



# MINISTRY OF HEALTH

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Belmopan, Belize, Central America.  
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[seniorsecretary@health.gov.bz](mailto:seniorsecretary@health.gov.bz)

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Ref: MOH/CON/19/2020 (41)

6<sup>th</sup> May 2020

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

Your Excellency,

## **PROPOSAL FOR SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEM**

On behalf of my Government, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, 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 73rd session of the WHA.

As COVID-19 spreads rampantly across the globe, it is more imperative than ever to include all relevant parties and stakeholders in combating this pandemic. The continued exclusion of Taiwan from WHO has seriously compromised the Organization's overall disease prevention efforts, undermined the interests of its members, and endangered global health. Taiwan's medical services and universal health care system are among the best, making Taiwan an ideal model for many WHO member states. Taiwan's exceptional response to and containment of COVID-19 has also been lauded by the international community. By including a willing and capable partner such as Taiwan, WHO and the entire world would benefit greatly.

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 efforts to ensure that all peoples enjoy the highest attainable standard of health. At this critical

juncture, it is vital for WHO to once again invite Taiwan to attend the WHA and include Taiwan in all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities.

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 18 of the WHA Rules of Procedure, which stipulates "the duty of the Secretariat" regarding the circulation of documents.

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

Sincerely,



**MINISTER**  
**Ministry of Health**

**HON. PABLO MARIN,**  
**MINISTER OF HEALTH.**

Enclosure: 1/

Enclosure: 1/

DRAFT RESOLUTION

**The Seventy-third World Health Assembly,**

**Reaffirming** that the fundamental objective of the Organization 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 the COVID-19 pandemic is a human tragedy and a global health crisis, which also poses a major threat to the world economy, and that Taiwan’s experience and expertise in addressing the COVID-19 outbreak could be valuable to numerous countries,

**Expressing** grave concern that Taiwan is not fully included in all related consultations, clinical networks, and lab networks of the Organization,

**Conscious** that Taiwan, having transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance, participated in the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years prior to 2017, making concrete contributions to the global health security system,

**Recognizing** that only when Taiwan is properly included in relevant global efforts can the risk of pandemic outbreaks be reduced and the WHO’s lofty goal of “health for all” be feasible,

**Realizing** that in the fight against COVID-19 and other emerging diseases, the Organization must remain informed of health conditions across the entire world, 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 Belize

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

Belize considers that a discussion at the 73rd 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 of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030 and the implementation of the 2005 International Health Regulations.
- Taiwan's participation in the WHA is a health issue. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely welcomed and recognized.
- Taiwan has effectively contained the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), despite Taiwan's proximity to China, by implementing the following critical measures:
  - i. **Centralized command structure:** The Taiwan government promptly activated the Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) on January 20, allowing for a streamlined decision-making process and a quick rollout of epidemic control measures.
  - ii. **Proactive preparation:** Taiwan immediately launched emergency measures when cases began appearing in China, including border control, case identification, and containment. Taiwan also took early action in terms of resource allocation, including controlling face masks and other medical resources to ensure fair and sufficient distribution.
  - iii. **Transparent communication:** The CECC gives daily press briefings to ensure that the general public has the most timely and comprehensive information.

- iv. **Research and development:** Within a very short period, Taiwan has succeeded in synthesizing remdesivir and is now developing COVID-19 rapid diagnostic tests. If successful, these tests will shorten COVID-19 testing from four hours to a mere 15 minutes.
- According to statistics released by the crowd-sourced global database Numbeo, Taiwan received the highest ranking for Health Care Index by Country for 2020, with a score of 86.71, while CEOWORLD magazine ranked Taiwan highest in its Health Care Index for 2019. By sharing its world-class experience in health care reform, Taiwan can assist WHO in achieving its 2030 goal of universal health coverage.
  - Taiwan has transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance and continues to actively assist other nations in developing public health capacities. Moreover, Taiwan's inclusion in WHO would greatly enhance the global fight against and prevention of epidemics, thereby both guaranteeing the right to health of Taiwan's 23 million people and also benefiting the world.
  - The disease prevention efforts led by WHO require the cooperation and participation of all stakeholders and partners in the international community. The devastating COVID-19 pandemic further highlights the urgency and importance of inclusiveness and of leaving no one out of the global health network. We urge WHO to invite Taiwan to participate in the 73rd WHA as an observer and grant Taiwan full access to all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities.

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EMBASSY OF THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI  
CHEMIN WILLIAM-BARBÉY 51 - 1292 CHAMBESY - SWITZERLAND

**Note: 17/2020**

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Eswatini in Geneva presents its compliments to **the World Health Organization (WHO)** and has the honour to forward the transmission of letter addressed to the Director General from the Principal Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Eswatini in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 04 May 2020



To: **World Health Organization (WHO)**  
20 Avenue Appia  
CH-1211  
Genève 27  
Switzerland

Office of the  
Director-General

04 MAY 2020  
581462.

F.S.C



## MEMORANDUM

FROM: Principal Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation	TO: Permanent Representative Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Eswatini to the United Nations in Geneva
DATE: 22 April 2020 OUR REF: MFAIC 17/30	YOUR REF:

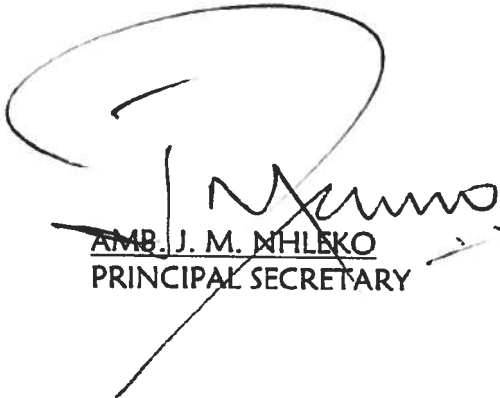
### REQUEST TO TRANSMIT ATTACHED LETTER

The Ministry has the honour to forward for onward transmission the attached:

1. Letter dated 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2020, with attachments, to the Secretariat of the World Health Organisation (WHO).

This letter should be handed to the Director General of the WHO by the 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

Grateful for your prompt response and usual co-operation.



AMB. J. M. NHLEKO  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Office of the  
Director-General

04 MAY 2020

561462



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

KINGDOM OF ESWATINI

P.O. BOX 518, MBABANE H100  
ESWATINI

OUR REFERENCE:

YOUR REFERENCE

22 April 2020

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

Director General,

**PROPOSAL FOR SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEM**

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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 efforts to ensure that all peoples enjoy the highest attainable standard of health. At this critical juncture, it is vital for WHO to once again invite Taiwan to attend the WHA and include Taiwan in all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities.



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 18 of the WHA Rules of Procedure, which stipulates "the duty of the Secretariat" regarding the circulation of documents.

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



**AMB. J. M. NHLEKO**  
**PRINCIPAL SECRETARY**

## DRAFT RESOLUTION

### **The Seventy-third World Health Assembly,**

**Reaffirming** that the fundamental objective of the Organization 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 the COVID-19 pandemic is a human tragedy and a global health crisis, which also poses a major threat to the world economy, and that Taiwan’s experience and expertise in addressing the COVID-19 outbreak could be valuable to numerous countries,

**Expressing** grave concern that Taiwan is not fully included in all related consultations, clinical networks, and lab networks of the Organization,

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**Realizing** that in the fight against COVID-19 and other emerging diseases, the Organization must remain informed of health conditions across the entire world, 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 (Member State)

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

(Member State) considers that a discussion at the 73rd 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 of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030 and the implementation of the 2005 International Health Regulations.
- Taiwan's participation in the WHA is a health issue. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely welcomed and recognized.
- Taiwan has effectively contained the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), despite Taiwan's proximity to China, by implementing the following critical measures:
  - i. **Centralized command structure:** The Taiwan government promptly activated the Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) on January 20, allowing for a streamlined decision-making process and a quick rollout of epidemic control measures.
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  - iv. **Research and development:** Within a very short period, Taiwan has succeeded in synthesizing remdesivir and is now developing COVID-19 rapid diagnostic tests. If successful, these tests will shorten COVID-19 testing from four hours to a mere 15 minutes.

- According to statistics released by the crowd-sourced global database Numbeo, Taiwan received the highest ranking for Health Care Index by Country for 2020, with a score of 86.71, while CEOWORLD magazine ranked Taiwan highest in its Health Care Index for 2019. By sharing its world-class experience in health care reform, Taiwan can assist WHO in achieving its 2030 goal of universal health coverage.
- Taiwan has transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance and continues to actively assist other nations in developing public health capacities. Moreover, Taiwan's inclusion in WHO would greatly enhance the global fight against and prevention of epidemics, thereby both guaranteeing the right to health of Taiwan's 23 million people and also benefiting the world.
- The disease prevention efforts led by WHO require the cooperation and participation of all stakeholders and partners in the international community. The devastating COVID-19 pandemic further highlights the urgency and importance of inclusiveness and of leaving no one out of the global health network. We urge WHO to invite Taiwan to participate in the 73rd WHA as an observer and grant Taiwan full access to all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities.



**GOBIERNO de  
GUATEMALA**  
DR. ALEJANDRO GIAMMATTEI



**MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES  
EXTERIORES**

MISIÓN PERMANENTE DE GUATEMALA ANTE  
LA ORGANIZACIÓN DE LAS NACIONES  
UNIDAS Y OTRAS ORGANIZACIONES  
INTERNACIONALES, GINEBRA, SUIZA.

*No. OE/2.1/561*

*La Misión Permanente de Guatemala ante las Naciones Unidas y otras Organizaciones Internacionales en Ginebra, saluda muy atentamente a la Secretaría de la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS) y se permite enviar adjunto la nota del Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de Guatemala, Embajador Pedro Brolo Vila, dirigida a Su Excelencia el Doctor Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General de la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS), relativa a la solicitud para la inclusión en la agenda provisional de la 73ª. Asamblea Mundial de la Salud, el tema complementario titulado “Invitación a Taiwán para participar en la 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 (OMS) trasladar la nota y anexos al Sr. Director General, Doctor Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.*

*La Misión Permanente de Guatemala ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas y otras Organizaciones Internacionales en Ginebra, aprovecha la oportunidad para renovar a la Secretaría de la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS), las seguridades de su distinguida consideración.*

*Ginebra, 11 de mayo de 2020.*



*Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS)  
Ginebra, Suiza*

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

SUBONU 553-2020

Guatemala, 8 de mayo de 2020

Excelentísimo Director:

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a Vuestra Excelencia, en relación a la 73<sup>a</sup> Asamblea Mundial de la Salud (AMS73), a celebrarse los días 18 y 19 de mayo de 2020.

Al respecto y en seguimiento a la labor realizada por la República de China (Taiwán) en el enfrentamiento a la Pandemia del COVID-19, y a su cooperación a la salud en general, se considera imperativo incluir a todas las partes interesadas en la lucha contra esta pandemia, así como en la prevención de enfermedades.

En ese sentido, me permito solicitar a Vuestra Excelencia la inclusión en la agenda provisional de la AMS73, de un tema complementario titulado "Invitación a Taiwán para participar en la Asamblea Mundial de la Salud como Observador". Lo anterior, de conformidad con el Artículo 12 del Reglamento de la Asamblea.

El gobierno de la República de Guatemala reconoce que Taiwán ha demostrado ser un socio valioso en los esfuerzos para garantizar que las personas disfruten del más alto nivel posible de salud. Siendo importante contar con su profesionalidad y experiencia en la Organización para contribuir a buscar soluciones de forma conjunta. Con este fin, se adjunta un proyecto de resolución y un memorando explicativo para su posterior discusión.

Sin otro particular, hago propicia la ocasión para reiterar a Vuestra Excelencia las muestras de mi consideración y estima.

Excelentísimo señor  
**Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**  
Director General de la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS)  
Su Despacho

  
**Pedro Brolo Vila**  
Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores  


DRAFT RESOLUTION

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

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 73rd World Health Assembly on Taiwan's participation is necessary and timely for the following reasons:

Relevance

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- Taiwan has transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance and continues to actively assist other nations in developing public health capacities. Moreover, Taiwan's inclusion in WHO would greatly enhance the global fight against and prevention of epidemics, thereby both guaranteeing the right to health of Taiwan's 23 million people and also benefiting the world.
- The disease prevention efforts led by WHO require the cooperation and participation of all stakeholders and partners in the international community. The devastating COVID-19 pandemic further highlights the urgency and importance of inclusiveness and of leaving no one out of the global health network. We urge WHO to invite Taiwan to participate in the 73rd WHA as an observer and grant Taiwan full access to all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities.



MISSION PERMANENTE D'HAÏTI AUPRÈS DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES  
ET DES AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES À GENÈVE

**MPH-ONUG/MD-0205/2020**

La Mission Permanente d'Haïti auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies et des autres Organisations Internationales à Genève présente ses compliments au Secrétariat de l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé (OMS) et a l'honneur de lui faire parvenir, aux fins utiles, copie de la correspondance référencée IIC/0586 datée du 30 avril 2020 que S.E.Dr. Claude JOSEPH, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères et des Cultes, a adressée au Dr. Tedros Adhanom GHEBREYESUS, Directeur Général de ladite Organisation.

La Mission Permanente saurait gré au Secrétariat de l'OMS de bien vouloir transmettre ladite correspondance à son haut destinataire, pour les suites nécessaires.

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

Genève, le 7 mai 2020

Organisation Mondiale de la Santé (OMS)





RÉPUBLIQUE D'HAÏTI

*Ministère des Affaires Étrangères et des Cultes*

*Le Ministre*

**Port-au-Prince, le 30 Avril 2020**

**IIC/0586**

**Monsieur le Directeur Général,**

Au nom de mon Gouvernement et, conformément à l'article 12 du Règlement de l'Assemblée, ainsi qu'à l'Objectif 3 des Nations Unies pour le développement Durable (ODD3), j'ai l'honneur de demander l'inclusion d'un point supplémentaire intitulé : « l'invitation à Taïwan à participer à l'Assemblée Mondiale de la Santé en tant qu'observateur », dans l'ordre du Jour provisoire de la 73<sup>ème</sup> session de l'Assemblée Mondiale de la Santé (AMS).

Pendant de nombreuses années, Taïwan a participé aux réunions techniques, aux mécanismes et aux activités de l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé (OMS), contribuant régulièrement à renforcer les réseaux régionaux et mondiaux de prévention des maladies. Il s'est également consacré à aider d'autres pays comme Haïti à surmonter leurs problèmes sanitaires par le renforcement de leurs institutions.

Mon Gouvernement est donc convaincu que l'inclusion de Taïwan dans l'ordre du jour susmentionné sera non seulement bénéfique pour l'OMS et toutes les parties concernées, mais aussi aidera à réaliser l'ODD3, qui consiste à permettre à tous de vivre en bonne santé et promouvoir le bien-être pour tous à tout âge vers 2030. Car, l'absence de Taïwan à l'Assemblée Mondiale de la Santé porte atteinte au droit de son peuple à la santé

**Monsieur Tedros Adhanom GHEBREYSUS**  
**Directeur Général**  
**Organisation Mondiale de la Santé (OMS).-**



MISSION PERMANENTE D'HAÏTI AUPRÈS DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES  
ET DES AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES À GENÈVE

**MPH-ONUG/MD-0221/2020**

La Mission Permanente d'Haïti auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies et des autres Organisations Internationales à Genève présente ses compliments au Secrétariat de l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé (OMS) et, en référence à la note MPH-ONUG/MD-0205/2020 du 7 mai 2020 à laquelle a été annexée une copie de la correspondance IIC/0586 datée du 30 avril 2020 que S.E.Dr. Claude JOSEPH, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères et des Cultes, avait adressée au Dr. Tedros Adhanom GHEBREYESUS, Directeur Général de ladite Organisation, a l'honneur de lui communiquer, en urgence, le mémorandum explicatif accompagnant ladite correspondance.

La Mission Permanente saurait gré au Secrétariat de l'OMS de bien vouloir transmettre le document complet au Directeur général de l'OMS, pour les suites appropriées.

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



Genève, le 11 mai 2020

Organisation Mondiale de la Santé (OMS)

Cette demande d'inclure Taïwan dans l'ordre du jour est surtout renforcée par le contexte actuel dominé par la pandémie du COVID-19. La lutte contre cette pandémie devrait intégrer Taïwan dont les services médicaux et le système de santé universel sont parmi les plus performants au monde. Aussi, il ne fait aucun doute qu'il pourra mettre au service de l'Organisation son expérience et contribuer aux efforts de la communauté internationale en vue d'endiguer cette pandémie.

Se trouvent en annexe le mémorandum explicatif et le projet de résolution rédigés en anglais relatifs à la demande du Gouvernement Haïtien.

Je saisis l'occasion pour vous présenter, **Monsieur le Directeur général**, l'assurance de ma très haute considération

  
**Dr. Claude JOSEPH**  
**Ministre**





*Ministère des Affaires Étrangères et des Cultes*

DRAFT RESOLUTION

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**Reaffirming** that the fundamental objective of the Organization 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,”

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**Recognizing** that only when Taiwan is properly included in relevant global efforts can the risk of pandemic outbreaks be reduced and the WHO’s lofty goal of “health for all” be feasible,

**Realizing** that in the fight against COVID-19 and other emerging diseases, the Organization must remain informed of health conditions across the entire world, 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.**

CJ

Proposal submitted by The Republic of Haiti

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

The Republic of Haiti considers that a discussion at the 73rd 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 of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030 and the implementation of the 2005 International Health Regulations.
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c7

- According to statistics released by the crowd-sourced global database Numbeo, Taiwan received the highest ranking for Health Care Index by Country for 2020, with a score of 86.71, while CEOWORLD magazine ranked Taiwan highest in its Health Care Index for 2019. By sharing its world-class experience in health care reform, Taiwan can assist WHO in achieving its 2030 goal of universal health coverage.
- Taiwan has transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance and continues to actively assist other nations in developing public health capacities. Moreover, Taiwan's inclusion in WHO would greatly enhance the global fight against and prevention of epidemics, thereby both guaranteeing the right to health of Taiwan's 23 million people and also benefiting the world.
- The disease prevention efforts led by WHO require the cooperation and participation of all stakeholders and partners in the international community. The devastating COVID-19 pandemic further highlights the urgency and importance of inclusiveness and of leaving no one out of the global health network. We urge WHO to invite Taiwan to participate in the 73rd WHA as an observer and grant Taiwan full access to all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities.

C7



**Nota Verbal MPHG/OMS-258-2020**

La Misión Permanente de Honduras ante la Organización de las Naciones Unidas y otros Organismos Internacionales con sede en Ginebra, tiene el honor de saludar a la Organización Mundial de la Salud - OMS, en ocasión de solicitar la inclusión de un punto de agenda suplementario en el Orden Provisional del Día de la 73ª Asamblea Mundial de la Salud de la Organización denominado: *"Invitación a Taiwán como observador en la 73ª AMS."*

Referente a éste, la Misión Permanente de Honduras tiene a bien el remitir adjunto la nota No. 900-2020-SS de la Secretaría de Salud de Honduras, haciendo referencia al apoyo a Taiwán para participar en la 73ª Asamblea Mundial de la Salud (73AMS).

La Misión Permanente de Honduras ante la Organización de las Naciones Unidas y otros Organismos Internacionales con base en Ginebra, aprovecha la oportunidad para expresar a la Organización Mundial de la Salud - OMS-, las muestras de su distinguida consideración.



Ginebra, 11 de mayo del 2020

**A la Honorable**  
**Organización Mundial de la Salud - OMS**  
**Ginebra, Suiza.**

Oficio No. 900-2020-SS  
Tegucigalpa, M.D.C., 08 de mayo del 2020

Honorable  
Señor Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus  
Director General  
Organización Mundial de la Salud – OMS  
Su Despacho

Honorable Señor Director General:

En nombre del Gobierno de la República de Honduras, tengo el honor de dirigirme a usted con el fin de solicitar, *de conformidad con el artículo 12 del Reglamento de la Asamblea Mundial de la Salud*, la inclusión del tema complementario titulado "*Invitar a Taiwán a participar en la Asamblea Mundial de la Salud como observador*" en la agenda provisional para la 73<sup>a</sup> sesión de la Asamblea Mundial de la Salud.

Honduras reconoce que a medida que el COVID-19 se ha propaga por todo el mundo, es más importante que nunca, incluir a todas las partes en la lucha contra esta pandemia. Antes de 2017, Taiwán fue invitado a participar en la Asamblea como observador durante ocho años consecutivos. La profesionalidad y experiencia de Taiwán ha demostrado al mundo que es un valioso e indispensable socio, en los esfuerzos para garantizar que todas las personas disfruten del más alto nivel de salud; en especial, por la excepcional respuesta y contención de COVID-19 en el territorio taiwanés, siendo una práctica de la que la comunidad internacional pudiese adoptar. En esta coyuntura crítica, es vital que la OMS vuelva a invitar a Taiwán a asistir a la Asamblea e incluirlos en todas las reuniones, mecanismos y actividades de la OMS.

Nuestro Gobierno ha trabajado estrechamente con Taiwán para alcanzar el principio de salud para todos y la cobertura universal sin dejar a nadie atrás, en consonancia con el mandato de la distinguida Organización que usted dirige; durante los últimos años nos hemos mantenido firmes en el apoyo y respaldo que persigue Taiwán para tener una participación significativa en las agencias especializadas y organismos que comprenden el Sistema de las Naciones Unidas, por lo que esperamos su aceptación para la inclusión de este artículo en la agenda de trabajo de la 73<sup>a</sup> sesión de la Asamblea de este año.

En nombre del Gobierno de la República de Honduras deseo reiterarle nuestro apoyo y nuestra disposición de continuar trabajando juntos por el bien común, así como asegurarles éxito en esta Asamblea Mundial de la Salud.

  
LICDA. ALBA CONSUELO FLORES  
Secretaria de Estado en el Despacho de Salud

 Lic. Claudia Sikaffi, Jefa Unidad de Cooperación Externa  
 Archivo

## PROYECTO DE RESOLUCIÓN

### **La septuagésima tercera Asamblea Mundial de la Salud,**

**Reafirmando** que el objetivo fundamental de la Organización es "el logro por parte de todos los pueblos del más alto nivel posible de salud" y que el Objetivo de Desarrollo Sostenible 3 es "garantizar vidas saludables y promover el bienestar para todos en todas las edades"

**Reconociendo** que la pandemia de COVID-19 es una tragedia humana y una crisis de salud mundial, que también representa una gran amenaza para la economía mundial, y que la experiencia y los conocimientos de Taiwán para abordar el brote de COVID-19 podrían ser valiosos para numerosos países,

**Expresando** grave preocupación de que Taiwán no esté totalmente incluido en todas las consultas relacionadas, redes clínicas y redes de laboratorios de la Organización,

**Consciente** que Taiwán, habiéndose transformado de un receptor de ayuda extranjera a un proveedor de asistencia humanitaria internacional, participó en la WHA como observador durante ocho años consecutivos antes de 2017, haciendo contribuciones concretas al sistema mundial de seguridad sanitaria,

**Reconociendo** que solo cuando Taiwán se incluya adecuadamente en los esfuerzos mundiales relevantes puede reducirse el riesgo de brotes de pandemia y ser factible el elevado objetivo de la OMS de "salud para todos",

**Dándose cuenta** que en la lucha contra COVID-19 y otras enfermedades emergentes, la Organización debe mantenerse informada sobre las condiciones de salud en todo el mundo y poder obtener y difundir los datos relevantes necesarios para prevenir, controlar y responder a epidemias y otras enfermedades,

**Por la presente invita a Taiwán a participar en la Asamblea Mundial de la Salud como observador.**

## **Invitar a Taiwán a participar en la Asamblea Mundial de la Salud como observador**

(Estado miembro) considera que una discusión en la 73a Asamblea Mundial de la Salud sobre la participación de Taiwán es necesaria y oportuna por las siguientes razones:

### Relevancia

- La propuesta está directamente relacionada con el Objetivo de Desarrollo Sostenible 3 de garantizar vidas saludables y promover el bienestar para todos en todas las edades para 2030 y la implementación del Reglamento Sanitario Internacional de 2005.
- La participación de Taiwán en la WHA es un problema de salud. Taiwán fue invitado a la WHA como observador durante ocho años consecutivos de 2009 a 2016. Su participación fue ampliamente bienvenida y reconocida.
- Taiwán ha contenido eficazmente la propagación de la enfermedad por coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19), a pesar de la proximidad de Taiwán a China, mediante la implementación de las siguientes medidas críticas:
  - i. **Estructura de comando centralizada:** El gobierno de Taiwán activó rápidamente el Centro Central de Comando Epidémico (CECC) el 20 de enero, lo que permitió un proceso de toma de decisiones racionalizado y una rápida implementación de medidas de control de epidemias.
  - ii. **Preparación proactiva:** Taiwán lanzó inmediatamente medidas de emergencia cuando comenzaron a aparecer casos en China, incluido el control fronterizo, la identificación de casos y la contención. Taiwán también tomó medidas tempranas en términos de asignación de recursos, incluido el control de máscaras faciales y otros recursos médicos para garantizar una distribución justa y suficiente.
  - iii. **Comunicación transparente:** El CECC ofrece informes de prensa diarios para garantizar que el público en general tenga la información más oportuna y completa.
  - iv. **Investigación y desarrollo:** En un período muy corto, Taiwán ha logrado sintetizar remdesivir y ahora está desarrollando pruebas de diagnóstico rápido COVID-19. Si tienen éxito, estas pruebas acortarán las pruebas COVID-19 de cuatro horas a solo 15 minutos.
- De acuerdo con las estadísticas publicadas por la base de datos global Numbeo, Taiwán recibió la clasificación más alta para el índice de atención médica por país para 2020, con un puntaje de 86.71, mientras que la revista CEOWORLD clasificó a Taiwán como

la más alta en su índice de atención médica para 2019. Al compartir Con una experiencia de primer nivel en la reforma de salud, Taiwán puede ayudar a la OMS a alcanzar su objetivo 2030 de cobertura universal de salud.

- Taiwán se ha transformado de un receptor de ayuda extranjera a un proveedor de asistencia humanitaria internacional y continúa ayudando activamente a otras naciones en el desarrollo de capacidades de salud pública. Además, la inclusión de Taiwán en la OMS mejoraría en gran medida la lucha mundial contra las epidemias y la prevención de ellas, garantizando así el derecho a la salud de los 23 millones de habitantes de Taiwán y también beneficiando al mundo.
- Los esfuerzos de prevención de enfermedades dirigidos por la OMS requieren la cooperación y participación de todos los interesados y socios de la comunidad internacional. La devastadora pandemia de COVID-19 destaca aún más la urgencia e importancia de la inclusión y de no dejar a nadie fuera de la red mundial de salud. Instamos a la OMS a invitar a Taiwán a participar en la 73a WHA como observador y otorgarle a Taiwán acceso completo a todas las reuniones, mecanismos y actividades de la OMS.



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS  
**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE**  
POST OFFICE BOX 1349  
MAJURO, MARSHALL ISLANDS MH 96960  
PHONE: (692) 625-3181/3012

**WHO/02-20**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of the Marshall Islands presents its compliments to the World Health Organization in Geneva and has the honor to convey the attached letter from Hon. Bruce Bilimon, Minister of Health and Human Services, addressed to WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, and attached enclosures.

The Ministry requests your kind assistance in ensuring the said letter and enclosures reach their most esteemed destination.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of the Marshall Islands avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the World Health Organization the assurances of its highest consideration.



**World Health Organization**  
**Geneva, SWITZERLAND**



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER  
PO Box 16, Majuro MH 96960



5 May 2020

H.E. Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus  
Director General  
World Health Organization  
20 Avenue Appia-CH-1221  
Geneva, Switzerland

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the people and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules and Procedure of the World Health Assembly (WHA), 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 73<sup>rd</sup> session of the WHA.

As COVID-19 spreads rampantly across the globe, it is more imperative than ever to include all relevant parties and stakeholders in combating this pandemic. The continued exclusion of Taiwan from WHO has seriously compromised the Organization’s overall disease prevention efforts, undermined the interests of its members, and endangered global health. Taiwan’s medical services and universal health care system are among the best, making Taiwan an ideal model for many WHO member states. Taiwan’s exceptional response to and containment of COVID-19 has also been lauded by the international community. By including a willing and capable partner such as Taiwan, WHO and the entire world would benefit greatly.

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 efforts to ensure that all people are able to enjoy the highest attainable standard of health. At this critical juncture, it is vital for WHO to once again invite Taiwan to attend the WHA and include Taiwan in all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities.

The Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands 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, the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands formally requests that the present letter and its enclosure be circulated as an official document of the WHA. In this respect, the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands further recalls Rule 18 of the WHA Rules of Procedure, which stipulates “the duty of the Secretariat” regarding the circulation of documents.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Bilimon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon. Mr. Bruce Bilimon  
Minister of Health and Human Services  
Republic of the Marshall Islands



## DRAFT RESOLUTION

### **The Seventy-third World Health Assembly,**

**Reaffirming** that the fundamental objective of the Organization 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 the COVID-19 pandemic is a human tragedy and a global health crisis, which also poses a major threat to the world economy, and that Taiwan’s experience and expertise in addressing the COVID-19 outbreak could be valuable to numerous countries,

**Expressing** grave concern that Taiwan is not fully included in all related consultations, clinical networks, and lab networks of the Organization,

**Conscious** that Taiwan, having transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance, participated in the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years prior to 2017, making concrete contributions to the global health security system,

**Recognizing** that only when Taiwan is properly included in relevant global efforts can the risk of pandemic outbreaks be reduced and the WHO’s lofty goal of “health for all” be feasible,

**Realizing** that in the fight against COVID-19 and other emerging diseases, the Organization must remain informed of health conditions across the entire world, 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 the 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 73rd 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 of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030 and the implementation of the 2005 International Health Regulations.
- Taiwan's participation in the WHA is a health issue. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely welcomed and recognized.
- Taiwan has effectively contained the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), by implementing the following critical measures:
  - i. **Centralized command structure:** The Taiwan government promptly activated the Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) on January 20, allowing for a streamlined decision-making process and a quick rollout of epidemic control measures.
  - ii. **Proactive preparation:** Taiwan immediately launched emergency measures when cases began appearing in China, including border control, case identification, and containment. Taiwan also took early action in terms of resource allocation, including controlling face masks and other medical resources to ensure fair and sufficient distribution.
  - iii. **Transparent communication:** The CECC gives daily press briefings to ensure that the general public has the most timely and comprehensive information.
  - iv. **Research and development:** Within a very short period, Taiwan has succeeded in synthesizing remdesivir and is now developing COVID-19 rapid diagnostic tests. If successful, these tests will shorten COVID-19 testing from four hours to a mere 15 minutes.
- According to statistics released by the crowd-sourced global database Numbeo, Taiwan received the highest ranking for Health Care Index by Country for 2020, with a score of

86.71, while CEOWORLD magazine ranked Taiwan highest in its Health Care Index for 2019. By sharing its world-class experience in health care reform, Taiwan can assist WHO in achieving its 2030 goal of universal health coverage.

- Taiwan has transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance and continues to actively assist other nations in developing public health capacities. Moreover, Taiwan's inclusion in WHO would greatly enhance the global fight against and prevention of epidemics, thereby both guaranteeing the right to health of Taiwan's 23 million people and also benefiting the world.
- The disease prevention efforts led by WHO require the cooperation and participation of all stakeholders and partners in the international community. The devastating COVID-19 pandemic further highlights the urgency and importance of inclusiveness and of leaving no one out of the global health network. We urge WHO to invite Taiwan to participate in the 73rd WHA as an observer and grant Taiwan full access to all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities.



## *Republic of Nauru*

### **Note No. 262/2020**

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Nauru presents its compliments to the World Health Organization and has the honour to convey the attached official letter from Honourable Isabella Dageago, M.P. Minister for Health of the Government of the Republic of Nauru addressed to Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General for the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Department has the further honour to request the latter to convey the attached official letter to its highest destination.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Nauru avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the World Health Organization the assurances of its highest consideration.

**Nauru, 8 May 2020**



**World Health Organization**  
**SWITZERLAND**

Minister for Health  
Minister for Home Affairs  
Member for Yaren

+674 5573191 ext 215  
Mob: 674 5573107  
Email: minhealthome23@gmail.com



REPUBLIC OF NAURU

7 May 2020

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

#### **PROPOSAL FOR SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEM**

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Nauru (GoN), and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly (WHA), 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 73rd session of the WHA.

Taiwan in 2009 was accorded observer status and invited to the 62nd World Health Assembly, a decision that the Government of Nauru unconditionally supported.

At this critical juncture as countries continue the battle to contain and mitigate the blight of COVID-19, it is vital for all members of the World Health Assembly to hold constructive and objective dialogue on how best to combat this pandemic. Therefore, it is unavoidable and imperative that the WHA deliberates on the issue regarding the inclusion of Taiwan to the WHA, as Taiwan’s response and policies in managing the pandemic has been highly effective in minimizing the spread of COVID-19.

Taiwan’s inclusion as an observer to the World Health Assembly shall add value and benefit members toward building robust global medical policies by applying Taiwan’s best practices and advancement in clinical management.

Nauru echoes the principle of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development which it *“envisages a world free of poverty, hunger and disease”* and thus Nauru affirms its support for Taiwan’s inclusion to the WHA as an observer.

Government of Nauru 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, Government of Nauru formally requests that the present letter and its enclosure be circulated as an official document of the WHA.

In this respect, Government of Nauru recalls Rule 18 of the WHA Rules of Procedure, which stipulates "the duty of the Secretariat" regarding the circulation of documents.

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

  
Hon. Isabella Dageago MP  
**MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Enclosure: 1/

DRAFT RESOLUTION

**The Seventy-third World Health Assembly,**

**Reaffirming** that the fundamental objective of the Organization 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 the COVID-19 pandemic is a human tragedy and a global health crisis, which also poses a major threat to the world economy, and that Taiwan’s experience and expertise in addressing the COVID-19 outbreak could be valuable to numerous countries,

**Expressing** grave concern that Taiwan is not fully included in all related consultations, clinical networks, and lab networks of the Organization,

**Conscious** that Taiwan, having transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance, participated in the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years prior to 2017, making concrete contributions to the global health security system,

**Recognizing** that only when Taiwan is properly included in relevant global efforts can the risk of pandemic outbreaks be reduced and the WHO’s lofty goal of “health for all” be feasible,

**Realizing** that in the fight against COVID-19 and other emerging diseases, the Organization must remain informed of health conditions across the entire world, 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

23 April 2020

Proposal submitted by the Republic of Nauru

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

The Republic of Nauru considers that a discussion at the 73rd 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 of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030 and the implementation of the 2005 International Health Regulations.
- Taiwan's participation in the WHA is a health issue. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely welcomed and recognized.
- Taiwan has effectively contained the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), despite Taiwan's proximity to China, by implementing the following critical measures:
  - i. **Centralized command structure:** The Taiwan government promptly activated the Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) on January 20, allowing for a streamlined decision-making process and a quick rollout of epidemic control measures.
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- According to statistics released by the crowd-sourced global database Numbeo, Taiwan received the highest ranking for Health Care Index by Country for 2020, with a score of 86.71, while CEOWORLD magazine ranked Taiwan highest in its Health Care Index for 2019. By sharing its world-class experience in health care reform, Taiwan can assist WHO in achieving its 2030 goal of universal health coverage.
- Taiwan has transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance and continues to actively assist other nations in developing public health capacities. Moreover, Taiwan's inclusion in WHO would greatly enhance the global fight against and prevention of epidemics, thereby both guaranteeing the right to health of Taiwan's 23 million people and also benefiting the world.
- The disease prevention efforts led by WHO require the cooperation and participation of all stakeholders and partners in the international community. The devastating COVID-19 pandemic further highlights the urgency and importance of inclusiveness and of leaving no one out of the global health network. We urge WHO to invite Taiwan to participate in the 73rd WHA as an observer and grant Taiwan full access to all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities.





MINISTERIO  
DE  
RELACIONES EXTERIORES  
Managua, Nicaragua

Your Excellency

**Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**

General Director

World Health Organization (WHO)

On behalf of my Government, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, 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 73rd session of the WHA.

As COVID-19 spreads rampantly across the globe, it is more imperative than ever to include all relevant parties and stakeholders in combating this pandemic. The continued exclusion of Taiwan from WHO has seriously compromised the Organization's overall disease prevention efforts, undermined the interests of its members, and endangered global health. Taiwan's medical services and universal health care system are among the best, making Taiwan an ideal model for many WHO member states. Taiwan's exceptional response to and containment of COVID-19 has also been lauded by the international community. By including a willing and capable partner such as Taiwan, WHO and the entire world would benefit greatly.

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 the world that it is a valuable and indispensable partner in the efforts to ensure that all peoples enjoy the highest attainable standard of health. At this critical juncture, it is vital for WHO to once again invite Taiwan to attend the WHA and include Taiwan in all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities.

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 18 of the WHA Rules of Procedure, which stipulates "the duty of the Secretariat" regarding the circulation of documents.

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

Managua, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020



**Denis Moncada Colindres**  
**Minister of Foreign Affairs**  
**Republic of Nicaragua**

Enclosure 1/

## DRAFT RESOLUTION

### **The Seventy-third World Health Assembly,**

**Reaffirming** that the fundamental objective of the Organization 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 the COVID-19 pandemic is a human tragedy and a global health crisis, which also poses a major threat to the world economy, and that Taiwan’s experience and expertise in addressing the COVID-19 outbreak could be valuable to numerous countries,

**Expressing** grave concern that Taiwan is not fully included in all related consultations, clinical networks, and lab networks of the Organization,

**Conscious** that Taiwan, having transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance, participated in the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years prior to 2017, making concrete contributions to the global health security system,

**Recognizing** that only when Taiwan is properly included in relevant global efforts can the risk of pandemic outbreaks be reduced and the WHO’s lofty goal of “health for all” be feasible,

**Realizing** that in the fight against COVID-19 and other emerging diseases, the Organization must remain informed of health conditions across the entire world, 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 (Member State)

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

(Member State) considers that a discussion at the 73rd 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 of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030 and the implementation of the 2005 International Health Regulations.
- Taiwan's participation in the WHA is a health issue. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely welcomed and recognized.
- Taiwan has effectively contained the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), despite Taiwan's proximity to China, by implementing the following critical measures:
  - i. **Centralized command structure:** The Taiwan government promptly activated the Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) on January 20, allowing for a streamlined decision-making process and a quick rollout of epidemic control measures.
  - ii. **Proactive preparation:** Taiwan immediately launched emergency measures when cases began appearing in China, including border control, case identification, and containment. Taiwan also took early action in terms of resource allocation, including controlling face masks and other medical resources to ensure fair and sufficient distribution.
  - iii. **Transparent communication:** The CECC gives daily press briefings to ensure that the general public has the most timely and comprehensive information.
  - iv. **Research and development:** Within a very short period, Taiwan has succeeded in synthesizing remdesivir and is now developing COVID-19 rapid diagnostic tests. If successful, these tests will shorten COVID-19 testing from four hours to a mere 15 minutes.

- According to statistics released by the crowd-sourced global database Numbeo, Taiwan received the highest ranking for Health Care Index by Country for 2020, with a score of 86.71, while CEOWORLD magazine ranked Taiwan highest in its Health Care Index for 2019. By sharing its world-class experience in health care reform, Taiwan can assist WHO in achieving its 2030 goal of universal health coverage.
- Taiwan has transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance and continues to actively assist other nations in developing public health capacities. Moreover, Taiwan's inclusion in WHO would greatly enhance the global fight against and prevention of epidemics, thereby both guaranteeing the right to health of Taiwan's 23 million people and also benefiting the world.
- The disease prevention efforts led by WHO require the cooperation and participation of all stakeholders and partners in the international community. The devastating COVID-19 pandemic further highlights the urgency and importance of inclusiveness and of leaving no one out of the global health network. We urge WHO to invite Taiwan to participate in the 73rd WHA as an observer and grant Taiwan full access to all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities.



*Republic of Palau*

## **Ministry of Health**

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

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E-mail: [administration@palauhealth.org](mailto:administration@palauhealth.org) Website: [www.palauhealth.org](http://www.palauhealth.org)

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April 29, 2020

**MOHodw : 110-20**

**H.E. Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**  
**Director-General**  
World Health Organization (WHO)  
Geneva, Switzerland

**Re : Proposal for Supplementary Agenda Item for WHA73**

Your Excellency:

On behalf of my Government, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, 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 73rd session of the WHA.

As COVID-19 spreads rampantly across the globe, it is more imperative than ever to include all relevant parties and stakeholders in combating this pandemic. The continued exclusion of Taiwan from WHO has seriously compromised the Organization’s overall disease prevention efforts, undermined the interests of its members, and endangered global health. Taiwan’s medical services and universal health care system are among the best, making Taiwan an ideal model for many WHO member states. Taiwan’s exceptional response to and containment of COVID-19 has also been lauded by the international community. By including a willing and capable partner such as Taiwan, WHO and the entire world would benefit greatly.

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 efforts to ensure that all peoples enjoy the highest attainable standard of health. At this critical



juncture, it is vital for WHO to once again invite Taiwan to attend the WHA and include Taiwan in all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities.

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 18 of the WHA Rules of Procedure, which stipulates “the duty of the Secretariat” regarding the circulation of documents.

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

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Emais Roberts', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Emais Roberts, MD, FACS.

Minister of Health

Enclosure: 1/

## DRAFT RESOLUTION

### **The Seventy-third World Health Assembly,**

**Reaffirming** that the fundamental objective of the Organization 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 the COVID-19 pandemic is a human tragedy and a global health crisis, which also poses a major threat to the world economy, and that Taiwan’s experience and expertise in addressing the COVID-19 outbreak could be valuable to numerous countries,

**Expressing** grave concern that Taiwan is not fully included in all related consultations, clinical networks, and lab networks of the Organization,

**Conscious** that Taiwan, having transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance, participated in the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years prior to 2017, making concrete contributions to the global health security system,

**Recognizing** that only when Taiwan is properly included in relevant global efforts can the risk of pandemic outbreaks be reduced and the WHO’s lofty goal of “health for all” be feasible,

**Realizing** that in the fight against COVID-19 and other emerging diseases, the Organization must remain informed of health conditions across the entire world, 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 the Republic of Palau

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

The Republic of Palau considers that a discussion at the 73rd 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 of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030 and the implementation of the 2005 International Health Regulations.
- Taiwan's participation in the WHA is a health issue. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely welcomed and recognized.
- Taiwan has effectively contained the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), despite Taiwan's proximity to China, by implementing the following critical measures:
  - i. **Centralized command structure:** The Taiwan government promptly activated the Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) on January 20, allowing for a streamlined decision-making process and a quick rollout of epidemic control measures.
  - ii. **Proactive preparation:** Taiwan immediately launched emergency measures when cases began appearing in China, including border control, case identification, and containment. Taiwan also took early action in terms of resource allocation, including controlling face masks and other medical resources to ensure fair and sufficient distribution.
  - iii. **Transparent communication:** The CECC gives daily press briefings to ensure that the general public has the most timely and comprehensive information.
  - iv. **Research and development:** Within a very short period, Taiwan has succeeded in synthesizing remdesivir and is now developing COVID-19 rapid diagnostic tests. If successful, these tests will shorten COVID-19 testing from four hours to a mere 15 minutes.

- According to statistics released by the crowd-sourced global database Numbeo, Taiwan received the highest ranking for Health Care Index by Country for 2020, with a score of 86.71, while CEOWORLD magazine ranked Taiwan highest in its Health Care Index for 2019. By sharing its world-class experience in health care reform, Taiwan can assist WHO in achieving its 2030 goal of universal health coverage.
- Taiwan has transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance and continues to actively assist other nations in developing public health capacities. Moreover, Taiwan's inclusion in WHO would greatly enhance the global fight against and prevention of epidemics, thereby both guaranteeing the right to health of Taiwan's 23 million people and also benefiting the world.
- The disease prevention efforts led by WHO require the cooperation and participation of all stakeholders and partners in the international community. The devastating COVID-19 pandemic further highlights the urgency and importance of inclusiveness and of leaving no one out of the global health network. We urge WHO to invite Taiwan to participate in the 73rd WHA as an observer and grant Taiwan full access to all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities.



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

**MPG/OI/N° 33/2020**

La Misión Permanente del Paraguay ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas y Organismos Especializados con sede en Ginebra saluda muy atentamente a la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS), con ocasión remitir la nota dirigida a S.E. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General de la Organización Mundial de la Salud.

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



Ginebra, 20 de abril de 2020

A la:  
**Organización Mundial de la Salud**  
**Ginebra**

*“ Sesquicentenario de la Epopeya Nacional 1864 – 1870 ”*



*Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores*

VMRE/DGPM/DOI/N° 221/2020

Asunción, 07 de abril de 2020

Señor Director General:

Tengo el honor de dirigirme a Vuestra Excelencia con el objeto de solicitar la inclusión del tema *“Invitación a Taiwán a participar en la Asamblea Mundial de la Salud como Observador”*, como ítem suplementario en la agenda del 73° Período de Sesiones de la Asamblea Mundial de la Salud.

Al respecto, tomando en consideración la coyuntura de emergencia sanitaria ocasionada por el COVID-19, el Gobierno del Paraguay considera que es imprescindible la cooperación mundial para dar una respuesta a esta crisis, dado que, como Vuestra Excelencia mencionó, el virus no tiene restricciones impuestas por la geografía o por la política.

En tal sentido, el Paraguay reitera su convicción de que las cuestiones relativas a la salud global no deben ser determinadas por consideraciones de índole política, especialmente en medio de esta pandemia, porque resultarían en obstáculos en la lucha contra el virus.

La experiencia de las medidas preventivas y de respuesta a emergencias y catástrofes de ese país podría cooperar de manera significativa, junto con la comunidad internacional, a combatir la pandemia del COVID-19, aportando contribuciones médicas y tecnológicas, por lo que el Paraguay estima que la participación de la República de China (Taiwán) como observador en la mencionada Asamblea resultaría de suma utilidad.

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



*Antonio Rivas Palacios*  
Antonio Rivas Palacios

Ministro

A Su Excelencia  
Doctor **Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**  
Director General de la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS)  
Ginebra, Confederación Suiza

## DRAFT RESOLUTION

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- Taiwan has transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance and continues to actively assist other nations in developing public health capacities. Moreover, Taiwan's inclusion in WHO would greatly enhance the global fight against and prevention of epidemics, thereby both guaranteeing the right to health of Taiwan's 23 million people and also benefiting the world.
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## ST CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

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Email: [foreigna@sisterisles.kn](mailto:foreigna@sisterisles.kn)  
Website: [foreign.gov.kn](http://foreign.gov.kn)

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
Building 15, Suites 200-201  
P.O. Box 186  
Port Zante  
Basseterre  
St Kitts  
West Indies

**1 May, 2020**

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

Dear Dr. Ghebreyesus

I have the esteemed honour to convey warm greetings to you and your organization and applaud you for your unwavering commitment towards the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is only through a universal approach that we can confront and conquer this global health challenge. Taiwan's unparalleled response to the Coronavirus has been globally acclaimed. Given their containment of the disease – despite their close proximity to China- and their impeccable healthcare system, the “Taiwan Model” presents a best practice model for all nations across the world.

Against this background, the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis requests your kind assistance in extending an invitation to the Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) for its participation as an observer at the 73<sup>rd</sup> Assembly of the World Health Organization. Saint Kitts and Nevis firmly believes that Taiwan's inclusion at this upcoming Assembly Meeting is of utmost importance and is imperative if we are to eliminate this global enemy.

The attached proposal which we humbly suggest be a part of the agenda, provides detailed information pertaining to Taiwan's response to the pandemic and its containment therein. Undoubtedly, this will contribute significantly to the global health security system.

I renew to you the assurance of our highest esteem.

Sincerely,

Mark A.G. Brantley (Hon)  
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Aviation



SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH, NATIONAL INSURANCE, HUMAN SETTLEMENT, COMMUNITY  
AFFAIRS, SOCIAL SERVICES, COOPERATIVES, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS

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E-mail: e777hamilton@gmail.com

GOVERNMENT HEADQUARTERS  
P O BOX 186 CHURCH STREET  
BASSETERRE  
ST KITTS  
WEST INDIES

7<sup>th</sup> May, 2020

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

Dear Dr Ghebreyesus

On behalf of my Government, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, 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 73rd session of the WHA.

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

  
.....  
Hon Eugene Hamilton  
Minister of Health, Agriculture et al





SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH, NATIONAL INSURANCE, HUMAN SETTLEMENT, COMMUNITY  
AFFAIRS, SOCIAL SERVICES, COOPERATIVES, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS

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**DRAFT RESOLUTION**

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SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS  
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WEST INDIES

7<sup>th</sup> May, 2020

Explanatory Memorandum

**Proposal submitted by St. Kitts & Nevis**

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

St. Kitts & Nevis considers that a discussion at the 73rd 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 of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030 and the implementation of the 2005 International Health Regulations.
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**SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS  
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- Taiwan has transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance and continues to actively assist other nations in developing public health capacities. Moreover, Taiwan's inclusion in WHO would greatly enhance the global fight against and prevention of epidemics, thereby both guaranteeing the right to health of Taiwan's 23 million people and also benefiting the world.
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## GOVERNMENT OF SAINT LUCIA

Ministry of Finance, Economic Growth, Job Creation, External Affairs and Public Service

### Department of External Affairs

Communication on this subject  
should be addressed to:

**The Minister**

5<sup>th</sup> Level, Baywalk, Rodney Bay  
Gros Islet, Saint Lucia  
Tel: (758) 468-4501  
Fax: (758) 452-7427  
Email: [external@gosl.gov.lc](mailto:external@gosl.gov.lc)

May 4, 2020

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus  
Director-General  
World Health Organization  
WHO Headquarters  
Avenue Appia 201211  
Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Your Excellency,

### PROPOSAL FOR SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEM

On behalf of the Government and people of Saint Lucia, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly (WHA), 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 73rd session of the WHA.

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

Yours sincerely,



**HONOURABLE SARAH FLOOD-BEAUBRUN**  
Minister for External Affairs



Enclosure: 1/



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Proposal submitted by Saint Lucia

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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
TRADE AND COMMERCE



SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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Email: [office.foreignaffairs@mail.gov.vc](mailto:office.foreignaffairs@mail.gov.vc)

[svgforeign@gmail.com](mailto:svgforeign@gmail.com)

[office.trade@gov.vc](mailto:office.trade@gov.vc)

Ref. No. 110(10)

Note 480/2020

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Commerce of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines presents its compliments to the World Health Organisation and has the honour to refer to the a Proposal for a Supplementary Agenda Item to be included in the provisional agenda for the 73<sup>rd</sup> Session of the World Health Assembly.

In this connection, the Ministry wishes to forward a letter addressed to Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General of the World Health Organization on behalf of the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Commerce of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the World Health Organisation, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Kingstown,

May 12, 2020





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

May 12, 2020

The Director General  
World Health Organisation  
WHO Headquarters in Geneva  
Avenue Appia 20  
1202 Geneva

*Ym Excellency*

On behalf of the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly (WHA), I hereby request favourable consideration to the inclusion of the supplementary item entitled "Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an Observer" in the provisional agenda on the upcoming 73<sup>rd</sup> Session of the WHA.

It is to be especially noted that from 2009 to 2016, Taiwan was invited to participate in annual WHA gatherings. Further, meaningful interactions took place, on an ongoing basis, between Taiwan and WHO. Since the election of the Democratic Party's Tsai Ing-Wen to the Presidency of Taiwan, the government of the People's Republic of China (PRC) has opposed the continuation of Taiwan's observer-participant status at the WHA. Surely, it is wholly improper for an international organisation to be swayed by the vagaries of a competitive democracy in Taiwan. It is unacceptable for Taiwan to be punished because its people democratically elected someone to the Presidency of Taiwan who happens not to meet with the approval of the PRC. The magnificent Chinese civilization and its legitimate political expressions ought not to be so wrongly circumscribed.

If ever there is a time in which Taiwan deserves to be part of the WHA as an Observer, it is now, at the time of COVID-19. Taiwan's exceptional response to the containment of COVID-19 has been praised by the international community. Indeed, Taiwan has assisted many countries at individual nation levels, in the fight against the novel coronavirus. In so doing it has continued its historic work as a reliable partner on global health. But locking out Taiwan from any participation at WHA diminishes this august assembly and the peoples of the world who can benefit even more from Taiwan's expertise, professionalism, and generosity.

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**May 12, 2020**

**Page 2**

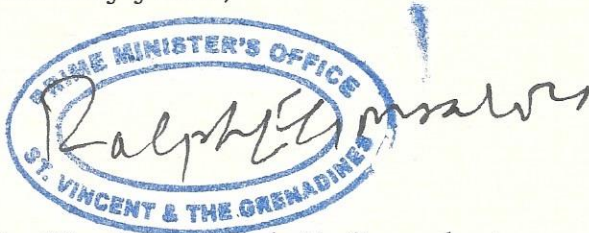
So, in the name of humanity, let us get Taiwan aboard as an Observer at the WHA.

My government implores the WHA to accept the inclusion of this agenda item. Moreover, in order that the General Committee may properly fulfil its mandate and report to the WHA for its final decision, my government formally requests that this letter be circulated as an official document of the WHA. Should this agenda item be included, my government is prepared to submit an appropriate draft resolution for consideration and adoption. In pursuance of this matter, my government recalls Rule 18 of the WHA Rules of Procedure which stipulates "the duty of the Secretariat" regarding the circulation of documents.

Please be advised that the Honourable R. T. Luke V. Browne, Minister of Health, Wellness and the Environment is empowered to pursue this issue at the World Health Assembly.

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

Sincerely yours,



Dr. The Hon. Ralph E. Gonsalves  
Prime Minister

/aw-j



**TUVALU GOVERNMENT**  
**Ministry of Health, Social Welfare and Gender Affairs**

**Headquater**

VAIAKU, FUNAFUTI, TUVALU

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May 08, 2020

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

**REQUEST FOR AN ADDITIONAL AGENDA**

Your Excellency,

On behalf of my Government, and pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly, as well as UN Sustainable Development Goal 3, I have the honor to request the inclusion of a supplementary item, entitled “**Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer,**” in the provisional agenda for the 73rd session of the World Health Assembly.

For many years, Taiwan has participated in WHA and WHO technical meetings, mechanisms, and activities, steadily contributing to enhancing regional and global disease prevention networks. It has also dedicated itself to assisting other countries in overcoming their healthcare challenges, reflecting its unshakable belief in the WHO vision that the highest attainable standard of health is a fundamental right of every human being. And yet in 2017, Taiwan was unable to attend the WHA, threatening its people’s right to health and creating a serious gap in the global health security system.

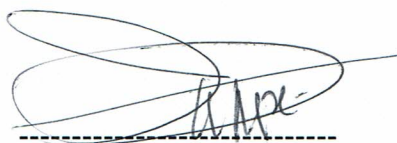
As COVID-19 spreads rampantly across the globe, it is more imperative than ever to include all relevant parties and stakeholders in combating this pandemic. The continued exclusion of Taiwan from WHO has seriously compromised the Organization’s overall disease prevention efforts, undermined the interests of its members, and endangered global health. Taiwan’s medical services and universal health care system are among the best, making Taiwan an ideal model for many WHO member states. Taiwan’s exceptional response to and containment of COVID-19 has also been lauded by the international community. By including a willing and capable partner such as Taiwan, WHO and the entire world would benefit greatly. The WHO needs Taiwan’s

participation for a sound global health system, while Taiwan needs the WHO to protect the health of its people, as well as of those in the region and beyond. To reiterate, the work of the WHO requires the cooperation of all stakeholders and partners in the international community, while Taiwan's absence from the WHO seriously undermines the Organization's effectiveness, and violates the interests of each of its members and overall global health.

My Government is therefore convinced that the inclusion of Taiwan in the WHA would not only be beneficial to the WHO and all parties concerned, but also help realize SDG 3, which is to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages by 2030.

My Government hopes that the Assembly can accept the inclusion of this item. To this end, a draft resolution and an explanatory memorandum are attached for further discussion. Moreover, with a view to permitting the General Committee to 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 18 of the WHA Rules, which underlines "the duty of the Secretariat" regarding the circulation of documents and sincerely requests the inclusion of a supplementary item, entitled "**Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer,**" in the provisional agenda for the 73rd session of the World Health Assembly

In the meantime, Excellency, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Isaia Taapea', is written over a horizontal dashed line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Isaia Taapea  
Minister for Health  
Tuvalu



Enclosure: Draft Resolution

DRAFT RESOLUTION

DRAFT RESOLUTION

**The Seventy-third World Health Assembly,**

**Reaffirming** that the fundamental objective of the Organization 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 the COVID-19 pandemic is a human tragedy and a global health crisis, which also poses a major threat to the world economy, and that Taiwan’s experience and expertise in addressing the COVID-19 outbreak could be valuable to numerous countries,

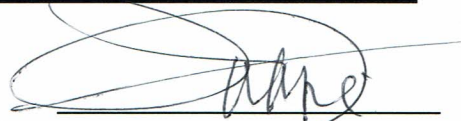
**Expressing** grave concern that Taiwan is not fully included in all related consultations, clinical networks, and lab networks of the Organization,

**Conscious** that Taiwan, having transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance, participated in the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years prior to 2017, making concrete contributions to the global health security system,

**Recognizing** that only when Taiwan is properly included in relevant global efforts can the risk of pandemic outbreaks be reduced and the WHO’s lofty goal of “health for all” be feasible,

**Realizing** that in the fight against COVID-19 and other emerging diseases, the Organization must remain informed of health conditions across the entire world, 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.**



Isaia Taape  
Minister for Health  
Tuvalu

## Explanatory Memorandum

Proposal submitted by Tuvalu

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

Tuvalu considers that a discussion at the 73rd 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 of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030 and the implementation of the 2005 International Health Regulations.
- Taiwan's participation in the WHA is a health issue. Taiwan was invited to the WHA as an observer for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. Its participation was widely welcomed and recognized.
- Taiwan has effectively contained the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), despite Taiwan's proximity to China, by implementing the following critical measures:
  - i. **Centralized command structure:** The Taiwan government promptly activated the Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) on January 20, allowing for a streamlined decision-making process and a quick rollout of epidemic control measures.
  - ii. **Proactive preparation:** Taiwan immediately launched emergency measures when cases began appearing in China, including border control, case identification, and containment. Taiwan also took early action in terms of resource allocation, including controlling face masks and other medical resources to ensure fair and sufficient distribution.
  - iii. **Transparent communication:** The CECC gives daily press briefings to ensure that the general public has the most timely and comprehensive information.
  - iv. **Research and development:** Within a very short period, Taiwan has succeeded in synthesizing remdesivir and is now developing COVID-19 rapid diagnostic tests. If successful, these tests will shorten COVID-19 testing from four hours to a mere 15 minutes.
- According to statistics released by the crowd-sourced global database Numbeo, Taiwan received the highest ranking for Health Care Index by Country for 2020, with a score of 86.71, while CEOWORLD magazine ranked Taiwan highest in its Health Care Index for

2019. By sharing its world-class experience in health care reform, Taiwan can assist WHO in achieving its 2030 goal of universal health coverage.

- Taiwan has transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance and continues to actively assist other nations in developing public health capacities. Moreover, Taiwan's inclusion in WHO would greatly enhance the global fight against and prevention of epidemics, thereby both guaranteeing the right to health of Taiwan's 23 million people and also benefiting the world.
- The disease prevention efforts led by WHO require the cooperation and participation of all stakeholders and partners in the international community. The devastating COVID-19 pandemic further highlights the urgency and importance of inclusiveness and of leaving no one out of the global health network. We urge WHO to invite Taiwan to participate in the 73rd WHA as an observer and grant Taiwan full access to all WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities.