the crude neonatal death rate was 2.39 deaths per 1,000 live births. The leading causes of infant mortality were congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities (17.9%); respiratory disorders originating in the perinatal period (13.5%); disorders related to length of gestation and fetal growth (13.0%); accidents and adverse effects (6.7%); and infections specific to the perinatal period (4.9%). The top five causes accounted for 56% of infant deaths.
32. According to the 12th Family and Fertility Survey conducted in 2016, 75.23% of married women aged 20-49 practiced contraception, which represented a 1.37 percent decrease over 2012.
33. The leading causes of death from 2016 to 2019 were malignant neoplasms, heart disease, pneumonia, cerebrovascular disease, diabetes mellitus, accidents and adverse effects, chronic lower respiratory disease, hypertensive disease, nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, and nephrosis, and chronic liver disease and cirrhosis. In 2020, only hypertensive diseases and chronic lower respiratory disease switched places; there was no change to the order of the remainder. In terms of the top 10 causes of death by gender, the number of male deaths from 2016 to 2020 exceeded female deaths. The top two causes of death for both males and females were malignant neoplasms and heart disease; chronic liver disease and cirrhosis was one of the top 10 causes of death for men but it was not among the top 10 causes of death for women. The opposite was true for vascular disease and unspecified dementia. Table 16 shows the number of deaths and death rates for the most common types of cancer in 2020.

**Table 16 Deaths and Mortality Rate for Most Common Cancers in 2020**

Unit: persons; per 100,000 persons

Male				Female			
Cause of death	Number of deaths	Crude death rate	Standardized death rate	Cause of death	Number of deaths	Crude death rate	Standardized death rate
Tracheal, bronchial, and lung cancer	6,037	51.6	29.7	Tracheal, bronchial, and lung cancer	3,592	30.2	15.1
Liver and bile duct cancer	5,296	45.3	26.8	Colorectal and anal cancer	2,853	24.0	11.8
Colorectal and anal cancer	3,636	31.1	17.9	Breast cancer	2,655	22.3	12.8
Oral cavity cancer	3,137	26.8	16.8	Liver and bile duct cancer	2,477	20.8	10.0
Esophageal cancer	1,801	15.4	9.5	Pancreatic cancer	1,101	9.3	4.7

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

Note: 1. Statistics for the leading causes of death have been prepared based on the International Classification of Diseases Tenth Revision (ICD-10).

2. Standardized death rate was based on the 2000 WHO World Standard Population.

34. The smoking rate in males aged 18 and above decreased from 42.9% in 2004 to 23.1% in 2020, and the betel nut chewing rate decreased from 17.2% in 2007 to 6.2% in 2018.
35. The total number of colorectal and anal cancer, cervical cancer and breast cancer screenings in citizens of Taiwan increased marginally from 2016 to 2019, showing that screening rates have held steady. In 2020, however, slightly less people accepted cancer screening services due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, with respect to oral cancer screening for people who smoke or chew betel nut, as changes in smoking and betel nut chewing behavior influence the oral cancer screening rate, since 2017 the oral cancer screening rate is no longer listed. The rate of cases with premalignant lesions and cancers found during screening has grown, while the standardized incidence rate and mortality rate have fallen.
36. The number of confirmed cases of notifiable communicable diseases and the incidence rate per 100,000 of the population between 2016 and 2020 are presented in Table 17. Diseases with a significant difference in occurrence according to sex and incidence rates of more than five per 100,000 persons are listed, including tuberculosis, syphilis, gonorrhea, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). The incidence rate by sex (female/male) in 2020 were tuberculosis (20.30/46.30), syphilis (12.00/63.07), gonorrhea (5.79/54.72), human immunodeficiency virus infection (0.29/11.60)

and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (0.29/6.54). The reasons for the different rates by sex include variation among clinical symptoms as a result of the different physiological structures between the sexes, delayed seeking of medical treatment, unsafe sexual activities, high-risk chronic disease prevalence rate, and differences in the hormones and immune responses of the sexes. The incidence rates for the five diseases, as mentioned above, in 2020 had all declined from 2019 except gonorrhea.

**Table 17 Statistics on Notifiable Communicable Diseases**

Unit: person; per 100,000 persons

Name of disease	Confirmed cases					Incidence (per 100,000 persons)				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Dengue fever	744	343	533	640	137	3.16	1.46	2.26	2.71	0.58
Shigellosis	225	162	172	147	151	0.96	0.69	0.73	0.62	0.64
Malaria - imported	13	7	7	7	2	0.06	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.01
Acute hepatitis A	1,133	369	88	107	74	4.82	1.57	0.37	0.45	0.31
Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR TB)	112	103	120	79	74	0.50	0.40	0.50	0.33	0.30
Tuberculosis	10,328	9,759	9,179	8,732	7,823	43.90	41.40	38.90	37.01	33.20
Acute Hepatitis B	118	151	143	111	108	0.50	0.64	0.61	0.47	0.46
Acute Hepatitis C	207	325	510	626	602	0.88	1.38	2.16	2.65	2.55
Syphilis	8,725	9,835	9,808	9,397	8,799	37.10	41.75	41.59	39.82	37.31
Gonorrhea	4,469	4,601	4,209	4,523	7,082	19.00	19.53	17.85	19.17	30.03
HIV	2,396	2,514	1,992	1,755	1,390	10.19	10.67	8.45	7.44	5.89
AIDS	1,412	1,390	1,091	1,005	800	6.00	5.90	4.63	4.26	3.39
Enteroviruses infection with severe complications	33	24	36	69	6	0.14	0.10	0.15	0.29	0.03
Invasive pneumococcal disease	592	454	459	447	228	2.52	1.93	1.95	1.89	0.97
Influenza case with severe complications	2,084	1,359	1,096	2,325	444	8.86	5.77	5.07	9.85	1.88

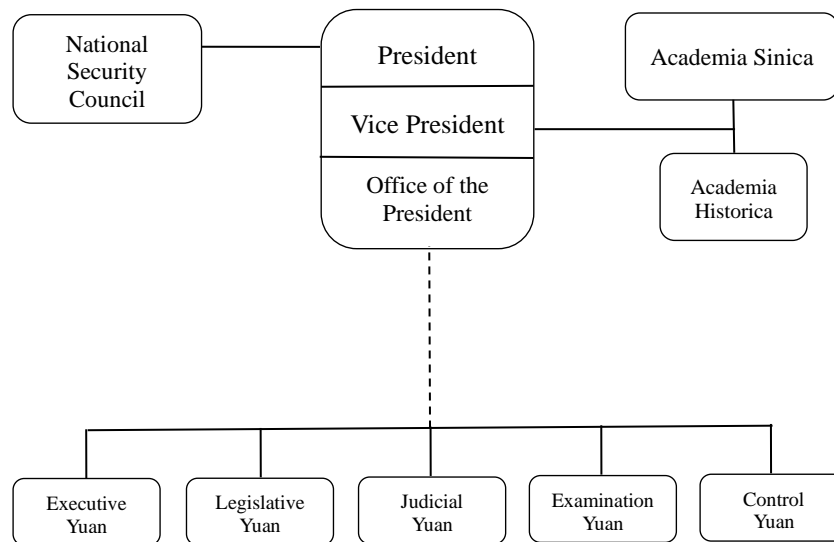
Source: Report on communicable diseases for the period 2016-2020, Ministry of Health and Welfare

**37.** Social protection expenditures are government expenditures provided to mitigate the risks or expenses of families or individuals related to old age, disability, survivorship, disease, maternity, children, unemployment, employment injury or occupational disease, housing, and income support, and to provide universal access to healthcare and assurances for minimum living standards. In 2019, social protection expenditures formulated or enforced by the government reached NTD 2,086.4 billion (representing 11.0% of GDP). This was 13.7% higher than 2016.

## B. Constitutional, Political and Legal Framework of the Reporting Nation

### Constitutional, Political and Legal Framework

38. The system of government of the ROC, according to the Constitution, is led by the President as the nation's Head of State, under whom there are five separate branches of the government with their own functions and responsibilities including the Executive Yuan, Legislative Yuan, Judicial Yuan, Examination Yuan and Control Yuan. The system of government is illustrated below.



Source: Website of the Office of the President

**Figure 2 System of Government of the Republic of China**

39. The Executive Yuan is the highest administrative organ of the state. The Executive Yuan is headed by the Premier. The Premier is appointed by the President and is assisted by the Vice Premier and seven to nine Ministers without Portfolio, who are nominated by the Premier and appointed by the President. The Executive Yuan has an Executive Yuan Council, which is chaired by the Premier. The Council is responsible for determining major policies and proposing to the Legislative Yuan statutory or budgetary bills as well as bills concerning martial law, amnesty, the declaration of war, the conclusion of peace, and treaties. The Executive Yuan is comprised of a number of bodies, including 12 ministries: the Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of National Defense, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Health and Welfare,

Ministry of Culture, and Ministry of Science and Technology; 11 councils or commissions: the National Development Council, Mainland Affairs Council, Financial Supervisory Commission, Ocean Affairs Council, Overseas Community Affairs Council, Veterans Affairs Council, Council of Indigenous Peoples, Hakka Affairs Council, Public Construction Commission, Atomic Energy Council, and Council of Agriculture; the Environmental Protection Administration; four independent administrative institutions: the Central Election Commission, Fair Trade Commission, National Communications Commission, and Transitional Justice Commission; the Central Bank of the ROC (Taiwan); the National Palace Museum; and two directorates-general: the Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, and the Directorate-General of Personnel Administration.

40. The Legislative Yuan is the country's highest legislature. Members of the Legislative Yuan are legislators elected by the people and they exercise legislative power on behalf of their constituencies. They have the power to decide statutory bills, budget and audit bills, martial law, amnesty, declaration of war, conclusion of peace, treaties, and other important national matters. Any act, law, statute or regulation must be passed by the Legislative Yuan and promulgated by the President before it becomes the law of the land. Constitutional amendments and alterations of national territory must first be passed by the Legislative Yuan as resolutions before they are put to national referendums in accordance with the provisions of the Additional Articles of the Constitution of The ROC. Therefore, in terms of its powers and functions, the Legislative Yuan is the equivalent of a unicameral parliament in other democracies.
41. There are 15 Justices of the Constitutional Court. One Justice serves as the President of the Judicial Yuan and one Justice serves as the Vice President of the Judicial Yuan. The Justices are nominated and, with the consent of the Legislative Yuan, appointed by the President of the ROC. Each Justice of the Judicial Yuan serves for eight years and cannot serve consecutive terms. The Justices serving as President and Vice President do not enjoy the guarantee of an eight-year term. According to Paragraph 4 of Article 5 of the Additional Articles of the Constitution and the Constitutional Court Procedure Act, the Justices sit as the Constitutional Court to decide the following types of cases: (1) constitutionality of laws and constitutional complaints; (2) disputes between constitutional organs; (3) impeachment of the President and

the Vice President; (4) dissolution of unconstitutional political parties; (5) local self-government; and (6) uniform interpretation of statutes and regulations. Procedural provisions governing constitutional interpretation and those governing uniform interpretation of statutes and regulations specified in this act are to be applied as appropriate where a petition to the Judicial Yuan for interpretation is otherwise provided for.

42. The Constitutional Interpretation Procedure Act was amended and promulgated on January 4, 2019, and renamed the Constitutional Court Procedure Act. The Act came into force on January 4, 2022. The new legislation provides that the Justices comprise the Constitutional Court and review the constitutionality of laws and constitutional complaints, disputes between constitutional organs, impeachment of the President and the Vice President, dissolution of unconstitutional political parties, guarantees of local self-governance, and uniform interpretation of statutes and regulations. Rulings made by the court must be published as judgments and orders instead of as interpretations.
43. Pursuant to the provisions of the Court Organic Act, there are three levels of courts including the Supreme Court, High Court and its branches, and district courts and their branches. The courts engage in civil and criminal trials as well as other legal proceedings required by law. In addition, the courts have jurisdiction over non-contentious cases. Generally, trials are conducted based on the three-level, three-instance system, with the first and second instances being conducted based on matters of fact, and the third instance being conducted as legal review. Rules concerning courts-martial were revised on August 13, 2013, specifying that any military personnel on active duty who violates the Criminal Code of the Armed Forces or related special codes in peacetime shall be judged by an ordinary court.
44. The Administrative Court was established for administrative litigation cases. The Intellectual Property Court was established for litigation and trials involving intellectual property rights. On July 1, 2021, the court changed its title to the Intellectual Property and Commercial Court to deal with judgments on civil procedure, criminal procedure, and administrative litigation regarding intellectual property as well as civil procedure and nonlitigation cases regarding commercial matters. The Juvenile and Family Court was established for litigation and trials involving juvenile and family cases or incidents. The Disciplinary Court is in charge of disciplinary sanction of civil servants, judges, and prosecutors.

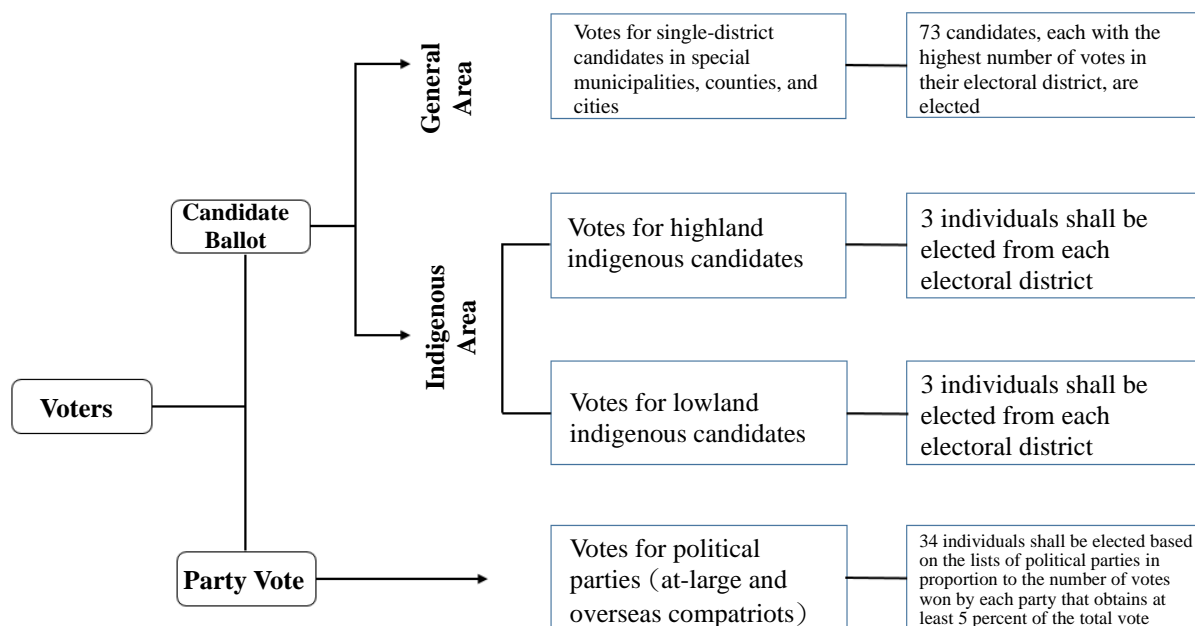


45. According to Article 80 of the Constitution, judges shall be above partisanship and shall, in accordance with the statute, hold trials independently free from any interference. Article 81 of the Constitution further stipulates that judges shall hold office for life. No judge shall be removed from office unless proven guilty of a criminal offense or subjected to disciplinary measure, or declared to be under interdiction. No judge shall, except in accordance with relevant statutes, be suspended or transferred or receive a salary reduction. According to Article 2 of the Judges Act amended and promulgated on June 10, 2020, the term *judge* in the Judges Act includes Justices of the Judicial Yuan, judges on the Disciplinary Court, and judges on any other court. Article 4 of the Judicial Yuan Organization Act sets forth specific regulations on qualifications for being a Justice. Article 5 of the Judges Act as promulgated on July 6, 2012, outlines the eligibility for personnel serving as Supreme Court judges, Supreme Administrative Court judges, commissioners of the Public Functionary Disciplinary Sanction Commission, judges of the High Administrative Court, High Court, branch court judges, and other judges on lower courts. Article 5 of the Judges Act as promulgated on July 17, 2019, outlines the qualifications for appointing research fellows, associate research fellows, or assistant research fellows at Academia Sinica as judges on courts of all levels below the High Court. It also specifies the qualifications for appointing research fellows at Academia Sinica as judges of the Supreme Court or Supreme Administrative Court, or as commissioners of the Public Functionary Disciplinary Sanction Commission. In accordance with the Disciplinary Court Organization Act amended and promulgated on June 10, 2020, and implemented on July 17 of the same year, the Public Functionary Disciplinary Sanction Commission was renamed the Disciplinary Court, and commissioners on the Public Functionary Disciplinary Sanction Commission were rechristened judges of the Disciplinary Court.
46. The Examination Yuan is the nation's highest examination organ. It has one President, one Vice President, and seven to nine Members with a term of four years. They are nominated by the President of the ROC and approved and appointed by the Legislative Yuan. The Examination Yuan oversees regulatory matters concerning examinations and civil servants' records and qualification review, protection, compensation, retirement, appointment and dismissal, performance, salary, promotion, and reward. Members of the Examination Yuan shall be above partisanship and shall exercise their functions independently in accordance with the law.

47. The Control Yuan is the nation's highest supervisory authority. It has 29 Members. Two Members concurrently serve as the President and Vice President of the Control Yuan. They serve six-year terms and Members are nominated and appointed by the President of the-ROC and approved by the Legislative Yuan. The Control Yuan holds the authority to impeach, censure, and audit. Members of the Control Yuan shall be above partisanship and shall exercise their functions independently in accordance with laws.

### **Political System Indicators**

48. The Central Election Commission is an independent authority. Members of all levels of Election Commissions shall be above partisanship and shall exercise their functions independently free of political parties or inappropriate political interference in accordance with the law. Members of the Commission serve a four-year term, and no political party shall have more than one-third of membership in the Commission. There are 11 types of public officials including president and vice president, legislators, special municipality mayors, special municipality councilors, chiefs of indigenous districts in special municipalities, councilors of indigenous districts in special municipalities, county magistrates (city mayors), county (city) councilors, township chiefs, township councilors, and chiefs of villages (boroughs).
49. Candidates for president and vice president may be recommended by political parties that have met the following criteria: the party eligible for recommending a candidate must have received at least 5% of all valid votes for its candidate in the most recent presidential and vice-presidential election or Legislative election. A potential candidate who has not been recommended by a political party may secure candidacy by joint endorsement; the number of joint signers must be at least 1.5% of the total number of electors for the most recent Legislative election.
50. The illustration of the "single-district two-votes system" for elections of the Legislative Yuan is shown in Figure 3.



Source: Central Election Commission

**Figure 3 Illustration of the Single-district Two-votes System**

51. Table 18 shows the number of elected local administrators, chiefs of villages, and local representatives in 2018.

**Table 18 Number of Elected Local Administrators, Chiefs of Villages, and Local Representatives**

Unit: persons

Special municipality				County (City)	
Local administrator		Local representatives		Local administrator	Local representatives
Mayor 6		City Councilors 380		Magistrates (Mayors) of Counties (Cities) 16	County (City) Councilors 532
District executives (assigned by Mayor)	Indigenous peoples district executives 6	(None)	Mountain Indigenous District Council Representatives 50	Mayors of Townships (Cities) 198	Township (City) Council Representatives 2099
Village Chief 4157				Village Chief 3,603	

Source: Central Election Commission

52. A citizen who meets the criteria of an elector shall be automatically included in the official list of electors based on household registration by the household registration authority, and is not required to register as a voter. All elected officials in Taiwan are elected by a relative majority in one round of elections and guaranteed quotas are reserved for women at both the central and

local government levels. The number of eligible voters for central and local public official elections in 2016, 2018, and 2020 is presented in Table 19.

**Table 19 Number of Eligible Voters in Central and Local Public Official Elections**

Unit: persons; %

Year	Type of election	Population	No. of eligible voters	Percentage of population
2016	President and vice president election	23,483,793	18,782,991	79.98
2018	Local public official elections	23,580,833	19,102,512	81.01
2020	President and vice president election	23,598,776	19,311,105	81.83
2020	Regional constituent and indigenous legislator elections	23,598,776	19,221,861	81.45
2020	At-large and overseas compatriot legislator elections	23,598,776	19,312,105	81.84

Source: Central Election Commission

53. The allocation of legislators' seats to various political parties is as follows: In the 10th Legislative Yuan in 2020, the number of legislators elected was 113: Democratic Progressive Party 61 seats (53.93%), Kuomintang 38 seats (33.63%), Taiwan People's Party five seats (4.42%), New Power Party three seats (2.65%), Taiwan Statebuilding Party one seat (0.88%); five seats were won by a candidate with no political affiliation (4.42%).

54. The number and gender distribution of elected legislators in 2016 and 2020 are presented in Table 20.

**Table 20 Election of Legislators—Number Elected and Gender Distribution**

Unit: persons; %

Year	Type of election	Total	Male	Female	Female percentage
2016	Total	113	70	43	38.05
	At-large and overseas compatriot legislator elections	34	16	18	52.94
	Regional constituent legislator elections	73	50	23	31.51
	Indigenous legislator elections	6	4	2	33.33
2020	Total	113	66	47	41.59
	At-large and overseas compatriot legislator elections	34	15	19	55.88
	Regional constituent legislator elections	73	48	25	34.25
	Indigenous legislator elections	6	3	3	50.00

Source: Central Election Commission

55. The number and gender distribution of elected local public officials in 2018 are presented in Table 21.

**Table 21 Election of Local Public Officials—Number Elected and Gender Distribution**

Unit: persons; %

Type of election	Total	Male	Female	Female percentage
2018 special municipality/county/city mayor election	22	15	7	31.82
2018 special municipality /county/city councilor election	912	605	307	33.66

Source: Central Election Commission

56. The average number and gender distribution of voters in national and local elections by administrative units from 2016 to 2020 are presented in Tables 22, 23, and 24.

**Table 22 Election of President and Vice President—Number and Gender Distribution of Eligible Voters/Votes Cast**

Unit: persons; %

Year	No. of eligible voters	No. of votes cast	Turnout	Turnout by gender	
				Male	Female
2016	18,782,991	12,448,302	66.27	66.22	66.33
2020	19,311,105	14,464,571	74.90	73.20	76.70

Source: Central Election Commission

**Table 23 Election of Legislators—Number of Eligible Voters/Votes Cast**

Unit: persons; %

Year	Type of election	No. of eligible voters	No. of votes cast	Turnout
2016	At-large and overseas compatriot legislator elections	18,786,940	12,447,036	66.25
	Regional constituent legislator elections	18,305,112	12,187,927	66.58
	Indigenous legislator elections	387,105	212,102	54.79
2020	At-large and overseas compatriot legislator elections	19,312,105	14,456,293	74.86
	Regional constituent legislator elections	18,806,913	14,129,999	75.13
	Indigenous legislator elections	414,948	272,076	65.57

Source: Central Election Commission

**Table 24 Election of Local Public Officials—Number of Voters and Gender Distribution**

Unit: persons; %

Type of election	No. of eligible voters	No. of votes cast	Turnout	Turnout by gender	
				Male	Female
2018 special municipality/county/city mayor election	19,102,502	12,791,031	66.96	Sampling work still underway	
2018 special municipality/county/city councilor election	19,053,128	12,764,191	66.99	Sampling work still underway	

Source: Central Election Commission

57. According to the regulations in the Referendum Act amended on January 3, 2018, to submit a proposal for a referendum, the leading proposer shall submit a written proposal, a statement of reasons, the original roster and copy of the proposer's details to the competent authority. The number of proposers shall be not less than one-ten thousandth of the total electorate in the most recent election of the president and vice president. The number of joint signers shall not be less than 1.5%. With regard to the result of voting for a referendum proposal, if valid ballots of assent are more than ballots of dissent and reach 1/4 of eligible voters, the proposal is adopted.
58. From the promulgation of the Referendum Act on December 31, 2003, to 2020, a total of 16 national referendums have been announced as valid for voting. A total of six referendums were conducted before 2018 and they all failed to pass because the results were lower than the threshold. However, the amendment and promulgation of the Referendum Act on January 3, 2018, significantly reduced the thresholds for the proposal, joint signature, and votes required for a referendum to be valid. The joint signature for 10 referendums were completed in the same year and seven referendums were passed in the voting.
59. Between 2016 and 2020, 47 new political parties completed the registration process. As of 2020, there were 124 political parties.
60. In the presidential and vice-presidential and legislative elections in 2016, 140 individuals were convicted for election bribery, two individuals were convicted for crimes of violence, and 81 individuals were convicted in other criminal cases. In the elections of special municipality councilors, county (city) mayors, county (city) councilors, township mayors, township councilors, chiefs/councilors of indigenous districts in municipalities, and village chiefs in 2018, 1,827 individuals were convicted for election bribery, 62 individuals were convicted for

crimes of violence, and 610 individuals were convicted in other criminal cases. For the presidential and vice-presidential elections of 2020, 49 individuals were convicted of election-related bribery, six individuals were convicted for crimes of violence, and 158 individuals were convicted in other related criminal cases.

61. Overview of violations of electoral regulations: 45 cases in the presidential and vice-presidential and the legislative elections in 2016; 304 cases in local public official elections in 2018; 129 cases in the presidential and vice-presidential (86 cases) and legislative (43 cases) elections in 2020.
62. A local referendum must be filed to the special municipality or county (city) government. Related items for referendums are provided in the Referendum Act and the autonomous regulations of special municipalities and counties (cities). As of 2020, a total of five regional referendums have been approved and the turnout in 2008, 2009, 2012, 2016, and 2017 was: 5.35%, 42.16%, 40.76%, 39.56%, and 24.17%, respectively. Only one proposal was passed. The passage rate was 20%.

### **Crime and Justice Indicators**

63. The national crime rate decreased from 1,253.75 cases per 100,000 people in 2016 to 1,101.31 cases in 2020. The number of crime suspects increased from 272,817 in 2016 to 281,811 in 2020. The number of crime victims decreased from 191,889 in 2016 to 190,198 in 2020.
64. The number of homicides occurring between 2016 and 2020 was 405, 399, 323, 302 and 238, respectively. The number of crime suspects decreased from 766 in 2016 to 489 in 2020.
65. Number and rate (per 100,000 people) of people arrested, tried, convicted, sentenced, and imprisoned for violent crimes or other serious offenses (e.g., homicide, robbery, assault, and smuggling): The number of these crimes in 2020 was 1,260, 993, 859, and 704, respectively, which is equivalent to 5.35 cases, 4.21 cases, 3.64 cases, and 2.99 cases per 100,000 people. Overall, the crime rate has decreased. The number of crime suspects decreased from 2,208 in 2016 to 1,195 in 2020.
66. Conviction rates for major violent crimes: With regard to homicide, robbery, kidnapping, and forced sexual intercourse from 2016 to 2020, the conviction rates for homicide were 88.2% (2016), 90.6% (2017), 93.7% (2018), 87.7% (2019) and 93.0% (2020); conviction rates for robbery were 95.7% (2016), 92.2% (2017), 92.5% (2018), 90.0% (2019) and 96.4%

(2020); conviction rates for kidnapping were 90.0% (2016), 88.2% (2017), 71.4% (2018), 75.0% (2019) and 93.8% (2020); and conviction rates for forced sexual intercourse were 83.0% (2016), 82.4% (2017), 83.4% (2018), 82.6% (2019) and 81.2% (2020).

67. The number of forced sexual encounters that occurred between 2016 and 2020 was 551 (2016), 302 (2017), 228 (2018), 201 (2019) and 170 (2020).
68. Pursuant to the Crime Victim Protection Act, surviving family members of deceased victims, seriously injured victims of criminal acts, and victims of sexual assault crimes are entitled to apply for crime victim compensation. Between 2016 and 2020, the number of compensation cases approved totaled 3,111, and the number of persons compensated was 3,740 (including 1,303 males and 2,437 females). The total compensation amounted to NTD 1,822,641,414 during this period (NTD 763,698,299 for males and NTD 1,058,943,115 for females). Table 25 shows statistics on crime victim compensation applied for and approved between 2016 and 2020.

**Table 25 Applied and Approved Cases of Crime Victim Compensation**

Unit: cases; %

Year	No. of applications	No. of cases approved	Ratio
2016	1,178	551	46.77
2017	1,352	709	52.44
2018	1,345	637	47.36
2019	1,261	539	42.74
2020	1,495	675	45.15

Source: Ministry of Justice

69. The number of police officers per 100,000 people between 2016 and 2020 was 223 (2016), 271 (2017), 282 (2018), 293 (2019) and 301 (2020). The number of female police officers (per 100,000 people) was 20 (2016), 26 (2017), 30 (2018), 34 (2019) and 37 (2020). The sum of government spending on law enforcement between 2016 and 2020 was NTD 25,185,589,337 (2016), NTD 25,267,097,757 (2017), NTD 26,330,021,785 (2018), NTD 26,749,154,697 (2019) and NTD 27,200,048,961 (2020).



70. Tables 26 and 27 show the average number of days required for closing a case at different court levels between 2016 and 2020.

**Table 26 Average Number of Days Required for Closing a Case at Different Court Levels**

Unit: day

Year	District courts						High (administrative) courts					Supreme (administrative) court				
	Civil (excluding family)	Family	Criminal (excluding juvenile)	Juvenile criminal cases	Juvenile protection cases	Administrative litigation	Civil (excluding family)	Family	Criminal (excluding juvenile)	juvenile	Administrative litigation	Civil (excluding family)	Family	Criminal (excluding juvenile)	juvenile	Administrative litigation
2016	104.59	144.30	72.47	127.96	47.70	456.06	188.43	181.64	76.29	31.79	119.63	41.19	22.41	31.00	16.25	34.11
2017	105.74	147.88	79.01	152.24	47.63	144.32	186.33	170.09	81.73	35.03	122.73	41.87	22.59	29.19	24.78	35.23
2018	106.97	151.46	81.49	129.46	48.32	131.83	191.61	171.41	84.01	36.39	134.99	45.02	24.26	28.14	16.63	38.59
2019	102.88	162.58	85.72	135.30	48.67	134.75	188.62	168.04	88.98	33.34	141.11	45.37	24.97	29.95	20.92	49.22
2020	102.63	172.56	85.39	131.24	49.99	135.86	185.16	190.05	87.85	33.43	176.91	38.48	27.35	28.57	47.40	52.90

Source: Judicial Yuan

**Table 27 Average Number of Days Required for Closing a Case in Intellectual Property Court**

Unit: day

Year	Civil first instance	Civil second instance	Criminal	Administrative litigation
2016	239.03	248.52	116.12	194.08
2017	228.18	228.67	131.43	218.25
2018	221.26	203.65	149.65	228.46
2019	170.01	236.54	142.43	190.87
2020	186.62	208.85	128.62	192.78

Source: Judicial Yuan

71. The average number of days required for a prosecutor of a district prosecutors office to investigate and close a case from 2016 to 2020 was 52.54 days, 52.69 days, 52.14 days, 54.95 days and 53.49 days. The average number of days required for a prosecutor of the High Prosecutors Office and its Branches to close a case was 1.66 days, 1.69 days, 1.97 days, 1.90 days and 1.91 days. The average number of days required for a prosecutor of the Supreme Prosecutors Office to close a case was 2.17 days, 1.60 days, 1.76 days, 1.88 days and 1.64 days.
72. There is no obvious difference in the gender distribution of Grand Justices, Superintendents, Division-chief Judges and General Judges and there are only marginal differences in the gender distribution of those serving in administrative roles.

- 73.** Prosecutors per 100,000 people: The number of prosecutors was 1,385 (5.9 per 100,000 people) in 2016. The number of prosecutors was 1,366 (5.8 per 100,000 people) in 2017. The number of prosecutors was 1,352 (5.7 per 100,000 people) in 2018. The number of prosecutors was 1,357 (5.7 per 100,000 people) in 2019. The number of prosecutors was 1,395 (5.9 per 100,000 people) in 2020. Judges per 100,000 persons: The number of judges was 2,056 (8.7 per 100,000 people) in 2016. The number of judges was 2,074 (8.7 per 100,000 people) in 2017. The number of judges was 2,101 (8.9 per 100,000 people) in 2018. The number of judges was 2,120 (9.0 per 100,000 people) in 2019. The number of judges was 2,130 (9.0 per 100,000 people) in 2020.
- 74.** The percentage of defendants, inmates, and detainees granted free legal aid relative to the total number of applicants from 2016 to 2020 is shown in Table 28.

**Table 28 Percentage of Defendants, Inmates, and Detainees Granted Free Legal Aid Relative to Total No. of Applicants**

Unit: Number of people; %

Year	No. of applications for criminal cases (A)	No. of advocacy and defense cases approved for criminal cases (B)	Ratio of individuals for whom advocacy and defense were approved to total applicants (C)=(B)/(A)	No. of applications for legal aid in criminal cases by detainees (D)	No. of cases in which the detainees received legal aid for criminal cases (E)	Percentage granted (F)=(E)/(D)
2016	33,194	23,239	70.01	7,753	5,604	72.28
2017	39,020	26,649	68.30	9,548	6,517	68.26
2018	40,907	26,832	65.59	11,047	6,985	63.23
2019	43,579	27,979	64.20	11,195	6,872	61.38
2020	42,694	27,995	65.57	9,914	5,442	54.89

Source: (A) and (B) from the work report of the Legal Aid Foundation

Note: The types of aid provided for criminal cases in (E) are different from those provided in (B); aid in (E) is not restricted to advocacy and defense.

- 75.** Average detention period at different court levels between 2016 and 2020: The average detention period was 2.4 months for District Courts and their branches, 2.92 months for High Courts and their branches, and 1.4 months for the Supreme Court.
- 76.** Table 29 shows the mortality rate of detainees between 2016 and 2020. The main causes of death were cardiogenic shock, hypertrophy of the heart, heart/lung failure, malignant tumor, and septic shock accompanied by respiratory failure.

**Table 29 Mortality Rates of Detainees in Custody**

Unit: %

Year	Total	Mortality rate before arrival	Mortality rate after arrival	Death rate under guarded inpatient treatment	Citizen mortality rate
2016	0.2046	0.0432	0.0032	0.1582	0.733
2017	0.2181	0.0420	0.0275	0.1486	0.727
2018	0.2053	0.0305	0.0192	0.1556	0.733
2019	0.1877	0.0369	0.0289	0.1219	0.743
2020	0.2162	0.0219	0.0338	0.1604	0.735

Source: Ministry of Justice

77. No capital punishment was carried out between 2006 and 2009, whereas 32 people were executed between 2010 and 2015, one in 2016, zero in 2017, one in 2018, zero in 2019 and one in 2020.

### Media Coverage

78. The National Communications Commission is an independent authority that aims to make the acquisition and allocation of radio channels and TV broadcast frequencies as balanced and widespread as possible and ensure fair and equal opportunities for the acquisition and allocation of radio channels and TV broadcast frequencies.
79. To protect the viewing rights of people living in remote areas such as mountains and outlying islands, the National Communications Commission (NCC) has continuously promoted wireless TV for remote areas and improved TV stations. The NCC continues to provide subsidies for follow-up operations and maintenance of TV stations.

### Nongovernmental Organizations

80. The organization and activities of the ROC's civil associations are governed by the Civil Associations Act. Each civil association is classified, based on its attributes, as a social association, occupational association or political association (including political party). Due to the nature of the three types of organizations, three laws including the Political Parties Act, Social Associations Act, and Occupational Associations Act were envisioned as the basis for supporting the development of civil associations. Before the promulgation of the Political Parties Act on December 6, 2017, political parties were established through a registration-based system while political associations were established through a permission-based system.

After the promulgation, all associations created in accordance with Article 3 of the Act are referred to as political parties and are established through a registration-based system. According to the current Civil Associations Act, the procedures for the establishment of social associations mainly include: (1) To apply for the establishment of an association, the initiators shall prepare the required documents for the application process. (2) An initiators and preparatory meeting shall be convened, and an establishment conference shall be held. (3) Upon approval of registration, the association will be issued an accreditation certificate and an official seal by the regulating authority. (4) To apply for the status of a juridical association through registration (the association may apply directly to a District Court as required). As of December 2020, the ROC had 59,783 various social associations (21,075 national and 38,708 local); 5,270 commercial and freelance associations, of which 369 were national and 4,901 were local, including 183 industrial associations, 2,392 commercial associations, and 2,695 freelance associations).

81. Out of respect for the people's freedom of association, the government has been constantly revising civil association laws to allow greater freedom of association. Under the latest regulations, the government no longer intervenes but instead provides counsel to civil associations. The requirement of a permit has since been removed, and those who wish to associate may simply register with a government authority. Before relevant laws are amended, civil organizations need only notify relevant authorities regarding many details which formerly required approval. In addition, as the age of majority listed in the Civil Code has been lowered from 20 to 18, the minimum age of initiators of a civil association has been amended from "20 years old" to "an adult." An amendment to this effect was promulgated on January 27, 2021. Initiators shall also not have any related disqualifying characteristics. This regulation was implemented because the principal members and the elected personnel and members of civil associations will be involved in judicial acts and have certain legal responsibilities when handling meeting affairs and business after the associations are established. However, to expand the people's right to diverse participation and protect the freedom of association, the draft of the social associations act was resubmitted to the Executive Yuan for review on January 17, 2020. Related regulations on whether members, directors, and supervisors of

associations have the capacity to carry out juridical acts have been canceled and the government fully respects the self-governance of associations and results of related elections. These measures will prove to be more favorable for the people's freedom of association and the development of civil associations.

## **II. General Framework for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights**

### **C. Acceptance of International Human Rights Standards**

#### **Approval of Major International Documents on Human Rights**

82. Table 30 shows a list of core UN international human rights conventions ratified, acceded to or incorporated into domestic law by Taiwan. Table 31 shows a list of other UN-related international human rights conventions that have been signed, ratified, or incorporated into domestic law by Taiwan. Table 32 shows the International Labor Organization (ILO) conventions signed, ratified, or incorporated into domestic law by Taiwan. Table 33 shows the UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) conventions signed, ratified, or incorporated into domestic law by Taiwan. Table 34 shows the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH) conventions signed, ratified, or incorporated into domestic law by Taiwan.

### **D. Legal Framework that Serves to Protect Human Rights at the State Level**

#### **The Constitution**

83. Chapter 2 of the Constitution stipulates the rights and obligations of the people. Articles 7 to 24 specify fundamental human rights such as equality; right to personal liberty; freedom of residence and migration; freedom of speech, teaching, writing, and publication; freedom of secrecy of correspondence; freedom of religion; freedom of assembly and association; right to exist; right to work; right to property; right to petition; right to administrative appeal; right to judicial remedy; rights to election, recall, initiative, and referendum; rights to take state examinations and to hold public office; right to receive compulsory basic education; other freedoms and rights; and the right to claim damages from the State.
84. In Chapter 13 (Fundamental National Policies of the Constitution), Articles 142 to 151 outline fundamental economic principles that concern human rights, such as land policies, operation of monopolistic state-owned enterprises, control and support of private capital, agricultural development, balance in local economic development, trade in goods, management of financial institutions, financial institutions for the masses, and economic development involving overseas Chinese compatriots. Articles 152 to 157 outline fundamental human rights such as employment, protection of laborers and farmers, employer-employee relations, social insurance and social aid, women's and children's welfare policies, and promotion of sanitation

and health protection services. Articles 158 to 167 outline fundamental human rights with regard to education and cultural development, equal education opportunities, primary and supplemental education, establishment of scholarships, supervision of educational/cultural authorities, promotion of educational/cultural businesses, assurance of educational/cultural budgets and funding, assurance for educational/cultural workers, incentives for scientific inventions and discoveries, protection of cultural heritage, and subsidization of educational/cultural businesses. Articles 168 to 169 outline fundamental human rights for ethnic groups in frontier regions and support to frontier businesses.

### **Human Rights Conventions Included in Domestic Legislation**

85. Of the nine core United Nations human rights conventions, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination remains binding on the ROC as it completed the procedures for depositing the instrument of ratification before it withdrew from the United Nations. Five others, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC); and Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, have been incorporated into domestic law through the enactment of implementation acts. The aforementioned conventions that have entered into force do not contain reservation clauses. In addition to the enactment of implementation acts, the incorporation of conventions into domestic law can also be completed through Article 11 of the Conclusion of Treaties Act. The validity and practice of these two measures are the same and the method of adoption is determined by the competent authorities for each human rights convention. Although use of the Conclusion of Treaties Act can reduce the administrative cost to the government, civil society groups generally hope that the government can enact implementation acts. To meet the expectations of civil society groups, Taiwan enacted the General Operating Regulations for the Drafting of the National Human Rights Report and Organization of International Review Meetings for Core Human Rights Conventions. It specifies that national reports, international reviews, and implementation of Concluding Observations and Recommendations must be completed for the human rights conventions incorporated into domestic law in accordance with the requirements therein and the procedural requirements of the General Operating

Regulations. With regard to the progress of the other three human rights conventions that have not yet been incorporated into domestic law are explained below:

- (1) The draft of the implementation act of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and Its Optional Protocol were newly reported by the Ministry of the Interior. The purpose of the act is to specify that government authorities at all levels shall make plans for, promote, and carry out matters specified in the convention and to establish regulations concerning dedicated national preventive mechanisms. The draft was submitted by the Executive Yuan to the Legislative Yuan for review on December 10, 2020.
- (2) The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICMW): The Ministry of Labor has been promoting the incorporation of the ICMW since 2017. Workshops have been held and meetings with experts and scholars and different agencies have been convened to develop the traditional Chinese language version of the ICMW and to review the gap between domestic laws and the convention. Following the provisions of the Conclusion of Treaties Act, it was reported to the Executive Yuan on July 5, 2021, detailing the nation's intent to join the convention. The Executive Yuan held a related meeting on August 11, 2021, to discuss the reservation clause and interpretive statements and to clarify disputes. Subsequently, the Ministry of Labor continued to review the legislation and administrative measures under its purview along with relevant agencies, and progressively incorporated the regulations of the ICMW into domestic law without violating the principles and objectives of the convention.
- (3) The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED): As Taiwan is not a member of the United Nations and is not able to complete the deposit after signing the international convention, and as the procedure under the Conclusion of Treaties Act helps reduce administrative costs and diplomatic resources compared to the establishment of an implementation act, the ICPPED has been given domestic legal status in accordance with the Conclusion of Treaties Act. On September 7, 2017, the Legislative Yuan was requested to review participation in the ICPPED. As the term of office of this class of legislators came to an



end on March 31, 2020, the Ministry of Justice is continuing discussions and reporting on the draft.

86. After the incorporation of international conventions into domestic law, they become law and their validity is the same as other laws of the ROC. The applicability of a certain law in a specific trial is within the scope of the independent judgment of the judge. The judge considers the regulatory purpose, target, historical background, and appropriateness for achieving justice in determining the legislation to be adopted for a specific case. The number of cases that cited the CRC was 455 (2016), 717 (2017), 823 (2018), 535(2019) and 417 (2020).

### **Domestic Laws Protect Rights Enshrined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights**

87. The Presidential and Vice Presidential Election and Recall Act, Civil Servants Election and Recall Act, and Referendum Act protect people's right to take part in politics.
88. The Labor Union Act protects the freedom of association.
89. The Code of Criminal Procedure, Detention Act, and the Criminal Speedy Trial Act protect the right to fair trial.
90. The State Compensation Law provides effective remedies when the rights or freedom of a person is infringed by a public servant. In addition, the Crime Victim Protection Act also protects people's rights from infringement and provides effective remedial or protective measures.
91. The Personal Data Protection Act regulates the collection, processing, and use of personal data so as to prevent harm to personality rights and to facilitate the proper use of personal data.

### **Domestic Laws Protect Rights Enshrined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

92. The HIV Infection Control and Patient Rights Protection Act protects the right to equality without discrimination.
93. The Labor Insurance Act, Act of Insurance for Military Personnel, Civil Servant and Teacher Insurance Act, Farmer Health Insurance Act, National Pension Act, Employment Insurance Act, National Health Insurance Act, Senior Citizens Welfare Act, the Act of Assistance for Family in Hardship, and other laws provide the right of each individual to social security.
94. The Housing Act, Basic Environment Act, Taxpayer Rights Protection Act, Income Tax Act,

Vehicle License Tax Act, Land Tax Act, House Tax Act, and Water Supply Act protect the right of each individual to appropriate living standards for themselves and their family members.

95. The Communicable Disease Control Act protects the right to bodily integrity and health.
96. The Primary and Junior High School Act, Educational Fundamental Act, and Compulsory Education Act protect the right of each individual to education.
97. Statutes such as the Labor Standards Act, Act for Settlement of Labor-Management Disputes, Collective Agreement Act, Employment Service Act, and Middle-aged and Elderly Employment Promotion Act provide for laborers' working conditions and prohibit discrimination in employment.
98. The Cultural Heritage Preservation Act, the Culture and the Arts Reward and Promotion Act, the Development of the Cultural and Creative Industries Act, the Museum Act, the Public Television Act, the Motion Picture Act, the Underwater Cultural Heritage Preservation Act, the Development of National Languages Act, the Organizational Act of the Taiwan Creative Content Agency, the Organizational Act of the National Human Rights Museum, and the Cultural Fundamental Act protect cultural rights.

#### **Domestic Laws Protect Rights Enshrined in the CRC**

99. The Protection of Children and Youths Welfare and Rights Act and the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act protect the rights of children and youth.

#### **Domestic Laws Protect Rights Enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

100. The People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act and Mental Health Act protect the physical and mental health of people with disabilities and psychiatric patients.

#### **Domestic Laws Protect Rights Enshrined in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**

101. The Sexual Harassment Prevention Act, the Sexual Assault Prevention Act, and the Domestic Violence Prevention Act protect personal safety. In addition, the Gender Equity Education Act and the Act of Gender Equality in Employment protect gender equality rights.

#### **Legislative Departments**

102. The Legislative Yuan has the power to decide by resolution upon international treaties and conventions, and may deliberate on related human rights bills, supervise applicable

implementation by administrative departments, and accept petitions or lobbying from the general public to fulfill its functions and may also hold public hearings, question government officials, or retrieve related documents in order to assist with the aforementioned functions. When an executive decree is considered by the Legislative Yuan to contravene or violate applicable human rights regulatory requirements, it may have a related committee review the decree and may, upon the resolution of the full Yuan, notify the initiating government agency to correct or revoke the decree within two months. Upon failure to correct or revoke the decree by the given deadline, the decree is voided forthwith.

### **Judicial Departments**

- 103. The rights protected under the Constitution of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and other laws and regulations are exercised through numerous judicial court practices.
- 104. The Judicial Yuan funded the establishment of the Legal Aid Foundation pursuant to the Legal Aid Act.

### **Administrative Departments**

- 105. According to the Implementation Act of the CRC, government authorities of all levels whose work relates in any way to child and youth rights protected under the CRC are obligated and authorized to safeguard and fulfil children's rights.
- 106. The Ministry of Health and Welfare is the central authority responsible for promoting the CRC and human rights related to health, social welfare, and social aid.
- 107. The Ministry of Justice is the central authority responsible for promoting the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (hereinafter referred to as the "two covenants").
- 108. The Ministry of the Interior is the central authority responsible for protecting people's rights to political participation, accommodation, freedom of movement, and freedom of association, as well as the rights of new immigrants.
- 109. The Ministry of Education is the central authority responsible for people's right to education. The Ministry of Culture is the central authority responsible for people's rights to culture.
- 110. The Ministry of Labor is the central authority responsible for people's work rights.
- 111. The Environmental Protection Administration is the central authority responsible for the right of citizens to a healthy environment.

112. The Civil Service Protection and Training Commission is the central authority responsible for protecting civil servants' rights.
113. The Control Yuan is a constitutionally mandated institution that protects human rights by exercising oversight.

#### **Citation of the CRC**

114. The list of the decisions in which the Judicial Yuan cited the CRC is posted on the human rights section of the Judicial Yuan's official website for the reference of judges in their decision-making and for the reference and general use of scholars and members of the public.
115. Citations of the CRC: Interpretations in which Justices of the Judicial Yuan cite the CRC include Judicial Yuan Interpretation Nos. 587 and 623.
116. After the incorporation of international conventions into domestic law, they become laws and their validity is the same as other laws of the ROC. The rights protected by the covenants are also items protected in relation to tortious acts in Articles 184 to 198 of the Civil Code. Where such rights are damaged by illegal acts, the individual may file for remedies in accordance with the aforementioned regulations.

#### **Remedies for Rights Violations**

117. When parties concerned disagree on the ruling made by a judge who should apply human rights conventions incorporated into domestic law but fails to do so, or the judgment of a lower court, they can appeal to an upper instance court in compliance with legal procedures for a remedy.

#### **E. Legal Framework that Serves to Enhance Human Rights at the State Level**

118. To establish a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles, the Control Yuan drafted the Organic Act of the Control Yuan National Human Rights Commission, which passed its third reading at the Legislative Yuan on December 10, 2019. The act was promulgated by the President on January 8, 2020, and went into force on May 1 of the same year. The National Human Rights Commission was officially established on August 1, 2020, and its functions and powers include: investigating human rights violation cases, making recommendations or reports for government agencies, assisting in the incorporation of major international human rights instruments, publishing thematic reports on major human rights issues or annual reports on the state of human rights in the nation, offering independent

opinions for national reports submitted by the government, monitoring the development of human rights education, and promoting domestic and foreign information exchange and collaboration regarding human rights.

119. The Executive Yuan established a human rights protection and promotion task force in 2001. It is tasked to study human rights protection systems in other countries and international human rights regulations, promote collaboration and exchange with international human rights organizations, deliberate upon and promote the establishment of the organization of a national agency for human rights protection, discuss human rights protection policies, laws, and regulations, negotiate and promote human rights protective measures, research and develop human rights education policies, and raise awareness of human rights protection as well as to set up the human rights mail box as the platform for the general public to make proposals and file complaints. To consolidate gender equality and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples and new immigrants, revive Hakka culture, and organize operations relating to the human rights of children, teenagers, and people with disabilities, the Executive Yuan has also established the Gender Equality Committee, Council of Indigenous Peoples, Coordination Meeting on Immigration Affairs, Hakka Affairs Council, the Task Force for Promoting the Welfare and Rights of Child and Youth, and Committee for the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. They are in charge of directing and supervising related operations carried out by government agencies at all levels.
120. The Executive Yuan's Child and Youth Welfare and Rights Promotion Group was established in 2014. With the Minister without Portfolio of the Executive Yuan as the convener, a total of 27 people, including experts, scholars, and representatives of child, youth, and civil society groups and government agencies were invited to attend meetings every four months. Through the collaborative use of the knowledge, professional skills and resources of the government and people with different professional backgrounds, the functions of policy coordination, consultation, supervision and resource integration have been performed to jointly promote the child and youth rights. From 2016 to 2020, the group has actively adopted various policies, projects and measures regarding child and youth rights, and set up permanent resources, including reviews on the compliance of laws with the CRC, educational training for professionals, CRC dissemination and material development, promotion of the participation

and empowerment of children and youth, setup of CRC website, etc. To conform with the concluding observations, an investigation on the state of child and youth rights, budgets regarding children and youth, a rights impact assessment mechanism, and studies such as national action plans have been developed as well. In addition, through the professional knowledge of government agencies and civil society groups, and the observations of child and youth representatives, the juvenile justice and counseling mechanism and aspects such as internet safety for children and youth and labor rights of children and youth have been further promoted. With a high level of decision-making and coordination, the group ensures the efficiency of policy integration, and supervises different ministries to implement the administrative measures.

121. According to Article 8 of the Implementation Act of the CRC, “The budget required for the protection of the rights of children and youth in the implementation of the Convention by all levels of government authorities shall be allocated as a priority based on financial status and shall be implemented gradually.” To comply with these regulations, government authorities at all levels should budget for the protection of the rights of children and youth through the implementation of the CRC pursuant to their jurisdictional responsibilities, annual administration plans, and operating status.
122. To implement CRC-related child and youth protection affairs, government authorities at all levels budgeted NTD 380.9 billion, NTD 399.4 billion, NTD 417.3 billion, and NTD 435.4 billion from 2017 to 2020, respectively, to conduct measures relating to the development, welfare, health, education, protection, and other rights and interests of children and youth as covered in the CRC.
123. The Local Government Act stipulates that local self-governing bodies shall establish self-government ordinances with regard to issues that create, deprive, or restrict the rights and duties of their residents. In other words, in protecting human rights, one of the most important functions of local legislative bodies is to deliberate on and approve applicable self-government laws and regulations on human rights and protect the rights of local residents, as empowered to do so by their constituency. The rights of residents in accordance with laws and self-government regulations include the right to elect and recall local civil servants, the right of initiative and referendum on local self-government matters, the right to use local public facilities, the right to access local education, culture, social benefits, and healthcare in

compliance with laws and self-government regulations, the right to request disclosure of local government information according to law, and other rights given under laws and self-government regulations.

124. The Control Yuan may review any government actions contravening international human rights norms and propose corrective measures. In accordance with implementation acts relating to international human rights conventions, the Control Yuan may also continue to organize educational training on human rights conventions, and invite scholars, experts, and representatives of government authorities and non-governmental organizations to organize thematic seminars or consultations.
125. In response to the promulgation of the Organic Act of the Control Yuan National Human Rights Commission on January 8, 2020, and its implementation on May 1, 2020, the National Human Rights Commission officially began operations on August 1, 2020. The former Control Yuan Committee on Human Rights Protection ceased operations and the Human Rights Protection Task Force was established on February 22, 2021.
126. In 2011, the Examination Yuan established a human rights task force to oversee the implementation of human rights policies within the Examination Yuan. The vice president of the Examination Yuan serving as the convener. Members of the task force include the secretary-general of the Examination Yuan, division, office and committee heads, scholars and experts. Their responsibilities are to supervise the implementation of human rights protections within their respective domains, and report and monitor improvements regularly to the Examination Yuan.

#### **Relevant Training and Advocacy of CRC and Human Rights Instruments**

127. In light of the international political realities that prevent the ROC (Taiwan) from participating in the United Nations, the relevant documents on human rights are dispatched to overseas missions to be forwarded to government officials in countries friendly to the ROC (Taiwan) so as to keep them abreast of the progress Taiwan has made on human rights. One of the top priorities of overseas missions is to promote the development of democracy, freedom, and human rights in Taiwan, in order to demonstrate Taiwan's fulfillment of protection of basic human rights and compliance with the United Nations' international human rights covenants and to advance Taiwan's human rights diplomacy.

128. To raise the awareness of human rights and implement human rights education, the Directorate-General of Personnel Administration, Executive Yuan, incorporated courses on human rights education (including international human rights covenants, human rights impact assessment, conventions on the rights of children and people with disabilities) into policy-oriented training courses in 2015 and into courses under the category of “Democratic Governance Value” that government employees have had to complete annually since 2017. In addition, the basic training for people who pass the civil service exam, promotion training, and training for senior officials include courses focusing on international human rights covenants and gender mainstreaming.
129. Human rights concepts have been included in test subjects related to the Special Examination for Judges and Prosecutors and the Bar Examination. Human rights education has been listed as a key project in judiciary training (for judges, prosecutors, other judicial personnel, and judicial police).
130. Out of respect for humanity and human rights, more courses related to the two covenants, human rights protection, gender equality, the human rights of Indigenous people, children and youth, laborers, people with disabilities, the elderly, and disadvantaged people, and CEDAW regulations have been organized to urge judicial personnel to respect the human rights of defendants and injured parties and to increase their awareness of gender equality, anti-discrimination, protection for people with disabilities and multicultural sensitivity.
131. The CRC Website and a website for children have been set up to provide the English and Chinese versions of the CRC and the general comments thereon, previous national reports, the list of issues and replies thereto, the implementation of measures developed based on concluding observations and suggestions, a version of the concluding observations for children and youth, the casebook for the best interests of children and youth, and various training materials. Children’s rights are promoted to the public by making short promotional films, animated videos and posters and preparing digital learning courses, materials and handouts. Refer to Paragraphs 33 to 35 in the Treaty-Specific Document for CRC training results.
132. Human rights courses have been included as part of lawyers’ basic training. These courses emphasize topics such as roles and defense strategies of criminal lawyers, wrongful cases, post-conviction reviews in practice, parental rights and child support in divorce cases, employment-related constitutional lawsuits before interpretation, severance pay, and



occupational hazards. The courses (i.e., preservice training) for lawyers are related to human rights covenants, legal aid, public participation, constitutional courts, and criminal, civil, administrative and non-contentious proceedings.

133. Pursuant to the Implementation Rules for Law Education for the National Armed Forces, the Ministry of National Defense requests military law officers at all levels to promote the two covenants and their implementation acts, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, human rights violations in armed forces, the protection of officers' rights, and other issues when providing law education. In addition, military cadres' awareness of human rights is further increased with courses focusing on international human rights laws and humanitarian laws, so as to ensure the human rights in the national army.
134. To raise awareness of children's rights among law enforcement personnel, the Ministry of the Interior has implemented a series of training programs and published operational manuals and compilations of related regulations on combating human trafficking, as well as a multi-language manual on the rights of human trafficking victims. These resources have been provided to all law enforcement and prosecutor's offices in order to improve awareness of children's rights among police officers and related law enforcement personnel.
135. To enhance the human rights awareness of protective services social workers, courses on domestic violence prevention, sexual assault prevention, child and youth protection, child and youth sexual exploitation prevention, protection for the elderly, and protection of people with disabilities have been continuously provided. Human rights education has been incorporated in professional medical ethics and core clinical competencies for doctors who have recently graduated. A total of 6,775 doctors attended the clinical training between 2016 and 2020.
136. To enhance teacher trainees' and teachers' professional skills for human rights education, human rights education has been included as part of pre-service programs for teachers. In addition, human rights education has also been included as a key subsidized item for on-the-job training for teachers in kindergartens and schools up to the senior high school level.
137. Development of human rights education in all schools:
  - (1) Overview of human rights education in primary and junior high school: The 12-Year National Basic Education Curriculum Guidelines contain human rights issues, and a "three-level counseling system" formed by the central and local governments and schools

provides human rights education courses for teachers, on-site counseling services, workshops, seminars, etc., to increase primary and junior high school teachers' knowledge about human rights education, democracy and the rule of law.

- (2) Overview of human rights education in higher secondary education: In the curriculum outline for regular senior high schools implemented in 2010, contents on humanity and human rights have been added to the Citizen and Society Syllabus. The High School Human Rights Education Resource Center was established in 2018 to take charge of the training of seed teachers for human rights education, teacher empowerment training, materials and pedagogy development, and the establishment of teachers' social media. Human rights education continues to be listed as an important topic in the 12-year compulsory education program implemented in 2019.
- (3) Overview of human rights education in tertiary education: To help policy implementation, the Ministry of Education has encouraged all schools to open courses related to human rights and the rule of law in the annual National Conference for the University Presidents in Taiwan and the National Conference for the Academic Affairs Supervisors of Public and Private Universities in Taiwan. A total of 4,331 courses related to human rights and the rule of law were offered in 446 departments in 72 regular universities for a total of 240,268 attendants in the 109 academic year. In technical colleges, a total of 2,554 courses related to human rights and the rule of law were offered in 453 departments in 82 schools for a total of 117,668 attendants in the 109 academic year.
- (4) Overview of human rights education in social education: The Ministry of Education provides subsidies to community colleges each year to provide courses related to civic literacy, human rights, and the rule of law. 28 courses were offered in 2016; 91 courses were offered in 2017; 49 courses were offered in 2018; 63 courses were offered in 2019; 58 courses were offered in 2020.

**138.** National Taiwan Normal University conducted the Human Rights Education Self-Assessment Implementation Plan for High Schools or Lower in accordance with UN indicators. It surveyed school administrative personnel, teachers, students, and parents to gain a comprehensive view of the current state of human rights education in Taiwan and establish regular review mechanisms for future human rights education.

139. Meanwhile, the NCC has implemented a new policy that rewards television and radio stations for contributions made toward protecting the interests of disadvantaged groups, cultural diversity, gender equality, and safeguarding minors. In addition, television and radio stations are informed of the nation's human rights policies and laws by the NCC.

#### **Measures Taken to Enhance Social Involvement in Human Rights Protection**

140. To strengthen promotion of the human rights of indigenous peoples, the Council of Indigenous Peoples allocates an annual budget to sponsor events that promote the basic rights of indigenous peoples and cultural, educational, and industrial development-related campaigns organized by civil society groups. It also subsidizes individuals or groups attending international conferences.
141. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs helped sponsor the founding of the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy. It aims to promote democracy and human rights domestically and engage related private-sector organizations to bring them in line with global standards. The Foundation subsidized local and foreign academic institutions, think tanks, private-sector organizations, NGOs, and domestic political parties for promoting democracy and human rights or attending international conferences related to human rights or international democracy exchange programs. The Foundation regularly publishes the *Taiwan Democracy Quarterly* and the English journal *Taiwan Journal of Democracy*.
142. The National Human Rights Museum of the Ministry of Culture has been conducting thorough research and interviews on the nation's human rights history. In separate stages, the Museum will enrich its collection of human rights records that can be used by local governments and NGOs in their education and research efforts.
143. The Ministry of Education Human Rights and Civic Education Mid-Range Plan, revised by the Ministry of Education in 2016, is being implemented from 2017 to 2021. The implementation of the revised Plan is based on a systematic, integrated, comprehensive, practical, continuous, and forward-looking approach. It incorporates four strategies: creating friendly school environments that respect human rights and encourage public participation; developing and implementing human rights and civic education courses and teaching materials; strengthening teachers' professional ethics and understanding of human rights, civic knowledge, and the rule of law; and widely disseminating and promoting human rights and civic education concepts

and practices. These approaches, together with 23 work indicators, integrate the diverse resources of the government, communities, and civil society groups to establish a student-oriented human rights and civic education environment.

144. The Ministry of Health and Welfare is committed to promoting children's rights and protecting the rights of people with disabilities. The central government has cooperated with local governments, NGOs, and mass media to raise awareness of the rights of children and people with disabilities through a diverse range of channels as it continues to organize diverse training activities.
145. Easy-to-read, Braille, sign language, and audio book versions of related documents have been produced in the initial national report for the CRC and the national reports for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. They have been posted on the website, placed in local governments, public libraries, special education schools, and national organizations. To protect the rights of people with disabilities, draft amendments to the People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act in 2020 incorporated the principles of reasonable adjustments and universal design, specifying that authorities, schools, institutions, corporations, or groups must make necessary and appropriate adjustments based on the requirements of disabled individuals without causing a disproportionate or excessive burden. Public buildings, public facilities and venues, accessible transportation facilities and services, information and communications technology and systems, and online platforms and telecommunications must also be planned based on the principle of universal design. In addition, the Legal Aid Program for People with Disabilities was established to provide necessary legal assistance.
146. Between 2016 and 2020, the public welfare lottery fund was used to subsidize governments at all levels and civil society groups. Private resources were combined to promote victim protection and gender-based violence prevention, with subsidies totaling NTD 739,408,000 being granted for this purpose. In addition, subsidies totaling NTD 557,330,078 were allocated from the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Fund from 2016 to 2020 to support government agencies and civil society groups engaging in the prevention of domestic violence, sexual assault, and sexual harassment.
147. Since 2005, under the provisions of the Legal Aid Act, the Judicial Yuan has budgeted annual subsidies for the operational expenses and capital of the Legal Aid Foundation so that it can provide legal aid to those in financial distress or who are unable to hire counsel for other

reasons. Between 2016 and 2020, the Judicial Yuan donated NTD 140 million to the foundation and subsidized NTD 6,462,314,000 of its operating expenses. With 22 branches nationwide, the foundation received 391,701 applications for legal aid between 2016 and 2020, of which 277,052 were granted, with an approval rate of 70.73%. The foundation also provided legal counsel in 412,771 cases.

148. The Ministry of Justice founded the Association for Victims Support and supervises its victim protection efforts. Between 2016 and 2020, the Ministry provided the Association with subsidies of NTD 83,010,000, NTD 87,300,000, NTD 75,246,000, NTD 62,691,000 and NTD 70,148,000.
149. The Ministry of Justice oversees the Taiwan After-care Association and the Fujian After-care Association, which assist former convicts. The ministry also subsidizes other private-sector organizations assisting the rehabilitated. Between 2016 and 2020, the Ministry provided the Association with subsidies of NTD 45,603,000, NTD 43,322,000, NTD 38,917,000, NTD 37,360,000 and NTD 44,794,000. Subsidies were provided for 73 cases.

#### **International Cooperation, Development, and Assistance**

150. The International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF) is an institution that specializes in providing foreign aid. It organizes various international cooperation projects with partner countries and helps promote government development and aid programs. The budget for official development assistance (ODA) of Taiwan devoted to international collaboration in 2020 was around USD 516 million, accounting for 0.073% of the national gross national income (GNI) of Taiwan, representing an increase as compared with 2019 (0.051% of GNI).
151. Taiwan has organized four workshops under the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF) with the theme of women's empowerment with the United States, Japan, and other like-minded countries to facilitate women's rights in the Indo-Pacific region since 2015. The APEC Skills Development Capacity Building Alliance (ASD-CBA) project was launched in 2016. Two APEC upskilling centers were set up in Taiwan with the aim of promoting high-quality growth by enhancing talent cultivation and exchanges in the Asia-Pacific region. Taiwan, the United States, and Australia jointly launched the APEC Women and the Economy Sub-Fund in 2017 to foster women's economic empowerment, improve women-friendly

employment environments, and promote women's rights mainstreaming. International digital exhibition courses were held in 2018 and 2019, with representatives from countries such as Chile, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Russia, Thailand, and Vietnam joining prominent actors in the exhibition industry in Taiwan for training. The Women and Youth Entrepreneurs and MSMEs Re-lending Project in Palau was conducted in 2019. The Capacity Building Project for Microfinance Ecosystem Focusing on Grassroots Women in Eswatini (a three-year project) was launched in March 2020. The project focuses on helping financially disadvantaged women in Eswatini improve their financial situation and productivity through training courses offered by cooperative financial institutions or training agencies and assisting local disadvantaged women in becoming familiar with financial and market concepts in order to increase household incomes and provide more financial and economic autonomy opportunities for women. In addition, Taiwan made donations to the 2X Women's Initiative launched by the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) in 2020 to support government officials and women entrepreneurs in Latin America and Taiwan's Caribbean allies to organize training programs. In December 2020, Taiwan and the U.S.A. announced their cooperation in the Women's Livelihood Bond of the Impact Investment Exchange (IIX) on December 14, 2020. TaiwanICDF and the U.S. DFC offered crucial credit enhancement to the Women's Livelihood Bond, used the resources from international and Taiwanese private sectors to create sustainable livelihoods for disadvantaged women in the Indo-Pacific region, and responded to the 5th Sustainable Development Goal, which is to achieve gender equality and to empower all women and girls.

152. In 2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs commissioned the TaiwanICDF to send 23 technical, medical, and investment and trade service missions consisting of 239 technicians, project managers, experts, Taiwan Youth Overseas Servicemen, and Chinese-language teachers to 22 countries in the Asia-Pacific, West Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean. They engaged in 88 projects covering such areas as agriculture, finance, environmental protection, disaster prevention, animal husbandry, gardening, aquaculture, technical and vocational education, Chinese language education, ICT, industry, trade and investment, public health, and medical care. SME, economics, and trade experts and volunteers were dispatched to Taiwan's allies to provide medium- and short-term guidance or counseling services. Due to COVID-19,

TaiwanICDF utilized online learning platforms so that personnel from diplomatic allies and friendly countries could continue to attend workshops and education and training programs. Scholarship programs were provided to undergraduate, graduate, and PhD students to help partner countries cultivate talents.

- 153.** In early 2020, as the COVID-19 pandemic raging around the world caused significant losses, Taiwan cooperated with other countries in pandemic prevention and international humanitarian assistance: (1) Donation of personal protective equipment: Taiwan donated 53,000,000 masks, 380,300 protective suits, 128,400 forehead thermometers and other medical supplies to over 80 countries around the globe in 2020. (2) Cooperation in pandemic prevention: Taiwan and the U.S.A announced the Taiwan-US Joint Statement on a Partnership against Coronavirus on March 18, 2020, and signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Health Cooperation to enhance the cooperation between the two countries on August 10, 2020. The government also announced the Taiwan-Czech Joint Statement on Cooperation against Coronavirus together with the Czech Republic and worked with the European Union to promote pandemic prevention technology and a protective equipment supply chain on a continuous basis. (3) Sharing of experience in pandemic control: Taiwan shared its experience in successful pandemic control through video conferencing and at professional forums. In 2020, more than 140 expert meetings were held in partnership with governments, hospitals, universities, and think tanks from over 60 countries. (4) Assistance in pandemic prevention technology: On June 4, 2020, Taiwan and the United States held the Virtual Pacific Islands Dialogue on COVID-19 Assistance to discuss the coordination of epidemic prevention assistance to Pacific island countries. Taiwan held the virtual GCTF workshop on COVID-19: Preparing for the Second Wave with the U.S.A., Japan and Australia on June 24. A training activity with the theme of Building Resilience and Accelerating the SDGs through Technology was conducted on September 29, 2021, under the GCTF framework. To help diplomatic allies combat the pandemic, the public health programs of Taiwan and the allies were utilized to strengthen their ability to respond to the pandemic. In May 2020, pandemic prevention experts were dispatched to Eswatini and other allies to fight COVID-19, support and provide local medical personnel with knowledge about critical care, enhance the circulation design of hospitals, and develop standard operating procedures for critical care. At the same time, Taiwan also

provided pandemic prevention-related counselling services for Pacific countries and exchanged relevant information with these countries through the Taiwan Medical Program (TMP). In addition, Taiwan International Health Action (TaiwanIHA) continued to organize international medical collaboration and emergency medical aid programs in accordance with diplomatic policies. In 2021, TaiwanIHA works together with Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to implement the Consultancy Project for Disaster Management and Medical Capacity Building in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

154. Taiwan has been an active participant in international collaborative campaigns for foreign aid and has entered bilateral agreements, memorandums, and cooperation frameworks on agricultural cooperation with many countries to promote various international agricultural cooperation efforts through bilateral agricultural meetings and consultations. The TaiwanICDF, for instance, offers assistance on developing the agriculture, fisheries, and animal husbandry industries through technical cooperation and related training.
155. Taiwan organized A Civil Society Dialogue on Securing Religious Freedom in the Indo-Pacific Region in March 2019, attended by 80 religious figures and representatives of human rights groups from more than 10 countries in the Indo-Pacific region. Sam Brownback, United States Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom, also came to Taiwan to attend the event. In addition to selecting Taiwan's first Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom, Taiwan donated to the International Religious Freedom Fund of the United States Department of State from 2020 to 2024.
156. Tibetans in exile mostly reside in countries such as India, Nepal, and Bhutan. Tibetan communities often lack medical, sanitary, and educational resources. The government worked with domestic NGOs in the implementation of humanitarian aid programs for Tibetan communities overseas including training local medical and nursing personnel, and providing volunteer clinic services, health education, information technology education, and disaster prevention training. From 2001 to 2020, 98,973 overseas Tibetans benefited, and 1,078 Tibetan medical personnel received training. In addition, the Tibet Assistance Volunteers Training Camp is organized each year and had trained 2,096 people as of 2020. It trains professionals in providing aid to Mongolian and Tibetan communities and connects with international humanitarian aid trends.



157. The Ministry of Economic Affairs has conducted the Industrial Technical Instructor Training Program since 2004. From 2016 to 2020, a total of 73 instructors from 12 countries around the world received training under the program. A range of courses have been provided under the program, including on computer-aided machinery manufacturing, optoelectronics and machinery industry automation technologies, smart machinery, and solar power/green energy.

#### **F. Reporting Procedures at the National Level**

158. Although the United Nations did not accept the instrument of ratification from ROC for the CRC, the Executive Yuan Task Force for Promoting the Welfare and Rights of Child and Youth compiled and released the initial and second reports under the CRC in 2016 and 2021 in accordance with United Nations guidelines on the form and content of reports to be submitted by state parties to international human rights conventions. The Executive Yuan will release the third national reports on the two covenants in 2020. The Ministry of Health and Welfare is an advisory agency of the Executive Yuan Task Force for Promoting the Welfare and Rights of Child and Youth. It is responsible for acquainting government officials with the format needed for the national child rights reports and instructing these agencies to provide drafts. The agencies are required to actively provide child rights deficiency reports and rectification plans.
159. Taiwan has established mechanisms for drafting the national reports and all central government agencies are required to take part in the drafting process. Statistical data and implementation status at the national level also include data from local governments. Taiwan also held related domestic review meetings and invited civil society groups, scholars, and experts outside the government to participate. They conducted debates on the report draft and provided recommendations to ensure the adequacy of the contents. In addition, as the United Nations cannot review Taiwan's reports, we designed a review system similar to the United Nations' review mechanisms and invited international human rights experts to visit Taiwan every four years starting in 2013 to review the reports and publish Concluding Observations and Recommendations. The compilation of guidelines on the form and content of reports to be submitted by States Parties to the international human rights treaties, general comments released by treaty bodies, other international documents on human rights, and Taiwan's past national reports and their Concluding Observations and Recommendations have been published on the human rights section of the Ministry of Justice website for reference by all.

160. Related operating procedures for the drafting of the national reports on core human rights covenants and organization of international review meetings are provided in Figure 4 and related task assignment is provided in Figure 5.
161. In response to the Concluding Observations and Recommendations submitted by international child rights experts after their review of the initial national report on the CRC, the Ministry of Health and Welfare has established the Plans for the Implementation, Management, and Evaluation of the Concluding Observations and Recommendations from the International Review Meeting for the Initial National Reports on the CRC. The competent authorities related to the Concluding Observations and Recommendations are required to propose specific action plans and child rights indicators, and estimated schedules for the completion of child rights indicators, and implement follow up management and evaluation. Throughout this process, the competent authorities are required to invite related civil society groups, representatives of children and youth, and academics and experts to take part in the review. The plans, measures, and child rights indicators proposed by the competent authorities must be fully communicated in order to improve the child rights deficiencies described in the Concluding Observations and Recommendations. Eighteen of the review meetings were organized with the participation of civil society groups. The competent authorities discuss the opinions collected in the review mechanisms with civil society groups' participation and amend related plans, measures, and child rights indicators before reporting to members of the Executive Yuan Task Child and Youth Welfare and Rights Promotion Group for review. The members review whether the competent authorities have revised the response form in accordance with resolutions of the aforementioned civil review meetings and the status of the adoption of opinions proposed by civil society groups, so as to ensure that the competent authorities have implemented follow-up items in accordance with the resolutions of the review meetings and effectively make use of the civil society groups' participation in review meetings.
162. To establish a mechanism for government agencies and civil society groups to communicate and exchange opinions on the second national report under the CRC, eight sessions were organized to collect opinions from civil society representatives in February and March 2021. Hosted by the members of the Executive Yuan's Child and Youth Welfare and Rights Promotion Group, these sessions collected opinions from a wide range of children and youth,

as well as civil society groups. As a follow-up, the collection of written opinions from both children and youth and civil society groups continued from May to June 2021. Four meeting sessions on the final draft of the second national report under the CRC were held in September and October in 2021 to ensure that the content of the report was comprehensive and relevant.

### **III. Information on Nondiscrimination, Equality, and Effective Relief Measures**

#### **G. Nondiscrimination and Equality**

##### **Inequality Caused by Economic and Social Conditions**

- 163.** Women's rights: Taiwan adopted the Enforcement Act of Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and incorporated the Convention into domestic law to eliminate discrimination against women, protect gender-based human rights, and promote gender equity. This was aimed at upholding the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 1979.
- 164.** Children's rights: The Implementation Act of the CRC was enacted and incorporated into domestic law to ensure that children enjoy special care and assistance as well as to facilitate the full and harmonious development of their character and ability to live independently in society. This was part of an effort by Taiwan to uphold the CRC of 1989.
- 165.** Rights of people with disabilities: Taiwan enacted the Act to Implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and incorporated the Convention into domestic law to protect the rights of people with disabilities, ensure equal participation opportunities, and eliminate discrimination and inappropriate treatment in all aspects of life. This act was part of an effort to uphold the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of 2006.
- 166.** Rights of senior citizens: To implement the United Nations' Principles for Older Persons of 1991 aimed at ensuring the independence, participation, care, self-fulfillment, and dignity of senior citizens, the government established the National Pension Insurance program to protect individuals without employment insurance and provide basic economic security for the elderly as well as an allowance for low- and lower-middle-income senior citizens. In accordance with the Senior Citizens Welfare Act, the elderly receive a 50% discount when taking domestic state-run or private marine, land, and air public transportation; accessing recreational places; and visiting cultural and educational facilities. Community service stations have also been set up and other resources made available to senior citizens through public-private sector collaboration.
- 167.** The government works with civil groups to set up Community Care Stations to put into practice the concepts of aging in place and preventive care services for communities. As of 2020, it had created 4,305 stations across the country, which provided home visits to more

than 110,000 people, telephone greetings to more than 130,000 people, meal services to more than 220,000 people and health improvement activities were held more than 90,000 sessions. In addition, the stations also strengthened care services for seniors living alone. As of 2020, 2,366,078 people had received telephone greetings; 1,815,335 people had been visited at home; 21,432 people had been escorted on medical care visits; and 4,209,352 meal services had been provided.

168. Workers' rights: To implement the International Labor Organization Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111), Taiwan enacted the Employment Service Act, which prohibits employment discrimination based on 16 specific attributes, such as age, place of birth, gender, and sexual orientation. Horoscope and blood type were added in 2018 so that all workers are accorded the right to equality in employment.
169. Immigration service personnel contribute to the effort to assist immigrants by visiting outlying townships to provide related information, help submit applications, or refer them to new immigrant family service centers. This helps minimize the urban and rural differences in access to services and resources. Taiwan also promotes convenient mobile services that allow new immigrants to enjoy a more convenient life, receive employment information, and attend special family education forums as well as informative events focusing on health, welfare, and licensing laws and regulations. These measures help ensure that immigrants avail themselves of due benefits and services.
170. To improve the health of all citizens, the National Health Insurance system was established to provide insured people suffering from diseases, injuries, or birth-related impairments with insurance benefits. The health insurance premium is determined based on the ability-to-pay principle and the financial capacity of an insured person and shared by the government, employer, and the insured. Certain disadvantaged people—including children under the age of 3, low-income households, low-to-middle income households, people over 70 years of age with low-to-middle incomes, people with disabilities, unemployed indigenous people below 20 and over 55 years of age, unemployed workers and their dependents (only during the period in which they receive unemployment compensation or living allowance for vocational training)—can be granted government subsidies for their premium in whole or in part. Other people not meeting these qualifications but unable to pay their health insurance premium due

to temporary financial difficulties are able to access relief measures such as charity donation referrals, no-interest relief loans, and payment installment plans. Such measures ensure that all citizens, including those from low-income marginalized groups, are able to exercise their right to access medical services.

171. Taiwan enacted the Housing Act and relevant regulations and measures to protect citizens' housing rights, improve the residential market, enhance living standards, and allow all citizens to live in appropriate housing and enjoy a dignified living environment.
172. In order to prevent defendants in detention from being discriminated against due to their detainee status, the government has added a new article to the Detention Act to safeguard defendants' rights. In addition, to enhance the protection of refugees, asylum seekers and their families, the government is working on a draft refugee bill. Antidiscrimination amendments with regard to family and succession in the Civil Code have been introduced to protect equal rights and prohibit all forms of discriminatory acts.

#### **Protection of the Rights of Various Disadvantaged Groups**

173. To protect adults should they lose their capacity for judgment, the government has implemented a longstanding system for legal adult guardianship and declaration of assistantship. Taiwan added the guardianship by agreement system to the Civil Code in 2019 to allow an individual to designate his/her future guardian when he/she is still capable of expressing his/her intent, rather than have the court select one should the need arise. This measure, based on the principle of voluntary choice, upholds human dignity and helps promote the interests of the individual.
174. Rights of crime victims: The government restructured the protection plans for victims of crimes and actively provides protection and litigation information, prompt assistance, support services, and personal safety and privacy in accordance with the needs of the victims; empowers victims in trials; protects their rights to claim compensation and file civil suits; provides special protection or measures for specific cases; promotes restorative justice and strengthens the professional competencies of related practitioners; enhances victimization prevention; and improves policies for protecting victims of crimes.

- 175.** Rights of rehabilitated offenders: After-care Associations provide protective services including counseling on entering shelters, skills training, guidance on employment, education and medical care, accommodation, emergency assistance, visitation and care, subsidies for travel expenses, escort service to home or other locations, and small business start-up loans. In 2010, the government began to implement supportive services and family aid programs for families of the rehabilitated, thus extending protective services to the family and providing greater support to help rehabilitated offenders be accepted once again into their own homes.
- 176.** The Primary and Junior High School Act and the Compulsory Education Act protect the right of each individual to compulsory education. To ensure the equal right to education, the government is expected to establish primary and junior high schools. The establishment of private schools is also encouraged. For public primary and junior high schools, the principles for determining school district boundaries and the regulations governing school placement and admission must be determined by municipal and county (city) governments; most students are not required to take an exam for admission under the Senior High School Education Act and tuition is waived under certain criteria. Universities have introduced diverse admission channels as well as admission by recommendation to eliminate the urban and rural divide in access to education resources. Disadvantaged applicants are entitled to extra points or prioritized acceptance under the admission by recommendation program, in which the number of participating institutions increased to 65 in 110 academic year. The government also encourages universities to recruit disadvantaged students through special recruitment channels. In the 110 academic year, 1,453 openings were provided in 513 departments in 54 schools. The government requires schools to include students from different educational backgrounds (including overseas Taiwanese students, children of new immigrants, economically disadvantaged students, local students, and students from experimental education programs) and guides schools in the establishment of comprehensive learning assistance mechanisms for disadvantaged students. To lower the impact of the diverse admission policy on disadvantaged students, the government reduced or waived registration fees for various exams for students from low- and lower-middle-income households. In addition, written review of personal applications has been made electronic to reduce their economic burden. The government enacted the Special Education Act and Education Act for Indigenous Peoples to provide more

extensive protection of the education rights of various disadvantaged groups. Moreover, in order to strengthen the concept of equality between men and women, the Gender Equity Education Act expressly prohibits any discriminatory conduct against either gender and protects women's right to education.

177. In order to ensure the right to education of students with disabilities, Article 22 of the Special Education Act stipulates that schools at all levels shall not deny admission to a student on the basis of a disability. Taiwan implements a 12-year program of basic education, which includes compulsory education in elementary and junior high school. In addition to exam-free admission and specialty enrollment being available to all students, the government also provides adaptive counseling-based placement for senior high school and vocational high school students with disabilities who want to undertake tertiary studies. To protect and increase the access of students with disabilities to higher education, such students may sit for an annual admission exam held by the MOE exclusively for students with disabilities. The ministry also provides benefits for higher education institutions that organize exclusive admission exams for such students. The Regulations Governing Grievance Services for Special Education Students were implemented to provide remedies for students with disabilities who have been subject to inappropriate treatment (such as discrimination). Each school is required to appoint at least two additional members—who may be scholars, experts, representatives of parent organizations, or professionals working in a special education related area—to its existing Student Grievance Evaluation Committee. (The same grievance handling mechanisms apply to all students but special members are appointed for special education students.). Refer to Session B of Chapter 7 of the second state report on the CRC.

### **Other Specific Measures for Attaining Equality**

178. The Directorate-General of Personnel Administration, Executive Yuan, provides monthly statistics regarding the gender distribution of political appointees under the Executive Yuan, to serve as reference in the recruitment of new officials when vacancies become available. The proportion of female heads of government agencies from 2016 to 2020 was 11.90%, 14.29%, 16.67%, 12.20% and 7.32%. In addition, when vacancies at the Executive Yuan or its subordinate agencies are available, it is desirable to provide the respective statistics on gender breakdown, so that the heads of agencies may consult this information in their recruitment efforts.



- 179.** Article 129 and Article 130 of the Constitution state that elections shall be carried out by universal, equal, and direct suffrage and by secret ballot, and any citizen who has attained the age of 20 shall have the right of election in accordance with the law. The Presidential and Vice Presidential Election and Recall Act and the Civil Servants Election and Recall Act stipulate that the above age requirement applies as well, except in cases where the declaration of guardianship has not been revoked. Therefore, the right of election is not restricted in any way by financial, gender or educational criteria. Each person is entitled to one vote and all votes are equal. In addition, Article 15 of the Constitution states that “the right to live, the right to work, and the right to own property shall be guaranteed to the people.” Article 152 requires that “the State shall provide suitable opportunities for work to those persons who have the ability to work.” Article 4 of the Employment Service Act stipulates that “every national with working capability is equal in terms of the access to employment services,” and Article 5, Paragraph 1 of the same Act states that discrimination against any job applicant or employee on the basis of gender is prohibited. The Act of Gender Equality in Employment covers the prohibition of gender-based discrimination, prevention and correction of sexual harassment, and measures for promoting equality in employment, thereby providing a set of comprehensive guarantees to protect gender equality in the workplace.
- 180.** Measures have been taken to protect the voter privacy of the relatively small numbers of indigenous electors in urban areas, in order to prevent their political choice from being exposed and the principle of secret ballot from being violated. Article 57 of the Civil Servants Election and Recall Act states that in an election of indigenous civil servants, the election commission may, depending on the actual circumstances, make adjustments for indigenous electors in urban areas to cast their ballot in a centralized polling station in order to safeguard their rights.
- 181.** To improve amenities in second- and third-tier cities and rural areas, the government implemented an NTD 8.38 billion urban construction project from 2017 to 2021 designed to improve overall cityscapes and create 21 new spots to visit in urban and rural areas. To promote the balanced development of urban and rural areas as a further response to this Executive Yuan regional revitalization program, a townscape and revitalization environmental building project was also launched in 2021 to create a revitalizing environment that supports

the development of local micro-sized businesses in urban and rural areas and encourages young people to return home.

- 182.** The Ministry of Science and Technology launched the Science Education Research Project for Indigenous Students in 2009. This program integrates indigenous cultures into the teaching of science subjects, and has developed school curriculums based on indigenous cultures as well as cultivated math and science teachers for indigenous communities. Between 2012 and 2018, a total of 788 teachers and 1,027 indigenous students from 344 elementary and junior high schools for indigenous peoples competed for the Science Education Award organized by the Council of Indigenous Peoples.

**Various Educational Programs Advanced by the Government and Associated Promotional Activities**

- 183.** Since 2008, the government has organized a series of activities each year around the time of the UN-designated International Immigrant Day (December 18) to help citizens gain a deeper understanding of the value of cultural diversity. Coverage of these activities in Chinese and English media have strengthened respect for cultural diversity.
- 184.** Individual educational plans are designed and incorporated into group projects for students with disabilities at and below the senior high school level. Parents and guardians of students with disabilities are invited to participate in the formulation of these plans, and may invite relevant individuals to accompany them to these sessions when necessary. Flexibility is essential in developing special education curriculum, teaching materials, teaching approaches and evaluation methods, taking into consideration the physical and mental characteristics as well as the needs of special education students. See also Paragraphs 191 to 197 of the second national report on the CRC.
- 185.** Seminars on gender equality in employment and sexual harassment prevention are organized each year. They are supplemented by media coverage and websites dedicated to gender equality in employment. The purpose is to promote understanding of the provisions of the Act of Gender Equality in Employment by the general public. Furthermore, related items are included in the scope of labor inspection, as required by this Act, to urge businesses to comply with the relevant provisions.

186. The government uses diverse channels to provide people with legal information regarding marriage, parent-child relationships, and inheritance as stipulated in the parts of the Civil Code on family and succession. The information is disseminated in collaboration with radio stations as well as through animation productions (that can be accessed on the Ministry of Justice website and YouTube). The government also published three comics—on children’s family name, matrimonial property regime, and inheritance of property—which were delivered to government agencies for distribution. In addition, it produced promotional posters on relevant regulations on family, succession, and gender equality for placement in commuter trains operated by the Taiwan Railways Administration.
187. The government shares the experiences and life stories of rehabilitated offenders with the public through various activities, promotional materials, volunteer participation, and media coverage to increase people’s understanding of their plight and associated rights in order to reduce discrimination and prejudice against them.
188. Each year, the Golden Eagle Award is presented to 10 recipients selected through a three-stage review procedure from among outstanding individuals with disabilities who are recommended from all walks of life nationwide. They promote the general public’s understanding and acceptance of individuals with disabilities, thereby enhancing social harmony.
189. To effectively protect the rights of veterans to education, employment, medical services, nursing, and care, the government promotes related education plans and promotional activities each year through a diverse range of media. From 2016 to 2020, a total of 140 seminars on veterans’ education and employment were held for 9,351 participants. Employment improved, as a total of 40,449 veterans found jobs through the employment assistance program, with the figure for 2020 showing an increase of 4,775 (86%) compared to 2016.
190. The Ministry of Education organizes related workshops and training programs to help familiarize educators with the essence and content of the Gender Equity Education Act as well as applicable laws, human rights education issues, and gender equity education. Subsidies have been provided since 2016 for local governments to form gender equity education resource centers and for schools to organize in-service education programs, seminars, and workshops for members of gender equity committees.

**Table 30 UN Human Rights Conventions and Covenants Ratified, Adopted, or Incorporated into Domestic Legislation in Taiwan**

No.	Convention	Date and location of establishment	Effective date	Involvement of Taiwan: Date of			Schedule and outcome of internalization as part of domestic law
				Signature	Ratification / acceptance / accession	Deposition ratification / acceptance / accession	
1	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)	1965/12/21 New York	1969/01/04	1966/03/31	1970/11/14	1970/12/10	The ICERD took effect in Taiwan as a part of domestic legislation on January 9, 1971. It was not incorporated into an implementation act as was the case with other covenants and conventions. A draft of an implementation plan for the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination was submitted to the Executive Yuan for approval in 2019.
2	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	1966/12/19 New York	1976/03/23	1967/10/5	2009/5/14		The covenant and its enforcement act were reviewed and approved by the Legislative Yuan on March 31, 2009. The enforcement act was promulgated by the president on April 22, and the covenant was ratified by the president on May 14, with the enforcement act taking effect on December 10 of the same year.
2-1	First Optional Protocol on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (individual complaints)	1966/12/16 New York	1976/03/23	1967/10/5			
3	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	1966/12/19 New York	1976/01/03	1967/10/5	2009/5/14		The covenant and its enforcement act were reviewed and approved by the Legislative Yuan on March 31, 2009. The enforcement act was promulgated by the president on April 22, and the covenant was ratified by the president on May 14, with the enforcement act taking effect on December 10 of the same year.

No.	Convention	Date and location of establishment	Effective date	Involvement of Taiwan: Date of			Schedule and outcome of internalization as part of domestic law
				Signature	Ratification / acceptance / accession	Deposition ratification / acceptance / accession	
4	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	1979/12/18 New York	1981/09/03		2007/02/09		The convention was reviewed and approved by the Legislative Yuan on January 5, 2007, and the letter of accession to the convention was signed by the president on February 9 of the same year. The enforcement act of the convention was passed at the third reading by the Legislative Yuan on May 20, 2011, promulgated on June 8 of the same year, and enforced on January 1 of the following year.
5	Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	1984/12/10 New York	1987/6/26				Refer to Note 57 of the third national report on the ICCPR.
5-1	Optional Protocol on the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	2002/12/18 New York	2006/06/22				
6	Convention on the Rights of the Child	1989/11/20 New York	1990/09/02		2016/05/16		The enforcement act of the convention was passed at the third reading by the Legislative Yuan on May 20, 2014, promulgated on June 4, and enforced on November 20 of the same year.
7	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	1990/12/18 New York	2003/07/01				Refer to Notes 3 and 4 of the Response to the Concluding Observations and Recommendations by international experts on the second national reports on the two covenants.
8	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance	2006/12/20 Paris	2010/12/23				Refer to Note 5 of the Response to the Concluding Observations and Recommendations by international experts on the initial national reports on the two covenants.

No.	Convention	Date and location of establishment	Effective date	Involvement of Taiwan: Date of			Schedule and outcome of internalization as part of domestic law
				Signature	Ratification / acceptance / accession	Deposition ratification / acceptance / accession	
9	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	2006/12/13 New York	2008/05/30		2016/05/16		The enforcement act of the convention was passed at the third reading by the Legislative Yuan on August 1, 2014, promulgated on August 20, and enforced on December 3 of the same year.

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Table 31 Other UN-related International Human Rights Conventions Ratified, Adopted, or Incorporated into Domestic Legislation in Taiwan**

No.	Other relevant United Nations human rights convention	Signed	Ratified	Schedule and outcome of internalization as part of domestic law
1	December 7, 1953, amended Slavery Convention by protocol	1953/12/07	1955/12/14	
2	Slavery, Servitude, Forced Labor and Similar Institutions and Practices Convention	1957/05/23	1959/05/28	

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Table 32 International Labor Organization Conventions Signed, Ratified, or Acceded to by Taiwan**

International Labor Organization Convention	Signed	Ratified	Acceded
Convention Fixing the Minimum Age for Admission of Children to Employment at Sea (No. 7)	Signing not required	1936/10/10	
Convention Concerning Seamen's Articles of Agreement (No. 22)	1936/10/10	1936/12/02	
Convention Concerning the Repatriation of Seamen (No. 26)	1936/10/10	1936/12/02	
Convention Concerning the Minimum Requirement of Professional Capacity for Masters and Officers on Board Merchant Ships (No. 53)	Signing not required	1964/08/25	
Convention Fixing the Minimum Age for the Admission of Children to Employment at Sea (Amended) (No. 58)	Signing not required	1964/10/08	
Convention Fixing the Minimum Age for Admission of Children to Industrial Employment (No. 59)		1940/02/21 International Labor Organization registered the ROC's ratification	1940/02/21
Convention Concerning the Medical Examination of Seafarers (No. 73)	Signing not required	1964/08/25	
Convention Concerning Labor Inspection in Industry and Commerce, 1947 (No. 81)	Signing not required	1961/09/26	1962/02/13
Convention Concerning Crew Accommodation on Board Ship (Amended) (No. 92)	Signing not required	1970/12/23	1971/02/03
Wage Protection Convention (No. 95)	Signing not required	1962/10/22	1962/11/16
Convention Concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organize and to Bargain Collectively, 1949 (No. 98)	Signing not required	1962/09/10	1962/10/11
Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)	Signing not required	1958/03/01	1958/05/01
Convention Concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour, 1957 (No. 105)	Signing not required	1959/01/23	
Convention Concerning the Protection and Integration of Indigenous and Other Tribal and Semi-Tribal Populations in Independent Countries (No. 107)	Signing not required	1962/09/10	1962/10/11
Convention Concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation, 1958 (No. 111)	Signing not required	1961/08/31	
Convention Concerning the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment as Fishermen (No. 112)	Signing not required	1961/08/31	
Convention Concerning the Medical Examination of Fishermen (No. 113)	Signing not required	1961/08/31	
Convention Concerning Fishermen's Articles of Agreement (No. 114)	Signing not required	1961/08/31	
Final Articles Revision Convention, 1961 (No. 116)		1962/01/22	1962/11/16
Convention Concerning Basic Aims and Standards of Social Policy (No. 117)	Signing not required	1964/10/08	
Convention Concerning Equality of Treatment of Nationals and Non-Nationals in Social Security (No. 118)	Signing not required	1964/10/08	
Convention Concerning the Maximum Permissible Weight to Be Carried by One Worker (No. 127)	Signing not required	1969/12/23	1970/02/02

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Table 33 Relevant UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization Conventions Signed, Ratified, or Acceded to by Taiwan**

Relevant UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization convention	Signed	Ratified	Acceded
Convention against Discrimination in Education	Signing not required	1964/11/16	1965/02/12

Sources: 1. Ministry of Foreign Affairs

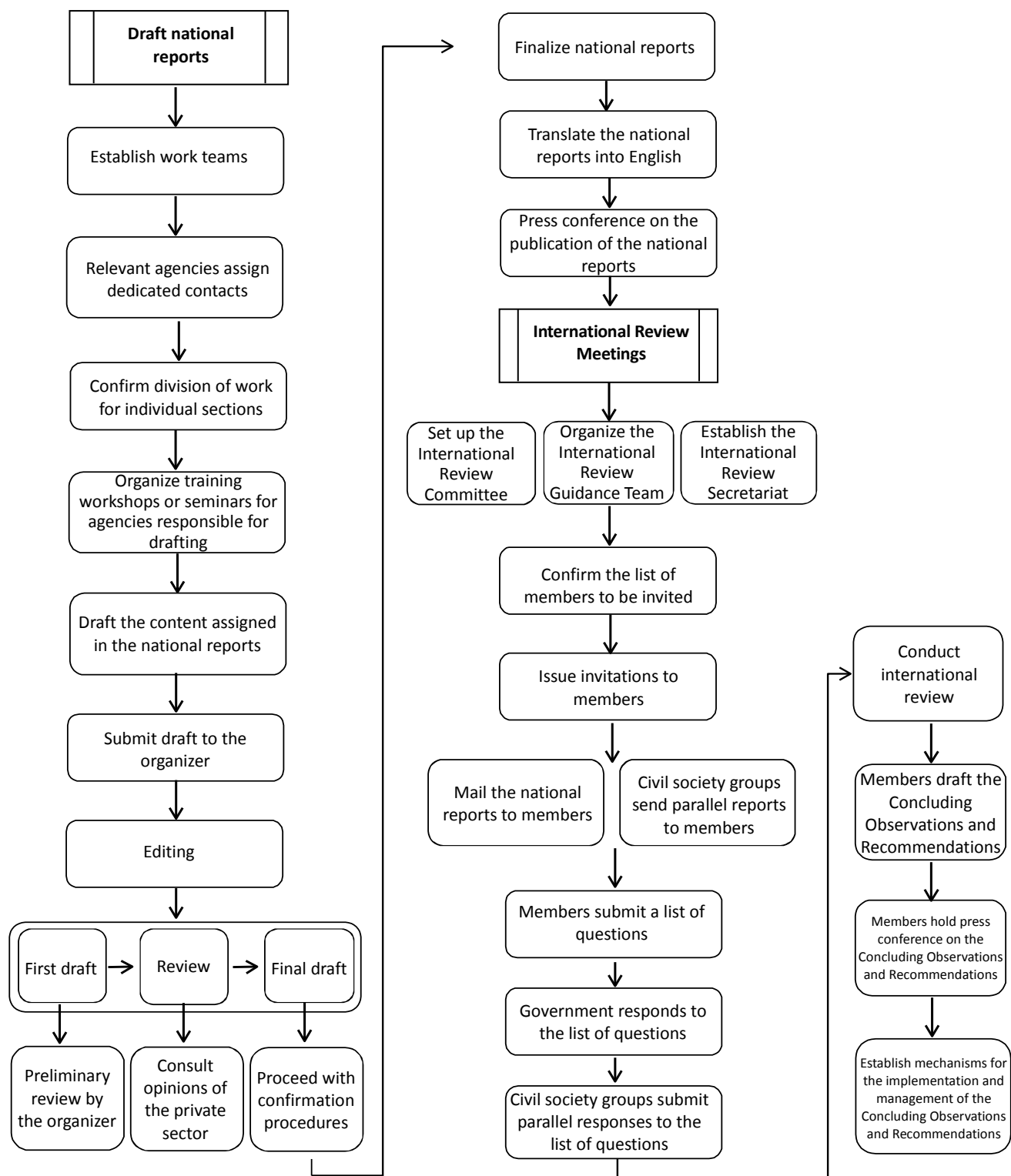
2. Research commissioned by the MOJ: International Convention Adoption Research Report, October 29, 2009.

**Table 34 Hague Conference on Private International Law Conventions Signed, Ratified, or Acceded to by Taiwan**

Hague Conference on Private International Law convention	Signed	Ratified	Acceded
Convention on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance (final act of UN Conference on Maintenance Obligations)	1956/12/04	1957/05/16	1957/06/25
Final Act of the United Nations Conference on Maintenance Obligations/Convention on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance	1957/05/16	1957/06/25	
1957 Convention on the Nationality of Married Women	1957/02/20	1958/08/12	1958/09/22

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs





Source: Ministry of Justice

**Figure 4 Operating Flowchart for the Drafting of the National Reports on Core Human Rights Covenants and Organization of International Review Meetings**



Source: Ministry of Justice

**Figure 5 Task Assignment for the Drafting of the National Reports on Core Human Rights Covenants and Organization of International Review Meetings**



# 行政院

Executive Yuan



**Child and Youth Welfare and Rights Promotion Group**