

## **Support Taiwan's inclusion in the post-COVID-19 global public health network**

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Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, there have been more than 40 million cases and more than one million deaths around the world. The virus has had an enormous impact on global politics, employment, economics, trade and financial systems, and significantly impacted the global efforts to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).

Thanks to the united efforts of its entire people, Taiwan has responded to the threats posed by this pandemic through four principles: prudent action, rapid response, advance deployment, and openness and transparency. Adopting such strategies as the operation of specialized command systems, the implementation of meticulous border control measures, the production and distribution of adequate supplies of medical resources, the employment of home quarantine and isolation measures and related care services, the application of IT systems, the publishing of transparent and open information, and the execution of precise screening and testing, we have been fortunate enough to contain the virus. As of October 7, Taiwan had had just 523 confirmed cases and seven deaths; meanwhile, life and work have continued much as normal for the majority of people.

The global outbreak of COVID-19 has reminded the world that infectious diseases know no borders and do not discriminate along political, ethnic, religious, or cultural lines. Nations should work together to address the threat of emerging diseases. For this reason, once Taiwan had stabilized its

containment of the virus and ensured that people had sufficient access to medical resources, we began to share our experience and exchange information on containing COVID-19 with global public health professionals and scholars through COVID-19-related forums, APEC's High-Level Meeting on Health and the Economy, the Global Cooperation Training Framework, and other virtual bilateral meetings. As of June 2020, Taiwan had held nearly 80 online conferences, sharing the Taiwan Model with experts from governments, hospitals, universities, and think tanks in 32 countries.

Taiwan's donations of medical equipment and antipandemic supplies to countries in need also continue. By June, we had donated 51 million surgical masks, 1.16 million N95 masks, 600,000 isolation gowns, and 35,000 forehead thermometers to more than 80 countries.

To ensure access to vaccines, Taiwan has joined the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access Facility (COVAX) co-led by GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance; the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations; and the World Health Organization. And our government is actively assisting domestic manufacturers in hopes of accelerating the development and production of successful vaccines, bringing them to market as quickly as possible and putting an end to this pandemic.

To prepare for a possible next wave of the pandemic as well as the approaching flu season, Taiwan is maintaining its strategies of encouraging citizens to wear face masks and maintain social distancing, and strengthening border quarantine measures, community-based prevention, and medical preparedness. Furthermore, we are actively collaborating with domestic and international partners to obtain vaccines and develop optimal

treatments and accurate diagnostic tools, jointly safeguarding global public health security.

The COVID-19 pandemic has proven that Taiwan is an integral part of the global public health network and that Taiwan Model can help other countries combat the pandemic. To recover better, WHO needs Taiwan. We urge WHO and related parties to acknowledge Taiwan's longstanding contributions to global public health, disease prevention, and the human right to health, and to firmly support Taiwan's inclusion in WHO. Taiwan's comprehensive participation in WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities would allow us to work with the rest of the world in realizing the fundamental human right to health as stipulated in the WHO Constitution and the vision of leaving no one behind enshrined in the UN SDGs.

# 後疫情時代的全球衛生網絡應納入臺灣參與

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全球爆發 COVID-19 疫情迄今，累計確診病例已逼近 4,000 萬名，其中 100 多萬人死亡，不僅對全球政治、經濟、貿易、金融及就業等層面產生巨大衝擊，亦嚴重影響聯合國為消除貧窮、飢餓等 17 項永續發展目標(SDGs)所做的努力。

臺灣為因應這波疫情之威脅，在全體國人通力合作下，秉持審慎以對、迅速應變、超前部署、公開透明等四大原則，透過專業化的指揮體系運作、嚴謹的邊境管制措施、生產分配得宜的防疫物資供應、居家檢疫隔離與關懷管制並重、妥善運用科技資訊系統、資訊透明公開、精準篩檢及疫調等策略，有幸將疫情控制得宜，截至 2020 年 10 月 7 日止，共 523 例確診、7 人死亡，多數人民可以維持正常生活。

從這次全球爆發 COVID-19 疫情，我們再次體認傳染病無國界，病毒不會因為政治、種族、宗教、文化的差異而有所不同，各國更應不分彼此，共同對抗新興疫病之威脅。因此，在確保臺灣疫情穩定且民眾防疫物資需求無虞後，我國透過舉辦「COVID-19 專業論壇」、「全球合作暨訓練架構(GCTF)」、「APEC 衛生與經濟高階會議」及其他雙邊線上會議，與各國衛生防疫官員或專家學者交流分享 COVID-19 防疫作為。截至 2020 年 6 月臺灣已與 32 國政府官員、醫院、

大學或智庫，辦理超過 77 場防疫專家視訊會議分享「臺灣模式」。

臺灣也提供醫療設備與防疫物資給其他有急需的國家，截至 2020 年 6 月共捐贈 5,100 萬個外科口罩、116 萬個 N95 口罩、60 萬件隔離衣、3 萬 5,000 支額溫槍及其他各式醫療器材給 80 多個國家。

此外，我國也參與由全球疫苗免疫聯盟(GAVI)、流行病預防創新聯盟(CEPI)與 WHO 合作主導的 COVAX 機制，以確保國人取得足夠疫苗。我國亦積極協助國內疫苗廠加速研發及產製，以利疫苗及早上市，早日終結大流行。

臺灣在面對下一波疫情的可能反撲與秋冬流感疫情的雙重威脅未敢懈怠，除持續提醒國人佩戴口罩、維持社交距離，加強邊境檢疫、社區防疫及醫療整備後續策略外，並積極與國內外合作取得疫苗、發展有效治療及正確診斷，共同維護全球衛生安全。

經由這波疫情的考驗，證實臺灣無法置外於全球衛生網絡，WHO 也無法將臺灣排除在外。我們籲請 WHO 及相關各方正視臺灣長期以來對全球衛生防疫及健康人權之貢獻，堅定支持將臺灣納入 WHO，讓臺灣完整參與 WHO 各項會議、機制及活動，與世界各國攜手，共同落實 WHO 憲章「健康是基本人權」及聯合國永續發展目標「不遺漏任何人」之願景。