

Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Second Report Submitted under Articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

Republic of China (Taiwan) 



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Article 1

Indigenous Peoples' Right to Self-Determination

1. See Points 2 to 4 of the second national report on the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights for reference.

Article 2

International Cooperation and Development Aids

2. Refer to Points 146 to 159 of common core documents from second national reports on the two conventions and Point 10 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights.
3. The budget to support international cooperation in 2014 was around USD 273,978,105, accounting for 0.050% of the gross national income.

Anti-Discrimination Measures

4. Persons with disabilities:
 - (1) See Point 119 of this report.
 - (2) To protect the rights of persons with disabilities, the committee for the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities of the Ministry of Health and Welfare has coordinated with respective ministries on the performance of related tasks. In addition, organizations of persons with disabilities are subsidized for holding a variety of events to enhance public acceptance toward persons with disabilities. In 2014, a total of 701 cases were subsidized, totaling NTD (same as below) 20,540,000 in value.
 - (3) In order to protect the personality and legitimate rights and interests of patients with mental illnesses, Article 22 of the Mental Health Act stipulates that patients' personality and legitimate rights and interests shall be respected and protected, and may not be discriminated against. For patients under stable conditions, it is not permitted to reject their access to schooling, examination, employment or implement any other unfair treatment for the reason that they ever suffered from mental illness. If patients with mental illness, their families, or patients' rights promotion groups are unfairly treated in

any way, such as restrictions and rejections suffered by persons with mental disorders wishing to take part in events (such as events held at sports centers), they may report the discrimination measures to competent health authorities.

5. Low-Income Households: See Point 13 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.
6. Children: See Point 15 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.
7. Patients with special diseases: See Point 16 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.
8. New Immigrants:
 - (1) See Points 191 and 192 of this report and Point 19 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.
 - (2) In response to the needs of immigrants who relocate themselves to Taiwan because of marriage and in order to construct a friendly society consisting of many different cultures, a coordination meeting on affairs relating to new immigrants under the Executive Yuan has been held on a regular basis since 2015 to combine and utilize various resources relating to new immigrants.
9. Refugees: To reinforce the protection for refugees, asylum seekers, and their families, the Ministry of the Interior completed the draft Refugee Law, for which the Executive sent another official letter to the Legislative Yuan requesting deliberations on February 23, 2012. Before the legislative procedure was completed for the Refugee Law in October 2015, relaxation of the residence right of aliens could only be determined case by case according to requirements under Article 16 of the Immigration Act, among others. The number of Stateless people between 2012 and 2014 in Taiwan is shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Stateless people in Taiwan (people on an alien resident certificate)

Unit: Person(s)

Year \ Gender	Male	Female
2012	101	70
2013	93	77

2014	96	71
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Source: Ministry of the Interior

10. Employment Right:

- (1) See Point 32 of the second national report on the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights for reference.
- (2) Preventive Measures against Employment Discrimination against Disadvantaged Populations: The quota-based employment system is adopted in order to protect and promote employment of people with disabilities. People with disabilities are given the opportunity to take part in vocational training jointly with the general public to encourage them to increase their competitive advantages by attending ordinary and integrative training and efforts have continued to realize barrier-free training environments combined with redesigned job responsibilities so that the barriers for them to attend training can be removed. Related measures are promoted with regard to employment of indigenous peoples and middle-to-old-aged people. After natural disasters, temporary work allowances are utilized to help victims get employed. Management and protection of related rights and interests of foreign workers are comparable to those of nationals.

11. Right to Medical Care:

- (1) See Points 240 and 251 of this report for reference.
- (2) The staged medical care network plan started in 1985. The Guidelines for Permitting the Establishment and Expansion of a Hospital were stipulated in order to control the review of resources such as bed count at each hospital; as of December 2014, acute beds throughout the nation combined was 72,303 (30.85 beds for every ten thousand people). Since the medical care network plan was implemented, the number of physicians serving in metropolitan areas has been stabilized and that in each area has also grown significantly in each area; the rural-urban difference has gradually decreased. Physicians specializing in western medicine, in particular, accounted for the highest proportion of the overall population of medical doctors and the minimal regional difference ratio has shrunk from 2.91 in December 1984 to 2.18 in December

2014. In addition, in order to consolidate the health system that supports holistic care in the mountains and offshore islands, the NHI Medical Benefits Coverage Enhancement Program for Mountains and Offshore Islands was enforced in November 1999. For the 50 areas in the mountains and on offshore islands, a total of 26 health care facilities have sent medical resources from out of town to the localities to care for a population of around 450,000 people.

12. Educational Right:

- (1) See Points 305 to 310 of this report and Point 23 (1) and (2) of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.
- (2) Related preferred measures and subsidies are available in accordance with the Education Act for Indigenous Peoples, the Guidelines for Protection of Students with Indigenous Background Seeking Higher Education and Overseas Studies on Public Funds, and the Five-Year Mid-Term Project for Developing Education for Indigenous Peoples. The schooling rate among students with an indigenous background increased from 50.32% in Academic Year 2012 to 50.53% in Academic Year 2014. The acceptance rate of students with an indigenous background attending exams and granted admission increased from 80.29% in Academic Year 2012 to 86.30% in Academic Year 2014.

13. Right to Housing: Rental allowances and reimbursements of interest paid on loans for purchasing or repairing houses are available for medium-to-low-income people aged 20 or older. Implementation status of the Housing Subsidy System between 2012 and 2014 is indicated in Table 2.

Table 2 Statistics of subsidized households in Housing Subsidy System

Unit: Household(s)

Category Year		Rental subsidy	Subsidies for housing loan interest	Subsidies for renovation loan interest	Total
2012	No. of households	89,379	4,066	2,110	95,555

	applied				
	Number of households approved	24,641	3,023	1,294	28,958
2013	No. of households applied	66,203	6,228	1,596	74,027
	Number of households approved	24,962	3,836	720	29,518
2014	No. of households applied	61,018	7,771	1,590	70,379
	Number of households approved	24,969	5,347	774	31,090

Source: Ministry of the Interior

14. Cultural Right:

- (1) See Points 318 and 319 of this report for reference.
- (2) The local cultural museum plan was promoted; counties and cities as well as small towns throughout the nation can apply for subsidies that help preserve buildings of local cultural value in order to protect the cultural right of people in remote areas.

15. Friendly Financial Protection Measures:

- (1) Banks are required to provide persons with disabilities with friendly measures, including barrier-free ATMs and barrier-free online service at respective operating sites; a total of 224 voice-enabled ATMs for the visually impaired had been set up in respective counties and cities throughout Taiwan as of September 2015.
- (2) Life insurance businesses are required to establish underwriting criteria for persons with disabilities that uphold principles of fairness and responsibility as part of their soliciting and underwriting system and procedures; they may not refuse to process applications from persons with disabilities without justified reasons. The insurance industry shall proactively organize micro insurance targeting persons with disabilities and consolidate related reporting and underwriting procedures to avoid moral hazards;

if additional premium is required for underwriting, it shall also be based on the underwriting manual of the reinsurance company.

Economic Rights of Foreigners

16. See Points 27 to 30 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

Article 3

Elimination of Sexual Discrimination

17. See 2.1-2.42 of the Second National Report on CEDAW.

Consolidation of Gender Equity

18. See 3.1-3.17 of the Second National Report on CEDAW.

Statistics of Sexual Harassment Cases

19. Article 20 of the Sexual Harassment Prevention Act stipulates that a person who sexually harasses another person shall be fined by municipality and county (city) competent authorities. Between 2012 and September 2015, a total of 1,389 complaints and 162 re-complaints were filed with local governments; among them, 567 cases in total were fined. Article 9 of the same Act stipulates that victims of sexual harassments may request compensation for damages involving or not involving properties from the inflictors. If a reputation is harmed, a proper punishment of restoring reputation may also be requested.

Articles 4 and 5

Restrictions over Rights under the Convention

20. See Point 42 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

Article 6

Labor Participation

21. Labor force participation rates have been higher than 58% in our nation for the past few years; the rate of men has been higher than that of women. The rate of women taking part in

the workforce, however, has appeared to be climbing on a yearly basis. Due to an extended number of years devoted to higher education, labor force participation rates of youths 15 to 24 have been below 30% for the past five years. The labor force participation rates and employment rates between 2012 and 2014 are shown in Tables 3 and 4.

Table3 Labor Force Participation Rate — by Gender and Age

Unit: %

Item Year	Total	Male	Female	15~24 years	25~44 years	45~64 years	Age 65 and above
2012	58.35	66.83	50.19	29.08	86.33	60.48	8.10
2013	58.43	66.74	50.46	29.58	86.64	60.73	8.34
2014	58.54	66.78	50.64	29.36	86.85	61.65	8.68

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

Table 4 Employment Rate - by Gender and Age

Unit: %

Item Year	Total	Male	Female	15~24 years	25~44 years	45~64 years	Age 65 and above
2012	55.88	63.83	48.22	25.40	82.55	59.08	8.08
2013	55.99	63.76	48.54	25.68	82.94	59.37	8.33
2014	56.22	63.93	48.84	25.65	83.26	60.36	8.67

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

Descriptions: The employment rate refers to the ratio of employed persons among the civilian population of people aged 15 & older; the civilian population means the population of nationals aged 15 & over with the exception of armed forces (current in-service soldiers), those incarcerated, and the missing population, it includes labor force and non-labor force.

Laws, Regulations, and Measures Protecting Employment Right

22. See Points 63 to 67 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

23. Between 2012 and October 2015, there were a total of 962 mass dismissal cases.

24. Between 2012 and October 2015, there were 11,063 applications in total where legal aids were provided applying the labor benefits fund. Among them, lawsuit support was granted for 6,511 cases and 5,651 of the cases have been finalized. Around 80% of the judgments were in favor of the workers. Around NTD 1,234,410,000 could be available for these

workers.

25. Table 5 summarizes complaints filed against employers for having violating the Act of Gender Equality in Employment that bans discrimination against marriage, pregnancy, child birth or child care between 2012 and September 2015.

Table 5 Handling of complaints filed under Article 11 Paragraph 2 of the Act of Gender Equality in Employment

Unit: Cases

Year \ Item	Cases accepted	Cases reviewed					
		Total	Sustained	Overruled			Canceled
				Subtotal	No evidence of illegal acts	Others	
2012	61	38	14	12	11	1	12
2013	27	16	6	7	6	1	3
2014	52	16	6	6	6	-	4
2015(1-9)	50	15	10	5	3	2	-

Source: Ministry of Labor

Descriptions: Reasons for complaints not entering the deliberation process can be summarized to the following three: (1) The complainant decided to cancel the case before it entered the deliberation process; (2) The complainant decided to take on another procedure (e.g. mediation) to settle the case before it entered the deliberation process; (3) The case was accepted but was not in time to be included in the agenda of the current annual Gender Equality in Employment Committee or Employment Discrimination Review Committee.

26. The Act of Gender Equality in Employment clearly indicates that employers may not treat employees/job seekers differently on the basis of gender or sexual orientation and the penalty was increased through the amendment in 2014. Violators are now subjected to a fine of NTD 300,000 to NTD 1.5 million and the name or title of the company or the name of the responsible person will be announced to the public and consecutive penalties shall apply upon failure to make improvements within the given time.

Promotion of Employment

27. See Point 107 in the replies to the conclusive opinions and suggestions from the initial report on the two conventions for reference.

Assistance to Specific People in Employment

28. The Ministry of Labor sets aside more than NTD 1.4 billion as required by the Employment Service Act each year to organize employment promotion programs for specific people such as persons with disabilities, sole breadwinners of families, senior or middle-aged persons, indigenous peoples, members of low-income or medium-to-low income households capable of working, those who have been unemployed for a long time, women returning to the job marketing, victims of domestic violence, and after-inmates. Transportation subsidies, temporary work allowances, and hiring subsidies, among other measures, are provided to help specific people get a job. A headcount of 190,182 people, 177,285 people, and 170,368 people, respectively, was helped to successfully get hired between 2012 and 2014. From January to October 2015, a headcount of 170,697 people got hired under assistance.
29. There are only 30% of people aged 60 or older devoted themselves to the workforce in our nation; the labor participation rate is obviously still lagging by 60% compared to that in Japan, Korea, the United States, and Singapore. In order to take advantage of the senior manpower, the first senior talent resources center in the nation was set up in October 2014 and the senior resources network was activated on March 30, 2015 to serve as the platform for senior people wishing to get a job, receive vocational training, learn, fulfill their needs for food, clothing, housing, and transportation, pass down their experiences, and exchange with young people.

Assistance to Women in Employment

30. See Point 107 in the replies to the conclusive opinions and suggestions from the initial report on the two conventions for reference.
31. The ratio of women among total employees between 2012 and 2014 is shown in Table 6.

Table 6 The Ratio of Women Among Total Employees

Unit: %

Year \ Item	Total	15~-24 years	25~-44 years	45~-64 years	Age 65 & over
2012	46.34	54.42	47.75	41.29	30.46
2013	46.72	53.24	48.09	42.41	29.65

2014	46.76	51.48	48.07	43.25	31.29
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Source: Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan

Assistance to Persons with Disabilities in Employment

32. By means of vocational rehabilitation case management, services such as general employment, supportive employment, sheltering employment, home-based employment, assistance in starting up business, and occupational assistance evaluation are provided to help people with disabilities to find a suitable job. In order to boost the willingness of employers to hire people with disabilities, redesign of job responsibilities, hiring subsidies, quota hiring, and value-added assistance provided to people with disabilities are promoted and diversified vocational training is organized; all of these help better prepare people with disabilities for employment. A total of 21,796 people, 22,211 people, and 21,253 people, respectively, were helped to successfully get hired between 2012 and 2014. From January to October 2015, a total of 18,174 people got hired under assistance.

33. Substantial measures adopted to help people with disabilities find a suitable job:

- (1) Job accommodation: See Point 138 (5) in the replies to the conclusive opinions and suggestions from the initial report on the two conventions for reference.
- (2) Vocational training: Exclusive and integrated vocational training is available for persons with disabilities. Meanwhile, the job responsibilities redesign services needed in order to improve vocational training sites and environments, equipment, or machinery, training aids, adjust program handouts, provide sign language translation, visual aids, among others, are also available to help remove barriers for persons with disabilities to attend the training.
- (3) Sheltering employment service: In order to encourage local governments to set up workplaces offering sheltering employment, the Ministry of Labor has increased the subsidies available for the preparations for, the establishment and the renovation of, and the equipment needed for the said workplaces since 2013. The subsidies for the preparations for and the establishment were again increased and practical training and electricity expenses were included in 2016 in order to boost the willingness to set up workplaces offering sheltering employment and to help enhance their competitive

advantages.

Assistance to Indigenous Peoples in Employment

34. Refer to Point 28 of this report, Point 31 of common core documents from second national reports on the two conventions and Points 54 and 55 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights.
35. There are measures available to help organize vocational training, including the employment program for middle-to-old-aged indigenous peoples to help tribal people aged 40 or older to return to the general employment market and stabilize the local employment rate. In addition, guaranteed openings are available for tribal people in the areas requiring reconstruction following a typhoon or storm (for those aged 40 or younger). The actual number of people hired and working was 454 between 2012 and 2013 (with guaranteed openings for 100 people) and that was 430 in 2014 (with guaranteed openings for 100 people). The actual number of people hired and working between January and October 2015 was 209 (without guaranteed openings).

Assistance to Young People in Employment

36. The Ministry of Labor combined resources from 11 ministries, including the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the Ministry of Education, 64 programs in total, to promote employment among young people. It is estimated that a budget of NTD 14 billion would have been devoted between 2014 and 2016 to help a headcount of 150,000 young people get a job. A headcount of 93,241 young people were helped to successfully find a job between March and December 2014 and it was 77,763 between January and October 2015. The average unemployment rate among young people aged 15 to 29 already dropped from 9.06% in 2014 to 8.67% in October 2015.

Assistance to Laid-off and Unemployed People in Employment

37. See Points 57 and 58 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.
38. In order to help people start their own business, the Ministry of Labor promoted counseling and assistance services for women aged 20 to 65 and other nationals aged 45 to 65 wishing to start their own business; no guarantor or collateral is required and the maximum value of the

loan is NTD 1 million, with the first two years free of interest. From 2012 to October 2015, 705 courses were held, attended by 50,200 people. Also, 15,667 people used their counseling services and successfully started 6,027 businesses, which created 15,270 employment opportunities. Of these businesses, 1,913 people were approved for the Phoenix Micro Startup Loan.

39. The Ministry of Labor provides localized, local, and diversified vocational training programs reflective of regional industrial characteristics and the manpower demand on the job market. In light of the special needs of unemployed minorities, as long as they are victims of major disasters, young people living on their own, victims of sexual assault, and qualify for the special status defined in the Employment Service Act, they can attend the training free of charge. For those qualified for the special status defined in the Employment Service Act, in particular, there are the vocational training living subsidies. Related statistics of pre-service training attended by the unemployed between 2012 and October 2015 are shown in Table 7. In addition, in order to satisfy the needs for indigenous peoples living in the mountains and on the plains to receive training, exclusive programs are organized by a contractor or subsidies are provided to the organizer so that indigenous peoples have the opportunity to receive training that is close to where they live. Accomplishments of exclusive vocational training programs for indigenous peoples between 2012 and October 2015 are shown in Table 8.

Table 7 Related statistics of pre-service training for the unemployed

Unit: Person(s); %; NTD Thousand

Year \ Item	Pre-service training for the unemployed as a whole		Pre-service training for the unemployed minorities		Vocational training living subsidies	
	Number of people receiving training	Post-training employment rate	Number of people receiving training	Post-training employment rate	Persons subsidized	Amount subsidized
2012	55,452	63.41	46,904	61.75	27,295	656,379
2013	55,243	68.17	45,719	66.34	24,832	655,792
2014	53,888	73.91	46,506	71.81	24,650	663,465
2015(1-10)	50,181	76.04	39,138	74.43	18,957	528,589

Source: Ministry of Labor

Note: The statistics of 2015 were as of October; in light of the fact that certain classes were still receiving their pre-service counseling during the three months after completion of training, the employment statistics were up to July 2015.

Table 8 Accomplishments of exclusive vocational training for indigenous peoples

Unit: Class(es); Person(s)

Year \ Item	Number of training classes	Number of people receiving training
2012	85	2,388
2013	93	2,569
2014	93	2,495
2015(1-10)	83	2,280

Source: Ministry of Labor

Assistance to Non-Conventional Economic Workers

40. See Points 59 and 60 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.
41. As of October 2015, ten municipality and county (city) governments already established their self-government regulations for the management and assistance of street vendors. Assistance has been provided to establish 163 centralized public and private areas for street vendors that offer a total of 16,274 spaces in order to help street vendors become part of conventional economics.

Article 7

Protection over Labor Conditions

42. See Point 134 in the replies to the conclusive opinions and suggestions from the initial report on the two conventions for reference.
43. Protection over dispatched workers' rights: In order to reinforce the protection over secured wages and employment of dispatched workers, legalization of protection for dispatched workers has been proactively promoted. The Dispatched Workers Protection Act was submitted to the Executive Yuan for review on February 12, 2014. The Ministry of Labor revised the Guiding Principles for the Rights of Dispatched Workers and the Reference Contract between Dispatched Entity and Labor Dispatching Entity and Stipulated the Items

to be Prescribed and not Prescribed in Dispatched Labor Contracts to serve as important reference for the tripartite relationship among dispatched workers, the dispatched entity, and the labor dispatching entity in order to protect the rights of dispatched workers. In addition, in order to ensure safety of the workplace for dispatched workers and to promote protection of their gender equity, the Occupational Safety and Health Act and the Act of Gender Equality in Employment were amended and approved on July 3, 2013 and June 18, 2014, respectively to specify that the dispatched entity shares responsibilities for measures adopted for occupational safety and health and against sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, and gender equity as joint employer.

44. The number of dispatched workers available to be utilized by respective authorities under the Executive is limited at 15,514. There are 8,703 dispatched workers in the authorities under Executive Yuan to the third quarter of 2015. Applicable regulations for the protection of rights of dispatched workers include the scope of operation where dispatched workers may be used, the fixed price adopted for the tender price of the salary of dispatched workers, the protection over dispatched workers to special paid leave, spontaneous inspection of dispatched workers expected of the dispatched labor using unit, reinforced system for the prevention and control of and to facilitate complaint of sexual harassment experienced by dispatched workers, the protection against dismissal, transfer, or other disadvantageous punishments by the labor dispatching unit as a result of dispatched workers filing a complaint or helping someone else file a complaint, preferred labor procurement through the most advantageous tender to be adopted by the authorities, the prohibition against avoiding employer responsibilities by means of shell authorities, and reinforced internal control mechanism of the competent authority.

45. Protection over domestic workers' rights:

- (1) In light of the fact that it is difficult to define working hours and break time for domestic workers, they are not applicable under the Labor Standards Act yet.
- (2) In order to protect the rights of domestic workers with regard to their labor conditions, the Ministry of Labor has drafted the Domestic Workers Protection Act that was submitted to the Executive Yuan for review on September 13, 2013. The draft states

that domestic workers must have at least eight hours of continuous rest time every day, must have at least one regular rest day out of every seven-day week, and can enjoy special leave and various other types of leave (marriage, death, personal cause, sickness), basic wage, wage payment principles, termination of labor contract, insurance, and complaints, among other important details.

- (3) Before the Act is approved, the Ministry of Labor has begun to stipulate the draft Guidelines for the Protection of the Rights of Domestic Workers, with details and basic working conditions that both the employer and the employee should pay attention to.
- (4) In order to prevent against overcharge by agencies, amendment to the Ministry of Labor Guidelines for Discretion over Suspension and Abolition of Business due to Institutions or Professionals Violating Employment Service Act was completed on March 27, 2012.
- (5) Accreditation of agencies has been organized; between 2012 and 2015, a total of 37 agencies were removed because of having been rated C for two consecutive years.
- (6) Article 58 of the Employment Service Act was amended on December 25, 2013 to add that the employer may apply for replacement by another foreign domestic caretaker with the Ministry of Labor if the existing one is removed for reasons unattributable to the employer while his/her employment is still valid.

46. Protective measures for female employment right of women:

- (1) Act of Gender Equality in Employment: It was added on December 11, 2013 that female workers are entitled to up to three paid days of menstrual leave, should they encounter any discomfort working during their menstrual period. On June 18, 2014, interns and dispatched workers were included under protection and the Act clearly defines reinstatement upon expiration of parental leave for employees. In addition, the ceiling of the fine for employers violating the Act in terms of measures promoting gender equality in employment is increased; the fine was changed to be between NTD 20,000 to NTD 300,000. Moreover, the competent authority is given the power to announce the name and title of the company, the name of the responsible person, and to impose penalties by each occurrence. It was added on December 11, 2014 that the

salary is to be reduced to half for the menstruation leave which is not considered sick leave; that employees will be entitled to five days of prenatal checkup leave; and that paid paternity leave is extended to five days. The restrictions on the seniority at work of employees to apply for parental leave are relaxed; it was relaxed to allow adopters of children less than three years old to apply for parental leave. It was also added that employers of 250 employees or more should provide a breastfeeding (pumping) room and gender discrimination fines were increased; in addition, the penalty for sexual discrimination is increased to between NTD 300,000 and NTD 1.5 million.

- (2) Enforcement Rules of the Act of Gender Equality in Employment: The requirement that the employer may request submission of related verification documents in cases that employees apply for menstrual leave in accordance with the Act of Gender Equality in Employment was deleted on February 14, 2014. It was relaxed on October 6, 2014 regarding the range of paternity leave for employees; it was changed to be flexibly selected from a 15-day window before and after the day of their spouses are in labor.

Employment and Salary Levels

47. Youths: The employment rate among youths aged 15 to 24 was 25.65% in 2014, an increase of 0.25 percentage points from 2012; the major job's monthly income of youths as of May 23,641 a month, an increase by NTD 1,124 and of 4.99% from 2012.
48. Senior citizens: The employment rate among senior people aged 65 and over was 8.67% in 2014, an increase of 0.59 percentage points from 2012; the major job's monthly income of senior people as of May 2014 was NTD 32,916 a month, an increase by NTD 4,661 and of 16.50% from 2012.
49. Indigenous peoples: The workforce of indigenous peoples as of June 2015 consisted of 247,302 people; the labor force participation rate was 59.39%. There were 237,448 people employed and 9,854 were unemployed; the unemployment rate was 3.98%. The primary income per person as of June 2015 for employed indigenous peoples was NTD 27,848 on average per month. An income of NTD 20,000 to less than NTD 30,000 accounted for the highest portion, that is, 40.18%, followed by NTD 30,000 to less than NTD 40,000, which

accounted for 26.44%, and then NTD 10,000 to less than NTD 20,000, which was 13.58%.

The primary income of men per month (NTD 30,664) was higher than that of women (NTD 24,345) on average.

50. Women: The employment rate of women in 2014 was 48.84%, an increase of 1.17 percentage point from 2010; the monthly salary was NTD 42,481 for women on average and the regular salary was NTD 34,810, an increase by NTD 3,286 (of 8.38%) and by NTD 2,321 (of 7.14%), respectively from 2010. Statistics of women aged 15 to 34, 35 to 44, and 45 to 64 having changed their job responsibilities as a result of child birth or pregnancy as of August 2013 are shown in Tables 9 to 11.

Table 9 Statistics of women aged 15 to 34 having changed their job responsibilities as a result of child birth or pregnancy as of August 2013

Unit: thousands

Post-child birth (pregnancy) Occupation	Change of position after child birth (pregnancy)													No change of position after child birth (pregnancy)		Total
	Post-child birth (pregnancy) occupation with prior resignation							Post-child birth (pregnancy) occupation without prior resignation								
	Professionals	Technicians and associate professionals	Clerical support workers	Service and sales workers	Skilled agriculture, forestry, fishery workers	Craft & machine operation related workers	Others	Professionals	Technicians and associate professionals	Clerical support workers	Service and workers	Craft & machine operation related workers	Others	With prior resignation	Without prior resignation	
Pre-child birth (pregnancy) occupation																
Professionals	-	0	-	1	-	-	-	0	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	4
Technicians and associate professionals	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	2	-	4
Clerical support workers	1	2	3	1	-	3	-	-	-	1	0	-	-	3	-	14
Service and sales workers	-	-	2	1	1	4	-	-	-	1	1	0	-	8	-	17
Craft & machine operation related workers	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	0	-	5	-	9
Total	1	2	6	5	1	8	-	0	1	3	1	1	-	20	254	303

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

Table 10 Statistics of women aged 35 to 44 having changed their job responsibilities as a result of child birth or pregnancy as of August 2013

Unit: thousands

Post-child birth (pregnancy) Occupation	Change of position after child birth (pregnancy)		No change of position after child birth (pregnancy)	Total
	Post-child birth (pregnancy) occupation with prior resignation	Post-child birth (pregnancy) occupation without prior resignation		

Pre-child birth (pregnancy) occupation	Professionals	Technicians and associate professionals	Clerical support workers	Service and sales workers	Craft & machine operation related workers	Legislators, senior officials & managers	Professionals	Technicians and associate professionals	Clerical support workers	Service and sales workers	Craft & machine operation related workers	With prior resignation	Without prior resignation	Total
Professionals	0	1	1	1	1	-	2	2	-	1	-	12	-	20
Technicians and associate professionals	1	1	2	2	0	1	1	2	1	1	-	15	-	26
Clerical support workers	1	5	1	5	1	-	0	1	0	1	-	18	-	34
Service and sales workers	1	2	3	3	3	-	-	1	2	2	1	23	-	40
Craft & machine operation related workers	0	1	2	5	6	-	-	-	-	1	1	19	-	36
Total	3	11	8	16	12	1	3	5	3	6	2	86	537	693

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

Table 11 Statistics of women aged 45 to 64 having changed their job responsibilities as a result of child birth or pregnancy as of August 2013

Unit: thousands

Pre-child birth (pregnancy) Previous occupation	Post-child birth (pregnancy) Occupation afterwards	Change of position after child birth (pregnancy)															No change of position after child birth (pregnancy)		Total
		Post-child birth (pregnancy) occupation with prior resignation							Post-child birth (pregnancy) occupation without prior resignation								With prior resignation	Without prior resignation	
		Legislators, senior officials & managers	Professionals	Technicians and associate professionals	Clerical support worker	Service an sales workers	Skilled agriculture, forestry, fishery workers	Craft & machine operation related workers	Others	Legislators, senior officials & managers	Professionals	Technicians and associate professionals	Clerical support workers	Service and sales workers	Skilled Agriculture, forestry, fishery workers	Craft & machine operation related workers			
Professionals	1	-	1	1	1	0	0	-	-	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	16
Technicians and associate professionals	2	3	-	3	5	-	4	-	3	-	1	-	0	-	1	-	25	-	46
Clerical support workers	-	3	7	7	8	0	7	-	2	-	2	3	1	-	-	-	26	-	65
Service and sales workers	-	0	2	4	4	0	8	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	2	-	26	-	50
Skilled Agriculture, forestry, fishery workers	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	3	-	4
Craft & machine operation related workers	0	0	4	4	22	1	28	-	-	0	0	1	3	0	3	-	52	-	120
Total	3	6	14	20	39	2	48	-	5	1	5	6	5	0	5	-	142	672	973

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

Descriptions: 1. Tables 9 to 11 only include women who have resigned and reinstated their work as a result of child birth (pregnancy), and those who have been working since first time employment before they were married and have given birth to a child (or children) or have been pregnant.

2. The pre-child birth (pregnancy) and post-child birth (pregnancy) occupation shown in Tables 9 to 11 only includes the first time; in addition, for those who have not changed their position and never resigned since they gave birth to a child (or children) or were pregnant, the last column was indicated as "-" because their pre-child birth (pregnancy) occupation was not investigated and provided and the sum of people in respective occupations before child birth (pregnancy) is not equal to the total number of respondents.

51. Persons with disabilities: As of December 2014, there were 1,141,677 persons with disabilities throughout the nation. The labor participation rate among persons with disabilities aged 15 or older as of June 2014 was 19.7% and the employment rate was 17.5%, an increase of 0.6% and 0.7%, respectively, from 19.1% and 16.8% in 2011. For the unemployment rate, it was 11.0% in 2014, a decrease of 1.4% from 12.4% in 2011. As far as salary is concerned, the overall salary on average was NTD 24,653 in 2014, an increase by NTD 1,141 from NTD 23,512 in 2011. Labor and salary statistics of persons with disabilities aged 15 or older between 2006 and 2014 are shown in Table 12.

Table 12 Labor and salary statistics of persons with disabilities aged 15 or older between 2006 and 2014

Unit: Thousand Persons; %; NTD

Item \ Year	2006.9			2011.8			2014.6		
	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female
Ordinary people	898	508	390	1,036	589	447	1,077	609	468
Workforce	223	153	70	198	139	59	212	151	62
Employed	188	128	60	174	121	52	189	134	55
Unemployed	35	25	10	24	17	7	23	17	6
Labor participation rate	24.8	30.1	17.9	19.1	23.6	13.3	19.7	24.7	13.1
Unemployment rate	15.9	16.4	14.7	12.4	12.5	12.0	11.0	11.2	10.5
Employment rate	20.9	25.2	15.3	16.8	20.6	11.7	17.5	22.0	11.8
Salary	23,537	—	—	23,512	24,968	20,306	24,653	25,914	21,570

Source: Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Labor

Note: 1. General salary data were not available for men and women in the 2006 survey.

2. Unpaid work for family members was not included in the calculation of salary.

52. Agriculture, animal husbandry, fishing, and mining: The major job's income was NTD 23,675 a month in agriculture, forestry, fishery, and animal husbandry as of May 2014, an increase by NTD 2,299 and of 10.76% from 2012; that in mining and quarrying was NTD

39,114, an increase by NTD 3,638 and of 10.25% from 2012.

53. Atypical employees: Statistics of the quantity, monthly income, and working hours of atypical employees who work part-time, temporarily, and through dispatching between 2012 and 2014 are shown in Table 13.

Table 13 Statistics of the quantity, income, and working hours of atypical employees who work part-time, temporarily, and through dispatching

Unit: Thousand Persons; NTD; Hour(s)

Year \ Item		Person(s)	Average monthly income	Regular working hours per week
2012	Total	682	19,971	31.13
	Part-time workers	346	14,805	21.68
	Temporary or dispatched workers	559	19,994	32.95
2013	Total	710	19,724	31.29
	Part-time workers	354	14,552	21.03
	Temporary or dispatched workers	583	20,265	33.49
2014	Total	715	20,581	31.34
	Part-time workers	353	14,691	21.07
	Temporary or dispatched workers	588	20,906	33.33

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

Note: 1. Part-time, temporary, or dispatched workers can be of any type. Since part-time workers can also be temporary or dispatched workers at the same time, the quantities under these two sub-items can add up to be more than the sum of the part-time, temporary, and dispatched workers combined.

2. Part-time workers refer to those who work fewer hours than required at the workplace per week (for those without a fixed employer or self-employed people, 35 hours of regular work a week is the cut-off criterion).

3. Temporary workers are those who work for a certain period of time, which is usually within a year.

4. Dispatched workers are hired by the labor dispatching unit and sent to work at a different place and listen to the dispatched labor using unit.

54. Measures to help or encourage businesses to increase the salary of their employees:

(1) Article 235-1 of the Company Act was amended and announced on May 20, 2015; the article stipulates that companies shall specify in their articles of incorporation the volume or ratio of profits for the current year to encourage enterprises to share margins with their employees.

(2) The requirement about preferred taxation for small-to-medium-sized enterprises

increasing salaries for their employees in Article 36-2 of the Act for Development of Small and Medium Enterprises was amended and announced on January 6, 2016.

55. Equal remuneration: The difference in the hourly pay between sexes dropped from 16.6% in 2012 to 15.0% in 2014 by 1.6% and six working days, indicating that the gender difference in salary has been gradually reduced.

Statutory Minimum Wage Criteria

56. There is a minimum wage system in place in our nation; the wage agreed upon between the employer and the employee may not be lower than the minimum wage. The minimum wage was submitted to and approved by the Executive Yuan after it was decided by the Minimum Wage Review Committee under the Ministry of Labor after having taken into consideration the national economic development status, whole sale price index, consumer price index, national income, and income per capita, productivity of workforce in respective sectors, and employment status, among other indicators. The minimum wage has been adjusted to NTD 20,008 per month and the hourly pay to NTD 120 since July 1, 2015. Minimum wage adjustments between 2012 and July 2015 is shown in Table 14.

Table14 Minimum wage adjustments

Unit: NT dollars

Date adjusted	Minimum wage	
	Monthly pay	Hourly pay
2012.1.1	18,780	103
2013.1.1	-	109
2013.4.1	19,047	-
2014.1.1	-	115
2014.7.1	19,273	-
2015.7.1	20,008	120

Source: Ministry of Labor

57. In light of the fact that the productivity at work of people under sheltering employment still cannot compete with workers on a competitive job market, it is particularly indicated in the People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act that the employer may determine their salary level in accordance with their productivity for those hired under sheltering employment; in addition, requirements of applicable labor laws and regulations shall apply for those hired

under sheltering employment. Because of the fact that their salary is determined according to their productivity, most people hired under sheltering employment have a salary level lower than minimum wage. Local governments should organize at least one inspection of workplaces offering sheltering employment every two years in order to ensure that people hired under sheltering employment are treated reasonably in terms of their salary. Statistics of people hired under sheltering employment between 2012 and June 2015 by the bracket are shown in Table 15.

Table 15 Salary for people under sheltering employment

Unit: %

Salary \ Year	2012	2013			2014			2015(1-6)		
		Male	Female	Subtotal	Male	Female	Subtotal	Male	Female	Subtotal
NTD 3,000 and less	9.8	4.7	4.1	8.8	4.8	3.8	8.6	5.4	3.9	9.3
NTD 3,001-6,000	39.7	17.5	18.0	35.5	17.1	16.0	33.1	17.4	15.9	33.3
NTD 6,001-9,000	28.4	16.0	15.4	31.4	15.3	16.0	31.3	16.6	17.5	34.1
NTD 9,001-12,000	10.4	6.5	6.2	12.7	7.5	6.4	13.9	7.2	7.5	14.7
NTD 12,001-15,000	3.7	2.0	2.4	4.4	2.4	3.1	5.6	2.5	3.0	5.5
NTD 15,001-19,046 (NTD 15,001-18,779 in 2012)	5.1	2.4	1.4	3.8	1.6	1.6	3.2	0.7	1.1	1.8
NTD 19,047 and more (NTD 18,780 and more in 2012)	2.9	2.6	0.8	3.4	3.2	1.2	4.4	0.7	0.6	1.3

Source: Ministry of Labor

Descriptions: The 2012 statistics did not differentiate between sexes.

Work Time and Leave

58. There are specific requirements in the Labor Standards Act on the normal working hours a day, overtime, and flexible working hours. The normal working hours a day for each worker may not exceed eight and may not exceed 84 accumulatively for every two weeks; starting on January 1, 2016, the maximum normal working hours a week were reduced to 40. Normal working hours plus overtime may not exceed 12 a day. Overtime may not exceed 46 hours a month.

59. In light of the necessity for some workers to apply special hours regulations, the requirements under Article 84-1 of the Labor Standards Act still apply to supervisory, administrative workers, and professional workers with designated responsibilities, monitors at social welfare institutions, guards in the security business, lawyers in the law service industry, among others, at the moment. In order to prevent against abuse of the requirements under Article 84-1 of the Labor Standards Act by employers, sites and staff providing medical care service, child care staff at day care centers, and workers at ordinary hotels are gradually phased out in their applicability under the requirements. Discussions continued in 2014 and it was announced that the applicability to 14 categories of workers including staff in the banking industry at the managerial level or higher would be abolished.
60. In order to urge businesses entities to precisely follow the Labor Standards Act and to provide workers with legitimate labor conditions and labor environment, the Ministry of Labor establishes its labor inspection directives on a yearly basis that include planned project-based inspections of labor conditions to help minimize the incidence of overwork because of extended working hours. The three types of businesses, property management, financial insurance, and cooperative education, were added in 2015. A total of 13 types of labor condition inspections are implemented.

Prevention Against Workplace Sexual Harassment

61. See Point 43 of this report.
62. Requirements regarding sexual harassment in the Act of Gender Equality in Employment mainly include the requirement for the employer to prevent against sexual harassment acts at the workplace and obligate the employer to adopt effective corrective measures and remedies right after he/she becomes aware of them. In case of violation, the employee may file a complaint with the Gender Equality in Employment Panel or Employment Discrimination Review Committee under the local competent authority. If the employee or job seeker suffers damages as such, the employer shall be held responsible for the compensation. Related requirements on the prevention against sexual harassment have also been included as part of the labor inspection. Between 2012 and September 2015, a total of 427 complaints about sexual harassment in a workplace in accordance with Act of Gender Equality in Employment

were accepted by local administrative authorities in charge of labor affairs and 249 of them were deliberated; 126 cases were sustained following the deliberation.

Safety at Work and Prevention against Occupational Accidents

63. The Occupational Safety and Health Act was enforced on July 3, 2014. The Act's applicable subjects are expanded to include all industries by which the scope of protection covers employed laborers, self-employed workers, and other people engaged in work and directed or supervised by the responsible people in workplaces of all industries. About 11 million people are protected by The Act.
64. A total of 443 labor inspectors are arranged for respective labor inspection agencies throughout the nation; there are currently 380. In addition, labor administrative units under respective local competent authorities work with the central competent authority in organizing communication and counseling efforts regarding occupational safety and health within their jurisdiction.
65. Establishing safety certification machinery, safety equipment and tools, chemical registration and risk ranking management system, reinforced maternal labor health protective measures, and the empowerment of employees to evacuate themselves in case of imminent danger, and shortened reporting deadline for occupational accidents, and other binding matters, are promoted in accordance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act and up to 60 sub-regulations are added and amended accordingly.
66. The discovery rate of occupational diseases in R.O.C. is lower than the international level. In order to provide services such as prevention, diagnosis, and survey of occupational diseases, The Ministry of Labor had outsourced the establishment of Center of Occupational Disease and Injury Service Center, network of occupational disease and injury service, and reporting system for occupational disease since 2002. Until 2014, Ministry of Labor had established 9 occupational disease and injury service centers and 66 hospitals within the network. The discovery rate and payment rate of occupational diseases, therefore, have increased significantly. The payment for occupational diseases out of labor insurance increased from 426 cases in 2008 (67% men and 33% women) to 757 cases in 2014 (65% men and 35% women). In 2014, occupational lower back pain and illness of the arms, neck, and shoulders

topped the list, accounting for 62.5% of all occupational diseases, followed by pneumoconiosis (20.7%) and cerebral and cardiovascular diseases (8.3%). In addition, in order to improve the legal system protecting workers against occupational accidents, and accomplish the goal of overall occupational hazard workers protection, an amendment to the Act for Protecting Worker of Occupational Accidents has been submitted to the Legislative Yuan. The three major parts of amendment are prevention of occupational accidents, compensation for occupational accidents, and vocational rehabilitation. The ratio of payment out of occupational accident insurance between 2012 and 2014 is shown in Table 16.

Table 16 Statistics of occupational accidents

Unit: Ratio per thousand persons

Ratio per thousand persons Year	Total	Illness	Disability	Death
2012	4.020	3.705	0.283	0.032
2013	3.721	3.434	0.258	0.030
2014	3.467	3.211	0.229	0.027

Source: Ministry of Labor

Note: The ratio per thousand persons for occupational accidents only includes illnesses, disabilities, and deaths of workers caused by buildings, equipment, raw materials, chemicals, and toxic gases at the workplace and does not include occupational diseases and traffic accidents. The ratio per thousand persons for occupational accidents = the headcount of people receiving payments from occupational accident insurance ÷ the annual mean number of workers enrolled in the labor insurance × 1,000.

Protection over Rights at Work of Healthcare Professionals

67. Labor rights of healthcare professionals:

- (1) Nurses: Nurses have been included in the scope of applicability of the Labor Standards Act. Requirements under Article 84-1 of the Labor Standards Act are no longer applicable effective January 1, 2014. The responsibility system is removed comprehensively with statutory working hours. For the status at the workplace for nurses, the Ministry of Health and Welfare will continue to perform inspections with joint efforts from the Ministry of Labor and will include results of the inspections as

part of the hospital accreditation and annual supervisory review. The short-to-mid-term plan was introduced in May 2012 to reduce the workload, increase the salary and treatment, and improve the workplace for nurses so that nurses will not have a high turnover rate. The overall demission rate of all nurses at hospitals throughout the nation already dropped from 13.14% in 2012 to 11.15% in December 2014, the lowest over the past five years. The overall vacancy rate, on the other hand, dropped from 7.22% in 2012 to 6.1% in 2014, demonstrating significant improvements. There were 151,121 nursing practitioners throughout the nation as of October 2015, an increase by 14,706 people from before the reform; it is obvious that the shortage in the nursing manpower has remitted for the time being and further improvements are required.

- (2) Physicians: It was announced on December 31, 1998 that the Labor Standards Act did not apply to physicians. In light of the fact that the needs and uniqueness of the medical care service differ from those of ordinary sectors, inclusion under the Labor Standards Act would be too encompassing. Therefore, a step-wise approach should be adopted. For example, residents are working and learning at the same time and often need to rotate among shifts and often need to work relatively long hours; therefore, protection for them should be prioritized in the planning. What is being done at the current stage is legitimizing the bed count they are in charge of for each shift and the hours of residents on duty and protection for them against occupational accidents were included as an item to be rated on during the 2015 hospital accreditation.

68. Articles 24 and 106 of the Medical Care Act were amended and announced on January 29, 2014; they stipulate that no one can interfere with the performance of medical care-related tasks by force, threat, blackmail or in other illegal ways. Besides, offenses of obstructing medical care and damaging equipment as well as guilty of aggravated results were added so that healthcare professionals do not have to be fearful or affected in any way while they perform medical care-related tasks, and thus a safe workplace for healthcare professionals are provided. For disturbances at emergency rooms of hospitals, if they qualify under Article 24, Paragraph 2 of the Medical Care Act, public health centers would impose punishments in

accordance with Article 106 of the same Act; in 2014 there were 16 such cases and between January and July 2015, there were eight.

69. The Ministry of Labor performed case-by-case inspections of healthcare facilities for their working conditions each year between 2012 and 2015. The number of healthcare facilities inspected and the number of violators were respectively 50 and 22 in 2012; 59 and 28 in 2013; 479 and 279 in 2014; and 127 and 36 in 2015. The violations were mainly about Article 24, Article 30 Paragraph 5, Article 32 Paragraph 2, and Article 36 of the Labor Standards Act.

Exclusive Chapter on Foreign Workers

Policies on Hiring Foreign Workers

70. For the sake of protecting the employment right of our nationals, the supplementary principle is adopted for hiring foreign workers that are needed domestically. The number of foreign workers by their country and sector of service and the number of the undocumented workers as of October 2015 are shown in Table 17.

Table 17 Number of foreign workers by the country and by the sector as of October 2015

Unit: persons; %

Item Sector	Nationality							The Undocumented workers
	Indonesia	Malaysia	The Philippines	Thailand	Vietnam	Others	Total number	
							Ratio	
Manufacturing	49,704	1	93,505	55,471	146,725	0	345,406 58.98	21,741
Construction	1,558	0	40	3,109	2,042	0	6,749 1.15	737
Fishing (sailors)	7,840	0	1,589	20	54	0	9,503 1.62	1,886
Domestic caretakers	173,689	0	25,529	518	8,531	1	208,268 35.56	24,560
Institution-based caretakers	2,318	0	1,068	40	10,204	0	13,630 2.33	2,232
Outreach caretakers	14	0	0	0	25	0	39 0.00	1

Domestic helpers	1,394	0	619	16	24	2	2,055	307
							0.35	
Total	236,517	1	22,350	59,174	167,605	3	585,650	51,464
Ratio	40.39	0.00	20.89	10.10	28.62	0.00	100	

Source: Ministry of Labor, Ministry of the Interior

71. Control over foreign workers includes that they must complete physical checkups before and after they enter this country; that they may not work for more than 12 years accumulatively in Taiwan; that there has to be good behavior certification enclosed in their visa application; and that foreign workers may only apply for switch of employers for unattributable reasons.

Protection over Rights of Foreign Workers

72. See Points 97, 101, 102, and 105 to 107 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

73. Basic rights that foreign workers are entitled to while they work in Taiwan are protected by applicable labor laws and regulations in the nation. If they are hired for sectors where the Labor Standards Act applies, they are entitled to the protection over minimum wage and working hours, among other working conditions.

74. Guidance service for arriving and departing foreign workers at airports: There are care service stations for foreign workers at the Taoyuan International Airport and Kaohsiung International Airport to provide arriving foreign workers with information on pick-up service and consultation and complaints filing as well as rights protection. Starting on May 1, 2012, regulatory communication workshops have been tried at the airport service stations. Printed materials, promotional films, and presentations are provided to help foreign workers quickly understand the laws and regulations, customs and culture, and their rights in the nation and help them adapt to the life in Taiwan. As of October 2015, 202,782 people had taken advantage of the airport guidance service and among them, 13 people asked about how to file complaints upon departure.

75. Establishment of the 1955 24-hour protection hotline for foreign workers: Foreign workers and their employers can take advantage of the 7/24 service free of charge and available in four languages (English, Thai, Indonesian, and Vietnamese) if they need to consult about something, file a complaint, and ask for information on legal aids, or need to have a referral

for protective placement, and need information on other services available at related departments. In addition, once complaints are accepted, the competent labor authority under each local government will be assigned to conduct an investigation and impose punishments if necessary. Between 2012 and October 2015, the 1955 hotline has received 883,493 cases of consultation and complaints; foreign workers were successfully switched to another employer in 9,014 cases and outstanding balances were successfully recovered in 19,569 cases. Overall, the outstanding balances successfully recovered amounted to NTD 556,495,827.

76. Subsidies to local governments in the establishment of foreign workers consultation service centers: The Ministry of Labor provides local governments with subsidies for setting up foreign workers consultation service centers configured with bilingual consultants to answer foreign workers questions about laws and regulations, psychological consultations, daily life information, adaption to work, and disputes over wages between the employer and the employee and also subsidies for lawsuits and referral aids. As of October 2015, a headcount of 88,646 foreign workers took advantage of the regulatory consultation service and 20,802 cases over disputes were handled.
77. Implementation of foreign workers inspections: Foreign workers inspectors are in place to visit foreign workers and ask employers to enforce the protocol that helps take care of foreign workers' life in Taiwan and honor the labor contract. Up to 696,639 cases were inspected between 2012 and October 2015; among them, 490,810 were in the family category (7,745 with violations), 199,542 involved businesses (7,731 with violations), and 6,287 had to do with private career service institutions (572 with violations). As of October 2015, a total of 160,053 cases were inspected by local governments; among them, 3,121 cases were found to be illegal.
78. Reinforced regulatory communication to foreign workers and organization of counseling and management activities:
 - (1) Workshops for employers, foreign workers, and agents, cultural exchange events, and festivities organized by local governments and non-governmental groups are subsidized by the Ministry of Labor on a yearly basis; foreign workers are educated on

related laws and regulations on these occasions. In addition, necessary information is provided to foreign workers while they work in Taiwan, including their rights at work, life recreation and entertainment, diversified cultural festivities organized by the public sector or non-governmental groups, consultation and complaint channels, personal safety prevention and protection mechanism, laws and regulations that foreign workers must abide by and the introduction to our customs and culture.

- (2) Six broadcasting stations have been authorized to produce 13 radio programs in Chinese and a foreign language that have to do with foreign workers' affairs since 2012. Each year, these programs are played by 1,352 shifts; as of October 2015, the size of the audience already reached a headcount of 3,083,750 people.
- (3) The government offices of the countries where foreign workers are exported from and the non-governmental groups organizing events to promote protection of the rights of foreign workers are subsidized. Four rounds were held as of October 2015 with a headcount of 14,000 participants.

79. Payments made by foreign workers before they come to Taiwan for work are managed as required by the source country. The Ministry of Labor has advised the source country of foreign workers that the fees collected by agencies should basically be limited to a month's salary at maximum that is not lower than the minimum wage defined in the Labor Standards Act and coordinated respective source countries of foreign workers to establish specific criteria such as the items and amounts involved in the fees collected by agencies that help foreign workers come to Taiwan for work. In addition, before foreign workers come to Taiwan, they shall sign foreign worker expense and wage affidavits with their employer that detail the wage, airfare, regulatory cost that they should afford, meals, and loans and the affidavits have to be verified by the government in each source country before they can apply for a visa to come to Taiwan. In addition, the affidavits will serve as the criteria against which whether there is an overcharge or not will be verified and may not be changed to the disadvantage of the foreign worker.

80. The Ministry of Labor established the guidelines for granting permits for hiring foreigners and managing foreigners stipulating that employers shall pay wages or salaries to foreign

workers directly in full. If employers do not pay wages directly to foreign workers in full, depending on the severity of the circumstances, the employer will be mandated to pay the wages by a given deadline or will be fined NTD 60,000 to NTD 300,000 and part or all of the recruiting and hiring permits that the employer holds may be abolished as required and the foreign worker will be approved to be switched to another employer. This has been included as part of the routine inspections performed by foreign workers inspectors under respective local governments to reinforce the inspection over payment of salaries by employers.

81. The Ministry of Labor advises that the cost of accommodations collected from foreign workers may not exceed NTD 5,000. It was mostly between NTD 2,500 and NTD 3,000 as of October 2015 agreed upon between employers and foreign workers in the manufacturing and construction sectors. As for domestic workers, they were mostly not charged for accommodations by their employers.
82. In light of the fact that the salary for foreign workers working in households has been the same; that is, NTD 15,840 for the past 18 years and to answer to the repeated request from workers groups and source countries of foreign workers for a raise, the Ministry of Labor invited representatives from source countries such as Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam for a multi-lateral meeting in August 2015 where the consensus on a salary raise to NTD 17,000 for domestic workers effective September 1, 2015 was reached.
83. Articles 5 and 40 of the Employment Service Act were amended to stipulate that employers or private career service institutions are prohibited to keep foreign workers' passports, residence certificates or properties; this is to consolidate foreign workers' right to dispose of their own properties. The amendment was submitted to the Legislative Yuan for deliberations in 2014.
84. Article 57 Subparagraph 7 of the Employment Service Act has specified that employers may not force foreign workers to work. Violators will be subject to abolition of the employer's hiring permit by the Ministry of Labor. It is also prohibited under the Employment Service Act that employers assign foreign workers with tasks outside the scope of permission. In addition, as long as the causes are not attributable to foreign workers, the Ministry of Labor

will approve foreign workers to apply for switch of employers or jobs in order to protect their rights at work. In the event that employers assign foreign workers they hired with tasks outside the scope of permission or assign them to a different workplace without prior permission, they shall be fined NTD 30,000 to less than NTD 150,000 according to applicable requirements of the Employment Service Act. Between 2012 and July 2015, a total of 2,816 cases were fined by local governments.

85. Between 2012 and October 2015, a total of 219,257 foreign workers switched their employer. See Table 18. Between 2013 and October 2015, hiring permits were abolished by the Ministry of Labor for employers violating the Employment Service Act and foreign workers were approved to switch to another employer in a total of 588 cases.

Table 18 Statistics of foreign workers switching their employer between 2012 and October 2015

		Unit: Person(s)		
Item		Total	Household	Sector
Registered with public employment service agency	Pending switch	731	431	300
	Switch yet to be	14,385	10,967	3,418
Successful switch with application for subsequent employment permit completed		204,141	170,888	33,253
Total		219,257	182,286	36,971

Source: Ministry of Labor

86. Article 58 of the Employment Service Act was amended in December 2013; it was relaxed that the employer may apply for a replacement as soon as he/she approves the switch to another employer of an existing foreign worker and the opening for a foreign worker will be retained for him/her; it does not affect the employer's right to hire another foreign worker. This will increase the willingness of an employer to approve switch of employers with an agreement reached mutually with an existing foreign worker and will increase the flexibility and freedom that foreign workers have with regard to switch of employers.
87. In order to increase the willingness of employers to use direct hiring service, the foreign workers helper app was configured in August 2014 to provide employers with related services such as the application procedure, latest news, and application status inquiry directly. The online application guiding system was created in 2014 to help employers

complete forms and tables. the management information platform for foreign workers after they arrive in Taiwan was created in July 2015 to provide employers with diversified services and resources, including airport pickup, health examination hospitals, residence certificates, labor insurance, and national health insurance, among others.

88. Between 2012 and 2015, a total of 232 agencies were rated Class C during accreditation.

89. In order to protect foreign workers against sexual assault or sexual harassment, the Ministry of Labor established a mechanism to reinforce reporting of sexual assault cases involving foreign workers and principles for the correspondence and division of labor among related units. By division of labor, sexual assault service centers and labor administration units as well as foreign workers consultation service centers under local governments help with emergency rescue and related subsequent services. In addition, labor administration authorities under local governments handle matters such as disputes between employers and employees and switch of employers relating to the hiring of foreigners. In the event that employers are found by gender equity in employment committees under respective local governments with violations of the Act of Gender Equality in Employment, the recruiting and hiring permits of the employers will be abolished as required by the Employment Service Act.

90. The Ministry of Labor amended the procedure for verifying the termination of an employment relationship in October 2012; it is required that before an employer terminates the labor contract with a foreign worker early, verification of the dismissal shall be applied for with the local government in order to explore the real intention of the foreign worker in the termination of the employment relationship; the employer may not deport the foreign worker unilaterally. In the event that a foreign worker is forced to terminate the employment relationship and deported by force or needs placement protection because of personal infringement, illegal utilization by the employer, or the arbitrary deportation by the employer in violation of the contract, the Ministry of Labor has already established the Operating Guidelines for Temporary Placement of Foreigners Hired for Tasks Indicated in Article 46, Paragraph 1, Subparagraphs 8 to 11 of the Employment Service Act; local government shall place the foreigners according to their authority. A total of 3,203 foreign workers were placed

for protection between 2012 and October 2015 (1,012 men and 2,191 women); among them 77 were Thai (64 men and 13 women), 848 were Vietnamese (447 men and 401 women), 1,618 were Indonesian (325 men and 1,293 women), and 660 were Filipinos (176 men and 484 women).

91. In light of the fact that foreign workers introduced into Taiwan by law are often lost to follow-up for some reason to accordingly disqualify for enrollment in the labor insurance as required if they are in fact working later, the Ministry of Labor has submitted the draft Act for Protecting Worker of Occupational Accidents to the Legislative Yuan for deliberations, with addition of various allowances and subsidies available for foreigners who entered Taiwan for work in compliance with the requirements in the Employment Service Act but somehow cannot present supporting documents for approval of their work in cases of vocational accidents. In addition, if foreign workers are involved in major vocational accidents, besides investigation and management in compliance with requirements of the Guidelines for Reporting, Investigating, and Handling Major Accidents, data of foreigners who are working without permission shall be submitted to the competent authority.
92. Foreign workers who fall victim to personal injury criminal cases or cannot work because of vocational accidents and illnesses will be offered special subsidies and the emergency fund up to NTD 10,000 in principle; under special circumstances, once approved, the subsidies may be as high as NTD 100,000.

Prevention of Migrant Workers at Sea against Abuse

93. Management of the life of and visits paid to foreign crew members are reinforced to smoothen consultation and complaint services: In order to strength the awareness among employers of how to hire foreign crew members and manage their life, the Ministry of Labor will continue to reinforce its effort to communicate laws and regulations on employment to employers. In addition, in order to provide foreign crew members with a way to file complaints and seek consultations, the Ministry of Labor has continued its effort to sponsor local governments that set up foreign workers consultation service centers equipped with bilingual staff to strengthen the correspondence with the 1955 hotline that answers questions around the clock, provide the fishermen with consultation and complaint filing services, have

the responsible local government to begin the investigation and impose punishments whenever necessary after they receive complaints, and follow up on how each case is handled so that foreign crew members can seek assistance through related channels that help protect their rights after they return to the port and get ashore.

94. Foreign crew members are entitled to equal and fair National Health Insurance benefits as nationals. The Ministry of Health and Welfare provides data of foreign crew members who work in Taiwan legally on a monthly basis to facilitate verification. Those currently not enrolled will be comprehensively enrolled with assistance from the unit in each district under the National Health Insurance Administration of the Ministry of Health and Welfare. The National Health Insurance Administration of the Ministry of Health and Welfare will also continue to hold enrollment workshops for foreign crew members with assistance from fishermen's associations throughout the nation, provide promotional leaflets (in Chinese, English, Indonesia, and Thai), and provide information on the world wide web and through agencies in order to strength the protection over the right of foreign crew members to health insurance.
95. In order to consolidate the right of foreign fishermen to get enrolled in labor insurance, the Ministry of Labor spontaneously assisted employers to enroll foreign fishermen in labor insurance as required in 2009 and collected the premiums from them one by one. In cases of reported or suspicious violations, a representative will be sent to site for field investigation; those found to be true will give penalty as required.

Placement of Human Trafficking Victims

96. See Points 111 to 114 of the second national report on the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights for reference.
97. For foreign workers holding a work permit who are identified to be or are suspected of being victims of human trafficking, the Ministry of Labor will place them. There were a total of 1,127 such workers having been resettled between 2012 and October 2015 (187 men and 940 women); among them were seven workers from Thailand (three men and four women), 181 from Vietnam (64 men and 117 women), 821 from Indonesia (96 men and 725 women), and 82 from the Philippines (16 men and 66 women), and 36 were unknown (others, including

eight men and 28 women).

98. When workers without a permit fall victim to human trafficking, the National Immigration Agency will provide them with placement protection as well as personal protection and necessary medical assistance. Victims without a work permit that were placed at a shelter between 2013 and September 2015 are shown in Table 19.

Table 19 Statistics of people placed at a shelter - victims without a work permit

Unit: Person(s)

Item Year	Mainland China		Indonesia		Vietnam		Cambodia		Thailand		The Philippines		Bangladesh		Others		Subtotal
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
2013	0	9	19	257	22	43	0	0	4	2	0	8	0	0	2	0	366
2014	0	15	25	137	20	45	0	1	0	6	7	36	0	0	0	0	292
2015 (1-9)	0	5	38	62	11	19	0	0	0	0	3	6	0	0	0	0	144
Total	0	29	82	456	53	107	0	1	4	8	10	50	0	0	2	0	802

Source: Ministry of the Interior

Article 8

Right to Join in a Labor Union

99. See Points 110 and 111 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

100. The three acts about labor were officially amended and enforced on May 1, 2011. After the Labor Union Act was amended, the excessive restrictions over union organizational procedure and the scope of association were relaxed to diversify the union organization and development. The amendment to partial articles of the enforcement rules of the Labor Union Act was completed on October 8, 2014. Besides specifying matters relating to the organization of a labor union, it was particularly added that members or union leaders who are laid off or dismissed by their employers may still keep their position in the labor union and continue to devote themselves to affairs relating to the operation of the labor union in

order to deter employers from being motivated in a way in disfavor of labor and to prevent employers from dismissing union leaders as a means to compromise normal operation of the labor union. In addition, the amended and added requirement under Article 6 Paragraph 5 of the Collective Agreement Act was announced on June 4, 2014; if negotiation over a collective agreement between the employer and the employee exceeds six months and if a party refuses to negotiate without a legitimate reason as determined according to the Act for Settlement of Labor-Management Disputes, for the sake of the interest of both the employer and the employee and after having taking into consideration the possibility of signing a collective agreement, the competent authority under the municipality or county (city) government may submit the case for arbitration according to their authority. There is an exclusive chapter on questionable behavior in the Act for Settlement of Labor-Management Disputes.

101. The number of labor unions increased from 5,042 in 2011 to 5,405 in September 2015, an increase by 363; among them, there were 26 additional federations of labor unions, 12 additional corporate unions, 117 additional industrial unions, and 208 professional unions, with an increase ratio of 7.20%.
102. Judgment was made on a total of 274 cases concerning unfair labor practices in November 2015. Among them, decisions were made on 115; 78 were mediated; and 58 were withdrawn. All the cases with verified unfair labor practices have been disciplined by law.
103. Twenty-seven teachers' unions and 26 unions for the education industry had been established in all municipalities and counties (cities) by June 2015. The National Federation of Education Unions established on July 11, 2011 has around 80,000 members. The National Federation of the Education Industry was created on September 20, 2014 has around 40,000 members.
104. Unions in our nation may form an ally with one another and take part in international labor union organizations. Participation in international organizations is shown in Table 20.

Table 20 Participation of labor unions in Taiwan in global labor union federations

Name of international labor union organization	Participation of domestic labor unions
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ITUC, International Trade Union Confederation	Chinese Federation of Labor
EI, Education International	National Federation of Teachers Unions
IndustriALL Global Union	Taiwan Petroleum Workers Union TAIPOWER Labor Union
BWI, Building and Wood Worker' International	National Federation of Chinese Construction Workers' Union National Federation of Chinese Architect Guide Template Workers' Union
IFJ, International Federation of Journalists	Association of Taiwan Journalists
IMF, International Metalworkers Federation	Republic of China Metalworkers' Union
ITF, International Transport Workers' Federation	National Chinese Seamen's Union Taiwan Federation of Port Cargo Handlers' Unions Chinese Federation of Railway Workers' Unions Labor Union of Cathay Pacific Airways Limited Taiwan Branch in Taipei China Airlines Employees' Union Taipei Travel Labor Union
ITGLWF, International Textile, Garment and Leather Workers' Federation	Taiwan Federation of Artificial Fiber Industry Unions Taiwan Federation of Printing, Dyeing , Finishing & Textiles Industries Unions
PSI, Public Service International	TAIPOWER Labor Union
UNI, Union Network International	Chunghwa Telecom Workers' Union. Chunghwa Postal Workers' Union Chinese Federation of Insurance Industry Unions

Source: Ministry of Labor

Regulatory System under the Collective Agreement Act

105. See Points 115 and 116 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

106. Between March 2012 and September 2015, the number of enterprises with valid collective agreements increased from 72 to 317. Among them were 124 under enterprise unions, 2 under industry unions, and 191 under craft unions, with an increase of around 4.4 folds.

107. The Collective Agreement Act was enforced on July 1, 2014. The delivery and arbitration mechanism was added. The competent authority may submit a case for arbitration according to its power to quickly resolve disputes between the employer and the employee.

Among the cases handled as of November 2015, 56 were about collective negotiation over inadequate labor behavior and judgment was made on 12 cases; 26 cases were settled; and eight cases were withdrawn.

Protective Measures and Restrictions over the Right to Strike

108. See Points 117 and 118 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

Article 9

Social Security System

109. See Point 121 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

110. The Guidelines for Social Welfare Policies amended in 2011 redefined the basic principles for planning social welfare policies, including social assistance and allowances, social insurance, welfare service, health and medical care, employment security, housing justice, and community building, six major items in total. As of October 2015, besides the National Health Insurance and Long-Term Care Insurance currently being planned for persons with disabilities and their families, the social insurance system is mainly based on the occupation and separated system; there are different competent authorities for insurance systems for different occupations.

111. Statistics of social welfare budget at the central government between 2012 and 2015 are shown in Table 21; the social welfare budget and obligated legal expenditure of the Ministry of Health and Welfare between 2013 and 2015 are shown in Table 22. Except the insufficient amounts of national pension that the central government should afford (not appropriated in 2014), the overall social welfare budget of the central government or that of the Ministry of Health and Welfare have all shown a rising trend. The social welfare budget of the Ministry of Health and Welfare, in particular, increased from more than NTD 146.4 billion in 2013 to more than NTD 171.1 billion in 2015.

Table 21 Social welfare budget of central government

Unit: NTD 100 million; %

Year \ Item	Gross domestic product (GDP)	General budget of the central government	Social welfare budget	Ratio of social welfare budget in GDP
2012	146,869	19,386	4,220	2.87
2013	152,212	19,076	4,380	2.88
2014	160,840	19,162	4,236	2.63
2015	167,726	19,346	4,412	2.63

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

Table 22 Social welfare budget and obligated legal expenditure of the Ministry of Health and Welfare

Unit: NTD 100 million; %

Year \ Item	Social welfare budget					Legal obligations Expenditure	Ratio of obligated legal expenditure to social welfare budget
	Social insurance	Social aid	Welfare service	Medical care	Total		
2013	1,108	17	147	192	1,464	1,076	73.50
2014	978	16	174	193	1,361	992	72.89
2015	1,332	16	180	183	1,711	1,342	78.43

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

Note: Obligated legal expenditure can be further divided as follows: (1) subsidies for the National Health Insurance premiums of members of the Fishers Association or the Irrigation Association and other groups; (2) subsidies for the National Health Insurance premiums of residents on offshore islands aged 65 or older (starting in 2014); (3) the statutory minimum premium by the government on the National Health Insurance; (4) Old Age Basic Guaranteed Pension Payments; (5) Disability Basic Guaranteed Pension Payments; (6) insufficient amounts of national pension that the central government should afford (not appropriated in 2014); (7) subsidies for the National Health Insurance premiums of low-income households; (8) living support and student living assistance for low-income households; (9) medical subsidies and nursing care assistance for low-income and middle-low-income households; (10) hospital meals subsidies of low-income households; (11) medical expenses on HIV; (12) subsidies for the National Health Insurance premiums of persons with moderate to severe disabilities; (13) subsidies for the National Health Insurance premiums of old people aged 70 or above from medium-to-low households; (14) NHI Subsidies for Children and Youths of Low-to-Middle Income Families; (15) Assistance for family in hardship; (16) living allowances for Mid or Low-income Senior Citizens; (17) life subsidies, day care and residential care

subsidies and assistive devices subsidies of the disabled from middle-to-low-income households; and
(18) Medical Care Subsidies for Children Under 3 Years Old.

Social Aid and Allowances

112. See Points 137 and 156 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.
113. The so-called low-income households and medium-to-low-income households in the Public Assistance Act shall be approved by municipality and county (city) competent authorities in the locality where the household is registered. Low-income households refer to those families that are approved by their local municipality competent authority via application; their average divided monthly income among each person in the household falls below the lowest living index; and their total household assets do not exceed the specific amount announced by the central and municipality competent authorities in the year of application. Foreign spouses or spouses from mainland China not registered any household in Taiwan are not included in the calculation of the population in a family. The said lowest living index in each area, on the other hand, is calculated as: 60% of the median rate of the expenditure per each person in each area. The population involved in low-income households and medium-to-low-income households between 2012 and September 2015 and the review approval rates are shown in Table 23.

Table 23 Population involved in low-income households medium-to-low-income households and review approval rates

Unit: Person(s); %

Year \ Item	Low-Income Households			Medium-to-low Income Households		
	Person(s)	Ratio to overall population	Review approval rate	Person(s)	Ratio to overall population	Review approval rate
2012	357,446	1.53	-	282,019	1.21	-
2013	361,765	1.58	53.35	334,391	1.43	65.30
2014	357,722	1.53	46.54	349,130	1.49	47.93
2015(1-9)	340,386	1.45	43.75	350,457	1.49	60.11

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

114. Low (medium-to-low) income households are determined according to the overall status of the household. The population in a household that should be included in the calculation is

based on the requirement in Subparagraph 9, Paragraph 3, Article 5 of the Public Assistance Act. Elimination was done to reflect the actual status of each household. A total of 4,734 households and 10,512 persons benefited from the size of the population that should be included in the calculation after related (medium-to-)low-income households were eliminated as of September 2015. The Public Assistance Act also stipulates that persons serving a sentence in prison, detained for a pending case, or held in custody as required by law are not included in the calculation of the population size. There were 147 persons who were removed from the list of (medium-to-)low-income households because they were serving a sentence in prison in 2015.

115. The 2015 standard list of amounts involved in the lowest living index announced in respective areas is shown in Table 24.

Table 24 2015 standard list of amounts involved in the lowest living index announced in respective areas

Amounts involved in the lowest living index announced in respective areas		Upper limit of family property	
Area	Lowest	Movable property (savings and investment)	Real estate (land and house)
Taiwan	NTD 10,869	Limited at NTD 75,000 at maximum per	Limited at NTD 3,200,000 at
Taipei	NTD 14,794	Limited at NTD 150,000 at maximum per	Limited at NTD 7,400,000 at
Kaohsiung City	NTD 12,485	Limited at NTD 300,000 per household (of four members) per year plus NTD 75,000 for each additional member (the fifth member and onward)	Limited at NTD 3,530,000 at maximum per household
New	NTD 12,840	Limited at NTD 75,000 at maximum per	Limited at NTD 3,500,000 at
Taichung	NTD 11,860	Limited at NTD 75,000 at maximum per	Limited at NTD 3,520,000 at
Tainan	NTD 10,869	Limited at NTD 75,000 at maximum per	Limited at NTD 3,200,000 at

Taoyuan City	NTD 12,821	Limited at NTD 75,000 at maximum per person per year	Limited at NTD 3,200,000 at maximum per household
Kinmen County Lienchiang County	NTD 9,769	Limited at NTD 400,000 per household (of four members) plus NTD 100,000 for each additional member (the fifth member and onward)	Limited at NTD 2,500,000 at maximum per household

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare and respective municipality governments

116. The number of members in low-income and medium-to-low-income households and their ratios in respective municipality and county (city) households as of September 2015 are shown in Table 25.

Table 25 Statistics of low-income and medium-to-low-income households in respective municipalities and counties (cities) as of September 2015

Unit: Person(s); %

Area	Total population	Number of members in low-income households	Ratio of the number of members in low-income households in the overall population	Number of members in medium-to-low income households	Ratio of the number of members in medium-to-low income households in the overall population
Total	23,468,748	340,386	1.45	350,457	1.49
New Taipei City	3,967,483	53,158	1.34	29,657	0.75
Taipei City	2,700,115	48,772	1.81	13,612	0.50
Taoyuan City	2,096,432	17,653	0.84	5,560	0.27
Taichung City	2,738,553	40,579	1.48	37,616	1.37
Tainan City	1,885,037	22,891	1.21	31,049	1.65
Kaohsiung City	2,777,870	54,951	1.98	76,799	2.76
Yilan County	458,261	5,244	1.14	4,446	0.97
Hsinchu County	540,605	4,658	0.86	2,786	0.52
Miaoli County	564,549	6,956	1.23	4,231	0.75
Chuanghua County	1,288,295	10,864	0.84	48,234	3.74
Nantou County	510,094	7,692	1.51	18,003	3.53
Yunlin County	700,437	12,424	1.77	6,878	0.98

Chiayi County	520,670	3,980	0.76	11,171	2.15
Pingtung County	842,425	16,234	1.93	37,531	4.46
Taitung County	222,910	11,542	5.18	6,048	2.71
Hualien County	332,026	7,638	2.30	3,749	1.13
Penghu County	102,204	2,129	2.08	1,764	1.73
Keelung City	372,511	5,897	1.58	4,469	1.20
Hsinchu City	433,348	3,718	0.86	2,300	0.53
Chiayi City	270,473	2,600	0.96	4,154	1.54
Kinmen County	131,905	654	0.50	293	0.22
Lienchiang County	12,545	152	1.21	107	0.85

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

117. Assistance for family in hardship: Economically disadvantaged families such as those involving a single parent, grand parenting, pre-marital pregnancy, victims of domestic violence, and spouse serving a sentence in prison that is longer than one year, and other major changes in life within the past three months are provided with emergency living allowances, living allowances for children, educational subsidies for children, medical subsidies, childcare subsidies, litigation subsidies and subsidies for business startup loans. Assistance for family in hardship between 2012 and September 2015 is shown in Table 26.

Table 26 Assistance for family in hardship

Unit: Household(s); NTD Thousand; Person(s)

Year \ Item	Number of households receiving assistance	Amount subsidized	No. of beneficiaries	
			Male	Female
2012	20,167	448,395	1,857	16,536
2013	19,169	403,033	1,846	14,824
2014	19,033	429,780	2,083	15,477
2015(1-9)	16,908	310,445	2,023	9,596
Total	75,277	1,591,655	7,809	56,433

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

118. Protection for economically disadvantaged old people aged 65 or above:

- (1) See Point 148 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

- (2) Living Allowance For Mid or Low-income Senior Citizens: For medium-to-low income old people who do not accept placement through public funding, living allowances are issued; each month, each such senior person will receive NTD 7,200 or NTD 3,600 reflective of the economic condition of their family. Subsidies for living allowances for medium-to-low-income elderly between 2012 and September 2015 are shown in Table 27.

Table 27 Overview of medium-to-low income senior citizen allowances

Unit: Person(s); %; NTD Thousand

Year \ Item	Person(s)			Percentage of males	Percentage of females	Amount
	Total	Male	Female			
2012	120,972	56,432	64,540	46.7	53.3	9,239,892
2013	120,869	55,918	64,951	46.3	53.7	9,248,231
2014	122,423	56,489	65,934	46.1	53.9	9,384,590
2015(1-9)	123,307	56,978	66,329	46.2	53.8	7,189,771
Total	487,571	225,817	261,754	-	-	35,062,485

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

- (3) Economic security and subsidies for the National Health Insurance premium: Medium-to-low-income senior persons aged 70 or above receive subsidies for their National Health Insurance premium; 84,083 persons were subsidized in 2012 for a total value of NTD 600, 865,580, 79,572 persons in 2013 for a total value of NTD 606,646,921, 79,216 persons in 2014 for a total value of NTD 757,119,378, and 79,579 persons between January and October 2015 for a total value of NTD 596,808,000. Between 2012 and October 2015, around NTD 2,561,430,000 was provided in the subsidies to 320,000 persons.

119. Related subsidies and benefits for persons with disabilities:

- (1) Premium subsidies for social insurances: Persons with disabilities who enroll in National Health Insurance, Civil Servant and Teacher Insurance, Labor Insurance, Farmer Health Insurance, Insurance for Military Personnel or Retiree Insurance, will receive premium subsidies at a quarter, half or in full according to the degree of disability.

- (2) Subsidies for the cost of auxiliary appliances for persons with disabilities: According to the Regulations on Subsidization for Medical Treatment and Auxiliary Appliances for the Disabled, subsidies for the cost of 172 auxiliary appliances are available for persons with disabilities after their needs are evaluated by professionals and approved by local governments through application based on their family economic condition and type of disability in order to help persons with disabilities improve or maintain physical functions, structures, and promote activities and participation. About 70,000 persons benefited from the subsidies, approximately NTD700,000,000, each year between 2012 and 2015.
- (3) Living subsidies for persons with disabilities: Persons with disabilities who do not accept sponsored placement by the government receive living subsidies in the value of NTD 3,500, NTD 4,700, or NTD 8,200 reflective of the degree of disability and their family economic condition. There was originally no mechanism in place to facilitate adjustment of the subsidies to support the life of persons with disabilities. After the amendment made on December 26, 2011, it is to be adjusted once every four years. The central competent authority will announce the adjustment with reference to the consumer price index growth rate for the past year as compared the consumer price index for the most recent year announced by the budget, accounting and statistics authority at the central government. Subsidies between 2012 and September 2015 are shown in Table 28.

Table 28 Living Subsidies for persons with disabilities

Unit: Person(s); %; NTD Thousand

Year \ Item	Number of beneficiaries on average a month/ratio					Amount subsidized
	Total	Male		Female		
		Person(s)	Ratio	Person(s)	Ratio	
2012	348,484	-	-	-	-	20,164,901
2013	348,316	212,356	60.9	135,960	39.0	20,428,207
2014	350,526	213,778	60.9	136,748	39.0	20,527,742
2015(1-9)	353,936	215,786	60.9	138,150	39.0	15,359,098

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

Descriptions: 1. The statistics for 2012 through 2014 are the average number of beneficiaries per month

throughout the whole year. The statistics of 2015 only show up to September and the amount subsidized was the sum of January through September.

2. Gender-based statistics have not been available till 2013.

- (4) Subsidies for the cost of placement and care: If persons with disabilities who are evaluated by the government and referred to social welfare institutions through placement, mental rehabilitation institutions, nursing homes, veterans homes, and community housing for placement, subsidies vary from 25% to 85% will of the fee will be received after taking their age, number of persons involved in the placement, and family economic in to account. For those low-income households, full-amount support will be received from the government. See Table 29.

Table 29 Subsidies for day care and residential care of persons with disabilities

Unit: Person(s); NTD Thousand

Year \ Item	Subsidies for day care and residential care of persons with disabilities	
	No. of beneficiaries	Amount subsidized
2012	33,779	6,135,805
2013	37,298	6,482,358
2014	39,199	7,065,411
2015(1-9)	40,310	5,387,698

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

Descriptions: The statistics for 2012 through 2014 show the number of beneficiaries as of the end of each year. The statistics of 2015 only show up to September and the amount subsidized was the sum of January through September.

120. Veterans: For those eligible veterans who meet applicable requirements, their schooling, employment, home care, and medical care, among other rights, are protected according to the ROC Veterans Assistance Act. There were around 403,183 people with veteran eligibility as of October 2015 (15,833 female veterans). Among those applying for home care (veterans who have disabilities because of public service or war), some just needed regular care (4,116); some had disabilities (2,329), and still some had dementia (452); they were helped to stay at veterans homes in respective areas or referred to local long-term centers and helped to apply for home care service. Persons with mental disorders, on the other hand, were referred to healthcare facilities for medical care and will return to their

family and society as soon as they recover.

National Health Insurance

121. National Health Insurance is compulsory social insurance that aims to realize the goal of having everyone covered by the insurance so that everyone can have fair access to medical care and for the ultimate goal of boosting national health. The enrollment rate has reached 99.64% of the overall population eligible for enrollment in 2014 (most of those not enrolled are people who are long-term residents overseas or who have household registration information but whose whereabouts are unknown). The premium is to be shared by the insured, the employer, and the government. The government sponsored disadvantaged people a total of NTD 23.9 billion to have them enrolled in the National Health Insurance in 2014; around 3.04 million people benefited from the sponsorship. Around 3.21 million people received the subsidies between January and October 2015, totaling NTD 21.8 billion.

122. In accordance with Article 37 of the National Health Insurance Act which was enforced in January 2013, , the National Health Insurance Administration only suspends payment (by locking up their card) for those with economic capability but refusing to pay the premium and help them to quickly pay off outstanding premium. If they are considered economically disadvantaged, their card will not be locked up. As of October 2015, there were around 850,000 people with unpaid premium; among them, 93,000 people were capable of paying. For those already provided with assistance and starting to pay their premium in installments or receiving subsidies from the government or in special circumstances (e.g. under the age of 20, special families living on subsidies, pregnant women), the card would not be locked up; there were a total of 56,000 people. On the other hand, there were 37,000 people capable of paying but still with unpaid premium; for these people, education was reinforced to help them deal with the outstanding premium. If they were unable to pay as a result of sudden changes to family or economic condition, the card would be unlocked in order to protect their right to medical care as the insured of the National Health Insurance and for them to receive necessary medical care. Statistics showed that there were 40,000 people in 2012, 37,000 people in 2013, 40,000 people in 2014, and 40,000 people between January

and October 2015 whose card was locked up.

123. After the 2nd Generation National Health Insurance Act was amended and enforced in January 2013, foreign people with an alien resident certificate shall be enrolled in the National Health Insurance as soon as they have lived in Taiwan for six months; the employed shall be enrolled in the National Health Insurance on the very first day of their legitimate employment as required. There were around 687,000 foreigners (including foreign spouses) enrolled in the National Health Insurance as of July 2015; among them, around 625,000 people were enrolled by their employer.
124. According to Article 69-2 of the Fisheries Act amended and announced on February 4, 2015, between January 1, 2009 and January 22, 2015 becomes, foreign crew members hired by fishing vessel owners without obtaining national health insurance cards, such foreign crew members are exempted from Article 9 of the National Health Insurance Act. This is because medical expenses for all the illnesses and injuries associated with crew members are afforded by fishing vessel owners and none of them are paid out of National Health Insurance; it is not because of the amendment to the Fisheries Act that they do not need to be enrolled.
125. Protection for Migrants: If foreigners and people from mainland China receive an alien residence in Taiwan and may stay in Taiwan for more than six months, they shall be mandated to be enrolled in the National Health Insurance. After they are enrolled in the National Health Insurance, nationals, foreigners, or people from mainland China, are entitled to the same treatment in terms of sharing of the premium and protection over medical coverage. For foreigners and people from mainland China who stay in Taiwan for business, sight-seeing, short-term studies, in light of the fact that their length of stay only involves a few days or a few weeks and does not exceed six months at maximum and that they are not living in Taiwan for a long time, they are not mandated to be enrolled in the National Health Insurance. Their medical needs may be fulfilled with the purchase of a short-term commercial insurance policy instead.

Long-term Care

126. The Long-term Care Services Act was announced on June 3, 2015 and would be enforced

in two years following the announcement. In order to relax the burden on the shoulders of domestic caregivers and to consolidate the goal of localized aging, the Ministry of Health and Welfare started to promote the ten-year long-term care program in 2008. The service following the implementation helped address the needs of 27% senior population in 2012, an increase of 34.3% from 2015. Persons with disabilities, regardless of their age, will be gradually included in the long-term care service. A total of 167,267 people received long-term care service as of October 2015; the service coverage rate was 34.32%. Domestic service, in particular, was provided to 44,806 people in total, making it the most frequently used item. Table 30 shows the number, coverage rate, and men-women ratio of users of the service in respective counties and cities as of October 2015.

Table 30 Number, coverage rate, and gender of users of long-term care service in respective counties and cities as of October 2015

Unit: Person(s); %

County/City	Population of persons with disabilities aged 65 or older (A)	Mobile persons (B)	Ratio in the population of senior people with disabilities (B)/(A)	Sex ratio	
				Male	Female
Keelung City	6,882	1,177	17.10	46.61	53.39
Taipei City	46,805	13,206	28.21	47.13	52.87
New Taipei City	58,159	13,544	23.29	45.40	54.60
Taoyuan City	27,263	5,100	18.71	48.88	51.12
Hsinchu City	6,685	1,451	21.71	46.82	53.18
Hsinchu County	6,991	1,857	26.56	50.09	49.91
Miaoli County	12,822	2,673	20.85	43.92	56.08
Taichung City	41,474	7,619	18.37	47.46	52.54
Nantou County	10,544	4,092	38.81	47.05	52.95

Chuanghua County	26,819	6,607	24.64	44.06	55.94
Yunlin County	20,436	4,457	21.81	42.06	57.94
Chiayi City	3,917	1,200	30.64	43.66	56.34
Chiayi County	13,224	2,783	21.05	42.60	57.40
Tainan City	38,513	7,393	19.20	45.88	54.12
Kaohsiung City	45,098	13,277	29.44	44.52	55.48
Pingtung County	21,313	5,775	27.10	46.18	53.82
Yilan County	10,556	5,292	50.13	44.04	55.96
Hualien County	9,577	3,459	36.12	46.12	53.88
Taitung County	6,292	2,220	35.28	45.57	54.43
Penghu County	2,644	784	29.65	41.93	58.07
Kinmen County	2,074	459	22.13	43.68	56.32
Lienchiang County	152	51	33.55	60.00	40.00

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

127. The ten-year long-term care program provides domestic caregivers with basic respite care service, including temporary and short-term care, caregiver support and training and workshops, and family care visits, among others. As of December 2014, 125,263 people were sponsored, a growth of nearly 6.9 folds from 2008. In addition, adequate referral service is available for high-risk caregivers. The national domestic caregiver friendly interactive platform website was completed in 2013 (website: <http://familycare.mohw.gov.tw>) to facilitate domestic caregivers to search for various resources. Core courses for the long-term care educational training for volunteers in six major categories were also organized in 2015.

128. Female domestic caregivers accounted for 56.28% and male 43.72% between 2008 and December 2014; domestic caregivers were still mainly women. Among them, children constituted the biggest portion (57.2%), followed by spouses (32.35%). Among the beneficiaries of the respite care service, 56% were female domestic caregivers, higher than male ones (44%).

National Pension Insurance

129. See Points 123 and 124 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

130. The population of the insured under the National Pension Insurance already reached 3,627,314 people as of August 2015, with the accumulative number of people enrolled in the insurance totaling 8,564,495. As of November 12, 2015, the premium has totaled NTD 213,702,350,000, of which NTD 120,307,560,000 has been collected from the insured; the premium collection-payment ratio was 56.30%. As of July 2015, there were around 120,000 aboriginal insured people from whom the premium was expected and among them, 29,000 already paid the premium; the payment rate was 24.91%. Table 31 shows the payment to senior people out of the National Pension Insurance between 2012 and September 2015 by the number of beneficiaries and the gender.

Table 31 Payment to senior people out of National Pension Insurance by the number of beneficiaries and the gender

Unit: Person(s)

Category Year	Number of beneficiaries of the old age pension payment			Number of beneficiaries of the old age basic guarantee pension		
	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male
2012	365,483	199,458	166,025	793,052	495,200	297,852
2013	466,600	254,521	212,079	764,476	478,195	286,281
2014	571,334	312,633	258,701	728,187	456,473	271,714
2015(1-9)	646,264	354,483	291,781	700,772	439,955	260,817

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

Farmer Health Insurance

131. See Point 125 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

132. As of September 2015, there were a total of 1,305,372 people insured under the Farmer Health Insurance. A total of 36,738 cases were reviewed and approved for payment out of the Farmer Health Insurance; the approved payment amounted to be more than NTD 5,763,190,000.
133. For the welfare allowances available to senior farmers, those having been enrolled in the Farmer Health Insurance for 15 years or longer can apply for NTD 7,000 per month; for those having been enrolled for 6 months or longer but fewer than 15 years, they may apply for NTD 3,500 per month. Statistics of beneficiaries of welfare allowances to senior farmers between 2012 and October 2015 are shown in Table 32.

Table 32 Statistics of beneficiaries for whom welfare allowances which were approved and paid to senior farmers

Unit: Person(s)

Year \ Gender	Male	Female	Total
2012	293,194	381,676	674,870
2013	286,491	378,504	664,995
2014	278,071	373,411	651,482
2015(1-10)	271,195	368,586	639,781

Source: Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan

Labor Insurance and Retirement

134. Labor Insurance has been available since 1950. Workers shall be enrolled by their employer in the Labor Insurance and the premium is to be shared by the worker, the employer, and the government. The insurance is comprehensive and covers general accidents and vocational accidents and ensures security for workers while they give birth to a child, suffer from illnesses or injuries, are disabled, are old, or if they die. Employees of a business unit consisting greater than five persons shall be mandated to be enrolled in the Labor Insurance. Employees of a business unit consisting of four persons or fewer are voluntary subjects and do not differ by their locality, gender, disability, and nationality. While not enrolled in the Labor Insurance, people should enroll themselves in the National Pension Insurance as required by the National Pension Act. If they experience vocational disasters,

they may apply for allowances and subsidies in accordance with the Act for Protecting Worker of Occupational Accidents. As of September 2015, there were a total of 10,080,417 people enrolled in the Labor Insurance; among them were 5,068,841 men and 5,011,576 women and also 250,219 persons with disabilities. There were around 6.55 million people who were enrolled in the Labor Insurance and were also covered by employment insurance; among them were 10,067 persons in business units consisting of four persons or fewer who were only covered by employment insurance.

135. Table 33 shows statistics of persons covered by the Labor Insurance as of September 2015 by the sector and by the nationality.

Table 33 Statistics of persons covered by the Labor Insurance as of September 2015 by the sector and by the nationality

Unit: Person(s)

Category Nationality	Industrial workers and employees of public transportation enterprises	Employees of companies	Employees of news, culture, public interest, and cooperative businesses	Government agencies and public and private schools	Workers of occupational unions	Those voluntarily enrolled	Trainees at vocational training institutions	Class A members of fishermen's associations	Workers hired to devote themselves to fishers production	Total
Total	3,053,403	3,317,567	298,375	416,117	2,293,755	392,960	14,459	289,236	4,545	10,080,417
Taiwanese	2,752,465	3,243,892	289,795	412,991	2,288,618	384,790	14,088	289,236	1,091	9,676,966
Foreigner	300,938	73,675	8,580	3,126	5,137	8,170	371	0	3,454	403,451

Source: Ministry of Labor

Descriptions: There were a total of 11,213,000 people (including those aged 65 or older and those not eligible to enroll in the Labor Insurance, such as unpaid domestic workers) working as of September 2015. For the number of foreign workers, please refer to Table 17 (caregivers and domestic helpers are not required to be enrolled in the Labor Insurance).

136. The Labor Insurance Pension System was enforced in 2009. The value of the pension paid to senior people is calculated by the insurance coverage year and average monthly insurance salary, whichever is more favorable to the insured, in order to ensure the basic protection of NTD 3,000 at minimum. Between 2012 and September 2015, a total of 529,152 people claimed their pension payment to senior people out of the Labor Insurance.

Table 34 shows the statistics of the pension paid to senior people out of the Labor Insurance by the bracket.

Table34 Statistics of the pension paid to senior people out of the Labor Insurance by the bracket

Unit: Cases; %

Claimed amount by the bracket	Cases	Ratio
NTD 5000 and less	4,083	0.8
NTD 5001-10000	61,066	11.5
NTD 10001-15000	135,615	25.6
NTD 15001-20000	193,259	36.5
NTD 20001-25000	102,352	19.4
NTD 25001-30000	21,929	4.1
NTD 30001-35000	9,094	1.7
NTD 35001-40000	1,696	0.3
NTD 40000 and more	58	0.1
Total	529,152	100

Source: Ministry of Labor

Descriptions: Statistics shown in this table are based on cases approved for payment for the first time for the respective year.

137. The Labor Pension System divided into two types: old and new system. According to the Labor Standards Act (the old system) that enforced on August 1, 1984, the right of a worker to claim retirement pension is that he has worked for 25 years in the same business entity, has worked for 15 years and attains the age of 55 or has worked for 10 years and attains the age of 60. However, a worker actually is hardly attained retirement condition of the old system; therefore, the Labor Pension Act (the new system) enforced on July 1, 2005. For the workers applicable to the Act, employers shall on a monthly basis contribute labor pension to individual accounts of labor pension at the Bureau of Labor Insurance that the amount shall not be less than 6% of a worker's monthly wage. The accounts are portable and will be retained even if workers switch jobs. Until September 2015, there were existing around 10.41 million individual accounts of labor pension and at October 2015, around 6.19 million of people have been enrolled in the new system (3.15 million men and 3.04

million women) from more than 480 thousand of business entities. During 2005 to July 2015, collected labor pension of the new system amounted to more than 1322.9 billion NTD; End of October 2015, a total of 439,110 pension payments cases were approved.

Protection for Workers against Vocational Accidents

138. Whoever is enrolled in the Labor Insurance may apply for payment of the pension on disability if they fall victim to vocational accidents and as long as their degree of disability is determined to qualify for incapability to work throughout their life; the amount of the pension payable is calculated by the insured years and by the mean salary per month insured, with the NTD 4,000 as the minimum protection. For those who do not lose their capability to work permanently, the pension will be paid in a lump sum for a period of 45 days to 1,800 days to support the life of disabled workers according to a 15-level system of disability. Tables 35 and 36 show the statistics of pension on disability of the Labor Insurance paid as a result of vocational accidents between 2012 and September 2015 by the bracket of the value and the June 2015 statistics of pension on disability of the Labor Insurance paid in a lump sum as a result of vocational accidents also by the bracket of the value.

Table 35 Statistics of pension on disability of the Labor Insurance paid as a result of vocational accidents between 2012 and September 2015 by the bracket of the value

Unit: Cases; %

Claimed amount by the bracket	Cases	Ratio
NTD 5000 and less	49	24.14
NTD 5001-10000	47	23.15
NTD 10001-15000	39	19.21
NTD 15001-20000	29	14.29
NTD 20001-25000	23	11.33
NTD 25001-30000	13	6.40
NTD 30001 and more	3	1.48
Total	203	100

Source: Ministry of Labor

Descriptions: Statistics shown in this table are based on cases approved for payment for the

first time from 2012 to September 2015.

Table36 Statistics of pension on disability of the Labor Insurance paid in a lump sum as a result of vocational accidents by the bracket of the value in June 2015

Unit: Case(s); %; NTD

Level of claim	Cases	Ratio	Mean value claimed
Level 1 (1,800 days)	0	0.00	0
Level 2 (1,500 days)	3	1.02	1,357,850
Level 3 (1,260 days)	1	0.34	1,684,242
Level 4 (1,110 days)	4	1.37	882,144
Level 5 (960 days)	4	1.37	982,966
Level 6 (810 days)	5	1.70	771,233
Level 7 (660 days)	21	7.17	585,305
Level 8 (540 days)	23	7.85	407,792
Level 9 (420 days)	22	7.51	338,385
Level 10 (330 days)	18	6.14	312,221
Level 11 (240 days)	69	23.55	232,213
Level 12 (150 days)	42	14.33	154,941
Level 13 (90 days)	53	18.09	84,314
Level 14 (60 days)	13	4.44	50,743
Level 15 (45 days)	15	5.12	41,423
Total	293	100.00	-

Source: Ministry of Labor

139. Protection for workers suffered occupational accidents:

- (1) Refer to point 154 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.
- (2) Between Jan 1st, 2012 and Oct. 31st, 2015, 12,141 workers received benefits upon occupational accidents (79% men and 21% women). The total value of the benefits amounted to around NTD 887,250,000 (82% men and 18% women).
- (3) In order to reinforce the support for the basic life of workers experiencing vocational accidents and their family members, the Ministry of Labor already drafted the Workers Vocational Accidents Insurance Act to enroll all employees (including incumbent foreign employees) into the insurance; the draft act was submitted to the Legislative

Yuan for deliberations on October 31, 2014.

140. Table 37 shows the headcount of beneficiaries for the payment out of the vocational injuries insurance between 2012 and September 2015.

Table 37 Statistics of beneficiaries for the payment out of the vocational injuries insurance

Unit: Persons

Year \ Item		Illness	Disability	Death	Subtotal	Total
2012	Taiwanese	55,837	3,542	580	59,959	61,636
	Foreigner	1,336	297	44	1,677	
2013	Taiwanese	52,915	3,303	560	56,778	58,292
	Foreigner	1,218	263	33	1,514	
2014	Taiwanese	51,464	2,994	541	54,999	56,697
	Foreigner	1,390	267	41	1,698	
2015(1-9)	Taiwanese	36,182	2,032	392	38,606	39,967
	Foreigner	1,067	254	40	1,361	

Source: Bureau of Labor Insurance, Ministry of Labor

Descriptions: The statistics do not include the number of vocational diseases.

Public Servant and Teacher Insurance and Compensation to Surviving Dependents

141. See Points 134 and 135 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

142. The Civil Servant and Teacher Insurance was announced to be implemented in 1958. Private schools were included in the scope of coverage in 1999. As of October 2015, a total of 584,832 people had enrolled in the Civil Servant and Teacher Insurance. The Ministry of Civil Service drafted the Civil Service Retirement and Survivor Relief Act as part of the pension reform and the draft act was submitted to the Legislative Yuan for deliberations in the letter dated April 11, 2013.

143. According to applicable requirements of the Civil Service Retirement Act, the retirement pension paid to civil servants after they retire is calculated by their seniority in service and equivalent last employment grade as of the date when the retirement takes effect. The post-retirement income can be up to 75% to 95% of the current civil service pay of equivalent last employment grade (twice the basic pay).

144. According to the requirements in Article 16 of the Civil Servant and Teacher Insurance Act,

the old-aged benefits shall be given in one lump sum for those insured who retire in accordance to laws, being given severance pay, or have paid for the insurance premium for fifteen years and withdraw from this Insurance at the age of fifty-five. In accordance to the year of the insured's insurance, 1.2 months of the insurance pay shall be given for every one year, and the maximum number of months for claiming shall be 42 months. For retirees with preferential interest deposits, however, the maximum would be 36 months. Table 38 shows the statistics of the claims for one lump sum old-aged benefits by the insured persons of the Civil Servant and Teacher Insurance between 2012 and October 2015.

Table 38 Statistics of the claims for one lump sum old-aged benefits by the insured persons of the Civil Servant and Teacher Insurance

Unit: Cases; NTD

Year \ Item	Male			Female		
	Cases	Amount	Mean Value	Cases	Amount	Mean Value
2012	10,399	14,445,588,997	1,389,133	7,590	10,696,796,732	1,409,328
2013	10,131	13,836,031,499	1,365,712	6,765	9,440,617,837	1,395,509
2014	9,116	12,276,925,789	1,346,745	5,831	7,901,342,298	1,355,058
2015(1-10)	10,175	14,123,476,335	1,388,057	7,461	10,366,149,053	1,389,378
Total	39,821	54,682,022,620	1,373,196	27,647	38,404,905,920	1,389,117

Source: Bank of Taiwan

145. The relief of civil servants' survivors can be paid in one lump sum or annual payments. For those having died while as a result of performing official duties, an additional 10% to 50% lump-sum compensation payment shall be given pursuant to the conditions of the incident.

Military Personnel Insurance and Compensation to Surviving Dependents

146. See Points 145 and 146 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.
147. Benefits that surviving and unemployed dependents of veterans and surviving dependents of military personnel who receive military training or have died while on duty and those of holders of a volunteer draftee certificate are entitled to include emergency relief, gift money for the three major festivals, condolence money for the funeral, condolence money for the surviving dependents, condolence money in case of exceptional incidents, subsidies for a

funeral, and full subsidies for the premium of National Health Insurance. In addition, there is the gift money for the three major festivals and lunch support for the children of veterans who have lost their parent and children of veterans (and their surviving dependents) determined to be in poor condition who are attending a junior high school or an elementary school.

Employment Insurance

148. See Point 132 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

149. There were up to 6.55 million people covered by employment insurance and around 3.45 million people already enrolled in the Labor Insurance but not covered by employment insurance as of September 2015. In order to precisely implement the policy that employees without a fixed employer shall be enrolled by the insured unit they are associated with according to law, inspections and premium collection service are performed periodically on those yet to provide a unit they are associated with. As for unemployed workers who are not enrolled in employment insurance, the public career service provider shall provide them with separate employment consultation, schedule them for vocational training, and refer them to an employer, among other assisting measures, as required by the Employment Service Act. Table 39 shows the number of cases approved and amounts paid between 2012 and September 2015.

Table 39 Statistics of approved employment insurance cases and amounts

Unit: Cases; NTD

Category Year	Unemployment payments		Early employment grants		Vocational training living subsidies		Subsidies for the premium of National Health Insurance	
	Numbers of approved payment	Total amount approved	Numbers of approved payment	Total amount approved	Numbers of approved payment	Total amount approved	Numbers of approved payment	Total amount approved
2012	304,638	6,491,664,611	29,208	1,322,497,007	19,820	418,923,207	475,469	338,263,894
2013	330,467	7,213,048,376	32,122	1,445,844,484	24,114	518,962,877	540,716	384,688,100
2014	285,469	6,354,788,546	28,399	1,319,011,020	24,113	528,142,805	481,063	344,633,624
2015	216,099	4,843,583,295	20,858	998,401,281	17,232	385,173,206	319,078	227,633,804

(1-9)								
Total	1,136,673	24,903,084,828	110,587	5,085,753,792	85,279	1,851,202,095	1,816,326	1,295,219,422

Source: Ministry of Labor

150. The allowance of parental leave without pay was added as a payable item under the Employment Insurance Act in 2009. There were a total of 252,000 beneficiaries between 2012 and September 2015; among them, a total of 1,329,000 cases were approved, amounting to approximately NTD 23,530,000,000.

Other Insurance

151. Micro insurance is the basic insurance protection for the economically disadvantaged or those with special status in order to fill the gap left by the social security or social assistance mechanisms. The number of persons insured by micro insurance reached 192,253 people as of October 2015, including 102,472 women and 89,781 men. People from a medium-to-low-income household accounted for 28.11% of the insured, followed by the indigenous peoples at 22.11% and persons with disabilities at 14.75%.

152. Valid contracts for commercial annuity insurance and long-term care insurance: There were 1,133,531 valid contracts for annuity insurance and 553,057 valid contracts for long-term care insurance as of September 2015.

Care for Tibetans

153. See Point 165 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

154. As of September 2015, a total of 89 people met the definition of a Tibetan as required by Article 16 of the Immigration Act and were approved to stay in Taiwan and obtain a work permit.

155. The Mongolian and Tibetan Affairs Commission assisted poor and sick Tibetans and their children in education between 2012 and October 2015; such assistance cases totaled 535. Tibetans in Taiwan are entitled to health examination and medical care assistance. Tibetans without a nationality and currently remaining in Taiwan is provided with assistance in applying for naturalization. As of October 2015, a total of 73 people were approved to be naturalized.

156. In light of the need for Tibetan spouses of ROC citizens to reunite with their families, the Executive Yuan, in July 2012, drafted and approved the Guidelines for joint examination, review, and processing of applications submitted by above-mentioned Tibetan spouses holding Indian IC (Identity Certificate) travel documents. The guidelines were revised twice in 2013 and in 2014 to relax the requirements for Tibetan spouses to reside in Taiwan, e.g. removing the residency requirement for those with children in Taiwan.

Article 10

Self-determination over Marriage

157. See Point 166 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

158. Statistics of marriages involving persons under the age of 18: There were 323 boys and 1,405 girls in 2012 in a total of 143,384 cases; 319 boys and 1,428 girls in 2013 in a total of 147,636 cases; and 339 boys and 1,514 girls in 2014 in a total of 149,287 cases (the number of cases is calculated by the date of registration).

159. The Immigration Act stipulates that international (cross-border) match-making for a marriage may not be a business operation item and may not involve a request for a contract or monetary rewards. Taiwanese married a foreign spouse or someone from mainland China in a variety of ways throughout 2013; among them, 36% of these marriages were introduced by relatives in their parent country and 27.6% met each other because of work. Introduction through a Taiwanese colleague or a friend or through a marriage agency accounted for 14.7% and 14.5%, respectively. Not all of them were matched by an international (cross-border) marriage organization.

160. Starting on June 1, 2007, a national to get married with someone from a specific country needs to apply for authentication of their marriage document and a dependent visa with an applicable overseas government office. Table 40 shows the government offices in specific countries and foreign spouses revised as of March 4, 2015.

Table 40 Government offices overseas and spouses of specific nationalities amended as of March 4, 2015

Government office overseas	Foreign spouse from a specific country
Ambassade de la Republique de Chine (Taiwan) au Burkina Faso	Senegal
The Trade Mission of the ROC (Taiwan), Abuja, Federal Republic of Nigeria	Nigeria, Cameroon, Ghana
Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Bureau of Hong Kong Affairs of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office	Pakistan
Taipei Trade and Economic Representative Office in Ulaanbaatar	Mongolia
Representative Office in Moscow for the Taipei-Moscow Economic and Cultural Coordination Commission	Belarus, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan
Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in India	India, holders of Indian IC, Nepal, Bhutan
Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in Chennai	Sri Lanka, Five Provinces in South India
Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Thailand, Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in India	Bangladesh

Protective System for Pregnant Women

161. See Point 25 of this report.

162. Requirements about the protection for pregnant women under the Genetic Health Act:

- (1) See Points 179 and 180 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.
- (2) The average utilization rate of prenatal checkups between 2012 and 2014 was all above 90%, among which the utilization rate of at least one prenatal checkup was 98.6%. The rate for at least four prenatal checkups was 97.6%, the rate for only one prenatal checkup was 0.18%, and the rate for fewer than four prenatal checks was 0.95%. For pregnant women whose fetus is at high risk of inherited disease (e.g. over the age of 34, with family history of the disease, with a hazards ratio of greater than 1/270 indicated through serum screening for pregnant women, and a possibility of abnormality found in fetuses through ultrasound), subsidies for them to have a prenatal genetic diagnosis are available, too; each person is entitled to a grant of NTD 5,000. For pregnant women who are over the age of 34, have given birth to a child with

abnormality, and living in a remote area, in the mountains or on an offshore island, and from a low-income household, they may receive a grant of NTD 8,500 in total.

- (3) A friendly and diversified care model for child birth has been planned since 2014; OBGYN doctors and midwives work together in the joint care provided in the first, second, and third trimesters of pregnancy. A total of three hospitals applied this model throughout 2015.

163. Unmarried pregnant women who are in their second trimester or at a later stage are entitled to assistance available for families under special circumstances up to end of the two months after they give birth to a child (or children). The said assistance includes emergency life support, allowances to support the life of children, illness, injury, and medical care subsidies, and child care allowances. A total of 6,684 people met the requirements for receiving the said benefits between 2012 and September 2015.

164. Maternity Benefits:

- (1) See Point 182 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.
- (2) To cope with the issue of a low fertility rate and to encourage fertility policy, Article 32 of the Labor Insurance Act was amended in 2014 to increase maternity benefit equivalent to 60 day's salaries computed on the basis of her average monthly insurance salary; for those plural birth from childbirth labor, maternity benefit shall be increased proportionately.

165. Tocolysis and time to recovery for female workers:

- (1) If female employees determined by a doctor to require recuperation, the period where they receive treatment or recover shall be considered as part of the sick leave; the said period, however, may not exceed one year out of every two years. When a female employee requests for tocolysis and time to recovery, the employer may not reject it and may not consider it as absence from work to accordingly affect their full-attendance or evaluation or impose any other punishment to their disadvantage.
- (2) The Civil Service Leave Regulations were amended in 2015. Female public servants who have to receive treatment or needs time for recovery because of tocolysis may be

entitled to 28 days off each year, following the same criterion for sick leave. Additional days may be written off as leave of absence for personal causes. If there is indeed the need to ask for longer leave for the sake of recuperation, it may be extended with prior approval from head of the agency after the sick leave, leave of absence for personal affairs and annual leave have all been used up as required.

Maternity Leave and Unpaid Parental Leave for Raising Children

166. See Point 25 of this report and Points 184 and 185 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

167. Between March 2002 and September 2015, local labor administration competent authorities handled a total of 388 cases about complaints relating to resignation or unpaid leave for marriage, pregnancy, child birth, or child care under applicable requirements of the Act of Gender Equality in Employment or as agreed upon in advance; among them, 187 were deliberated, with decisions made.

168. Among those having applied for parental leave without pay allowances in accordance with the Employment Insurance Act between 2012 and September 2015 were 148,639 people from employers with a size of more than 30 employees, accounting for 59% and 104,065 people from employers with a size of 30 employees or fewer, accounting for 41%. Statistics of related cases are shown in Table 41.

Table 41 Statistics of cases involving application for parental leave without pay allowance under the Employment Insurance Act

Unit: Person(s); Case(s); NTD; Month

Year \ Item	Male					Female				
	Person(s)	Cases	Amount	Mean amount claimed each month	Mean number of months involved	Person(s)	Cases	Amount	Mean amount claimed each month	Mean number of months involved
2012	8,947	46,507	812,131,360	17,463	5.20	47,218	241,857	4,125,510,337	17,058	5.12
2013	10,308	55,342	985,646,265	17,810	5.37	52,287	283,124	4,912,787,154	17,352	5.41
2014	11,013	58,125	1,068,535,180	18,383	5.28	57,288	298,606	5,319,568,998	17,815	5.21
2015	10,915	56,538	1,058,916,231	18,729	5.18	54,728	289,735	5,247,402,398	18,111	5.29

(1-9)										
Total	41,183	216,512	3,925,229,036	18,129	5.26	211,521	1,113,322	19,605,268,887	17,610	5.26

Source: Ministry of Labor

169. Table 42 shows the payment of subsidy for parental leave out of the Civil Servant and Teacher Insurance between 2012 and October 2015.

Table 42 Payment of subsidy for parental leave out of the Civil Servant and Teacher Insurance

Unit: Person(s); Case(s); NTD; Month

Item Year	Male					Female				
	Person(s)	Cases	Amount	Average value Amount	Mean number of months involved	Person(s)	Cases	Amount	Average value Amount	Mean number of months involved
2012	394	2,122	33,788,330	15,923	5.39	3,893	21,730	344,291,518	15,844	5.58
2013	415	2,321	35,168,996	15,153	5.59	4,167	23,743	372,490,211	15,688	5.70
2014	475	2,609	39,673,392	15,206	5.49	4,700	25,997	405,118,660	15,582	5.53
2015 (1-10)	466	2,279	33,918,799	14,883	4.89	4,602	24,173	366,727,663	15,171	5.25
Total	1750	9,331	142,549,517	15,277	5.33	17,362	95,643	1,488,628,052	15,564	5.51

Source: Ministry of Civil Service, Department of Government Employees Insurance Bank of Taiwan

Descriptions: Calculation of the payment of for parental leave out of the Civil Servant and Teacher Insurance: The above subsidy shall be computed on the basis of 60% of average monthly insured rates of insurance for the last six months prior to the month in which the insured has applied for parental leave.

Child Care System

170. Among business entities with a size of 250 employees or more, 81.4% set up their own child care facilities or offer child care measures in 2014, an increase of 4.7 percentage points from 2012, showing an increasing trend by the year. In order to encourage employers to set up child care facilities or offered child care measures, the Ministry of Labor provided a total of 408 businesses with subsidies between 2012 and 2015; the value of the subsidies totaled NTD 27.96 million.

171. Since 2012, the educational authority has been in charge of caring for preschool children aged between 2-6, and the children and youth welfare authority has been responsible for managing infant centers and family childcare providers caring for 0-2-year-old children. Table 43 shows the child-care subsidy for employed parents with qualified childcare providers (hereinafter referred to as childcare subsidy) provided to babies aged 0-2 between

2012 and October 2015.

Table43 Statistics of childcare subsidy for children aged 0-2

Unit: Person(s); NTD Thousand

Year		2012	2013	2014	2015(1-10)
Item					
Number of births	Male	217,469	217,949	205,279	212,220
	Female	202,201	203,090	191,587	197,284
No. of beneficiaries	Male	-	30,643	32,376	34,419
	Female	-	28,727	30,368	31,991
Amount subsidized	Norther	370,001	585,067	639,061	538,899
	Central	177,792	281,064	324,171	281,963
	Souther	150,112	225,089	239,117	198,286
	Eastern	25,538	39,914	44,087	38,177
	Offshor	2,156	4,503	5,509	4,542

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

172. The free education program for 5-year-old children was promulgated in the 2010 academic year. It benefited around 187,000 people in the 2014 academic year, in which the overall enrollment rate of five-year-old children in preschools was 96.18% (an increase of 2.22% compared to the 2010 academic year). The enrollment rate for 5-year-old children from households with an annual income of less than NTD 500,000 was 96.08% (an increase of 1.49% compared to the 2010 academic year). The number of elementary schools in indigenous areas and townships that have an affiliated preschool increased from 128 in 2004 to 292 in 2011. The 2011 figure represents 84.15% of the 347 elementary schools in indigenous areas, and a growth rate of 47.68%.

173. The after-school care program began in 2003. Between February 2015 and June 2015, a total of 1,770 schools and 9,800 classes were providing the program; the national school participation rate 66.79%, with a total of 160,977 students participating. In addition, assistance was provided to a total of 81,280 students between 2008 and 2015, in the form of providing educational help at night to students from disadvantaged families.

Single Parenting and Grand Parenting

174. In order to help disadvantaged families involving a single parent or grand parenting and to share their care and provide them with support, besides various types of assistance available to support the life of children and teenagers, child care support, education support, and medical care subsidies, among others, the Ministry of Health and Welfare also encourages non-governmental organizations to initiate community-based care services for children and teenagers from disadvantaged families. Between 2012 and October 2015, a total of NTD 137,565,075 was spent on implementing 397 plans (after-school care service for children from single-parent families was combined in 2014). In addition, measures such as after-school care for children from single-parent families, welfare service for single-parent families, and case-by-case service for single-parent families are available. Between 2012 and October 2015, NTD 44,577,220 in total was spent on the implementation of 413 plans. For students from an economically disadvantaged single-parent family, subsidies for tuition and miscellaneous schooling expenses are available, too. For children aged 12 or younger, there is also the temporary child care grant during the schooling period. Between 2012 and June 2015, 1,427 single parents in total were assisted, totaling NTD 18,021,048.

Support for Children and Teenagers

175. See Point 140 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

176. Assistance and medical expense subsidies provided to support the life of children and adolescents between 2012 and 2015 are as follows:

- (1) Assistance provided to support the life of disadvantaged children and adolescents: For children or adolescents from medium-to-low-income households trapped in difficulties, those who are pregnant or give birth to a child (or children), or those determined by the county (city) competent authority to be incapable of supporting their own life or have no obligated supporters or have an incapable obligated supporter or others, assistance of around NTD 1,900 to NTD 2,300 a month is available to support their life. Between 2012 and June 2015, more than NTD 9,851,850,000 was spent to benefit 491,904 people in total.

- (2) Subsidies available for the premium of National Health Insurance for children and teenagers from medium-to-low-income households: To protect the right to medical care of children and teenagers, those from medium-to-low-income households are entitled to subsidies for the monthly premium of National Health Insurance. Between 2012 and June 2015, a total of more than NTD 4,586,430,000 was spent to benefit 542,162 in total.
- (3) Emergency Living Assistance for Children and Youths from Disadvantaged Families: For families determined by social workers to be in difficulties and in need of support because of one of the parents being unemployed, sentenced to serve a term in prison, with severe illness or disease, or drug or alcohol addiction, among other emergency or special causes, NTD 3,000 per month per person is available according to the number of children and adolescents is involved. The subsidies are limited to six months in principle; if it is determined that an extension is required through investigation and visits, the subsidies may last for 12 months at maximum. Between 2012 and June 2015, a total of more than NTD 715,510,000 was spent to benefit 50,309 people in total.

177. Helpless children: For the selection of a guardian for helpless children and teenagers, follow the requirements of Article 1094 of the Civil Code. There were a total of 1,033 children and teenagers (523 men and 510 women) adopted through adoption agencies between 2012 and June 2015. Table 44 shows the number of foster families and children placed between 2012 and June 2015.

Table 44 Number of foster families and children sheltered

Unit: Households; persons

Year \ Item	Number of families	Number of children sheltered	
		Male	Female
2012	1,248	927	908
2013	1,275	899	905
2014	1,289	847	896
2015(1-6)	1,368	832	886

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

Descriptions: Each foster family is capable of accommodating two children.

Social service supportive of families

178. The authorities will intervene and protect children and youths suffering from abuse or neglect. A total of 19,174 people in 2012 (9,102 men and 10,072 women); 16,322 people in 2013 (7,616 men and 8,706 women); and 11,589 people in 2014 (5,304 men and 6,285 women) were protected as such. Following the intervention, they might be placed with their relatives, in foster care, or in institutions for protection. A headcount of 2,404 people in 2012, 1,725 people in 2013, and 1,822 people in 2014 were placed. Family treatment would be provided following the intervention as well. Parenting education and other services and resources connected were combined to benefit 18,935 households in 2012, 19,093 households in 2013, and 18,762 households in 2014.

Applicable Requirements on Protection against of Child Labor

179. Refer to Point 365 of ICCPR Second National Report and Point 189 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights.

180. The determination criteria and review guidelines harmless to physical and mental health in Article 45 of the Labor Standards Act were established in 2014 to define the maximum hours of work per day, rest time, holidays and days off, duration of a permit, prohibited work, and review procedures adopted by local competent authorities for workers under the age of 15. Employers or recipients of labor service may only employ any person under the age of 15 with prior application submitted to and approved by the local labor administration competent authority and when the labor conditions meet the requirements about child labor protection in Chapter 5 of the Labor Standards Act. Violators of the protection against child labor under the Labor Standards Act are subject to a sentence of less than six months in prison or a fine of less than NTD 300 thousand.

Domestic Violence Prevention Act

181. See Point 266 in the replies to the conclusive opinions and suggestions from the initial report on the two conventions for reference.

182. The Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Committee under the Ministry of the Interior was restructured and combined into the Ministry of Health and Welfare in 2013 to

continue establishing domestic violence prevention policies in accordance with the Domestic Violence Prevention Act and implementing various prevention and control tasks.

183. The Domestic Violence Prevention Act was amended and announced on February 4, 2015, with addition of the clause that victims aged 16 or older of illegitimate physical or mental infringement inflicted upon them by existing or prior cohabitant partners will be applicable under the requirements about the application for, review, issuance, and implementation of a civil protection order under the Domestic Violence Prevention Act and may be eligible for protection by the police, protection of victim privacy, having their injuries verified by a health care provider, inflictor treating, and other protection measures against violation of the protection order.

184. A headcount of 2,845,645 victims of domestic violence were assisted between 2012 and June 2015; the total value amounted to NTD 1,257,082,000. A total of 327,077 cases were reported between 2012 and June 2015 by the responsible staff and the general public as required by Article 50 of the Domestic Violence Prevention Act and Article 8 of the Sexual Assault Crime Prevention Act. By the category, 212,778 cases occurred in an intimate relationship; 74,348 cases were about protection for children and teenagers; 13,437 cases had to do with abuse of senior people; 86,273 cases occurred among family members, and 50,252 cases concerned sexual assault. Related analytical statistics of victims are shown in Tables 45 and 46.

Table 45 Statistics of victims in reported cases of domestic violence by the nationality and status

Unit: Person(s); %

Nationality Item	Taiwanese		China, Hong Kong, and Macau	Foreigner	No nationality or unknown nationality	Total
	Non-indigenous	Indigenous peoples				
Person(s)	224,461	13,789	7,810	8,341	72,676	327,077
Ratio	68.6	4.2	2.4	2.6	22.2	100

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

Table 46 Statistics of victims with disabilities in reported cases of domestic violence

Unit: Person(s); %

Type of disability	Mental	Physical disability	Cognitive disability	Hearing	Visual impairment	Multiple disabilities	Others	Total	Ratio among overall victims in reported cases of domestic violence
Person(s)	7,135	3,974	3,577	1,874	913	1,103	4,376	22,952	-
Ratio	31.09	17.31	15.58	8.16	3.98	4.81	19.07	100	7

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

185. Table 47 shows the differential statistics of parties in civil protection orders between 2012 and October 2015.

Table 47 Differential statistics of parties involved in civil protection orders

Unit: Headcount; Case(s)

Year \ Item	Affected party	Gender	Identity			Number of cases approved
			Total	Aboriginal background	Southeast Asian nationality	
2012	Victim	Male	1,924	59	1	13,967
		Female	12,043	586	547	
	Counterparty	Male	12,927	518	19	
		Female	1,040	35	40	
2013	Victim	Male	2,136	57	0	14,044
		Female	11,908	575	518	
	Counterparty	Male	12,858	485	17	
		Female	1,186	45	27	
2014	Victim	Male	2,275	79	1	14,365
		Female	12,090	589	512	
	Counterparty	Male	13,123	565	11	
		Female	1,242	44	33	

2015(1-10)	Victim	Male	1,965	65	0	11,998
		Female	10,033	470	339	
	Counterparty	Male	11,018	466	14	
		Female	980	29	22	

Source: Judicial Yuan

Descriptions: For the nationality of the victim or his/her counterparty is concerned, a Southeast Asian nationality refers to Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Prevention against Sexual Exploitation Involving Children and Teenagers

186. The Child and Youth Sexual Transaction Prevention Act amended and announced on February 4, 2015, with the enforcement date to be set by the Executive Yuan separately, includes the following highlights: an extended scope of protection where hospitality-associated work involving a child or teenager to drink with a customer at the bar or to travel with, sing along with, or dance with a customer that involves sexuality, as is governed in the original enforcement rules, is included in the scope of applicability; required professional assessment of the need for the victim to be placed or not; reinforced responsibility of the competent authority to assist the children and teenagers and parents; and diversified and reinforced penalty for illegal acts.

187. The number of victims saved by respective police agencies between 2012 and October 2015: 403 in 2012, 424 in 2013, 458 in 2014, and 383 between January and October 2015. There were 358 victims in 2012, 297 in 2013, and 274 in 2014 placed in a half-way school.

Care for the elderly

188. A total of 1,794 senior people were abandoned by their direct blood relatives or those obligated to support them under a contract between 2012 and June 2015. If negligence, abuse, or abandonment by their direct blood relatives or those obligated to support them under a contract is suspected of senior people to according result in hazards jeopardizing their life, body, health, or freedom or the lack of a supporter results in endangered life, physical hazards, or living difficulties, the municipality or county (city) competent authority shall handle the matter immediately after having received a report. The Guidelines for Reporting and Managing Protection for Senior People was announced on February 24, 2015.

Care for and Assistance Provided to Foreign Spouses

189. Table 48 shows the statistics of marriages registered between 2012 and October 2015 involving a spouse who was a Taiwanese, foreigner, from mainland China, Hong Kong, or Macau by the nationality.

Table 48 Number and percentage of foreign and mainland Chinese spouses

Unit: persons; %

Year	Total number	Taiwanese		Foreigner and mainland Chinese			
				Mainland China, Hong Kong, and Macau		Foreigner	
		Person(s)	Ratio	Person(s)	Ratio	Person(s)	Ratio
2012	286,768	266,168	92.82	12,713	4.43	7,887	2.75
2013	295,272	275,780	93.40	11,542	3.91	7,950	2.69
2014	298,574	278,873	93.40	10,986	3.68	8,715	2.92
2015(1-10)	246,562	229,956	93.26	8,691	3.52	7,915	3.21

Source: Ministry of the Interior

190. Statistics of births between 2012 and October 2015 are shown in Table 49.

Table 49 Number and percentage of births by the original nationality of the mother

Unit: persons; %

Year	Number of births (by the original nationality of the mother)						
	Total number	Taiwanese		Mainland China, Hong Kong, and Macau		Foreigner	
		Person(s)	Ratio	Person(s)	Ratio	Person(s)	Ratio
2012	229,481	212,186	92.46	10,056	4.38	7,239	3.15
2013	199,113	185,194	93.01	8,035	4.04	5,884	2.96
2014	210,383	196,545	93.42	8,151	3.87	5,687	2.70
2015(1-10)	174,045	163,101	93.71	6,143	3.53	4,801	2.76

Source: Ministry of the Interior

191. The regulatory and review authority for the measures relating to the care and assisting measures of foreigners and people from mainland China were elevated in 2015 to be the coordinating board's task force for affairs involving new immigrants under the Executive Yuan. NTD 300 million has been set aside each year for the New Immigrant Development Fund (originally known as the Foreign Spouse Care and Assistance Fund) over a period of ten years, that is, NTD 3 billion in total. Thirty-six foreign spouse family service centers

were set up in 2015 under the respective municipality and county (city) governments. Statistics relating to subsidies from the New Immigrant Development Fund between 2012 and October 2015 are shown in Tables 50 to 52.

Table 50 Statistics regarding subsidies approved from the New Immigrant Development Fund by the nature of operation

Unit: Case(s); NTD; %

Nature of operation		2012	2013	2014	2015(1-10)
Organizing medical care subsidies, public assistance, and legal service programs	Cases	32 (7.02%)	37 (7.21%)	27 (6.84%)	22 (9.21%)
	Amount	27,225,724 (6.40%)	27,407,300 (6.00%)	25,991,152 (6.16%)	221,820,24 (9.29%)
Organizing learning courses, promotion, incentives for foreign spouses and providing their children with child care and diversified cultural promotion programs	Cases	357 (78.29%)	414 (80.70%)	309 (78.23%)	163 (68.20%)
	Amount	286,314,714 (67.36%)	299,582,629 (65.55%)	272,620,266 (64.56%)	91,404,169 (38.26%)
Organizing family service centers and club programs	Cases	23 (5.04%)	22 (4.29%)	22 (5.57%)	22 (9.21%)
	Amount	68,072,110 (16.01%)	66,501,325 (14.55%)	65,687,200 (15.56%)	65,000,000 (27.21%)
Organizing counseling, services, or talent development and community vitalizing services programs	Cases	44 (9.65%)	40 (7.80%)	37 (9.37%)	32 (13.39%)
	Amount	43,466,859 (10.23%)	63,566,380 (13.91%)	57,964,146 (13.73%)	60,292,099 (25.24%)
Total	Cases	456	513	395	239
	Amount	425,079,407	457,057,634	422,262,764	238,878,292

Source: Ministry of the Interior

Table51 Statistics regarding subsidies approved from the New Immigrant Development Fund by the recipient

Unit: Case(s); NTD; %

Year Recipient unit		2012	2013	2014	2015(1-10)
Central government	Cases	23 (5.04%)	32 (6.24%)	22 (5.57%)	19 (7.95%)
	Amount	255,289,708 (60.06%)	270,567,050 (59.20%)	249,009,746 (58.97%)	110,655,780 (46.32%)
Local governments	Cases	152 (33.33%)	138 (26.90%)	112 (28.35%)	89 (37.24%)
	Amount	127,136,844 (29.91%)	122,496,337 (26.80%)	113,041,094 (26.77%)	104,185,807 (43.61%)
Non-governmental groups	Cases	281 (61.62%)	343 (66.86%)	261 (66.08%)	131 (54.81%)
	Amount	42,652,855 (10.03%)	63,994,247 (14.00%)	60,211,924 (14.26%)	24,036,705 (10.06%)
Total	Cases	456	513	395	239
	Amount	425,079,407	457,057,634	422,262,764	238,878,292

Source: Ministry of the Interior

Table 52 Statistics regarding beneficiaries for the social welfare subsidies from the New Immigrant Development Fund

Unit: Headcount; Person(s)

Year	Item	Personal safety protection	Assistance under special circumstances Number of persons	Social aid	National Health Insurance Subsidy
2012		4,055	168	44	12,311
2013		6,408	141	150	9,989
2014		6,179	68	251	12,496
2015(1-10)		1,666	81	83	6,600

Source: Ministry of the Interior

192. Childbirth and health care available from the Ministry of Health and Welfare to foreign spouses include the assistance provided to foreign spouses to help them get enrolled in the National Health Insurance; the provision of comprehensive control over childbirth and health care consultation and review and approval of the IC card to be issued: the accomplishment rates between 2012 and 2014 were, respectively, 100%, 99.2%, and 99.2%; and pre-natal and childbirth supportive medical subsidies to foreign spouses before they are naturalized: a headcount of 11,880 people, 11,927 people, and 14,292 people were subsidized between 2012 and 2014, involving the value of sponsorship being NTD 6,932,018, NTD 6,943,159, and NTD 5,649,775, respectively. In addition, there is the childbirth and health care interpretation service, for which 364, 329, and 337 interpreters were hired in 2012, 2013, and 2014, respectively (250 Vietnamese, 61 Indonesians, 11 Thais, three Filipinos, five Cambodians, and seven others).

Prevention against Human Trafficking

193. Refer to Points 105 to 115 of common core documents from second national reports on the two conventions and Point 200 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights.

194. Among the countries included in the human trafficking rating by the United States between 2010 and 2015, we were rated Class 1 for six consecutive years. Among the 31 Asian countries being rated, other Class 1 countries were South Korea, Israel, and Armenia.

Article 11

Improved Living Conditions

195. Table 53 shows the impacts of the measures adopted by the government to relocate income and expenditure on the distribution of family income between 2010 and 2014. The difference in income already dropped by 1.45 and 1.34 fold, respectively, in 2013 and 2014.

Table 53 Impacts of relocation of income and expenditure by the government on the distribution of family income

Unit: Times

Year	The quintile ratio of household income without current transfers from government (1)	Ratio difference in redistributive effects			The quintile ratio of household disposable income (1)+(2)
		With current transfers from government (social welfare subsidies)	With current transfers to government (direct taxes and fees)	With current transfers (2)	
2010	7.72	− 1.42	− 0.11	− 1.53	6.19
2011	7.75	− 1.43	− 0.16	− 1.59	6.17
2012	7.70	− 1.42	− 0.16	− 1.58	6.13
2013	7.53	− 1.31	− 0.14	− 1.45	6.08
2014	7.40	− 1.20	− 0.14	− 1.34	6.05

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

Waiver of Lease for the Disadvantaged

196. Refer to Point 94 of common core documents from second national reports on the two covenants.

197. Article 12 of the Commodity Tax Act was amended in 2015 to specify that wheelchair accessible vehicles (the so-called welfare vehicles) purchased within a specific period shall be exempted from the commodity tax in order to improve care for the disadvantaged and construct a barrier-free traffic environment.

Right to Adequate Food

198. See Point 210 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

199. Food self-sufficiency rate: The food self-sufficiency rate of 2014 was 34.1% mainly because agricultural products such as wheat, soybean and corn (served as feed) were imported in large quantities. The self-sufficiency rates of rice, vegetables, fruits, meat, and aquatic products were still kept at 78% and above. The self-sufficiency rate of rice was up to 107.9%. However, approximately 140 thousand tons of rice still need to be imported each year according to our accession commitment to the World Trade Organization.

200. Sufficient food supply:

- (1) Food services organized by the local government such as “food bank” and “community care center for the elderly” were added in the scope of public rice supply in 2015. From 2012 to 2014, rice allocated as part of domestic food aid totaled 2,054 tons, 2,020 tons, and 2,009 tons, respectively, and it was 1,822 tons from January to October in 2015.
- (2) Some local governments combine resources from civil society by setting up food (real objects) banks or providing food coupons. For marginal households that do not qualify as low-income household but are at the verge of being poor economically, food and clothes, among other types of support are provided. There are 30 solutions and programs available in a total of 20 counties and cities in the form of real objects warehouse, food coupon, and resources matching.
- (3) The cost of lunch is subsidized for elementary and junior high school students from low-income households, medium-to-low-income households, and families that experience some sudden changes to their circumstances that has been confirmed by their class teacher making a home visit; 596,578 lunches were provided in 2012, 562,885 in 2013, 528,508 in 2014, and 262,897 in 2015.

201. Commodity price of food: The mechanism for monitoring, warning, and stabilizing production and distribution prices of various agricultural products continued to be promoted. Survey has been done for manufacturers of chicken, garlic, eggs, processed meat

products, dairy products, baking butter, milk powder, baby formula, barreled gas, and commodities imported from Japan and Europe, and private power plants since 2012. Between 2012 and October 2015, a total of 18 cases on violations by related daily necessities businesses were punished by the Fair Trade Commission, with the fine amounting to NTD 6,596,160,000.

Food Health and Safety Management

202. In response to the recurrent food safety events such as the ill-intentioned addition of the plasticizer, poisoned starch, and tainted oil by unscrupulous businessmen over the past few years and the deceiving practice such as untruthful labeling on products and mixture of false ingredients in order to make excessive profits and to take advantage of the constantly improving technology that can help boost management over food safety, the Act Governing Food Safety and Sanitation went through five amendments between 2013 and 2015. The government established the Food Safety Office under the Executive Yuan to promote related measures one after another, such as: the triple division system for food additives, increased criminal penalty and fine, increased rewards for the reporter, the reporting hotline at the central government, distribution control at the border, the tertiary quality control system of food, the food tracing and follow-up system, sound food labeling and indication of nutrition facts, and the registry and management system for food businesses. In addition, the idea of civilian involvement is introduced from advanced countries, with the food safety guarding angel alliance created and food volunteers recruited. Correct knowledge of food safety is passed on; there is an exclusive section set up by the Food and Drug Administration under the Ministry of Health and Welfare to deal with rumors. In order to provide consumers and informants with substantial protection, the Food Safety Protection Fund is created.

203. To prevent false and prohibited animal drugs from circulating on the market and to strengthen the inspection and registration management system for animal drugs and to increase the criminal penalty, the Veterinary Drugs Control Act was amended on January 23, 2013. A total of 76 drugs and 570 criteria for residue of animal drugs were added between 2011 and 2013. Inspections were carried out 17,328 times between 2012 and October 2015; among them, 132 cases were found to be illegal and punished.

204. Reasonably extending the scope of application of agricultural chemicals was promoted and the criteria for residue of agricultural chemicals were extensively established. In addition, the Agro-pesticides Management Act was amended on December 24, 2014 in order to minimize the illegal use by farmers and illegitimate recommendation by distributors. A total of 105 cases were found between 2012 and October 2015 to be violating the Agro-pesticides Management Act, with illegal agricultural chemicals and raw materials recovered totaling 759.1 tons.

Right to Use Water

205. See Points 211, 212 and 214 of the initial national report on the International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for reference.

206. The Water Act stipulates that the supply of water resources is prioritized for domestic use and public use, followed by agricultural use, and finally industrial use. The rainfall was the lowest ever between 2014 and 2015 over the past 67 years. The government dispatched water resources and adopted water conserving measures in response to the emergency. During the water ration period, water supply locations were set up to facilitate access to water. The overall volume of water saved totaled 71.99 million tons and the nation survived the drought crisis.

207. The water penetration rate in our nation is up to 93%. Households without water decreased from 552 thousand in 2011 to 536,000 in December 2014. Counties and cities where the penetration rate was still below the national average as of October 2015 included Hsinchu County, Miaoli County, Changhua County, Nantou County, Chiayi County, Pingtung County, Taitung County, and Hualien County. The government already invested NTD 2.29 billion between 2012 and 2015 to proactively organize the Stage 2 program for improving water supply in areas without water that includes the project to extend the water pipelines of public and private water businesses, the project to streamline water supply, and subsidies to cover the cost of external lines for existing users.

208. The government has set aside and announced 113 water quality and volume reserve areas at the source of the water. Contaminating factors, landfill sites, or incinerators, among other facilities that will pollute water and undermine the water volume are prohibited. In addition,

environmental and water quality monitoring results are released on the national environment and water monitoring website of the Environmental Protection Administration of the Executive Yuan (website: <http://wq.epa.gov.tw/Code/Default.aspx>) and reserve areas are inspected from time to time. A total of 906 inspection tours were made as of October 28, 2015, 129 cases were reported to be involved with illegal acts such as polluting water and reducing water volume, and 115 cases were prosecuted for illegal acts such as polluting water and reducing water volume and were punished according to law.

209. Between 2012 and 2015, the size of agricultural lands that had been subjected to pollution control totaled 429.7 hectares; 99.6 hectares of which were cleaned up and released from control, leaving 330.1 hectares still under control measures. The government will continue to monitor pollution and improvements of agricultural lands.

210. On January 22, 2014, the Effluent Standards were amended to introduce control over E. coli levels for slaughterhouses and productions involving animal bodies. These businesses are also being urged to enhance sterilization for the purpose of reducing infection risks.

211. The following improvements have been made on lead water pipes:

- (1) Lead piping was the approach adopted by water supply plants prior to 1974, but since the establishment of Taiwan Water Corporation in that year, lead pipes were no longer used and were gradually replaced with each maintenance work. Full replacement is expected to be completed by the end of 2016. As of October 2015, the water quality had satisfied the drinking standard (0.01 mg/L), and water quality is being stringently monitored for households that did not have their pipes replaced. An immediate replacement will be ordered if there are any abnormal changes in water quality.
- (2) The Ministry of Economic Affairs will be revising national standards on lead contents used in faucets, and cap lead materials at 0.25%. This revised standard is expected to be announced in November 2015.

212. Conclusions made in the 2006 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) on phase 3 construction of Central Taiwan Science Park was ultimately revoked by the administrative court. The Environmental Protection Administration (Executive Yuan) later published an EIA in 2010 that passed the phase 3 construction under a number of conditions. Residents

near Central Taiwan Science Park phase 3 then appealed and raised administrative litigation against conclusions made in the 2010 EIA. In 2014, the plaintiffs reached a settlement with the defendants (namely: Environmental Protection Administration, Ministry of Science and Technology) and intervenor (namely: Central Taiwan Science Park Administration) that requires the Ministry of Science and Technology to donate for the creation of a non-government organization that is dedicated to protecting environment in accordance with the Constitution, the Basic Environment Act and all other relevant environment regulations, and to include discontinuance and reversion as one of the alternative solutions to be reviewed in stage 2 EIA review of Central Taiwan Science Park phase 3.

Right to Adequate Housing

213. By checking land administration data against housing tax records, the Ministry of the Interior has set the minimum living floor space under tolerable health and security conditions at 13.07 square meters per person. Based on this minimum requirement, the Ministry of the Interior published a new set of basic living standards on December 28, 2012, in accordance with Article 34 of the Housing Act that introduced the use of the following indicators: (1) Minimum living floor area per person; and (2) Key residential facilities and adequacy. Approximately 170,000 households were below the minimum standard as of 2012.

214. To improve transparency of real estate information, amendments were made to the Real Estate Broking Management Act, the Land Administration Agent Act and The Equalization of Land Rights Act on December 30, 2011, for the introduction of transaction price reporting system. From July 1, 2015 onwards, transaction price data can be downloaded for free for an indefinite time. As of October 31, 2015, the system held a total of 1,227,400 accessible records. Meanwhile, the government-assessed land value has been progressively revised to more closely resemble the market value, and thereby impose a higher burden on short-term land transfers.

215. The Income Tax Act was amended on June 24, 2015, and implemented on January 1, 2016 to establish the tax system of consolidated income tax from house and land transactions based on actual transaction price. The resultant added income tax revenues will be

distributed to expenditures on housing policy and long-term social care services.

216. Analysis of current housing status: Table 54 shows the percentage of quarterly household income that has been spent on mortgage or rent between 2012 and June 2015.

Table 54 Rate of Household Income Spent on Mortgage or Rent

Unit: %

Ratio Periods	Rate of mortgage burden - nationwide median	Rate of rental burden - median of the 6 municipalities					
		New Taipei City	Taipei City	Taoyuan City	Taichung City	Tainan City	Kaohsiung City
2012(1-3)	31.31	25.20	27.41	20.73	23.57	22.16	24.72
2012(4-6)	33.82	25.11	28.56	20.64	23.35	23.95	24.50
2012(7-9)	31.41	25.03	28.45	20.55	24.03	23.73	24.29
2012(10-12)	32.78	24.94	27.73	20.47	22.94	22.92	25.00
2013(1-3)	35.29	24.98	28.39	20.49	23.78	23.53	25.00
2013(4-6)	37.85	25.81	28.38	21.28	25.57	23.53	25.01
2013(7-9)	37.85	26.64	28.37	20.48	24.72	21.58	24.10
2013(10-12)	35.36	26.63	30.82	21.26	25.63	21.58	24.10
2014(1-3)	31.81	26.45	30.64	20.37	25.74	23.46	24.10
2014(4-6)	35.35	27.66	30.54	21.09	26.68	21.45	24.09
2014(7-9)	35.56	27.04	30.41	21.79	26.76	23.35	24.09
2014(10-12)	35.61	27.65	30.28	21.71	26.85	24.84	24.74
2015(1-3)	35.94	27.66	30.40	20.74	26.48	22.95	23.64
2015(4-6)	36.36	28.33	30.19	22.17	26.57	22.89	25.09

Source: Ministry of the Interior

217. Social housing:

- (1) To assist those who have difficulties renting property, such as the socially disadvantaged, medium-low income households, non-local students/young workers and newly wedded couples, the Executive Yuan passed a short-term social housing solution on June 16, 2011, that introduced 5 trial sites in Taipei City and New Taipei City (including Wanhua Qingnian Section and Songshan Baoqing Section in Taipei City, and Sanchong Datongnan Section, Sanchong Da'an Section, and Zhonghe Xiufeng

Section in New Taipei City). These social housing are expected to be completed in 2016 to accommodate 1,919 households. According to the medium-long term social housing solution approved by the Executive Yuan on January 6, 2014, a total of NTD 6.7 billion have been budgeted to subsidize local governments in the construction of social housing between 2014 and 2023. Subsidies budgeted in the year of 2015 amounted to NTD 1.5 billion, and 2015 projects are expected to be completed by 2017.

- (2) 30 % of new public/social housing in Taipei City and New Taipei City will be reserved and leased to elders living alone and to persons with disabilities. Rent will be charged using a multi-tier system based on the tenants' financial capacity and special needs.

218. Disabled access: The housing program implemented between 2011 and 2015 introduced accessibility and living environment as the two main focuses for senior citizens' residence. According to the urban renewal plan approved by the Executive Yuan on February 26, 2015 (for years 2015 ~ 2018), a total of NTD 160 million will be budgeted from the central urban renewal fund to subsidize maintenance works on aged private buildings, such as facade maintenance, addition or improvement of disabled access, elevator constructions etc, over the next 4 years.

219. To assist the people in purchasing their own houses, the Ministry of Finance launched an incentive mortgage program in December 2010 for adults aged 20 and above who had yet to acquire their own houses. The incentive mortgage offered borrowers up to 80% LTV, NTD 5 million repayable in 30 years (including a 3-year grace period), and is available until the end of 2016. As of November 2015, loans disbursed by state-owned banks under this incentive mortgage totaled NTD 662.58 billion for 182,394 households.

Housing Rights of the Minority

220. The size of indigenous reserved lands totaled 261,000 hectares; these lands can only be transferred to people of indigenous identity. In early years, the reserved lands used to be registered under state ownership, but after a series of land rights restoration, approximately 125,000 hectares (48% of total land reserved) are now being used by indigenous people. Several actions have been taken to help indigenous peoples claim rights over these lands and ensure their livelihood, including: launch of indigenous people land rights program;

consulting Council of Agriculture (Executive Yuan) for amendments to Article 37 of Utilization and Transfer of Reserved Mountainous Land; amending Regulations on Development and Management of indigenous reserved lands; issuing publications on policies and legal interpretations concerning reserved lands; and convention of law-making and policy-making conferences, negotiations and coordination meetings.

Issues on Forced Relocation

221. Land expropriation:

- (1) The Land Expropriation Act was amended on January 4, 2012, to introduce new methods for assessing the necessity and level of public interest concerned in each expropriation plan. To protect the people's rights, several remedial measures have been introduced under the Land Expropriation Act, including: protection of productive agricultural lands, the hearing system, market price-based compensation, shelter for medium-low income households, and provision of agricultural sections in expropriated lands for owners who wish to continue agricultural works.
- (2) On October 9, 2013, new practical rules were introduced by Ministry of the Interior that requires the land expropriation review team to listen to both land users' and the public's views on the necessity and public interests concerning land expropriation, and conduct on-site inspections if needed. These opinions and inspections will assist the team in further discussions and reviews, and thereby conclude a decision that best balances between infrastructure, public interests, and necessity.
- (3) According to Article 3 of the Land Expropriation Act, the state may expropriate private lands only for infrastructure constructions relating to national defense, transportation, public utility, water conservancy, public health, environmental protection, government office, public building, education, culture, social welfare, or state-owned enterprises. Paragraph 1, Article 5 of act also allows land improvements to be expropriated along with the land. Expropriation of land improvements is undertaken only for works of public interest. Land owners and users are entitled to express opinions at hearings; all opinions and feedbacks must be included in the expropriation proposal and submitted to the central authority for review. Furthermore, the new user of land will be required

to accommodate tenants that satisfy Article 34-1 of the act, and devise resettlement plans that would assure their housing rights.

222. Zone expropriation:

- (1) Out of respect for local history, culture and the public's choices, the government will try to avoid expropriating properties from those who wish to continue farming works, or areas that are already dense with buildings. These considerations are made in the planning and review phases of an urban plan in order to protect the public's interests.
- (2) The same procedures, compensations and resettlement rules of an ordinary expropriation would also apply to zone expropriations. Following amendments to the Land Expropriation Act on January 4, 2012, new users of land are required to devise resettlement plans in accordance with Article 34-1 if the expropriation causes low income and medium-low income households to relocate out of constructional improvements. The resettlement plan may include a construction of new residence, subsidy of new mortgage interest, subsidy of rent or other solutions; details of which must be specified in the expropriation plan.
- (3) The new land user may arrange other resettlement measures as needed on a case-by-case basis, such as planning and allocation of streets and construction sites upon which existing residents may build their new residence. These resettlement measures are provided so that fewer people are forced away from their homes.

223. Urban renewal:

- (1) Urban renewal projects are carried out in the R.O.C. for the purpose of promoting public interests such as community safety, public transportation, public health, security, living, and prevention of major disasters.
- (2) An urban renewal project would entitle existing owners shared ownership of the new property. It is not an expropriation of private land and does not force existing occupants away from their residence. As for households living in illegal structures, the government holds the project executor responsible for negotiating with residents to develop suitable accommodation solutions; in return, the government grants more favorable floor area ratio as an incentive.

- (3) Under the current system, consensual constructions may still proceed with the consent of the majority. For the minority that oppose against a consensual construction project, the project executor may request to have the government expropriate property and either sell or return existing owners' rights over the new development. In practice, however, the authority demands to have existing owners' rights over the new development returned to them based on a Government-approved Right Conversion Plan, so that the original owners still have their rights to live in the same location.

Stakeholder Participation

224. See Note 24 in the responses made to opinions and recommendations of the ICCPR/ICESCR First National Report.
225. According to the Land Expropriation Act, the new user of land must organize at least two public hearings to gather opinions from owners and stakeholders. Expropriations that give rise to disputes in certain agricultural areas would also require public hearings. Outcomes of these hearings must be included into the expropriation plan for approval by the authority. The new user must first try to acquire land by negotiating with the owner or through other means. Only when negotiation has failed and all means exhausted may the new user apply for an expropriation. The central authority is required to review expropriation plans by evaluating the necessity, appropriateness, rationality, and level of public interest concerned, as well as whether the new user is capable of executing the planned usage, whether the proposal conforms with the urban/regional planning, whether it helps make more appropriate and reasonable use of land, and whether the resettlement plan as is both reasonable and feasible. The expropriation plan must contain details including: negotiations with land owners, alternative means used to acquire land, land owners' opinions, proceeding of public hearings, meeting minutes, and attendance records.
226. The Environmental Protection Administration (Executive Yuan) has assembled an EIA Review specifically for the review of EIA cases. Every EIA case is reviewed from 14 different categories such as environmental protection, economic development, public interests etc; each category has 1 scholar/expert to aid in the review.

Right of Participation in Public Affairs

227. Information transparency and public participation are two essential elements of EIA:

- (1) The current Environmental Impact Assessment Act explicitly demands developers to disclose development details online starting from the planning stage. In addition, procedures have been made available in a phase EIA to allow public participation (e.g.: display or post the environmental impact statement, a public explanation meeting, present opinions in writing, the definition of the scope by the Environmental Protection Administration, and a public hearing and an on-site inspection by the industry competent authority). For major environmental issues, parties of opposing opinions may recommend trusted experts to engage in expert meeting and discussions. Overall, the EIA adopts many procedures to ensure public participation, and all information reviewed (including submitted documents, meeting advices etc) is disclosed to the public.
- (2) The Environmental Protection Administration (Executive Yuan) has devoted itself to the full disclosure of EIA information, and the development of an EIA inquiry system that the public may use freely to access relevant information. Furthermore, the public may raise opinions on individual EIA cases either in writing or online, and may sign up to participate in EIA review meetings. All above procedures have enabled transparent disclosure and public participation in EIA-related decisions.

228. Public participation in phase 2 EIA -the definition of the scope: According to Article 10 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Act, the definition of the scope needs to be held as part of phase 2 EIA. Interest groups and resident representatives are invited to participate in the conference. In addition, the Environmental Protection Administration (Executive Yuan) would try to invite all those who had previously expressed opinions in similar meetings to join the discussion. The later stage of Danhai New Town development, for example, was overwhelmed with concerned citizens, and meetings were held for a total of 9 days with more than 650 people expressing their opinions.

Danhai New Town

229. Areas 1 and 2, phase 1 of Danhai New Town had already been completed, leaving 1,167.76

hectares of land waiting to be developed in a later stage. Area 1 of phase 2 development was intended to proceed by way of zone expropriation, from which 566.49 hectares of land were expected to be acquired. Meanwhile, area 2 of phase 2 development was still undergoing land suitability analysis, and hence was not included as part of the development. A phase 2 EIA on later stages of Danhai New Town development began on July 8, 2013, as resolved by the Environmental Protection Administration's EIA Committee. By October 2015, the government has gathered opinions from many parties, inquired land owners' willingness to participate in the development, and evaluated the review standards of the land expropriation review team. Contents of the zone expropriation report will continue to be revised to the public's expectations.

Industrial Park Development

230. On October 21, 2010, the Ministry of Economic Affairs issued an instruction to local governments that demanded them to use existing industrial lands as the first priority when applying for the construction of industrial park under Statute for Industrial Innovation.
231. Later, a broader variety of land acquisition means were made available in accordance with the new industrial land policy approved by the Executive Yuan on January 8, 2015, while new rules were introduced to regulate industrial park developments involving government agencies and state-owned enterprises controlled by the Ministry of Economic Affairs. The Ministry of Economic Affairs has made amendments to the Statute for Industrial Innovation that will broaden the applicability of the law to private land holders in general.
232. According to Article 33 of Statute for Industrial Innovation, construction of industrial park beyond a certain size would have to be supported by a feasibility report, along with documents required under the Urban Planning Law or Regional Plan Act, the Environmental Impact Assessment Act and other relevant laws. Construction of industrial park can only proceed after the report is approved by authorities of the respective regulations. A multi-layer review system is currently in place to control park projects. Prior to submitting a feasibility report, the central/municipal/county/city authority is required to organize public hearings to gather opinions from land owners and stakeholders. These opinions must be recorded in meeting minutes and submitted to aid in the authority's review.

Taoyuan Aerotropolis

233. Taoyuan Aerotropolis project was developed in accordance with the International Airport Park Development Act implemented on January 23, 2009. It involves construction of commercial, manufacturing, conference, exhibition, leisure, entertainment, and residential facilities that are integrated with the airport. The project was planned to span across 4,687 hectares of land, and 3,155 hectares of which will be developed by way of zone expropriation.

234. Preparatory hearing for the expropriation of farmlands near Taoyuan Aerotropolis (phase 1) was held by the Ministry of Transportation and Communication in accordance with Paragraph 3, Article 10 of the Land Expropriation Act and Article 11-1 of enforcement rules thereof. In reference to Judicial Yuan Interpretation No. 709, more than 20,000 people including farmland owners, other land owners, legitimate building owners, other rights owners, land registrar, and entitled claimants were all invited to the hearing.

235. Affected residents and principles of accommodation:

- (1) Buildings: There were a total of 7,431 households living in legal and illegal structures. These residents will be relocated to nearby shelters after the project begins.
- (2) Factories: There were a total of 104 legal factories and 169 illegal factories. A type-B industrial zone will be constructed nearby to accommodate legal factories of small sizes. For factories that present higher pollution risks, the government will help them transform or relocate to other industrial zones.
- (3) Schools: 6 junior high and elementary schools will be relocated after the project begins, in accordance with urban planning and the zone expropriation progress.
- (4) Religious sites: There were 12 registered temples and churches plus 164 unregistered religious sites, with 1,438 statutes in total. Registered religious establishments that do not compromise aviation safety and local development will be allocated a designated location on the same ground. Those that compromise aviation safety and local development will be arranged to relocate to a nearby area designated for religious establishments. No religious site will be designated for standalone altars, but in order to accommodate people's worship needs, they can be relocated to parks, subject to

compliance with urban planning and land control.

Underground Railway Project at Tainan City

236. Underground railway project at Tainan City was approved by the Executive Yuan on September 9, 2009. The project was planned for 8.23 kilometers and required approximately 17.68 hectares of land; 2.90 hectares or 16.4% of which were privately owned, whereas 14.78 hectares or 83.6% of which were held by state or state-owned enterprises. Approximately 323 households were relocated because of the project. The underground railway was initially planned to be constructed to the east of existing surface railway, but some people suggested to have the underground railway constructed directly beneath the surface railway, and use the east side for temporary rails instead so that lands can be rented or expropriated and returned back to their original owners once the project is completed.

237. In terms of urban planning, Ministry of the Interior has approved urban planning project at Rende District, where land acquisition is currently in progress. As for urban planning at North and East Districts, Tainan City Urban Planning Task Force is currently gathering opinions from the public and presenting them for review by the Urban Planning Committee of the Ministry of the Interior. Disputes concerning land expropriation and choice of underground railway will be resolved through more communication with local residents.

Article 12

General Healthcare System

238. See Notes 121 and 122 of this report and Notes 223 and 224 of the ICESCR First National Report.

239. Medical subsidies:

- (1) Medium-low income households: According to the Public Assistance Act, low income households may have National Health Insurance premiums fully subsidized by the central authority, whereas medium-low income households may have 50% of National Health Insurance premiums subsidized by the central authority. Low income households, medium-low income households and people who lack the financial means

to pay for injuries or illnesses suffered are entitled to apply for medical subsidies. A total of 16,972 subsidy payments were made between 2012 and September 2015: 5,013 in 2012, 4,322 in 2013, 4,260 in 2014, and 3,377 in 2015 (Jan ~ Sep).

- (2) Children and adolescence: A total of 46,589,822 subsidy payments were medical subsidy for children under 3 years old between 2012 and September 2015. Between 2012 and September 2015, a total of 542,162 children and adolescence from medium-low income households had their National Health Insurance premiums subsidized by the government.
- (3) Persons with disabilities: For persons with disabilities, National Health Insurance premiums are subsidized depending on the degree of disability (full subsidy for the severely disabled, 50% for disabilities of medium severity, and 25% for disabilities of minor severity). Between 2012 and October 2015, an amount of NTD 15,193,080,000 were subsidized, which covered approximately 922,671 people per month.
- (4) Seniors citizens: Seniors citizens aged 70 and above from medium-low income households may have National Health Insurance premiums subsidized by the government. Between 2012 and October 2015, premium subsidies totaling NTD 2,561,439,879 were paid, which covered approximately 322,450 people.

240. The following measures have been adopted by the government to improve quality of medical service in areas where resources are lacking:

- (1) As of October 2015, the nation had 495 hospitals, 21,362 clinics and 356 health centers in total. This deployment ensured at least one health center in every township. Since 2012, medical centers have been designated the task of providing healthcare service on emergency and critical illnesses at locations that lack medical resources. In 2013, incentive programs were introduced to encourage medical centers in providing support at offshore islands and areas that lack medical resources. As a result, there were a total of 19 medical centers and 72 medical specialists committed to providing healthcare services in the emergency department and critical care unit on the 18 off-shore islands and resource-lacking areas. Hospitals that provide emergency aid at resource-lacking locations are given 30% additional reimbursement on ER expenses,

or 80% if service is provided at night or during public holidays.

- (2) The number of medical practitioners had increased steadily between 2012 and 2014, judging by the number of practitioners per 10,000 population. In 2014, medical practitioners across all professions totaled 271,555; they were mostly stationed in: Taipei City (49,164), Kaohsiung City (36,366) and Taichung City (34,914). Compared to member countries of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the nation had 17.95 physicians per 10,000 population (OECD: 31.6), 5.5 dentists per 10,000 population (OECD: 6.4), and 14 pharmacists per 10,000 population (OECD: 7.7) in 2013. Table 55 shows the types and number of medical practitioners, and practitioners per 10,000 people between 2012 and 2014.

Table 55 Medical Practitioners by Profession

Unit: Person(s)

Profession \ Year	2012		2013		2014	
	No. of practitioners	Practitioners per 10,000 population	No. of practitioners	Practitioners per 10,000 population	No. of practitioners	Practitioners per 10,000 population
Western medicine practitioner	40,938	17.56	41,965	17.95	42,961	18.33
Dentist	12,391	5.31	12,794	5.47	13,178	5.62
Chinese medicine practitioner	5,740	2.46	5,977	2.56	6,156	2.63
Medical technologist (and intern)	8,751	3.75	9,006	3.85	9,132	3.90
Radiologist	5,341	2.29	5,507	2.36	5,774	2.46
Pharmacist (and intern)	32,015	13.73	32,668	13.98	33,162	14.15
Professional registered nurse	137,641	59.03	140,915	60.29	142,708	60.90
Professional registered midwife	120	0.05	132	0.06	149	0.06
Occupational therapist (and intern)	2,660	1.14	2,806	1.20	2,948	1.26
Physical therapist (and intern)	5,878	2.52	6,203	2.65	6,435	2.75
Counseling psychologist	1,000	0.43	1,122	0.48	1,298	0.55
Clinical psychologist	832	0.36	925	0.40	998	0.43
Dietitian	2,050	0.88	2,234	0.96	2,304	0.98
Respiratory therapist	1,892	0.81	1,950	0.83	2,040	0.87
Speech therapist	554	0.24	676	0.29	708	0.30
Audiologist	181	0.08	233	0.10	259	0.11

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

241. As part of the 2020 national health plan and the national healthcare policy, the government has been supporting health screening for common chronic diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and pulmonary embolism as well as their risk factors (e.g. smoking, alcohol, betel nuts, unhealthy diet, lack of exercise, and obesity), so that intervention and treatment can be applied at an early stage. In the meantime, the government has also been improving its care to patients with chronic diseases.
242. Between 2001 and 2010, people of the most affluent township/city/county had life expectancy at birth of 85.3 years; compared to only 62.5 years in the least affluent area, the difference spanned for more than 20 years. In recent years, the Ministry of Health and Welfare has been active collaborating across different departments and authorities for the promotion of fair health, which involved: providing preventive healthcare for all age groups, offering necessary assistance to the socially disadvantaged, monitoring healthcare imbalances among citizens, and publishing health promotion annual reports and healthcare imbalance reports.
243. Following completion of the 4-year senior health promotion program in 2012, the ministry launched another program in 2013 that aimed to enhance the healthcare environment and services for senior citizens: (1) Services were introduced into local communities to promote physical health, fall prevention, healthy diet, oral care, tobacco prevention, mental health, social engagement, and preventive healthcare and screening; (2) By collaborating across 1,826 community service stations, the program aimed to create living environment and services that are friendly to senior citizens, helping more than 300,000 elders learn more about hypertension, hyperglycemia, hyperlipidemias and chronic diseases, and encouraging 100,000 elders to commit to a health promotion competition; (3) Hospitals were encouraged to launch outpatient services that targeted at providing customized and integrated care for patients diagnosed with dementia, hypertension, hyperglycemia, hyperlipidemias, and multiple chronic diseases. A total of 187 hospitals had participated in this program in 2015.
244. Prevention and care for rare diseases:
- (1) See Note 228 of the ICESCR First National Report.
 - (2) The Rare Diseases and Orphan Drugs Act was recently amended on January 14, 2015,

with the following emphasis: provide disease information and mental support to patients with rare diseases and family members, through visits and birth care services of professionals; provide incentives and subsidies to organizations that specialize in the prevention of rare diseases; and assist rare disease patients with their education, employment, and nursing needs.

- (3) As of October 2015, the ministry had announced 207 rare diseases, identified 92 orphan drugs, approved import of more than 30 orphan drugs, issued 64 orphan drug licenses, and subsidized 40 special foods and emergency medicine that can be used to sustain life. The ministry will continue to enhance its prevention, screening, and study of rare diseases, and increase subsidies to home medical instruments that rare disease patients need to sustain life, thereby reduce occurrence of rare disease and lessen the burden of patients' caretakers.

245. Nurturing of medical personnel involves three stages: basic education, license renewal, and on-job training. In July 2007, the ministry started a tuition fee subsidy program for teaching hospitals and introduced a two-year postgraduate clinical training system for the purpose of ensuring quality of medical service and patients' safety. A total of 95,377 medical practitioners had attended the training between July 2007 and September 2015.

Mental Health

246. See Note 95 in the Common Core Document of the ICCPR/ICESCR Second National Report and Notes 148 and 149 of the ICCPR Second National Report.

247. In 2015, the mental health network program was further expanded to engage health departments of 21 counties and cities into providing mental health services that are accessible to local residents. This network will be used as the frontline for preventing mental illnesses. In March 2015, the ministry began drafting a white paper on mental health promotion plan that will set the course for mental health policies and infrastructures over the next 10 years.

Medical Service for Persons with Disabilities

248. See Notes 119 and 126 of this report.

249. On July 9, 2012, the Ministry of Health and Welfare introduced Regulations on

Subsidization for Medical Expenses and Auxiliary Appliances for the Disabled, which provided subsidies for expenses and instruments that people needed for their recovery but were previously unsubsidized under the National Health Insurance Scheme. As of October 2015, subsidies were offered to 16 medical instruments and three types of medical expenses. Furthermore, annual subsidies are being provided to at least 10 hospitals nationwide for the creation of recovery instrument centers that provide professional services such as counseling, evaluation and customization of medical instruments.

250. The number of persons with disabilities who had made use of preventive healthcare services were 155,245 in 2012, 155,881 in 2013, and 154,054 in 2014.
251. Medical Institution Establishment Standards explicitly requires hospitals to install disabled access. In 2015, 98% of hospitals rated had complied with this requirement. For the visually disabled, guidance facilities and Braille documents are used to assist in the communication. For the hearing impaired, hand signal interpreters can be arranged to assist in their consultation, while QR codes and other instruments are also used for their convenience.
252. In 2015, the ministry offered incentives for 29 hospitals on providing integrated oral care for persons with special requirements. County/city health departments have also designated 89 hospitals where persons with disabilities can be referred to for specialized dental treatments. The list of hospitals has been published on the website of either the Ministry of Health and Welfare or the local health department.
253. On September 2, 2015, the Ministry of Health and Welfare instructed nurse associations to include topics on human rights protection of disabled persons as part of their annual ongoing education.

Healthcare for Children and Juveniles

254. Disease prevention services for children below the age of 7:
- (1) See Note 174 of the ICESCR First National Report.
 - (2) The ministry has been assisting 22 counties/cities develop 1 to 4 child development evaluation centers or hospitals within their vicinity, depending on the size of local child population aged 0 ~ 6, the area span, and medical resources available. A total of 46 hospitals had attained such status in 2015.

(3) Child disease prevention services were utilized 1.1 million times in 2012, 1.17 million times in 2013, and 1.1 million times in 2014; this averaged a utilization rate of 81.0%, 82.1% and 77.7%, respectively. Vision disorder screening services have been provided for preschool children aged 4 and 5; the number of children screened were 371,820 in 2012, 381,039 in 2013, and 361,726 in 2014. Meanwhile, hearing disorder screening services are being provided for children aged 3 and above but below 4 within local communities or at daycare facilities; the number of children screened were 152,344 in 2012, 138,197 in 2013, and 119,814 in 2014.

255. To prevent and control communicable diseases, routine immunizations are provided to infants, children, elders and people with specific conditions by the government. The immunization coverage rates between 2012 and 2014 were more than 95% for infants and children. (As shown in Table 56).

Table 56 National Immunization coverage

Unit: %

Year \ Vaccines	Hepatitis B vaccine		Diphtheria and tetanus toxoid with a cellular pertussis, Hib and IPV vaccine		Measles, mumps and rubella vaccine	Varicella vaccine	Japanese encephalitis vaccine	
	2nd dose	3rd dose	3rd dose	4th dose	1 dose	1 dose	2nd dose	3rd dose
2012	97.88	97.35	97.30	95.85	98.09	96.90	96.24	92.16
2013	97.98	97.44	97.34	96.16	98.28	98.08	96.24	91.64
2014	98.59	98.08	97.91	96.46	98.37	98.14	96.57	92.78

Source: National Immunization Information System

256. There were 210,383 new births in 2014. The crude neonatal death rate was calculated at 2.2‰ and the crude infant death rate at 3.6‰; both figures were comparable to France, Switzerland, and UK (4‰). According to the 2015 World Health Organization (WHO) report, the nation ranked 25th among the 194 member countries (2013). Although death rate was lower than 161 countries, the nation was still higher than 24 countries in this regard.

Compared to other countries in Asia, death rate was higher than Japan (2.1‰), Singapore (2.2‰), and South Korea (3.2‰), but lower than Malaysia (7.2‰), China (10.9‰), and Philippines (23.5‰). The primary source of death in infants was certain conditions originating in the perinatal period,, comprising 46.9%.

257. Crude death rate of children and juveniles (less than 18) was 35.0 per 100,000 people, or 40.0 per 100,000 people for males and 29.5 per 100,000 people for females. The top cause of death for children was certain conditions originating in the perinatal period (31.3%), averaging 14.4 deaths per 100,000 people. The top cause of death for juveniles was accidental injury (40.2%), averaging 7.6 deaths per 100,000 people.

258. In 2014, accident-induced deaths for persons aged below 1 was 30.3 males and 29.2 females per 100,000 population; and 3.1 males and 5.7 females per 100,000 population for persons aged 1 ~ 4. Table 57 shows a comparison between R.O.C. and world's high-income countries and low-income countries.

Table 57 Accident-induced Deaths for Children and Juveniles - by Age Group

Unit: every 100,000 people

Year and nationality	Below the age of 1		Age 1 - 4		Age 5-9		Age 10-14		Age 15-19	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
High income nations (2004)	39.2	16.3	10.0	6.9	6.9	4.3	7.9	4.3	34.6	12.7
Low income nations(2004)	99.7	106.4	51.0	48.2	41.4	33.4	30.0	21.3	53.3	31.2
World (2004)	94.3	98.1	47.2	44.3	38.1	30.6	27.8	19.6	51.4	29.3
Taiwan (2004)	36.8	37.7	2.5	9.0	6.7	4.3	6.8	4.5	47.1	15.1
Taiwan (2011)	24.5	15.7	6.8	6.1	2.0	1.1	4.3	1.8	30.9	10.0
Taiwan (2012)	24.7	18.4	7.3	4.6	2.6	2.1	5.5	2.7	26.5	8.6
Taiwan (2013)	21.1	23.7	3.9	4.8	3.3	1.8	4.3	2.7	24.9	8.3
Taiwan (2014)	30.3	29.2	3.1	5.7	4.8	2.2	4.9	2.3	27.5	9.8

Source: World report on child injury prevention (WHO) and Ministry of Health and Welfare

259. In order to promote proper sexual awareness among adolescents, the Ministry of Health and Welfare has been organizing seminars on campuses and maintaining an adolescent website for the delivery of accurate, up-to-date sexual information. A total of 70 adolescent-friendly physicians/clinics have been deployed across all counties/cities to provide treatment and consultation services on intimacy, interpersonal relations, emotional problems, and fertility (including contraception). A total of 27,382 consultations were provided between January and November 2015.

260. Table 58 shows cases of sexually transmitted disease, including syphilis, gonorrhea, and HIV, among involving adolescent between 2012 and October 2015.

Table 58 Cases of Sexually Transmitted Disease involving Adolescents

Unit: Person(s)

Year	Age	Syphilis		Gonorrhea		HIV	
		Age 10-14	Age 15-19	Age 10-14	Age 15-19	Age 10-14	Age 15-19
2012	Female	0	25	5	26	0	1
	Male	0	123	1	111	0	100
2013	Female	0	4	3	35	0	1
	Male	1	111	0	169	0	90
2014	Female	0	4	6	34	2	1
	Male	1	99	1	180	0	92
2015 (1-10)	Female	0	6	4	41	0	1
	Male	0	96	3	221	1	78

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

Women's Health Policy

261. To promote women's health, the Ministry of Health and Welfare has taken extensive efforts such as prevention against cancer, obesity and tobacco hazards, development of healthy workplace, health promoting hospitals and age-friendly healthcare institutions, and advocacy on adult health checkups, chronic disease prevention, maternity care, sex ratio implications, breast feeding, children's health checkups, and sexual health for the adolescent.

Prevention Against Communicable Diseases

262. The national treatment success rate for tuberculosis was approximately 70% in 2013. It did

not reach the level recommended by the WHO because more than half of the cases were senior citizens, who were prone to other causes of death as well. However, the treatment success rate for persons aged below 44 was 90.5%, which exceeded the global the treatment success rate for tuberculosis reported by the WHO.

263. Prevention against HIV/AIDS:

- (1) See Note 245 of the ICESCR First National Report.
- (2) The ministry has been actively conveying health-related knowledge to patients with sexually transmitted diseases, while at the same time encourage HIV/AIDS screening and regular health checkups for sexual partners. The number of HIV/AIDS screenings completed were 700,000 in 2012, 720,000 in 2013, 820,000 in 2014, and 680,000 in 2015 (Jan ~ Oct). In addition, an HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control manual was published in Taiwan. An HIV/AIDS Harm Reduction Program was implemented in 2005, and has proven to be effective in reducing HIV/AIDS infections through drug injection.
- (3) The mortality rates of HIV/AIDS were 3.50% in 2012, 2.91% in 2013, 2.75% in 2014, and 2.04% in 2015 (Oct), which showed a declining trend.

264. The R.O.C. experienced a large-scale outbreak of dengue fever in 2015. By December 8, the number of people diagnosed with dengue fever had reached 41,111; 22,699 of which were in Tainan City, 17,583 were in Kaohsiung City, and 326 were in Pingtung County. The cumulative death toll was 195. On September 15, 2015, the government activated the “Central Epidemic Command Center for Dengue Outbreak” that supported local and national response partners and coordinated response activities such as case surveillance and epidemic trend analysis, provided resources for dengue control, published clinical treatment and case management guidelines, ensured the availability of NS1 rapid test supply at healthcare facilities, health education, and formulated strategies to halt the spread of the dengue outbreaks.

Assistance in the case of Health Rights Violation

265. See Note 225 of the ICESCR First National Report.

266. According to the Drug Injury Relief Act, any person who makes proper usage of approved

drugs as prescribed by physician, instructed by pharmacist, or as shown on label but suffers adverse reaction that leads to severe illness, disability or death is entitled to apply for a relief aid. Such relief aid is provided to the applicant once the application is reviewed and approved by the Drug Injury Review Committee of the Ministry of Health and Welfare. Between January 2012 and October 2015, 697 cases of relief aid totaling NTD 160 million were distributed.

267. The ministry also has a relief system for victims of immunization. The number of reliefs claimed under this system between 2012 and October 2015 is shown in Table 59.

Table 59 Compensation for Victims of Immunization

Unit: Cases; NTD thousand

Year	No. of cases applied	Cases reviewed	Granted	Denied	Amount paid
2012	110	106	63	43	6610
2013	93	98	51	47	8450
2014	94	86	59	27	9380
2015(1-10)	56	74	49	25	6720

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

Descriptions: Cases applied in a year may not be reviewed until the next year.

268. The ministry began a trial program in 2012 that encouraged maternity service providers to reach settlement with patients or their representatives on maternity disputes, and have the government subsidize reimbursement based on the extent of injury/disability. Approximately NTD 258.96 million of remedies had been paid for 260 families under this program, which reduced litigations in maternity service by about 70% during the trial period. Meanwhile, the Maternity Incident Relief Act has been implemented on December 30, 2015.

269. The Medical Dispute Resolution and Compensation Act has been drafted to address cases of medical incidents that result in death or major injury, and was submitted for review by Legislative Yuan on May 8, 2014.

Subsequent Treatments of the RCA Case

270. On June 24, 2015, the Ministry of Labor organized a meeting involving former RCA (Radio Corporation of America) workers to discuss allocation of health check budgets. On July 14,

2015, a specialists meeting was called to discuss details relating to health checks of former RCA workers. RCA employees who are eligible to general preventive healthcare and the four cancer screening services may simply engage one of the participating medical institutions under the National Health Insurance Scheme to exercise their services.

Substance Abuse

271. Between 2012 and August 2015, local health departments conducted 1,989,472 inspections on the sale, contents, packaging and labeling of tobacco products, and organized seminars to convey prevention of tobacco hazards to children and adolescents.
272. In 2011, 32,356 people were involved in category 1 and category 2 drug offense; this number had reduced by 3,860 to 28,496 in 2014, and further down to 26,777 in 2015 (Jan ~ Oct).
273. The Ministry of Health and Welfare has designated 159 rehabilitation institutions (130 hospitals and 29 clinics) and 154 alternative treatment institutions (including 48 drug dispense outlets) to provide professional medical services to drug addicts. Meanwhile, subsidies are also offered to encourage civil associations in helping drug addicts recover on a mental and social basis, and thereby reduce the chances of relapse.

Workplace Health

274. See Note 66 of this report.
275. Claims made against Labor Insurance for occupational illness had increased from 400 claims in 2008 to more than 800 claims in 2014, whereas the number of beneficiaries had also increased from 387 in 2008 to 750 by September 2015. The government has introduced an on-site occupational health service program since 2009; by September 2015, a total of 1,573 service calls were made under this program.
276. Mental illnesses induced by work stress have now been recognized as occupational hazards. Between 2010 and September 2015, the Bureau of Labor Insurance approved 12 claims for occupational hazards induced by work stress.
277. In 2013, the ministry conducted studies to explore correlations between high-risk professions and breast cancer; in addition, courses were organized to enhance working women's knowledge on healthcare during menstruation period, and health manuals were

published as reference to those who are required to stand for prolonged period of time.

Noise Control of Wind Turbines

278. The current regulations require consents from owners of land that are within 100 meters of where wind turbines are installed. In addition, EIA must be conducted if the center of the wind turbine base is within 250 meters from the nearest building. The Environmental Protection Administration (Executive Yuan) has also implemented rules to regulate the level of noise generated by wind turbines.

279. On August 20, 2013, the Bureau of Energy (Ministry of Economic Affairs) held an experimental hearing session and assembled a task force that specialized in setting proper distances for wind turbine installations. Stakeholders were invited to express opinions with regards to the standards, which were finalized only when all stakeholders had reached a preliminary consensus. A formal hearing may be held as needed in the future.

Article 13

Rights to Education

280. See Note 22 in the Common Core Document of the ICCPR/ICESCR Second National Report.

281. The 12-year Basic Education program began to be implemented in August 2014. The first 9 years of basic education, for citizens aged 6 to 15, are organized by the government in accordance with the Primary and Junior High School Act and the Compulsory Education Act, and are intended to be common, obligatory, mandatory, and free to all citizens. In the first 9 years, students are not required to take exams for their admission; the curriculum features general topics and these are taught uniformly across all schools. The final three years comprise senior secondary school education for citizens aged 15 and above. This is governed by the Senior High School Education Act. Senior secondary school education is characterized as common, voluntary, non-mandatory, and free to all citizens. Senior secondary school education features a more diverse curriculum that covers both general knowledge and vocational education, and can be run as public or private institutions, for which students are mostly not required to take exams for their admission.

282. The Ministry of Education has been organizing an after-school program since 2006 that is designed to help disadvantaged students and slow learners with their school works in small, free classes outside school hours. In 2011, this program was turned into a remedial education program, and expanded to help elementary and junior high school students in general. By 2015, subsidies totaling NTD 5.8 billion had been spent to support this program, more than 90% of elementary and junior high schools had launched the program, and 230,000 teachers had participated in helping a total of 1.3 million students in total.

Technical and Vocational Education

283. The number of students in vocational high schools and technical colleges in academic years 2011 ~ 2014 are shown in Tables 60 and 61.

Table 60 Change in High School Students

Unit: Person(s)

Academic year System		Year 1 students				Existing students			
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total		333,629	328,063	302,070	284,080	954,176	947,632	917,122	873,162
General subjects		109,424	110,921	104,754	100,678	318,284	323,170	319,422	311,170
Technical (vocational) subjects		131,943	130,655	120,404	115,597	366,449	369,436	360,206	345,937
General high school	Year 1	27,660	25,815	22,590	18,463	27,660	25,815	22,590	18,463
	Academic studies	-	-	-	-	22,377	22,197	21,617	19,457
	Technical studies	-	-	-	-	33,637	31,507	29,684	27,166
Practical courses		15,833	15,300	13,531	12,484	48,018	44,301	40,530	37,743
Continuing education	General subjects	1,353	1,178	1,025	1,036	3,916	3,498	3,062	2,745
	Technical (vocational) subjects	28,495	24,761	21,304	18,621	78,847	71,200	63,847	56,188
First 3 years of 5-year junior college program		18,921	19,433	18,462	17,201	54,988	56,508	56,164	54,293

Source: Ministry of Education

Table 61 Number of Students in Technical College

Unit: Person(s)

Academic year Item	2011	2012	2013	2014
Doctoral Degree	2,971	2,995	2,973	2,940
Masters Degree	34,524	34,993	34,109	32,681
4-year technical program	468,310	472,736	473,516	468,616
2-year technical program	38,381	35,315	32,678	32,008
2-year junior college program	12,243	11,884	10,355	9,069
5-year junior college program	86,072	87,269	88,565	87,784
College of continuing education	14,350	12,487	10,764	9,610
Junior college of continuing education	18,802	18,759	16,597	15,785
Degree program	172	145	125	98
Total	675,825	676,583	669,682	658,591

Source: Ministry of Education

284. Professional certification and employment of technical college students are shown in Tables 62 and 63.

Table 62 Professional Certification of Technical College Students

Unit: Persons; certificates

Academic year Item	Male	Female	Certificates
2011	109,095	185,447	294,542
2012	109,919	176,091	286,010
2013	114,375	183,882	298,257
2014	57,529	91,646	149,175

Source: Ministry of Education

Table 63 Employment of Technical College Students

Unit: Person(s); %

Item Academic year	Employment		Higher education		Foreign education		Military service		Others		Graduates
	Person(s)	Ratio	Person(s)	Ratio	Person(s)	Ratio	Person(s)	Ratio	Person(s)	Ratio	Total
2011	74,192	44.95	19,142	11.60	577	0.35	35,874	21.74	24,161	14.64	165,050
2012	76,955	47.82	17,570	10.92	538	0.33	34,479	21.43	23,398	14.54	160,928
2013	78,270	48.43	17,494	10.82	406	0.25	34,019	21.05	22,964	14.21	161,617

Source: Ministry of Education

Cooperative Education and Protection of Interns' Rights

285. The Act of the Cooperative Education Implementation in Senior High Schools and the Protection of Student Participants' Right was promulgated on January 2, 2013. It clearly stipulates the rights and obligations of interns, the educational institutions, and corporate participants taking part in a cooperative education program. The Act not only requires each educational institution to conduct inspections at least once every two weeks, and to undertake regular assessments. In 2015 a comprehensive assessment was made of 30 participating educational institutions and of 120 corporate participants chosen at random. The assessment found that four corporate participants and one educational institution had violated the regulations and penalties were imposed on each. More action is now being taken to inform interns about the avenues they can take to file complaints.

286. The Ministry of Education promulgated its revised Implementation Regulations Governing Educational Institutions at Junior College Level and Above Academia-Industry Cooperation in February 2012. These explicitly require educational institutions at college level and above to establish student internship committees to supervise the selection of corporate participants, the internship contract, internship performance assessment, complaints, and the rights of interns.

Tertiary Education

287. See Notes 262, 265 and 266 of the ICESCR First National Report.

288. Table 64 shows the number and percentage of new students admitted into tertiary institutions between the 2012 academic year and the 2015 academic year.

Table 64 Number and Percentage of New Students Admitted into Universities

Unit: Person(s); %

Academic year \ Item	Persons admitted via exam	Persons admitted via recommendation	Acceptance rate of exam	Acceptance rate of multi-admission program
2012	59,696	47,800	88.00	73.33
2013	55,307	52,856	94.39	75.73
2014	52,608	53,329	95.73	76.78
2015	48,537	59,498	95.58	62.86

Source: Ministry of Education

Descriptions: 1. Admission by recommendation includes referrals through the Stars Program and individual applications.

2. Acceptance by exam rate is calculated as follows: the number of persons admitted divided by the number of registered exam takers is multiplied $\times 100\%$.

3. The number of students admitted between the 2012 academic year and the 2015 academic year includes added quotas.

289. Table 65 shows tuition miscellaneous fee waivers given to university, tertiary college, and technical college students between the 2011 academic year and the 2014 academic year. Table 66 shows the number of student loans applied for by senior secondary school, vocational high school, tertiary college and university students between the 2011 academic year and the 2014 academic year.

Table 65 Tuition Fee Waivers Granted for University and Technical College Students

Unit: Persons; NTD

Item Academic year		Students with disabilities and children of persons with disabilities	Students from low-income households	Students from medium-low income households	Indigenous students	Children of distressed families
2011	Persons	127,869	45,850	5,880	37,326	7,318
	Amount	3,047,335,838	1,854,283,180	75,846,446	771,485,882	186,631,738
2012	Persons	122,794	54,059	16,321	40,659	7,758
	Amount	2,952,434,613	2,169,789,054	194,424,129	843,708,949	199,367,709
2013	Persons	117,794	57,220	22,460	41,666	8,553
	Amount	2,860,664,115	2,302,449,905	265,467,703	867,592,252	214,929,110
2014	Persons	114,570	57,770	28,848	41,570	9,240
	Amount	2,757,611,982	2,325,833,994	318,383,671	827,333,810	220,945,454

Source: Ministry of Education

Table 66 Student Loans Undertaken by High School, Vocational School, and University Students

Unit: Applications; NTD millions

Item Academic year	Number of applications	Loan amount applied for	Interest subsidies
2011	709,981	26,523	3,566
2012	664,895	25,784	3,329
2013	621,476	24,732	3,240
2014	575,353	23,375	3,086

Source: Ministry of Education

290. In the 2011, the Stars Program and admission via recommendation were combined into the Stars Program Referral. The number of first-time admissions indicates that the number of senior secondary schools that had students admitted into university increased from 117 in 2007 to 277 in 2012. This shows that the Stars Program Referral does indeed help admit more students enter universities that they would previously be unable to. The number of applications and acceptance results of the University Stars Program between the 2012 academic year and the 2015 academic year are shown in Table 67.

Table 67 Enrollment and Acceptance Results of the University Stars Program

Unit: Institutions; persons

Item Academic year	Number of universities			Number of departments	Admission quota	Number of people admitted	Number of high schools applied	Number of high schools admitted
	Public	Private	Total					
2011	35	33	68	1,397	7,649	6,790	369	360
2012	35	33	68	1,466	8,575	8,213	377	369
2013	35	33	68	1,523	10,246	9,670	379	372
2014	34	33	67	1,549	11,270	10,940	389	381
2015	34	33	67	1,672	13,357	12,721	389	380

Source: Ministry of Education

291. The technology Institute Stars Program was first trialed at four participating schools by the Ministry of Education in the 2007 academic year for the purposes of reducing urban-rural divide, making senior secondary and vocational high schools community-based teaching and standardizing their teaching, and securing entry into top technology institutes and universities of science and technology, was guaranteed for outstanding but financially disadvantaged students for top-performing students from disadvantaged families. The Stars Program was progressively expanded into 33 participating educational institutions by the 2015 academic year. The numbers of applicants and acceptance results of the Technology Institute Star Program between the 2012 academic year and the 2015 academic year are shown in Table 68.

Table 68 Enrollment and Acceptance Results of the Technology Institute Stars Program

Unit: Institutions; persons

Item Academic year	No. of technology institutes recruiting	Admission quota	No. of eligible vocational high schools	Enrolled		Accepted		Accepted but surrendered
				No. of vocational high schools	No. of students	No. of vocational high schools	No. of students	
2012	32	1,982	322	289	2,241	285	1,441	407
2013	32	2,027	323	290	2,229	289	1,523	490
2014	32	2,154	322	294	2,225	294	1,591	525
2015	33	2,154	326	295	2,783	294	1,780	672

Source: Ministry of Education

Adult Education and Life-long Learning

292. See Notes 269 to 271 of the ICESCR First National Report.

293. Approximately 15,000 enrollments are received each year for the basic adult education program. Taiwan's literacy rate was 98.6% in 2015.

294. Promotion of recurrent education:

- (1) Recurrent education is available through several means, such as National Open University and junior colleges of continuing education, continuing education degree programs, 2-year undergraduate in-service education programs, postgraduate in-service education programs, and extension education programs organized by individual universities. The numbers of students admitted to continuing education between the 2012 academic year and the 2015 academic year are shown in Table 69.

Table 69 Continuing Education Admissions

Unit: Person(s)

Academic year \ Item	Postgraduate in-service program	Continuing education degree program and two-year undergraduate in-service education program
2012	17,268	17,693
2013	17,308	16,986
2014	17,284	14,415
2015	17,442	13,880

Source: Ministry of Education

- (2) Between the 2010 academic year and the 2014 academic year, a total of 85,159 extension education programs (degree and non-degree) were organized throughout the nation, with a total of 1,577,066 enrollments.

Teachings in Native Tongue

295. See Notes 272 and 274 of the ICESCR First National Report.

296. Indigenous languages preservation has been a very difficult task due to a number of reasons such as a lack of a proper environment, respect for the language, practical linguistic applications and awareness, and the presence of other dominant languages. To address these challenges, the government has introduced several measures to revive indigenous

languages, including subsidies in immersion learning of family, churches, experiences, courses and daily dialogue use of subsidies, tribal meetings, editing learning materials, daycare facilities, kindergarten, designated tutors, campaigns, teachers training programs, and new writing system.

297. In the 2014 academic year, 10,491 Hakka language programs were offered in elementary and junior high schools to a total of 142,024 students . These programs were offered in 93% of schools. Between the 2012 academic year and the 2014 academic year, 30,118 indigenous language courses were offered and a total of 147, 297 students took one or more.
298. Stage 1 to stage 6 indigenous languages learning materials were finalized, printed and distributed in 2014. Teaching materials covering stage 1 to stage 9 teaching materials are expected to be printed in 2016. A total of 4 sets and 504 volumes of supplementary materials in 42 languages have also been published since 2008. Volumes on the written scripts, everyday conversation, reading and writing were recently completed in 2014, whereas volumes on culture are still under preparation. Teaching materials have been made available for download at the website maintained by the Council of Indigenous Peoples (<http://klokah.tw>).
299. In 2007, a new culture and language proficiency exam was introduced to help indigenous people advance into higher levels of education. A total of 68,411 people have taken the exam to date, and 72.9% have passed. Indigenous language proficiency certification exams at four levels (entry, intermediate, advanced, and legacy) were introduced in 2014. Students who pass the entry and intermediate levels receive privileges in their continuing education. In 2014, a total of 5,177 people passed the entry level exam, 3,583 people passed intermediate level, 5 people passed advanced level; and 11 people passed legacy level, representing an overall pass rate of 59.72%.

Equal Rights to Education

300. See Notes 358 and 359 of the ICCPR Second National Report, and Note 277 of the ICESCR First National Report.
301. In the last three years, the Ministry of Education has received three complaints from a student at a university or tertiary college because requesting pregnancy leave had affected

her results or led to a dispute over course fee refunds. These cases were referred to the gender equality board of the educational institution concerned and were all settled to ensure the students' rights were protected.

302. Table 70 shows the admission of male and female students at various stages of education between the 2011 academic year and the 2014 academic year.

Table 70 Sex Ratio of Student Admissions - Preschool to High School

Unit: %

Stage of education Academic year	Preschool		Elementary		Junior high		High school		Vocational high school		College		Bachelor course		Masters course		Doctoral course	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
2011	52.48	47.52	52.30	47.70	52.08	47.92	50.18	49.82	55.53	44.47	27.67	72.33	51.06	48.94	56.59	43.41	70.34	29.66
2012	52.67	47.33	52.32	47.68	52.16	47.84	50.17	49.83	55.57	44.43	27.40	72.60	50.91	49.09	56.92	43.08	70.03	29.97
2013	52.64	47.36	52.33	47.67	52.16	47.84	50.17	49.83	55.82	44.18	26.98	73.02	50.62	49.38	56.62	43.38	69.55	30.45
2014	52.53	47.47	52.35	47.65	52.22	47.78	53.68	46.32			26.50	73.50	50.34	49.66	55.90	44.10	68.88	31.12

Source: Ministry of Education

Descriptions: Following amendments to the Senior High School Education Act, high school and vocational high school students have been counted on a collective basis since the 2014 academic year.

Reducing Dropout Rate

303. See Notes 279 to 281 of the ICESCR First National Report.

304. The number of dropouts, the dropout rate, and the alternative education enrollment figures between the 2011 academic year and the 2014 academic year are shown in Tables 71 and 72.

Table 71 Number and Percentage of Dropouts

Unit: %; persons

Item Academic year	No. of dropouts					Dropout rate	
	Sex ratio		Identity			Dropout rate of indigenous people	Total dropout rate
	Male	Female	Non-indigenous	Indigenous peoples	Total		
2011	52.18	47.82	916	155	1,071	0.205	0.046
2012	51.72	48.28	708	110	818	0.150	0.037
2013	51.58	48.42	579	97	676	0.133	0.032
2014	51.95	48.05	568	93	661	0.128	0.032

Source: Ministry of Education

Descriptions: 1. Number of dropouts: Refers to the number of students who were still not enrolled by the end of the academic year (month).

2. Dropout rate of indigenous people: Calculated as the number of indigenous students who were still not enrolled by the end of the academic year (month) divided by total elementary and junior high school students of indigenous identity.

3. Total dropout rate: Calculated as the number of students who were still not enrolled by the end of the academic year (month) divided by total elementary and junior high school students.

Table 72 Alternative Education Enrollments

Unit: Person(s); %

Progress Academic year	Available capacity	Average number of enrolled students	Average utilization rate
2011	2,348	1,179	50.21
2012	2,308	1,261	54.64
2013	2,411	1,056	43.79
2014	2,224	1,158	52.06

Source: Ministry of Education

Rights to Education for Persons with Disabilities

305. Educational institutions at all levels are not allowed to refuse to enroll any student or refuse to let a student take an exam on the grounds of their having a disability. Special education, services and facilities must be provided in an appropriate manner that is in accord with the idea of an accessible community. Students with disabilities have three ways of advancing into senior secondary and vocational school education: suitability assessment, normal entry, and special recruitment. At the tertiary level, admission interviews for students with

disabilities must be arranged on a yearly basis, and universities and tertiary colleges are encouraged to organize their own exams for admitting students with disabilities. The number of students with disabilities enrolled in universities increased from 9,489 in the 2008 academic year to 13,876 in the 2015 academic year; this represents an increase of 4,387 students(46%) over a 7-year period.

306. Governments at all levels must allocate part of their budget for special education. The central government is required to provide not less than 4.5% of its annual education budget; each local government is required to provide an amount not less than 5% of its annual education budget for special education.
307. Universities may exercise discretion over the number of students with disabilities admitted and to which departments. The Ministry of Education subsidizes universities for resources such as accessibility facilities, instruments, and support services, and encourages each institution to offer more places and a wider range of courses to students with disabilities.
308. Every university has a disability interview committee that conducts an annual survey to determine the number of secondary students with disabilities who intend to pursue higher education. The percentage of senior secondary and vocational school students with disabilities who had their education needs satisfied at a university or tertiary college between the 2013 academic year and the 2015 academic year, were: 56.8% in the 2013 academic year, 65.8% in the 2014 academic year, and 68.2% in the 2015 academic year. This percentage has increased progressively each year. In the 2012 academic year, an admission quota of 3,763 was offered to a total of 2,225 exam applicants; in the 2013 academic year, an admission quota of 4,353 was offered to a total of 2,260 exam applicants; in the 2014 academic year, an admission quota of 4,634 was offered to a total of 2,677 exam applicants and in the 2015 academic year, an admission quota of 4,700 was offered to a total of 2,962 exam applicants.
309. Schools are being required to formulate customized support plans to accommodate the special needs of students with disabilities, help them adapt to the lifestyles and studies on campus, and develop interpersonal relations, and career opportunities in life. The Ministry of Education provides subsidies to assist schools with the associated expenses, and to

commission the establishment of learning assistance centers that provide instruments to the vision, hearing, language, and physically disabled.

310. Table 73 shows the number of students with disabilities enrolled in college studies the 2012 academic year and the 2015 academic year, categorized by gender and type of disability.

Table 73 Students with Disabilities Enrolled in College Study - by Gender and Type of Disability

Unit: Person(s)

Item Academic year	Cognitive disability		Visual disability		Hearing disability		Speech disorder		Physical disability		Cerebral palsy		Illnesses		Emotional disturbance		Learning disability		Multiple disabilities		Autism		Other disabilities		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
2012	431	308	393	275	674	559	100	77	1,708	1,118	102	52	737	583	477	282	1,624	648	247	151	701	68	549	424	7,743	4,545
2013	463	392	434	289	687	548	94	68	1,571	991	113	72	737	607	521	330	1,649	638	228	156	950	105	312	235	7,759	4,431
2014	502	421	491	302	656	558	78	68	1,349	907	150	103	623	551	589	364	1,845	731	221	146	1,164	128	251	178	7,919	4,457

Source: Ministry of Education

Recognition of New Immigrants' Education

311. In accordance with a resolution passed at the first meeting of the Executive Yuan's New Immigrant Affairs Coordination Committee on August 4, 2015, skills and formal academic credentials shall be given separately consideration. Employment emphasizes skills and these may be assessed using a range of testing modes to investigate whether a person has the skills required in a particular workplace. Education can be dealt separately at three different levels: elementary, junior high school, and college/university. More stringent criteria shall apply when recognizing tertiary academic credentials, whereas elementary and junior high school education can be recognized on a less stringent basis.
312. In accordance with a resolution passed on September 3, 2015 Executive Yuan meeting convened to discuss the recognition of new immigrant's academic credentials, the recognition of elementary and junior high school education records has been simplified to presenting related documentary evidence (such as a graduation certificate, or grade records issued by the foreign elementary or junior secondary school) and a signed declaration to the local government and requesting that it be recognized. Such documentary evidence does not need to be verified by a foreign office.

Gender Distribution in College Studies

313. Since the 2011 academic year, the number of female students enrolled in technology-related studies has been increasing by 0.3% ~ 0.4% each year, as shown in Table 74. This appears to be an ongoing trend.

Table 74 Sex Ratio of Students Enrolled in Scientific, Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction Studies

Unit: %

Item Academic year	Gender	Total	Science	Engineering, manufacturing and construction
2011	Male	51.43	65.68	85.90
	Female	48.57	34.32	14.10
2012	Male	51.34	66.48	85.63
	Female	48.66	33.52	14.37
2013	Male	50.94	66.58	85.37
	Female	49.06	33.42	14.63
2014	Male	50.56	66.53	85.00
	Female	49.44	33.47	15.00

Source: Ministry of Education

314. The gender ratio of university graduates had remained relatively unchanged between the 2008 academic year and the 2013 academic year. But the percentage of female students who graduated from master's and doctoral degree programs (aged 22 and above) was significantly lower than the percentage of females in that age group. This is a result of the traditional perception of the female role, and the fact that females are in their child-bearing age and this makes them reluctant to pursue further studies.

Article 14

Compulsory Education at Elementary & Junior Secondary Level

315. See Notes 282 to 284 of the ICESCR First National Report.

316. Table 75 shows the amount of administration fee subsidies given for elementary and junior high school students between the 2011 academic year and the 2014 academic year.

Table 75 Sundry Fee Subsidies for Elementary and Junior High School Students

Unit: Persons; NTD

Item Academic year	Persons subsidized		Amount subsidized	
	1st semester	2nd semester	1st semester	2nd semester
2011	181,521	186,738	114,630,431	35,141,643
2012	182,228	188,125	60,201,480	56,680,322
2013	189,560	171,180	58,657,552	61,638,990
2014	176,447	177,493	62,316,974	63,481,344
Total	1,813,763		512,748,736	

Source: Ministry of Education

317. The policy of tuition-free senior secondary schools and vocational high schools is being realized over a number of stages. During stage 1, students from households with an annual income of less than NTD 1.14 million can attend a vocational high school tuition-free, and those attending a private senior secondary school only have to pay the equivalent of the tuition fee at a public school. Stage 2, which began to be implemented year by year in the 2014 academic year all vocational high schools students receive free tuition, and students from households with an annual income of less than NTD 1.48 million who are attending senior secondary school will be given a tuition fee exemption.

Article 15

Participation in Cultural Life

318. Equal Access to Culture:

- (1) To assist civil associations in their movements toward equal culture, the Ministry of Culture has introduced Operation Direction for Subsidizing Literature Reading and Humanistic Activities that subsidizes civil associations of new immigrants, indigenous people, persons with disabilities, and women in a broad range of activities including talent training, arts creation, research and application, cultural studies, international cultural exchange, and publication/video production/arts program of gender significance. Furthermore, courses are being organized to enhance cultural workers' services to the socially disadvantaged. All above efforts have been taken to address the needs people of different gender, location, group, cultural background, and age. A total

of 241 cases were subsidized between 2013 and October 2015.

- (2) The ministry encourages museums to organize exhibitions, educational activities or projects that address related issues on the equal access to culture. A project on the equal access to culture of disabled persons has been approved in 2015.
- (3) The National Palace Museum, National Taiwan Museum, National Museum of History, National Museum of Taiwan History, and National Museum of Prehistory all offer a variety of discounts for disabled persons, preschool children, elder persons aged 65 and above, medium-low income households, and students.

319. Helping disabled persons participate in cultural life:

- (1) The Ministry of Culture had offered assistance to Taiwan Public Television Service in the creation of Public Television Accessible Program Production Principles. These principles were announced on June 5, 2015. Under the principles, Public Television Service is required to produce no fewer than 50 hours accessible programs each quarter. In the third quarter of 2015, the length of accessible programs produced totaled 282 hours. Under the new radio TV assessment guidelines and license renewal policy recently amended by the National Communications Commission, TV stations will be assessed on their efforts taken for the convenience of the visually disabled and the hearing-impaired during license renewals. This is to ensure that the needs of persons with disabilities are properly addressed by the media.
- (2) Vision disability, physical disability, and hearing disability service manuals are being distributed at four the exhibition halls operated by the Ministry of Culture. Service manuals for other types of disabilities are also being prepared, and will be widely distributed once completed in order to provide service personnel with better understanding of the needs and rights of persons with disabilities. In an attempt to enhance training for frontline service staff and volunteers, the Ministry of Culture and subordinates organized 18 training sessions to a total of 788 service staff and volunteers in 2015.
- (3) In 2015, barrier-free reading promotion plan was organized. Through the seminars, play reading workshops and play-reading performance, literature is presented many

diverse ways to the understanding of persons with disabilities and the general public. Publications have also been made to support this initiative. In addition, reservation channels have been made available for social welfare groups and persons with disabilities to provide them with easy access to the performances.

- (4) The Ministry of Culture has been allowing certain groups and persons with disabilities to make use of its exhibition halls for purposes such as exhibition, performance, and artistic workshop at discounted prices or no charges at all. It provides civil associations with more spaces to serve their purpose, and gives persons with disabilities the means to show their creations, while at the same time allowing the public to understand the conditions and capabilities of persons with disabilities.

320. New immigrants' participation in cultural activities:

- (1) Cultural education is being provided to new immigrants. They are being taught with abilities such as self-expressing, cultural adaptation, and handicraft. Between 2013 and October 2015, 125 learning hours were provided for a total audience of 572.
- (2) National Taiwan Museum launched a new immigrant service ambassador program in 2015, during which 12 female new immigrants of Southeast Asian language were recruited to undergo 7 training courses that guide them through various functions of the museum. Upon completion, these trainees will assume their roles as volunteer guides for visitors of Southeast Asian language.

Preservation of Cultural Heritage

321. See Notes 289, 295 and 297 of the ICESCR First National Report.

322. Preservation of minority culture:

- (1) In 2012, the Ministry of Culture assisted New Taipei City Government in completing its Lesheng Sanatorium Cultural Landscape Preservation Project. Later in 2014, subsidies were granted for the research, restoration and reuse of Lesheng Sanatorium.
- (2) On March 27, 2012, the Ministry of National Defense accompanied the Ministry of Culture in preserving 13 veteran villages as cultural heritage. The Ministry of Culture has been subsidizing local governments in the survey of veteran villages since 2005, for which local governments are authorized to designate them as cultural heritage sites

in accordance with the Cultural Heritage Preservation Act. As of October 2015, a total of 38 veteran villages had been designated as cultural heritage.

323. In an attempt to preserve the nation's underwater cultural heritage, the Bureau of Cultural Heritage (Ministry of Culture) signed a 4-year stage 2 collaborative agreement with “The Department for Underwater and Undersea Archeological Research (DRASSM)” of France, in 2012. On December 9, 2015, the Underwater Cultural Heritage Preservation Act was introduced in conformity with the ideas of United Nations Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage. The Bureau of Cultural Heritage (Ministry of Culture) signed a memorandum of understanding with AusHeritage Ltd on March 30, 2015, to assist its efforts in the preservation of local cultural heritage and development of potential world culture heritage sites. As of October 2015, the nation had acquired membership in 5 international cultural organizations including the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), The International Council of Museums (ICOM), American Institute For Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC), The Japan Society for the Conservation of Cultural Property (JSCCP), and the International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage (TICCIH). These memberships have been acquired to align the nation with the rest of the world on cultural heritage issues. Meanwhile, a world cultural heritage promotion committee has been assembled with representatives across different departments to subsidize local governments in their survey, maintenance, management and preparation of potential sites. Although the Republic of China is neither a member of the United Nations nor a signatory of Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, which poses difficulties in the country's application for world cultural heritage, the Ministry of Culture has nevertheless identified 18 potential sites that meet the selection criteria. This shows not only the nation's commitment to protecting heritage of mankind, but also the fact that every preparation has been made ready before a formal application is submitted to UNESCO.

324. The Ministry of Science and Technology launched an e-Learning and Digital Archives Program between 2008 and 2012. Today, the digital archive boasts a collection of more than 4.8 million items, and all of which have been made publicly accessible online.

325. The National Palace Museum has been collaborating with foreign counterparts through lending and borrowing of collections. It utilizes professional technology to preserve more than 690,000 items it holds in its possession.

Arts and Cultural Education

326. In the Education Report of the Republic of China published in 2011, the implementation of arts and aesthetics education was identified as a main area of focus. To summarize the arts education departments and graduate institutes in Taiwan's universities: In the 2012 academic year, 36 universities had a total of 106 art-related departments and graduate institutes, 34 universities had 65 design-related departments and graduate institutes; in the 2013 academic year, 36 universities had a total of 110 art-related departments and graduate institutes, and 35 universities had a total of 70 design-related departments and graduate institutes; in 2014, 38 universities had a total of 113 art-related departments, 34 universities had a total of 71 design-related departments and graduate institutes, and 22 universities had a total of 27 arts education-related departments and graduate institutes. In 2015, a total of 1,223 arts courses were offered in 339 high school or lower levels.

Protection of Intellectual Property Rights

327. See Note 294 of the ICESCR First National Report.

328. To concur with the Marrakesh Treaty established by World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the nation had revised Article 53 of its Copyright Act in 2014 to extend the scope of exceptions and limitations of copyright relating to persons with disabilities (including visually impaired, learning disabled, hearing impaired or other persons with a perceptual disability). The amendment not only allows government agencies and non-profit organizations to produce accessible format copies for the disabled persons, but also grants disabled persons or their representatives to produce such copies for nonprofit use of the disabled person. In addition, circulation of accessible format copies legally produced and import exclusively for the use for the disabled persons are relaxed under the new act, to facilitate the access to works for persons with disabilities. As for the Patent Act, Articles 90 and 91 concerning the compulsory licensing were established in accordance with the draft amendment of WTO's Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual

Property Rights (TRIPS), which permits the compulsory licensing of patents concerning pharmaceuticals that are needed for treating epidemics so that these pharmaceutical products can be produced and shipped to countries that are incapable or inadequate of producing on their own.

329. To protect the rights of creators, infringements against intellectual property rights are subject to civil liabilities. Moreover, criminal liabilities are available in the Trademark Act, the Copyright Act and the Trade Secrets Act. To escalate protection even further, the Trade Secrets Act was amended in 2013 to introduce criminal liabilities for any violation of trade secrets. Between 2012 and November 2015, the Intellectual Property Office, Ministry of Economic Affairs, invited scholars and experts from the field of intellectual property rights to offer practical opinions in 793 speech sessions to a total audience of 77,001 nationwide.

330. As of 2015, the Intellectual Property Court had processed 10,312 cases (including civil, criminal, and administrative litigation) involving intellectual property disputes, of which 9,752 or 94.57% were closed. The average time taken for case closure was 154.45 days, and 88.22% of cases appealed to the court of the third instance were sustained.

331. The statistics of trademark/copyright infringements, confiscated discs and Internet piracy cases between 2012 and August 2015 are shown in Table 76.

Table 76 Statistics of Trademark/Copyright Infringements, Confiscated Discs and Internet Piracy Cases

Unit: Cases; persons; discs

Year \ Item	Total		Trademark		Copyright		Discs	Cases of Internet
	Cases	Person(s)	Cases	Person(s)	Cases	Person(s)	Discs	Cases
2012	5,484	6,342	3,260	3,716	2,224	2,626	110,352	2,894
2013	5,730	6,623	3,475	3,983	2,255	2,640	98,957	3,535
2014	4,910	5,730	2,760	3,120	2,150	2,610	350,604	2,439
2015(1-8)	3,436	3,930	1,883	2,076	1,553	1,854	183,283	2,939
Total	19,560	22,625	11,378	12,895	8,182	9,730	743,196	11,807

Source: Ministry of the Interior

332. The number of people prosecuted under the Copyright Act were 886 in 2012, 791 in 2013, 563 in 2014, and 616 in 2015 (Jan ~ Oct); the number of people prosecuted under the Trademark Act were 1,114 in 2012, 1,158 in 2013, 993 in 2014, and 838 in 2015 (Jan ~ Oct).

Protection of Indigenous Culture

333. See Notes 288, 292 and 293 of the ICESCR First National Report.

334. The Council of Indigenous Peoples has so far published 21 volumes on main historical events and relocations of the indigenous people, and more than 30 volumes of town history on indigenous people maintained by local governments. The council also created Taiwan Indigenous Peoples Resource Center, which housed a collection of 21,191 books (in Chinese, Japanese and Western languages) and 10,374 documents in 2015. This information is being converted into digital archive, and by 2015, a total of 800 photo series and 10,800 historical records had been archived. By August 2015, the Council of Indigenous Peoples had published 13 books that summarized and translated the contents of its collection.

335. The government subsidizes 180 indigenous performing arts troupes each year. Through collaboration between government agencies, schools and tribes, approximately 150 people are trained on the indigenous culture and arts each year, while 80 traditional sports, competitions and rituals are organized annually. Between 2012 and July 2015, the government sponsored approximately 30 indigenous artists each year to live among the villages and promote the development of indigenous cultural industries.

