



MINISTRY OF HEALTH & WELLNESS

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Ref.: Gen/104/104/01/24(09) Vol. LI

14th May 2024

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director-General
World Health Organization
Avenue Appia 20
1211 Geneva 27
Switzerland

Your Excellency,

On behalf of my government, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, as well as UN Sustainable Development Goal 3, I hereby request the inclusion of the supplementary item entitled “Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer” in the provisional agenda of its 77th session.

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated that the present global health governance framework is not effective in responding to threats to global health. While countries around the globe are working through the World Health Organization to bolster health governance, WHO must ensure the participation of all stakeholders, including Taiwan. Taiwan’s prolonged exclusion from WHO has seriously compromised WHO’s disease prevention efforts, undermined the interests of its members, and jeopardized global health. WHO and the international community would greatly benefit from including a global health partner as willing and capable as Taiwan, as the world works to make global health architecture more resilient; improve health emergency prevention, preparedness, and response; and realize health for all.

Prior to 2017, Taiwan was invited to participate in the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years. Taiwan’s professionalism and expertise were widely recognized and acclaimed by WHO and its members. Taiwan has proven to the world that it is a valuable and indispensable partner in the collective effort to ensure that all people enjoy the highest attainable standard of health. In a world of entangled challenges, it is vital for WHO to once again invite Taiwan to attend the WHA and include Taiwan in all WHO

meetings, mechanisms, and activities, including the prospective WHO pandemic agreement and its negotiation, thereby safeguarding the right to health of the 23.5 million people of Taiwan.

My government hopes that the WHA will accept the inclusion of this item. To this end, a draft resolution and an explanatory memorandum are attached for further discussion. Moreover, in order that the General Committee may properly fulfill its mandate and report to the WHA for its final decision, my government formally requests that the present letter and its enclosure be circulated as an official document of the WHA. In this respect, my government recalls Rule 19 of the WHA Rules of Procedure, which stipulates the duty of the Secretariat regarding the circulation of documents.

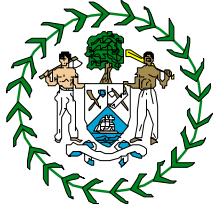
Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Bernard', written over a circular stamp or seal.

**HON. KEVIN BERNARD MBA,
MINISTER OF HEALTH & WELLNESS**

Enc.



Ministry of Health & Wellness

DRAFT RESOLUTION

The Seventy-Seventh World Health Assembly,

Reaffirming that the fundamental objective of WHO is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health, and that Sustainable Development Goal 3 is to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;

Acknowledging that Taiwan contributed greatly to combating the COVID-19 pandemic and responding to the health emergency in Ukraine, that Taiwan provides timely medical and humanitarian aid to countries in need, and that Taiwan's public health experience and expertise are valuable to efforts to make the global health architecture more resilient and improve prevention, preparedness, and response for future pandemics;

Expressing grave concern that Taiwan, an indispensable member of the international community and a provider of international humanitarian assistance to numerous WHO member states, is not fully included in all WHO technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, including the prospective pandemic agreement;

Recalling that from 2009 to 2016, Taiwan, a force for good in the world, was invited to participate in the WHA as an observer, making constructive contributions to global health security;

Recognizing that only when Taiwan is directly and properly included in the international community's collective efforts to combat disease can WHO's ultimate goal of Health for All be achieved; and

Realizing that in the fight against emerging diseases, WHO must remain informed of all health concerns worldwide and be able to obtain and disseminate relevant data needed to prevent, monitor, and respond to epidemics and other diseases;

Hereby invites Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer.

Explanatory memorandum

14th May 2024

Proposal submitted by Belize.

Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer.

Belize considers that a discussion at the 77th World Health Assembly on Taiwan's participation is necessary and timely for the following reasons:

Relevance

- The proposal is directly linked to Sustainable Development Goal 3—ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030—and the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005).
- Taiwan's participation in the WHA is a health issue, not a political one. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely recognized and acclaimed.
- Taiwan demonstrated that it is an indispensable member of the international community, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. Taiwan continues to provide humanitarian assistance to WHO member states.
- In 2013 and 2017, Taiwan made notification of and shared information on H6N1 and H7N9 avian influenza cases as well as virus gene sequences once they were confirmed, which helped other countries make appropriate preparations.
- In December 2019, Taiwan's disease surveillance systems picked up a notice issued by China regarding pneumonia of unknown cause and reported it to WHO. This important alert was one of the first that WHO received concerning COVID-19, as noted by the main report of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response. Although COVID-19 is no longer a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC), experience demonstrated that the present global health governance framework is not effective in responding to threats to global health. Therefore, it is critical that countries across the globe unite to bolster health governance.
- Taiwan manufacturer Medigen Vaccine Biologics Corp. was the first private manufacturer to license its COVID-19 vaccine technology to the WHO COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP) and the United Nations-backed Medicines Patent Pool (MPP). This demonstrates that Taiwan has world-class biotechnology and medical treatments that can contribute to global health security.

- Taiwan has been contributing to global efforts to realize the right to health. These efforts include improving medical care in small South Pacific Island nations; enhancing nutrition for women and children affected by an earthquake in Haiti; providing psychological support to Ukrainian refugee women and children in Romania as well as aid workers; bolstering climate change adaptability in the Caribbean; and improving access to water, sanitation, and hygiene at healthcare facilities in Kenya. Furthermore, Taiwan has provided humanitarian assistance through post disaster recovery and reconstruction efforts in the Philippines, Japan, Hawaii, Türkiye, and Indonesia.

- Taiwan is committed to achieving universal health coverage and has consistently improved the quality of health care in line with WHO recommendations. Taiwan seeks to cooperate with WHO to remedy geographic gaps in global health security. Taiwan's inclusion in WHO, especially its substantive involvement in related mechanisms such as the prospective pandemic agreement, the International Health Regulations, the Western Pacific Regional Office, and the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System, would greatly benefit the global health system, particularly in the fight against communicable diseases.

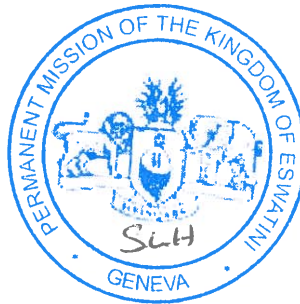
- My government urges WHO to maintain a professional and neutral stance, set aside political considerations, and include Taiwan in all technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, as well as invite Taiwan to participate in the WHA as an observer.

NOTE VERBALE No 26/2024

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Eswatini to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the World Health Organization (WHO) and has the honour to transmit letter to Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an Observer in the provisional agenda of its 77th Session.

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Eswatini to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, take this opportunity to renew to World Health Organization (WHO) the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 22 April 2024



To: World Health Organization (WHO)
Director-General Office
Centre William Rappard
Rue de Lausanne, 154
Case postale
1211 Genève 2

Office of the
Director-General

22 APR 2024

570634



PHONE: (+268) 2404 2661/2/3
FAX: (+268) 2404 2669

KINGDOM OF ESWATINI

P.O. BOX 518, MBABANE H100
ESWATINI

OUR REFERENCE:
YOUR REFERENCE:

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director General
World Health Organization
Geneva
Switzerland



18th April 2024

Your Excellency,

Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an Observer

On behalf of my Government, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, as well as UN Sustainable Development Goal 3, I hereby request the inclusion of the supplementary item entitled "Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an Observer" in the provisional agenda of its 77th Session.

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated that the present global health governance framework is not effective in responding to threats to global health. While countries around the globe are working through the World Health Organization to bolster health governance, WHO must ensure the participation of all stakeholders, including Taiwan. Taiwan's prolonged exclusion from WHO has seriously compromised WHO's disease prevention efforts, undermined the interests of its members, and jeopardized global health. WHO and the international community would greatly benefit from including a global health partner as willing and capable as Taiwan, as the world works to

make global health architecture more resilient; improve health emergency prevention, preparedness, and response; and realize health for all.

Prior to 2017, Taiwan was invited to participate in the WHA as an Observer for eight consecutive years. Taiwan's professionalism and expertise were widely recognized, acclaimed by WHO and its members. Taiwan has proven to the world that it is a valuable and indispensable partner in the collective effort to ensure that all people enjoy the highest attainable standard of health. In a world of entangled challenges, it is vital for WHO to consider inviting Taiwan to attend the WHA and include Taiwan in all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities, including the prospective WHO pandemic agreement and its negotiation, thereby safeguarding the right to health of the 23.5 million people of Taiwan.

My Government hopes that the WHA will accept the inclusion of this item. To this end, we have attached a draft resolution and an explanatory memorandum for further discussion. Moreover, in order that the General Committee may properly fulfill its mandate and report to the WHA for its final decision, my Government formally requests that the letter and its enclosure is circulated as an official document of the WHA. In this respect, my Government recalls Rule 19 of the WHA Rules of Procedure, which stipulates the duty of the Secretariat regarding the circulation of documents.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.


SIZWE N. NTSHANGASE
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY



DRAFT RESOLUTION

The Seventy-Seventh World Health Assembly,

Reaffirming that the fundamental objective of WHO is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health, and that Sustainable Development Goal 3 is to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;

Acknowledging that Taiwan contributed greatly to combating the COVID-19 pandemic and responding to the health emergency in Ukraine, that Taiwan provides timely medical and humanitarian aid to countries in need, and that Taiwan's public health experience and expertise are valuable to efforts to make the global health architecture more resilient and improve prevention, preparedness, and response for future pandemics;

Expressing grave concern that Taiwan, an indispensable member of the international community and a provider of international humanitarian assistance to numerous WHO member states, is not fully included in all WHO technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, including the prospective pandemic agreement;

Recalling that from 2009 to 2016, Taiwan, a force for good in the world, was invited to participate in the WHA as an observer, making constructive contributions to global health security;

Recognizing that only when Taiwan is directly and properly included in the international community's collective efforts to combat disease can WHO's ultimate goal of Health for All be achieved; and

Realizing that in the fight against emerging diseases, WHO must remain informed of all health concerns worldwide and be able to obtain and disseminate relevant data needed to prevent, monitor, and respond to epidemics and other diseases;

Hereby invites Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

18th April 2024

Proposal submitted by The Kingdom of Eswatini

INVITING TAIWAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY AS AN OBSERVER

(Member State) considers that a discussion at the 77th World Health Assembly on Taiwan's participation is necessary and timely for the following reasons:

Relevance

- The proposal is directly linked to Sustainable Development Goal 3—ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030—and the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005).
- Taiwan's participation in the WHA is a health issue, not a political one. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely recognized and acclaimed.
- Taiwan demonstrated that it is an indispensable member of the international community, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. Taiwan continues to provide humanitarian assistance to WHO member states.
- In 2013 and 2017, Taiwan made notification of and shared information on H6N1 and H7N9 avian influenza cases as well as virus gene sequences once they were confirmed, which helped other countries make appropriate preparations.
- In December 2019, Taiwan's disease surveillance systems picked up a notice issued by China regarding pneumonia of unknown cause and reported it to WHO. This important alert was one of the first that WHO received concerning COVID-19, as noted by the main report of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response. Although COVID-19 is no longer a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC), the experience demonstrated that

the present global health governance framework is not effective in responding to threats to global health. Therefore, it is critical that countries across the globe unite to bolster health governance.

- Taiwan manufacturer Medigen Vaccine Biologics Corp. was the first private manufacturer to license its COVID-19 vaccine technology to the WHO COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP) and the United Nations-backed Medicines Patent Pool (MPP). This demonstrates that Taiwan has world-class biotechnology and medical treatments that can contribute to global health security.
- Taiwan has been contributing to global efforts to realize the right to health. These efforts include improving medical care in small South Pacific island nations; enhancing nutrition for women and children affected by an earthquake in Haiti; providing psychological support to Ukrainian refugee women and children in Romania as well as aid workers; bolstering climate change adaptability in the Caribbean; and improving access to water, sanitation, and hygiene at healthcare facilities in Kenya. Furthermore, Taiwan has provided humanitarian assistance through postdisaster recovery and reconstruction efforts in the Philippines, Japan, Hawaii, Türkiye, and Indonesia.
- Taiwan is committed to achieving universal health coverage and has consistently improved the quality of health care in line with WHO recommendations. Taiwan seeks to cooperate with WHO to remedy geographic gaps in global health security. Taiwan's inclusion in WHO, especially its substantive involvement in related mechanisms such as the prospective pandemic agreement, the International Health Regulations, the Western Pacific Regional Office, and the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System, would greatly benefit the global health system, particularly in the fight against communicable diseases.
- My government urges the WHO to maintain a professional and neutral stance, set aside political considerations, and include Taiwan in all technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, as well as invite Taiwan to participate in the WHA as an observer.



Ministerio de
**Relaciones
Exteriores**

Misión Permanente de Guatemala
ante la Organización de las Naciones
Unidas (ONU), Ginebra, Suiza

No. M1/OE/2.2/565

La Misión Permanente de Guatemala ante la Organización de las Naciones Unidas y otras Organizaciones Internacionales en Ginebra, saluda muy atentamente a la Organización Mundial de la Salud y se permite enviar adjunto la nota del Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores Embajador Carlos Ramiro Martínez, dirigida a Su Excelencia el Doctor Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General de la Organización Mundial de la Salud, relativa a la solicitud para la inclusión en la agenda provisional de la 77ª Asamblea Mundial de la Salud, el tema complementario titulado "Invitación a Taiwán para participar en la 77ª Asamblea Mundial de la Salud como Observador", de conformidad con el Artículo 12 del Reglamento de la Asamblea.

Al respecto, la Misión Permanente de Guatemala mucho agradecería a la Secretaría de la Organización Mundial de la Salud trasladar la nota al Dr. Director General, Doctor Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

La Misión Permanente de Guatemala ante la Organización de las Naciones Unidas y otras Organizaciones Internacionales en Ginebra, aprovecha la oportunidad para renovar a la Organización Mundial de la Salud las seguridades de su más alta y distinguida consideración.

Ginebra, 17 de mayo de 2024



Honorable
Organización Mundial de la Salud
Ginebra, Suiza

*Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Guatemala, C. A.*

Referencia.: SUBONU-1108-2023
Guatemala, 15 de mayo de 2024

Excelentísimo Director General:

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a usted, en relación a la 77ª Asamblea Mundial de la Salud (AMS), la cual se llevará a cabo del 27 de mayo al 1 de junio de 2024, en el Palacio de las Naciones Unidas (ONU), en Ginebra, Suiza.

Al respecto, me permito hacer referencia a la importancia de la inclusión de todas las partes interesadas en la lucha contra emergencias sanitarias, el fortalecimiento de los sistemas de salud y la prevención de enfermedades; destacando la labor realizada por la República de China (Taiwán), por medio de cooperación internacional, la cual ha permitido que otros Estados Miembros fortalezcan sus sistemas de salud nacionales, en miras de una cobertura sanitaria internacional.

En ese sentido, me permito solicitar la inclusión en la Agenda Provisional de la AMS, de un punto complementario titulado: "Invitación a Taiwán para participar en la 77ª Asamblea Mundial de la Salud como Observador". Lo anterior, de conformidad con el Artículo 12 del Reglamento de la Asamblea.

Hago propicia la oportunidad para renovarle a Vuestra Excelencia las muestras de mi consideración más distinguida.


Carlos Ramiro Martínez A.
Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores



Excelentísimo señor

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Director General de la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS)

Su Despacho

PROPOSAL FOR SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEM

(date)

Your Excellency,

On behalf of my government, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, as well as UN Sustainable Development Goal 3, I hereby request the inclusion of the supplementary item entitled “Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer” in the provisional agenda of its 77th session.

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My government hopes that the WHA will accept the inclusion of this item. To this end, a draft resolution and an explanatory memorandum are attached for further discussion. Moreover, in order that the General Committee may properly fulfill its mandate and report to the WHA for its final decision, my government formally requests that the present letter and its enclosure be circulated as an official document of the WHA. In this respect, my government recalls Rule 19 of the WHA Rules of Procedure, which stipulates the duty of the Secretariat regarding the circulation of documents.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.

Enclosure 1/

DRAFT RESOLUTION

The Seventy-Seventh World Health Assembly,

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Realizing that in the fight against emerging diseases, WHO must remain informed of all health concerns worldwide and be able to obtain and disseminate relevant data needed to prevent, monitor, and respond to epidemics and other diseases;

Hereby invites Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer.

Explanatory memorandum

(date)

Proposal submitted by (Member State)

Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer

(Member State) considers that a discussion at the 77th World Health Assembly on Taiwan's participation is necessary and timely for the following reasons:

Relevance

- The proposal is directly linked to Sustainable Development Goal 3—ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030—and the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005).
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threats to global health. Therefore, it is critical that countries across the globe unite to bolster health governance.

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- Taiwan has been contributing to global efforts to realize the right to health. These efforts include improving medical care in small South Pacific island nations; enhancing nutrition for women and children affected by an earthquake in Haiti; providing psychological support to Ukrainian refugee women and children in Romania as well as aid workers; bolstering climate change adaptability in the Caribbean; and improving access to water, sanitation, and hygiene at healthcare facilities in Kenya. Furthermore, Taiwan has provided humanitarian assistance through postdisaster recovery and reconstruction efforts in the Philippines, Japan, Hawaii, Türkiye, and Indonesia.
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- My government urges WHO to maintain a professional and neutral stance, set aside political considerations, and include Taiwan in all technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, as well as invite Taiwan to participate in the WHA as an observer.



*Mission Permanente d'Haïti auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies et des autres
Organisations Internationales à Genève*

MPH-ONUG/OT/0198-2024

La Mission Permanente d'Haïti auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies et des autres Organisations Internationales à Genève présente ses compliments à l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé (OMS) et a l'honneur de lui faire parvenir, sous couvert de la présente, copie de la correspondance *MAEC/SM/JVG/24-003* du 10 mai 2024 du Ministre des Affaires Étrangères et des Cultes, Son Excellence Monsieur Jean Victor GÉNÉUS, adressée au Directeur Général de l'OMS, Son Excellence Monsieur Tedros Adhanom GHEBREYESUS, relative l'inclusion à l'agenda de la 77^{ème} Session de l'Assemblée mondiale de la santé le point supplémentaire suivant « *inviter Taïwan à participer en tant qu'observateur* ».

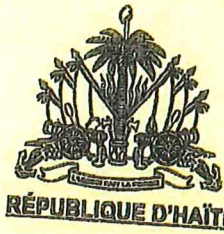
La Mission Permanente d'Haïti prie l'OMS de bien vouloir acheminer la correspondance à son haut destinataire.

La Mission Permanente d'Haïti auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies et des autres Organisations Internationales à Genève saisit l'occasion pour renouveler à l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé (OMS) l'assurance de sa haute considération.

Genève, le 13 mai 2024

ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ (OMS).-





Ministère des Affaires Étrangères et des Cultes

Le Ministre

MAEC/SM/JVG/24-003

Port-au-Prince, le 10 mai 2024

Votre Excellence,

Au nom du Gouvernement et tenant compte des règles de procédure de l'Assemblée Mondiale de la Santé, je sollicite l'inclusion à l'agenda de la 77^{ème} session le point supplémentaire suivant « *inviter Taiwan à participer en tant qu'observateur* ».

Nous sommes de l'avis que l'inclusion d'un partenaire comme Taiwan contribuera à rendre l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé (OMS) mieux préparée pour répondre aux urgences et défis sanitaires à l'échelle mondiale.

Mon Gouvernement reste convaincu que l'Assemblée Mondiale sur la Santé acceptera d'inclure Taiwan comme observateur à l'agenda de la 77^{ème} session de l'Assemblée. Taiwan a prouvé au monde qu'il est un partenaire valable dans le cadre de l'effort collectif pour rendre l'accès à la santé possible pour tous.

Je vous prie d'accepter, Excellence, les assurances de ma haute estime et considération.

Jean V. Geneus
Jean Victor GENEUS
Ministre

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Directeur General de l'Organisation Mondiale
de la Santé



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER
MINISTRY OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
P.O. Box 16 ~ Majuro ~ Marshall Islands ~ 96960
Telephone No. (692) 625-5327 Ext: 2392/2388 Email: Otakisino@gmail.com



24 April 2024

H.E. Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director General
World Health Organization
Geneva, Switzerland

Proposal for supplementary agenda item

Your Excellency,

On behalf of my government, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, as well as UN Sustainable Development Goal 3, I hereby request the inclusion of the supplementary item entitled “Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer” in the provisional agenda for the 77th session of the WHA.

Prior to 2017, Taiwan was invited to participate in the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years. Taiwan’s professionalism and expertise were widely recognized and acclaimed by the World Health Organization and its members. Taiwan has proven to the world that it is a valuable and indispensable partner in the collective effort to ensure that all people enjoy the highest attainable standard of health.

At this critical juncture, it is more imperative than ever before to once again invite Taiwan to attend the WHA and include Taiwan in all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities, thereby safeguarding the right to health of the 23 million people of Taiwan. To reiterate our earlier position, the work of WHO requires the cooperation of all stakeholders in the international community. Therefore, Taiwan’s prolonged exclusion from WHO has seriously compromised WHO’s disease prevention efforts, undermined the interests of its members, and jeopardized global health.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the international community lauded Taiwan's exceptional response and control measures, as well as Taiwan's donations of medical supplies to other nations. Moreover, in the wake of the health emergency in Ukraine, Taiwan's government and people donated tens of millions of dollars,

especially to Ukrainian medical institutions and shipped hundreds of tons of medical and humanitarian supplies to Ukraine and neighboring countries. WHO and the international community would greatly benefit from including a global health partner as willing and capable as Taiwan, as we work together to make the global health architecture more resilient and improve health emergency prevention, preparedness, and response.

My government hopes that the WHA will accept the inclusion of this item. To this end, a draft resolution and an explanatory memorandum are attached for further discussion. Moreover, in order that the general committee may properly fulfill its mandate and report to the WHA for its final decision, my government formally requests that the present letter and its enclosure be circulated as an official document of WHA. In this respect, my government recalls rule 19 of the WHA Rules of Procedure, which stipulates the duty of Secretariat regarding the circulation of the documents.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.

With my best wishes for your good health,



Hon. Ota Kisino

Minister of Health and Human Services

DRAFT RESOLUTION

The Seventy-Seventh World Health Assembly,

Reaffirming that the fundamental objective of WHO is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health, and that Sustainable Development Goal 3 is to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;

Acknowledging that Taiwan contributed greatly to combating the COVID-19 pandemic and responding to the health emergency in Ukraine, that Taiwan provides timely medical and humanitarian aid to countries in need, and that Taiwan's public health experience and expertise are valuable to efforts to make the global health architecture more resilient and improve prevention, preparedness, and response for future pandemics;

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Recognizing that only when Taiwan is directly and properly included in the international community's collective efforts to combat disease can WHO's ultimate goal of Health for All be achieved; and

Realizing that in the fight against emerging diseases, WHO must remain informed of all health concerns worldwide and be able to obtain and disseminate relevant data needed to prevent, monitor, and respond to epidemics and other diseases;

Hereby invites Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer.

Proposal submitted by Republic of the Marshall Islands

Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer

The Republic of the Marshall Islands considers that a discussion at the 77th World Health Assembly on Taiwan's participation is necessary and timely for the following reasons:

Relevance

- The proposal is directly linked to Sustainable Development Goal 3—ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030—and the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005).
- Taiwan's participation in the WHA is a health issue, not a political one. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely recognized and acclaimed.
- Taiwan demonstrated that it is an indispensable member of the international community, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. Taiwan continues to provide humanitarian assistance to WHO member states.
 - In 2013 and 2017, Taiwan made notification of and shared information on H6N1 and H7N9 avian influenza cases as well as virus gene sequences once they were confirmed, which helped other countries make appropriate preparations.
 - In December 2019, Taiwan's disease surveillance systems picked up a notice issued by China regarding pneumonia of unknown cause and reported it to WHO. This important alert was one of the first that WHO received concerning COVID-19, as noted by the main report of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response. Although COVID-19 is no longer a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC), the experience demonstrated that the present global health governance framework is not effective in responding to threats to global health. Therefore, it is critical that countries across the globe unite to bolster health governance.
 - Taiwan manufacturer Medigen Vaccine Biologics Corp. was the first private manufacturer to license its COVID-19 vaccine technology to the WHO COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP) and the United Nations-backed Medicines Patent Pool (MPP). This demonstrates that Taiwan has world-class biotechnology and medical treatments that can contribute to global health security.
 - Taiwan has been contributing to global efforts to realize the right to health. These efforts include improving medical care in small South Pacific island nations; enhancing nutrition for women and

children affected by an earthquake in Haiti; providing psychological support to Ukrainian refugee women and children in Romania as well as aid workers; bolstering climate change adaptability in the Caribbean; and improving access to water, sanitation, and hygiene at healthcare facilities in Kenya. Furthermore, Taiwan has provided humanitarian assistance through postdisaster recovery and reconstruction efforts in the Philippines, Japan, Hawaii, Türkiye, and Indonesia.

- Taiwan is committed to achieving universal health coverage and has consistently improved the quality of health care in line with WHO recommendations. Taiwan seeks to cooperate with WHO to remedy geographic gaps in global health security. Taiwan's inclusion in WHO, especially its substantive involvement in related mechanisms such as the prospective pandemic agreement, the International Health Regulations, the Western Pacific Regional Office, and the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System, would greatly benefit the global health system, particularly in the fight against communicable diseases.

□ My government urges WHO to maintain a professional and neutral stance, set aside political considerations, and include Taiwan in all technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, as well as invite Taiwan to participate in the WHA as an observer.



Ministry of Health & Human Services

P.O. Box 6027 Koror, Republic of Palau 96940

Phone: (680) 488-2552/3 Fax: (680) 488-1211

E-mail: administration@palahealth.org Website: www.palahealth.org

May 10th 2024

MHHSodw : 088-24

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Director General

World Health Organization

Geneva, Switzerland

Subject : Proposal for Supplementary Agenda Item

Your Excellency,

On behalf of my government, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, as well as UN Sustainable Development Goal 3, I hereby request the inclusion of the supplementary item entitled “Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer” in the provisional agenda of its 77th session.

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated that the present global health governance framework is not effective in responding to threats to global health. While countries around the globe are working through the World Health Organization to bolster health governance, WHO must ensure the participation of all stakeholders, including Taiwan. Taiwan’s prolonged exclusion from WHO has seriously compromised WHO’s disease prevention efforts, undermined the interests of its members, and jeopardized global health. WHO and the international community would greatly benefit from including a global health partner as willing and capable as Taiwan, as the world works to make global health architecture more resilient; improve health emergency prevention, preparedness, and response; and realize health for all.

Prior to 2017, Taiwan was invited to participate in the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years. Taiwan’s professionalism and expertise were widely recognized and acclaimed by WHO and its members. Taiwan has proven to the world that it is a valuable and indispensable partner in the collective effort to ensure that all people enjoy the highest attainable standard of health. In a world of entangled challenges, it is vital for WHO to once again invite Taiwan to attend the WHA and include Taiwan in all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities, including the prospective WHO pandemic agreement and its negotiation, thereby safeguarding the right to health of the 23.5 million people of Taiwan.

My government hopes that the WHA will accept the inclusion of this item. To this end, a draft resolution and an explanatory memorandum are attached for further discussion. Moreover, in order that the General Committee may properly fulfill its mandate and report to the WHA for its final decision, my government formally requests that the present letter and its enclosure be circulated as an official document of the WHA. In this respect, my

government recalls Rule 19 of the WHA Rules of Procedure, which stipulates the duty of the Secretariat regarding the circulation of documents.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.

Respectfully,



Hon. Gaafar J. Uherbelau
Minister of Health & Human Services



Cc : **Dr. Matthew S. Shortus**
OIC/CLO
WHO WR for Northern Micronesia
Pohnpei, FSM

Enclosure 1/

DRAFT RESOLUTION

The Seventy-Seventh World Health Assembly,

Reaffirming that the fundamental objective of WHO is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health, and that Sustainable Development Goal 3 is to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;

Acknowledging that Taiwan contributed greatly to combating the COVID-19 pandemic and responding to the health emergency in Ukraine, that Taiwan provides timely medical and humanitarian aid to countries in need, and that Taiwan's public health experience and expertise are valuable to efforts to make the global health architecture more resilient and improve prevention, preparedness, and response for future pandemics;

Expressing grave concern that Taiwan, an indispensable member of the international community and a provider of international humanitarian assistance to numerous WHO member states, is not fully included in all WHO technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, including the prospective pandemic agreement;

Recalling that from 2009 to 2016, Taiwan, a force for good in the world, was invited to participate in the WHA as an observer, making constructive contributions to global health security;

Recognizing that only when Taiwan is directly and properly included in the international community's collective efforts to combat disease can WHO's ultimate goal of Health for All be achieved; and

Realizing that in the fight against emerging diseases, WHO must remain informed of all health concerns worldwide and be able to obtain and disseminate relevant data needed to prevent, monitor, and respond to epidemics and other diseases;

Hereby invites Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer.

Explanatory Memorandum

15 May 2024

Proposal submitted by the Republic of Palau

Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an “Observer”

The government of the Republic of Palau considers that a discussion at the 77th World Health Assembly on Taiwan’s participation is necessary and timely for the following reasons:

Relevance

- The proposal is directly linked to Sustainable Development Goal 3—ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030—and the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005).
- Taiwan’s participation in the WHA is a health issue, not a political one. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely recognized and acclaimed.
- Taiwan demonstrated that it is an indispensable member of the international community, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. Taiwan continues to provide humanitarian assistance to WHO member states.
 - In 2013 and 2017, Taiwan made notification of and shared information on H6N1 and H7N9 avian influenza cases as well as virus gene sequences once they were confirmed, which helped other countries make appropriate preparations.
 - In December 2019, Taiwan’s disease surveillance systems picked up a notice issued by China regarding pneumonia of unknown cause and reported it to WHO. This important alert was one of the first that WHO received concerning COVID-19, as noted by the main report of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response. Although COVID-19 is no longer a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC), the experience demonstrated that

the present global health governance framework is not effective in responding to threats to global health. Therefore, it is critical that countries across the globe unite to bolster health governance.

- Taiwan manufacturer Medigen Vaccine Biologics Corp. was the first private manufacturer to license its COVID-19 vaccine technology to the WHO COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP) and the United Nations-backed Medicines Patent Pool (MPP). This demonstrates that Taiwan has world-class biotechnology and medical treatments that can contribute to global health security.
- Taiwan has been contributing to global efforts to realize the right to health. These efforts include improving medical care in small South Pacific island nations; enhancing nutrition for women and children affected by an earthquake in Haiti; providing psychological support to Ukrainian refugee women and children in Romania as well as aid workers; bolstering climate change adaptability in the Caribbean; and improving access to water, sanitation, and hygiene at healthcare facilities in Kenya. Furthermore, Taiwan has provided humanitarian assistance through postdisaster recovery and reconstruction efforts in the Philippines, Japan, Hawaii, Türkiye, and Indonesia.
- Taiwan is committed to achieving universal health coverage and has consistently improved the quality of health care in line with WHO recommendations. Taiwan seeks to cooperate with WHO to remedy geographic gaps in global health security. Taiwan's inclusion in WHO, especially its substantive involvement in related mechanisms such as the prospective pandemic agreement, the International Health Regulations, the Western Pacific Regional Office, and the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System, would greatly benefit the global health system, particularly in the fight against communicable diseases.
- My government urges WHO to maintain a professional and neutral stance, set aside political considerations, and include Taiwan in all technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, as well as invite Taiwan to participate in the WHA as an observer.

*Misión Permanente del Paraguay ante la oficina de las Naciones Unidas y Organismos
Especializados con sede en Ginebra, Suiza*

MPG/OI/N.º 58/2024

La Misión Permanente del Paraguay ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas y otros Organismos Especializados con sede en Ginebra saluda muy atentamente a la **Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS)**, con ocasión de hacer referencia al 77º período de sesiones de la Asamblea Mundial de la Salud, que tendrá lugar del 27 de mayo al 1 de junio del corriente en la sede de la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS).

Al respecto, esta Misión Permanente remite una nota del Canciller Nacional, Embajador Rubén Ramírez Lezcano, dirigida al director general de la OMS, mediante la cual se solicita la inclusión del tema “*Invitación a Taiwán para participar en la Asamblea Mundial de la Salud como observador*”, como ítem suplementario en la agenda provisional, en los términos del artículo 12 del Reglamento Interior de la Asamblea.

La Misión Permanente del Paraguay ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas y otros Organismos Especializados con sede en Ginebra hace propicia la oportunidad para reiterar a la **Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS)**, las seguridades de su distinguida consideración.



MSR

Ginebra, 13 de mayo de 2024

A la
Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS)
Ginebra, Confederación Suiza

MS/sp



Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

VMRE/DGPM/DOI/N° 233/2024

Asunción, 9 de mayo de 2024

Señor Director General:

Tengo el honor de dirigirme a Vuestra Excelencia con ocasión de solicitar la inclusión del tema "Invitación a Taiwán para participar en la Asamblea Mundial de la Salud como observador", como ítem suplementario en la agenda provisional del 77° Período de Sesiones de la Asamblea Mundial de la Salud.

Al respecto, dicha solicitud se sustenta en que la República de China (Taiwán) ha demostrado su compromiso con la salud pública global, colaborando en la lucha contra la pandemia del coronavirus (COVID-19), así como en la asistencia ante otras emergencias y crisis sanitarias, a través de su experticia en materia médica y tecnológica, a pesar de las dificultades que enfrenta para acceder a los foros y reuniones técnicas de la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS). Asimismo, está demostrado que la cooperación y la solidaridad constituyen pilares centrales en la consecución del más alto grado posible de salud para todos los pueblos, sin distinciones.

En ese sentido, el Paraguay renueva su confianza en un sistema multilateral de salud donde las experiencias de todos los países sean tenidas en cuenta, en concordancia con el principio de universalidad, sin mediar consideraciones de índole política y/o geográfica, siendo necesario la cooperación con la OMS de todos los interesados en la comunidad internacional, incluyendo a Taiwán, cuya participación en calidad de observador en la mencionada Asamblea resultará de suma utilidad para enriquecer las discusiones.

Por todas estas razones, mi país considera que la OMS no puede seguir prescindiendo de la colaboración de un actor clave como Taiwán para alcanzar sus objetivos.

Hago propicia la oportunidad para renovar a Vuestra Excelencia las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

Embajador **Rubén Ramírez Lezcano**
Ministro

A Su Excelencia
Señor **Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**
Director General de la Organización Mundial de la Salud
Ginebra, Confederación Suiza



**SAINT CHRISTOPHER (SAINT KITTS) AND NEVIS
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

REF. NO. FA/H5/001
.....

Note No. 0336/2024

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saint Kitts and Nevis presents its compliments to the Office of the Director General of the World Health Organization, and has the honour to refer to the upcoming Seventy-Seventh World Health Assembly.

In this connection, the Ministry is pleased to forward the attached letter from the Honourable Dr. Terrance Drew, Prime Minister of Saint Kitts and Nevis addressed to the His Excellency Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General of the World Health Organization.

The Ministry would be pleased if this correspondence is forwarded to its highest destination.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saint Kitts and Nevis avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the Office of the Director General of the World Health Organization the assurances of its highest consideration.

Basseterre, 15 May 2024





PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS

PROPOSAL FOR SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEM

13th May, 2024

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Government of Saint Christopher (Saint Kitts) and Nevis, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, as well as UN Sustainable Development Goal 3, I hereby request the inclusion of the supplementary item entitled “Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer” in the provisional agenda of its 77th session.

The COVID-19 pandemic and other health crises have underscored the critical importance of international cooperation in addressing global health challenges. In this spirit of collaboration, respectfully, Taiwan should be included in the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Health Assembly (WHA) to contribute its expertise and resources towards achieving health for all.

Taiwan has a demonstrated track record of making significant contributions to WHO and WHA discussions during its observer status from 2009 to 2016. Taiwan’s professionalism and expertise were widely recognized and acclaimed by WHO and its members. Taiwan has proven to the world that it is a valuable and indispensable partner in the collective effort to ensure that all people enjoy



PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS

the highest attainable standard of health. Regrettably, its exclusion since 2017 has limited WHO's disease prevention efforts and hindered its contributions to global health initiatives. Despite these challenges, Taiwan remains steadfast in its commitment to professionalism and pragmatism.

It is eager to actively engage with the global health security network and collaborate with WHO to enhance the resilience of the global health system.

The inclusion of Taiwan in WHO and the WHA is not merely a matter of politics; it is a practical necessity for advancing global health objectives. The Government of Saint Christopher (Saint Kitts) and Nevis respectfully urges WHO to uphold its principles of professionalism and neutrality by extending an invitation for Taiwan to participate in the WHA as an observer. Additionally, the Government of Saint Christopher (Saint Kitts) and Nevis calls upon WHO to explore suitable mechanisms for its institutionalized participation in all relevant meetings, mechanisms, and activities, thus contributing to the broader goal of improving health outcomes worldwide.

To this end, a draft resolution and an explanatory memorandum are attached for further discussion. Moreover, in order that the General Committee may properly fulfil its mandate and report to the WHA for its final decision, the Government of Saint Christopher (Saint Kitts) and Nevis formally requests that the present letter and its enclosure be circulated as an official document of the WHA.

The Government of Saint Christopher (Saint Kitts) and Nevis expresses its sincere hope that this proposal will be considered with the utmost seriousness and goodwill.



PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Terrance Drew', written over a faint blue circular stamp.

Hon. Dr. Terrance Drew
Prime Minister of Saint Kitts and Nevis

Enclosure 1/

DRAFT RESOLUTION

The Seventy-Seventh World Health Assembly,

Reaffirming that the fundamental objective of WHO is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health, and that Sustainable Development Goal 3 is to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;

Acknowledging that Taiwan contributed greatly to combating the COVID-19 pandemic and responding to the health emergency in Ukraine, that Taiwan provides timely medical and humanitarian aid to countries in need, and that Taiwan's public health experience and expertise are valuable to efforts to make the global health architecture more resilient and improve prevention, preparedness, and response for future pandemics;

Expressing grave concern that Taiwan, an indispensable member of the international community and a provider of international humanitarian assistance to numerous WHO member states, is not fully included in all WHO technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, including the prospective pandemic agreement;

Recalling that from 2009 to 2016, Taiwan, a force for good in the world, was invited to participate in the WHA as an observer, making constructive contributions to global health security;

Recognizing that only when Taiwan is directly and properly included in the international community's collective efforts to combat disease can WHO's ultimate goal of Health for All be achieved; and

Realizing that in the fight against emerging diseases, WHO must remain informed of all health concerns worldwide and be able to obtain and disseminate relevant data needed to prevent, monitor, and respond to epidemics and other diseases;

Hereby invites Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer.

Explanatory Memorandum

13th May, 2024

Proposal submitted by the Government of Saint Christopher (Saint Kitts) and Nevis

Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer

The Government of Saint Christopher (Saint Kitts) and Nevis considers that a discussion at the 77th World Health Assembly on Taiwan's participation is necessary and timely for the following reasons:

Relevance

- The proposal is directly linked to Sustainable Development Goal 3—ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030—and the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005).
- Taiwan's participation in the WHA is a health issue, not a political one. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely recognized and acclaimed.
- Taiwan demonstrated that it is an indispensable member of the international community, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. Taiwan continues to provide humanitarian assistance to WHO member states.
 - In 2013 and 2017, Taiwan made notification of and shared information on H6N1 and H7N9 avian influenza cases as well as virus gene sequences once they were confirmed, which helped other countries make appropriate preparations.
 - In December 2019, Taiwan's disease surveillance systems picked up a notice issued by China regarding pneumonia of unknown cause and reported it to WHO. This important alert was one of the first that WHO received concerning COVID-19, as noted by the main report of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response. Although COVID-19 is no longer a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC), the experience demonstrated that

the present global health governance framework is not effective in responding to threats to global health. Therefore, it is critical that countries across the globe unite to bolster health governance.

- Taiwan manufacturer Medigen Vaccine Biologics Corp. was the first private manufacturer to license its COVID-19 vaccine technology to the WHO COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP) and the United Nations-backed Medicines Patent Pool (MPP). This demonstrates that Taiwan has world-class biotechnology and medical treatments that can contribute to global health security.
- Taiwan has been contributing to global efforts to realize the right to health. These efforts include improving medical care in small South Pacific Island nations; enhancing nutrition for women and children affected by an earthquake in Haiti; providing psychological support to Ukrainian refugee women and children in Romania as well as aid workers; bolstering climate change adaptability in the Caribbean; and improving access to water, sanitation, and hygiene at healthcare facilities in Kenya. Furthermore, Taiwan has provided humanitarian assistance through postdisaster recovery and reconstruction efforts in the Philippines, Japan, Hawaii, Türkiye, and Indonesia.
- Taiwan is committed to achieving universal health coverage and has consistently improved the quality of health care in line with WHO recommendations. Taiwan seeks to cooperate with WHO to remedy geographic gaps in global health security. Taiwan's inclusion in WHO, especially its substantive involvement in related mechanisms such as the prospective pandemic agreement, the International Health Regulations, the Western Pacific Regional Office, and the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System, would greatly benefit the global health system, particularly in the fight against communicable diseases.
- The Government of Saint Christopher (Saint Kitts) and Nevis urges WHO to maintain a professional and neutral stance, set aside political considerations, and include Taiwan in all technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, as well as invite Taiwan to participate in the WHA as an observer.



GOVERNMENT OF SAINT LUCIA
**Ministry of External Affairs, International Trade,
Civil Aviation and Diaspora Affairs**

*Communication on this subject
should be addressed to:*

The Permanent Secretary

*5th Level, Baywalk, Rodney Bay
Gros Islet, Saint Lucia
Tel: (758) 468-4519
Fax: (758) 452-7427
Email: external@gosl.gov.lc*

April 29, 2024

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director-General
World Health Organization
Avenue Appia 20
CH-1211 Geneva27
Switzerland

PROPOSAL FOR SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEM

Dr Mr. Ghebreyesus

On behalf of the Government of Saint Lucia, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, as well as United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3, I hereby request the inclusion of the supplementary item entitled “Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer” in the provisional agenda of its 77th session.

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated that the present global health governance framework is not effective in responding to threats to global health. While countries around the globe are working through the World Health Organization to bolster health governance, WHO must ensure the participation of all stakeholders, including Taiwan. Taiwan’s prolonged exclusion from WHO has seriously compromised WHO’s disease prevention efforts, undermined the interests of its members, and jeopardized global health. WHO and the international community would greatly benefit from including a global health partner as willing and capable as Taiwan, as the world works

to make global health architecture more resilient; improve health emergency prevention, preparedness, and response; and realize health for all.

Prior to 2017, Taiwan was invited to participate in the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years. Taiwan's professionalism and expertise were widely recognized and acclaimed by WHO and its members. Taiwan has proven to the world that it is a valuable and indispensable partner in the collective effort to ensure that all people enjoy the highest attainable standard of health. In a world of entangled challenges, it is vital for WHO to once again invite Taiwan to attend the WHA and include Taiwan in all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities, including the prospective WHO pandemic agreement and its negotiation, thereby safeguarding the right to health of the 23.5 million people of Taiwan.

The Government of Saint Lucia hopes that the WHA will accept the inclusion of this item. To this end, a draft resolution and an explanatory memorandum are attached for further discussion. Moreover, in order that the General Committee may properly fulfill its mandate and report to the WHA for its final decision, my government formally requests that the present letter and its enclosure be circulated as an official document of the WHA. In this respect, my government recalls Rule 19 of the WHA Rules of Procedure, which stipulates the duty of the Secretariat regarding the circulation of documents.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.

Sincerely



Alva R. Baptiste
Minister for External Affairs, International Trade, Civil Aviation and Diaspora Affairs

Enclosure 1

DRAFT RESOLUTION

The Seventy-Seventh World Health Assembly,

Reaffirming that the fundamental objective of WHO is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health, and that Sustainable Development Goal 3 is to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;

Acknowledging that Taiwan contributed greatly to combating the COVID-19 pandemic and responding to the health emergency in Ukraine, that Taiwan provides timely medical and humanitarian aid to countries in need, and that Taiwan's public health experience and expertise are valuable to efforts to make the global health architecture more resilient and improve prevention, preparedness, and response for future pandemics;

Expressing grave concern that Taiwan, an indispensable member of the international community and a provider of international humanitarian assistance to numerous WHO member states, is not fully included in all WHO technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, including the prospective pandemic agreement;

Recalling that from 2009 to 2016, Taiwan, a force for good in the world, was invited to participate in the WHA as an observer, making constructive contributions to global health security;

Recognizing that only when Taiwan is directly and properly included in the international community's collective efforts to combat disease can WHO's ultimate goal of Health for All be achieved; and

Realizing that in the fight against emerging diseases, WHO must remain informed of all health concerns worldwide and be able to obtain and disseminate relevant data needed to prevent, monitor, and respond to epidemics and other diseases;

Hereby invites Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer.

Explanatory memorandum

(date)

Proposal submitted by Saint Lucia

Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer

Saint Lucia considers that a discussion at the 77th World Health Assembly on Taiwan's participation is necessary and timely for the following reasons:

Relevance

- The proposal is directly linked to Sustainable Development Goal 3—ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030—and the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005).
- Taiwan's participation in the WHA is a health issue, not a political one. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely recognized and acclaimed.
- Taiwan demonstrated that it is an indispensable member of the international community, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. Taiwan continues to provide humanitarian assistance to WHO member states.
 - In 2013 and 2017, Taiwan made notification of and shared information on H6N1 and H7N9 avian influenza cases as well as virus gene sequences once they were confirmed, which helped other countries make appropriate preparations.
 - In December 2019, Taiwan's disease surveillance systems picked up a notice issued by China regarding pneumonia of unknown cause and reported it to WHO. This important alert was one of the first that WHO received concerning COVID-19, as noted by the main report of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response. Although COVID-19 is no longer a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC), the experience demonstrated that the present global health governance framework is not effective in responding to

threats to global health. Therefore, it is critical that countries across the globe unite to bolster health governance.

- Taiwan manufacturer Medigen Vaccine Biologics Corp. was the first private manufacturer to license its COVID-19 vaccine technology to the WHO COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP) and the United Nations-backed Medicines Patent Pool (MPP). This demonstrates that Taiwan has world-class biotechnology and medical treatments that can contribute to global health security.
- Taiwan has been contributing to global efforts to realize the right to health. These efforts include improving medical care in small South Pacific island nations; enhancing nutrition for women and children affected by an earthquake in Haiti; providing psychological support to Ukrainian refugee women and children in Romania as well as aid workers; bolstering climate change adaptability in the Caribbean; and improving access to water, sanitation, and hygiene at healthcare facilities in Kenya. Furthermore, Taiwan has provided humanitarian assistance through postdisaster recovery and reconstruction efforts in the Philippines, Japan, Hawaii, Türkiye, and Indonesia.
- Taiwan is committed to achieving universal health coverage and has consistently improved the quality of health care in line with WHO recommendations. Taiwan seeks to cooperate with WHO to remedy geographic gaps in global health security. Taiwan's inclusion in WHO, especially its substantive involvement in related mechanisms such as the prospective pandemic agreement, the International Health Regulations, the Western Pacific Regional Office, and the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System, would greatly benefit the global health system, particularly in the fight against communicable diseases.
- My government urges WHO to maintain a professional and neutral stance, set aside political considerations, and include Taiwan in all technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, as well as invite Taiwan to participate in the WHA as an observer.



**The Prime Minister
St. Vincent and the Grenadines
West Indies**

May 14, 2024

H.E. Dr. Tedro Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director General
World Health Organisation
Geneva
Switzerland

Your Excellency,

On behalf of my government, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, as well as UN Sustainable Development Goal 3, I hereby request the inclusion of the supplementary item entitled “Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer” in the provisional agenda of its 77th session.

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated that the present global health governance framework is not effective in responding to threats to global health. While countries around the globe are working through the World Health Organization to bolster health governance, WHO must ensure the participation of all stakeholders, including Taiwan. Taiwan’s prolonged exclusion from WHO has seriously compromised WHO’s disease prevention efforts, undermined the interests of its members, and jeopardized global health. WHO and the international community would greatly benefit from including a global health partner as willing and capable as Taiwan, as the world works to make global health architecture more resilient; improve health emergency prevention, preparedness, and response; and realize health for all.

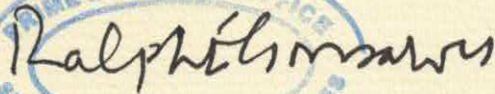
Prior to 2017, Taiwan was invited to participate in the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years. Taiwan’s professionalism and expertise were widely recognized and acclaimed by WHO and its members. Taiwan has proven to the world that it is a valuable and indispensable partner in the collective effort to ensure that all people enjoy the highest attainable standard of health. In a world of entangled challenges, it is vital for WHO to once again invite Taiwan to attend the WHA and include Taiwan in all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities, including the prospective WHO pandemic agreement and its negotiation, thereby safeguarding the right to health of the 23.5 million people of Taiwan.

My government hopes that the WHA will accept the inclusion of this item. To this end, a draft resolution and an explanatory memorandum are attached for further discussion. Moreover, in order that the General Committee may properly fulfill its

mandate and report to the WHA for its final decision, my government formally requests that the present letter and its enclosure be circulated as an official document of the WHA. In this respect, my government recalls Rule 19 of the WHA Rules of Procedure, which stipulates the duty of the Secretariat regarding the circulation of documents.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Ralph E. Gonsalves

Dr. The Hon. Ralph E. Gonsalves
Prime Minister

Enclosure 1/

DRAFT RESOLUTION

The Seventy-Seventh World Health Assembly,

Reaffirming that the fundamental objective of WHO is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health, and that Sustainable Development Goal 3 is to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;

Acknowledging that Taiwan contributed greatly to combating the COVID-19 pandemic and responding to the health emergency in Ukraine, that Taiwan provides timely medical and humanitarian aid to countries in need, and that Taiwan's public health experience and expertise are valuable to efforts to make the global health architecture more resilient and improve prevention, preparedness, and response for future pandemics;

Expressing grave concern that Taiwan, an indispensable member of the international community and a provider of international humanitarian assistance to numerous WHO member states, is not fully included in all WHO technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, including the prospective pandemic agreement;

Recalling that from 2009 to 2016, Taiwan, a force for good in the world, was invited to participate in the WHA as an observer, making constructive contributions to global health security;

Recognizing that only when Taiwan is directly and properly included in the international community's collective efforts to combat disease can WHO's ultimate goal of Health for All be achieved; and

Realizing that in the fight against emerging diseases, WHO must remain informed of all health concerns worldwide and be able to obtain and disseminate relevant data needed to prevent, monitor, and respond to epidemics and other diseases;

Hereby invites Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer.

Explanatory memorandum

May 14, 2024

Proposal submitted by St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer

St. Vincent and the Grenadines considers that a discussion at the 77th World Health Assembly on Taiwan's participation is necessary and timely for the following reasons:

Relevance

- The proposal is directly linked to Sustainable Development Goal 3—ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030—and the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005).
- Taiwan's participation in the WHA is a health issue, not a political one. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely recognized and acclaimed.
- Taiwan demonstrated that it is an indispensable member of the international community, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. Taiwan continues to provide humanitarian assistance to WHO member states.
- In 2013 and 2017, Taiwan made notification of and shared information on H6N1 and H7N9 avian influenza cases as well as virus gene sequences once they were confirmed, which helped other countries make appropriate preparations.
- In December 2019, Taiwan's disease surveillance systems picked up a notice issued by China regarding pneumonia of unknown cause and reported it to WHO. This important alert was one of the first that WHO received concerning COVID-19, as noted by the main report of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response. Although COVID-19 is no longer a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC), the experience demonstrated that the present global health governance framework is not effective in responding to

threats to global health. Therefore, it is critical that countries across the globe unite to bolster health governance.

- Taiwan manufacturer Medigen Vaccine Biologics Corp. was the first private manufacturer to license its COVID-19 vaccine technology to the WHO COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP) and the United Nations-backed Medicines Patent Pool (MPP). This demonstrates that Taiwan has world-class biotechnology and medical treatments that can contribute to global health security.
- Taiwan has been contributing to global efforts to realize the right to health. These efforts include improving medical care in small South Pacific island nations; enhancing nutrition for women and children affected by an earthquake in Haiti; providing psychological support to Ukrainian refugee women and children in Romania as well as aid workers; bolstering climate change adaptability in the Caribbean; and improving access to water, sanitation, and hygiene at healthcare facilities in Kenya. Furthermore, Taiwan has provided humanitarian assistance through postdisaster recovery and reconstruction efforts in the Philippines, Japan, Hawaii, Türkiye, and Indonesia.
- Taiwan is committed to achieving universal health coverage and has consistently improved the quality of health care in line with WHO recommendations. Taiwan seeks to cooperate with WHO to remedy geographic gaps in global health security. Taiwan's inclusion in WHO, especially its substantive involvement in related mechanisms such as the prospective pandemic agreement, the International Health Regulations, the Western Pacific Regional Office, and the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System, would greatly benefit the global health system, particularly in the fight against communicable diseases.
- My government urges WHO to maintain a professional and neutral stance, set aside political considerations, and include Taiwan in all technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, as well as invite Taiwan to participate in the WHA as an observer.



TUVALU GOVERNMENT
MINISTRY OF HEALTH & SOCIAL WELFARE (MHSW)
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PROPOSAL FOR SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEM

3rd May 2024

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director General
World Health Organization

Your Excellency,

On behalf of my government, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, as well as UN Sustainable Development Goal 3, I hereby request the inclusion of the supplementary item entitled “Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer” in the provisional agenda of its 77th session.

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated that the present global health governance framework is not effective in responding to threats to global health. While countries around the globe are working through the World Health Organization to bolster health governance, WHO must ensure the participation of all stakeholders, including Taiwan. Taiwan’s prolonged exclusion from WHO has seriously compromised WHO’s disease prevention efforts, undermined the interests of its members, and jeopardized global health. WHO and the international community would greatly benefit from including a global health partner as willing and capable as Taiwan, as the world works to make global health architecture more resilient; improve health emergency prevention, preparedness, and response; and realize health for all.

Prior to 2017, Taiwan was invited to participate in the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years. Taiwan’s professionalism and expertise were widely recognized and acclaimed by WHO and its members. Taiwan has proven to the world that it is a valuable and indispensable partner in the collective effort to ensure that all people enjoy the highest attainable standard of health. In a world of entangled challenges, it is vital for WHO to once again invite Taiwan to attend the WHA and include Taiwan in all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities, including the prospective

WHO pandemic agreement and its negotiation, thereby safeguarding the right to health of the 23.5 million people of Taiwan.

My government hopes that the WHA will accept the inclusion of this item. To this end, a draft resolution and an explanatory memorandum are attached for further discussion. Moreover, in order that the General Committee may properly fulfill its mandate and report to the WHA for its final decision, my government formally requests that the present letter and its enclosure be circulated as an official document of the WHA. In this respect, my government recalls Rule 19 of the WHA Rules of Procedure, which stipulates the duty of the Secretariat regarding the circulation of documents.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.



Hon. Tuafafa Latasi
Minister of Health and Social Welfare
Government of Tuvalu



Enclosure 1/

DRAFT RESOLUTION

The Seventy-Seventh World Health Assembly,

Reaffirming that the fundamental objective of WHO is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health, and that Sustainable Development Goal 3 is to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;

Acknowledging that Taiwan contributed greatly to combating the COVID-19 pandemic and responding to the health emergency in Ukraine, that Taiwan provides timely medical and humanitarian aid to countries in need, and that Taiwan's public health experience and expertise are valuable to efforts to make the global health architecture more resilient and improve prevention, preparedness, and response for future pandemics;

Expressing grave concern that Taiwan, an indispensable member of the international community and a provider of international humanitarian assistance to numerous WHO member states, is not fully included in all WHO technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, including the prospective pandemic agreement;

Recalling that from 2009 to 2016, Taiwan, a force for good in the world, was invited to participate in the WHA as an observer, making constructive contributions to global health security;

Recognizing that only when Taiwan is directly and properly included in the international community's collective efforts to combat disease can WHO's ultimate goal of Health for All be achieved; and

Realizing that in the fight against emerging diseases, WHO must remain informed of all health concerns worldwide and be able to obtain and disseminate relevant data needed to prevent, monitor, and respond to epidemics and other diseases;

Hereby invites Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer.

Explanatory memorandum

3rd May 2024

Proposal submitted by Tuvalu

Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer

Tuvalu considers that a discussion at the 77th World Health Assembly on Taiwan's participation is necessary and timely for the following reasons:

Relevance

- The proposal is directly linked to Sustainable Development Goal 3—ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030—and the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005).
- Taiwan's participation in the WHA is a health issue, not a political one. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely recognized and acclaimed.
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- In 2013 and 2017, Taiwan made notification of and shared information on H6N1 and H7N9 avian influenza cases as well as virus gene sequences once they were confirmed, which helped other countries make appropriate preparations.
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- Taiwan has been contributing to global efforts to realize the right to health. These efforts include improving medical care in small South Pacific island nations; enhancing nutrition for women and children affected by an earthquake in Haiti; providing psychological support to Ukrainian refugee women and children in Romania as well as aid workers; bolstering climate change adaptability in the Caribbean; and improving access to water, sanitation, and hygiene at healthcare facilities in Kenya. Furthermore, Taiwan has provided humanitarian assistance through postdisaster recovery and reconstruction efforts in the Philippines, Japan, Hawaii, Türkiye, and Indonesia.
- Taiwan is committed to achieving universal health coverage and has consistently improved the quality of health care in line with WHO recommendations. Taiwan seeks to cooperate with WHO to remedy geographic gaps in global health security. Taiwan's inclusion in WHO, especially its substantive involvement in related mechanisms such as the prospective pandemic agreement, the International Health Regulations, the Western Pacific Regional Office, and the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System, would greatly benefit the global health system, particularly in the fight against communicable diseases.
- My government urges WHO to maintain a professional and neutral stance, set aside political considerations, and include Taiwan in all technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, as well as invite Taiwan to participate in the WHA as an observer.