

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN

— 2022 ~ 2024 —

Republic of China(Taiwan)



2022

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Abstract | 1 |
| Chapter 1. Foreword | 3 |
| I. Origin | 3 |
| II. Target..... | 4 |
| III. Premise..... | 4 |
| IV. Public Participation and Communication | 5 |
| V. Necessary Resources..... | 6 |
| VI. Links Between National Administration, the Other Covenants, and the National Human Rights Action Plans | 7 |
| (I) Links Between the National Development Plan, Administration Plans, and Human Rights Protection | 7 |
| (II) Links Between the Concluding Observations and Recommendations Regarding Five Core United Nations Human Rights Conventions, Administration Plans, and the National Human Rights Action Plan..... | 7 |
| (III) Links Between the Other Action Plans, Administration Plans, and the National Human Rights Action Plan | 9 |
| VII. Additional Notes and Limitations of this Action Plan | 10 |
| Chapter 2. Formulation Process and Selection of Human Rights Issues | 11 |
| I. According to the Plan to Promote the Establishment of a Mechanism for Formulating a National Human Rights Action Plan, a Human Rights Action Plan Consultative Committee and Working Group Was Set Up..... | 11 |
| II. Gathering and Selecting Human Rights Issues | 12 |
| (I) Stage 1 of Gathering Human Rights Issues..... | 12 |
| (II) Stage 2 of Gathering Human Rights Issues..... | 14 |
| III. Human Rights Issue Selection Process and Reasons..... | 15 |
| Chapter 3. Maintaining the Independence of the National Human Rights Commission | 22 |
| Chapter 4. Human Rights Issues | 23 |
| I. Strengthen the Human Rights Protection System..... | 24 |
| (I) Set Up a Dedicated Human Rights Unit in the Executive Yuan..... | 24 |
| (II) Promote the Incorporation and Implementation of Core UN Human Rights Conventions into Domestic Legislation..... | 26 |
| (III) Implement Convention No.188 of the International Labor Organization and the Other Core Conventions..... | 29 |

| | | |
|--------|---|-----|
| (IV) | Precedence of Conventions | 36 |
| (V) | Establish Taiwan’s Human Rights Indicators and Human Rights Impact Assessment Mechanisms..... | 37 |
| (VI) | Guarantee and Enhance Citizens’ Right to Participate in Public Affairs .. | 44 |
| II. | Human Rights Education..... | 50 |
| (I) | Education for Significant Human Rights Issue..... | 50 |
| (II) | Planning and Implementation of Human Rights Education and Training for Designated Personnel | 54 |
| (III) | Monitoring and Performance Assessment Mechanism..... | 65 |
| III. | Equality and Non-Discrimination | 67 |
| (I) | Establish a Comprehensive Equality Law..... | 67 |
| (II) | Equality and Non-Discrimination for Children and Adolescents..... | 67 |
| (III) | Equality and Non-Discrimination for the Elderly..... | 70 |
| (IV) | Equality and Non-Discrimination for Women..... | 73 |
| (V) | Equality and Non-Discrimination for Persons with Disabilities..... | 77 |
| (VI) | Equality and Non-Discrimination for Indigenous Peoples | 81 |
| (VII) | Equality and Non-Discrimination for the LGBTI Community | 92 |
| (VIII) | Equality and Non-Discrimination for Migrant Workers | 98 |
| (IX) | Equality and Non-Discrimination for Prisoners and Rehabilitated Offenders.. | 104 |
| IV. | Strengthening the Protection of the Right to Life | 109 |
| (I) | Reduce the Number of Teenage Suicides..... | 109 |
| (II) | Reduce the Number of Traffic Accident Fatalities Among the Elderly and Youth Population | 112 |
| (III) | Progress on the Gradual Abolition of the Death Penalty..... | 115 |
| V. | Housing Justice..... | 119 |
| (I) | Fully Discuss and Take Inventory of Policies that Protect Housing Rights. | 119 |
| (II) | Guarantee People’s Right to Adequate Housing..... | 120 |
| (III) | Anti-Forced Eviction. | 129 |
| VI. | Climate Change and Human Rights | 131 |
| (I) | Protect the Right to a Clean, Healthy, and Sustainable Environment | 132 |
| (II) | Deliver a Just Transition that Ensures Sustainability..... | 136 |
| (III) | Facilitate Environmentally-Friendly Technology Development and Transfer..... | 140 |
| (IV) | Ensure Equitable Development Across Generations..... | 141 |
| VII. | Digital Human Rights | 143 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| (I) Establish an Independent and Dedicated Privacy Agency and a Data Protection Officer (DPO) Mechanism..... | 143 |
| (II) Examine and Prevent Discrimination and Human Rights Violations Generated by Digital Technology (E.g., Restrictions on Emerging Criminal Patterns Against Women and Children, Online Hate, and Discriminatory Speech)..... | 144 |
| (III) Prevent the Use of Digital Technology to Perpetual Digital/Online Gender-Based Violence and Strengthen the Protection of Victim’s Rights | 151 |
| (IV) Improving Media Literacy and Bridging the Digital Gap..... | 152 |
| VIII. Refugee Rights Protection..... | 155 |
| (I) Refugee Asylum System | 155 |
| (II) Long-Term Residency for Mainland Chinese Individuals on the Grounds of Political Considerations and Assistance System for People of Hong Kong and Macao | 155 |
| Chapter 5. Execution, Supervision, and Assessment | 157 |

Abstract

The National Human Rights Action Plan is Taiwan's commitment to safeguarding human rights. In response to the advocacy of domestic and foreign human rights experts, scholars, and non-governmental groups as well as the UN's encouragement of member states to formulate action plans, the National Human Rights Action Plan Consultative Committee was established with diverse members representing different groups to facilitate the development of Taiwan's first National Human Rights Action Plan.

Human rights protection is a long-term pursuit of ever-improving standards which must be achieved in a pragmatic, step-by-step manner. This action plan represents Taiwan's progress, commitments, and efforts to promote and protect human rights to 2024. The emphasis on the concept of "improving human rights" as an administration goal is a through line of the plan. This action plan is divided into five chapters: the "Foreword" that introduces the background of formulating the action plan, "Formulation Process and Selection of Human Rights Issues," which elaborates on the formulation process and considerations, "Maintaining the Independence of the National Human Rights Commission," which talks about the administration department and the commitment to follow their suggestions, "Human Rights Issues," which highlights prioritized issues that must be improved upon urgently, and "Execution, Supervision, and Assessment," which discusses how to handle the action plan once it is passed.

The Executive Yuan has been working on the formulation of this action plan since 2018. In the spirit of information disclosure and wider participation, the Executive Yuan organized public hearing sessions, held seminars on individual issues, and posted information on the Public Policy Online Participation Network Platform - Talk Section, working with NGOs, experts, scholars, and the general public to take stock of human rights deficiencies that the government needs to improve within four to five years and prepare resources for possible implementations. Special attention should be paid to disadvantaged groups that lack adequate legal and social resources or are marginalized. Considering the impact of human rights violations, current international trends, and other important factors, the government works with different groups to discuss the framework of the National Human Rights Action Plan, focusing on eight priority human rights issues that include "strengthening human rights protection," "human rights education," "equality and non-discrimination," "enhancing protections of the right to life," "housing justice," "climate change and human rights," "digital human rights," and "refugee rights and protection" in order to zoom in on urgent matters in need of reform. The government also takes into account opinions of different sectors of the public to revise specific steps to better the action plan, completion

schedules, key performance indicators, and other matters in order to build consensus and support for Taiwan's first national human rights action plan.

This action plan takes pragmatic steps to promote human rights reform, proposing feasible solutions and regular assessment mechanisms to keep the plan on track with high-quality performance so as to ensure Taiwan's sustainable development and continuous improvement of human rights standards. The government also carefully considers human rights issues that were nominated by different sectors of the public but not included in this action plan, calling on competent authorities to include any immediate steps that can be taken to improve matters into their routine work. Issues that still require social consensus or additional resources can be noted for the next action plan as a promise to actively work on the matter.

Chapter 1. Foreword

I. Origin

In Part II, paragraph 71 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, the World Conference on Human Rights recommended that each State consider the desirability of drawing up a national action plan identifying steps whereby that State would improve the promotion and protection of human rights. Each State is also recommended to add “improve human rights” as a policy goal so that the government and different communities can all participate in shaping policies and resources can be properly allocated and used to meet the policy goal and protect human rights. To this end, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (hereby OHCHR) published the Handbook on National Human Rights Plans of Action to encourage member states to establish national human rights action plans and provide regular guidance. The handbook provides specific suggestions on matters like forming relevant organizations, compiling human rights issues, soliciting opinions, staffing, and follow-up assessment for member states to reference when formulating their human rights action plans. As of today, 64 countries, including the UK, Australia, Finland, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, China, South Korea, Thailand, and the Philippines, have proposed national human rights action plans.

Though government agencies implemented human rights protection in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (hereby referred to jointly as the Two Covenants) and their implementation acts, Taiwan still lacks a national human rights action plan that can serve as an overall guiding framework for human rights policies. As a result, the steps taken by each agency to promote human rights lack comprehensive strategic thinking. Each agency handled the matter separately, which meant that human rights promotion across the nation was disjointed instead of cohesively integrated from top to bottom.

After the Second National Report on the Two Covenants, the international review committee pointed out in No. 78 of their concluding observations and recommendations that Taiwan should establish a national human rights action plan with clear goals, indicators, and benchmarks to implement obligations to the Two Covenants and the opinions put forward by the review committee. To implement the above recommendations, the Executive Yuan had discussions with civic groups at the 7th Meeting on the Concluding Observations and Recommendations for Taiwan’s Second National Report on ICCPR/ICESCR convened on October 27, 2017.

Considering the lack of manpower in the government to handle human rights affairs, the decision was made to tentatively adopt the plans/measures implemented by different competent authorities in response to No. 78 of the Concluding Observations and Recommendations as the National Human Rights Action Plan.

At the 32nd meeting of the Presidential Office Human Rights Consultative Committee (disbanded on May 19, 2020 after completing its scheduled objective) convened on June 29, 2018, some committee members pointed out that Taiwan should still formulate a National Human Rights Action Plan and hoped that the Executive Yuan would select major human rights issues that Taiwan needs to handle as soon as possible for the action plan.

To implement the decision of the 32nd meeting of the Presidential Office Human Rights Consultative Committee and considering the international trend of human rights protection stemming from how the UN encouraged member states to establish national human rights action plans as well as calls from domestic and foreign human rights scholars actively campaigning for Taiwan to establish a fitting national human rights action plan that can serve as the highest guiding principle when it comes to human rights policies. On July 4, 2018 the Ministry of Justice was instructed to conduct research and hold discussions, marking the start of Taiwan's development of a national human rights action plan.

II. Target

This action plan represents Taiwan's commitment to include human rights protection in its overall development and relevant government policies. Through the action plan, government resources can be effectively and properly allocated and used to promote human rights protection, ensuring that all people have an understanding of their fundamental rights and providing a guide for Taiwan's administration plan to gradually implement different human rights reforms in pursuit of the ultimate goal of Taiwan as a leader of human rights protection in this international human rights trend.

III. Premise

Discussions to formulate this action plan began in 2018, and the first draft was proposed in 2020. The hope is for the government to improve human rights issues that should be prioritized from 2020 to 2024, implementing fundamental rights protection regarding relevant human rights issues with various improvements measures and actions set out in this action plan.

The action plan references the UN's Handbook on National Human Rights Plans of Action in deciding which issues to prioritize, considering factors such as the severity of the issue's impact on human rights, how limited resources are and the cost needed for a "solution," how completing a task can affect other targets, and how much the public pays attention to the issue. Additionally, because this action plan is mainly a commitment to ensure the implementation of priority human rights issues before 2024, the selection of priority human rights issues is based on not just the above-mentioned factors, but also background information such as the concluding observations and recommendations of national reports on the Two Covenants, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women(hereafter referred to as CEDAW), the Convention on the Rights of the Child(hereafter referred to as CRC), and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities(hereafter referred to as CRPD), as well as parallel (alternative, shadow) reports by NGOs and follow-up assessment plans in response to concluding observations and recommendations. The current state of Taiwan and current human rights practices are also taken into account when it comes to the selection of priority issues. This action pays especially close attention to certain ethnicities or groups, such as indigenous peoples, the LGBTI community (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, hereafter referred to as LGBTI), foreign migrant workers, the elderly, prisoners and rehabilitated offenders, women, children, disabled people, refugees, and homeless people, who lack legal or social resources or are marginalized and disadvantaged, selecting issues that have the most social consensus, urgency, importance, and public attention.

Though the priority issues set out in this action plan are concise, they go deep into the core of each issue with a pragmatic attitude. Specific actions taken must be feasible in hopes of achieving the goal of advancing human rights within the planned timetable. Priority issues not included in the action plan are by no means unimportant, and aspects that can be improved upon immediately may be added to the routine work of various competent authorities. Issues that still require more consensus and need to take stock of government resources can be listed as an issue for the next national human rights action plan.

IV. Public Participation and Communication

Initial discussions around the issues selected for this action plan were conducted by the National Human Rights Action Plan Development Consultative Committee (hereafter referred to as the Consultative Committee) organized by

representatives from various sectors of the community, taking into account the findings of commissioned studies and recommendations from government agencies and NGOs (see Sections 1 and 2 of Chapter 2 of this action plan). Large public hearing and seminars on individual issues were held after the action plan (first draft and second draft) was completed to engage, communicate with, and listen to the thoughts of people from different sectors regarding human rights issues in order to make further revisions. The process has also taken into consideration suggestions from government agencies, NGOs, and scholars in Taiwan and abroad while expanding procedures for public participation. In line with the freedom of government information, matters discussed in relevant meetings are disclosed to the public. Issues that are not included in this action plan are also disclosed to the public via the Human Rights in Taiwan website, explaining to the public the factors considered, reasons for certain decisions, and follow-up measures. This is done to strengthen communication between different sectors and prepare resources in order to gradually build consensus on furthering human rights and gather support for this action plan from all sectors.

V. Necessary Resources

When promoting and implementing this action plan, each competent authority should gather ample available resources by properly allocating and planning the manpower and budget, especially making sure to follow Article 7 of the Act to Implement the Two Covenants, which states that “All levels of governmental institutions and agencies should preferentially allocate funds to implement human rights protection provisions in the two Covenants according to their financial status, and take steps to enforce”; according to Article 5 of the aforementioned implementation act, different agencies should coordinate and communicate with each other if matters regarding this action plan involve the responsibilities of different agencies. Taiwan’s highest administrative agency, the Executive Yuan, shall support and coordinate competent authorities that lack relevant manpower and budget while implementing, promoting, and handling matters pertaining to this action plan so as to fulfill Taiwan’s commitment to implementing this action plan.

VI. Links Between National Administration, the Other Covenants, and the National Human Rights Action Plans

(I) Links Between the National Development Plan, Administration Plans, and Human Rights Protection

To pursue the sustainable development of Taiwan, the government formulates a mid-term national development plan every four years, which each ministry under the Executive Yuan references to formulate their own annual administration plans. The current mid-term national development plan for the years 2021 to 2024 is the country's overall development goal and important strategic plan for the next four years. Under four main policy pillars: "implement New Economic Development Model 2.0," "forge a happy society that takes care of all ages," "shape a LOHAS homeland for balanced development," and "build peaceful foreign relations for generations," the mid-term national development plan aims to promote comprehensive long-term care service systems; implement housing justice; establish social safety nets for children and adolescents, the elderly, and women; safeguard employment, occupational safety, labor welfare, and other rights and interests; protect the rights of indigenous peoples, immigrants, and other diverse groups, as well as other measures directly or indirectly related to the promotion of human rights protection and people's well-being. Based on this plan, relevant ministries and committees will formulate administration plans¹ to implement on their own. The groups that each relevant administration plan focuses on may be different, but the implementation of each plan can bring about the realization of human rights and achieve the goal of promoting human rights protection and people's well-being.

(II) Links Between the Concluding Observations and Recommendations Regarding Five Core United Nations Human Rights Conventions, Administration Plans, and the National Human Rights Action Plan

Since 2009, Taiwan has incorporated core United Nations human rights conventions like the Two Covenants, the CEDAW, the CRC, and the CRPD into domestic law. Even though Taiwan is not a member state, it voluntarily abides by the provisions of the above-mentioned conventions, developing independent assessment models and allowing international human rights experts to review its practice of human rights protection. In response to human rights oversights pointed out by international human rights experts after their examination of Taiwan's national

¹ Here, administration plans include annual administration plans formulated by different ministries and committees, as well as other plans formed by the government for different administrative needs.

reports on the aforementioned conventions in their concluding observations and recommendations (or summarized opinions and recommendations², hereby referred to as concluding observations and recommendations), government agencies establish specific improvement measures, a timetable for completing such measures, relevant indicators, and a periodic assessment mechanism to track how human rights oversights are improved. Responses to the concluding observations and recommendations regarding the implementation of the five core United Nations human rights conventions (currently including responses to the concluding observations and recommendations on the implementation of the Two Covenants, concluding observations and recommendations on the implementation of the CEDAW, concluding observations and recommendations on the implementation of the CRC, and the concluding observations and recommendations on the implementation of the CRPD) are part of the government's commitment to take relevant and specific actions to improve human rights deficiencies within a certain period of time. Although not "action plans" in name, these responsive are substantively action plans for each convention before a formal action plan is put in place. The budget for actions taken by competent government agencies to improve these human rights oversights are also handled through the budgeting procedures of relevant administration plans³.

Although human rights oversights that have yet to comply with the five core United Nations human rights conventions have all been addressed by the concluding observations and recommendations of each convention and registered for monitoring, the government has limited resources and must work in stages, therefore some oversights have not improved as much as expected. Therefore, the government has conducted a comprehensive review of Taiwan's current human rights situation and included issues that most urgently need to be improved upon within four years into this action plan. Relevant administration plans developed by various competent authorities based on the mid-term national development plan that outlines Taiwan's national development prospects and future administration priorities can be included in the improvement actions and necessary resources of this action plan to ensure that the goals of this action plan are consistent with the goals of relevant administration plans, demonstrating how this action plan is a consolidation of the administration plans of different government agencies in a push to implement them within a certain

² Concluding Observations and Recommendations published after the international review meeting for the 2014 2nd National Report on the CEDAW.

³ Same as Note 1. The relevant administration plans mentioned after refers to the same scope.

time period. As stated in the OHCHR's Handbook on National Human Rights Plans of Action, the purpose of formulating national human rights action plans is to promote the improvement and protection of human rights in a nation. Incorporating the goal of "improving human rights" into public policies allow government departments to communicate and interact with different groups to work together on establishing specific goals and actions, using government administration plans to properly distribute resources and ensure targets and actions are completed within a set timetable. This is an important reason, purpose, and merit of formulating a national human rights action plan. Taiwan not only actively evaluates responses to the concluding observations and recommendations regarding each convention but also voluntarily proposed this action plan to meet the expectations of the UN for member states to develop national human rights action plans and receive the aforementioned benefits.

(III) Links Between the Other Action Plans, Administration Plans, and the National Human Rights Action Plan

In addition to the relevant aforementioned human rights action plan, the National Conference on Judicial Reform went through three phases from 2016 to 2017: gathering opinions, group meetings, and summary meetings, receiving 87 points and 303 sub-points of concluding observations, including access to judicial resources for disadvantaged groups, prison reform, and establishing child and gender-friendly judicial systems, each with relevant steps that can be taken to make improvements and establish an assessment mechanism. Implementing these steps are conducive to improving Taiwan's judicial human rights, which is closely tied to the implementation of the human rights conventions like the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (hereafter referred to as ICCPR) and the CRPD.

Additionally, in line with the norms and spirit of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the government first announced the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights on December 10, 2020. The action plan covers business-related human rights protection issues, proposing future key directions and measures, requiring businesses to practice human rights protection and fulfill social responsibilities while pursuing economic development, which echoes the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (hereafter referred to as ICESCR).

Taiwan is currently drafting the Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights, which takes into account working environments and conditions, labor exploitation,

management of vessels flying flags of convenience, international cooperation, and other issues in the fisheries sector. Taiwan is introducing concrete reform actions under the action plan aiming to create appropriate, safe, and dignified working environments and conditions in line with relevant international standards. The Action Plan will also facilitate further implementation of the Two Covenants on Human Rights.

The aforementioned the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights and the Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights currently being drafted to address the concluding observations of the National Conference on Judicial Reform are both concrete steps towards improving the standards of human rights protection in Taiwan. The specific steps in relevant human rights action plans, whether complete or being drafted, as well as responses to this action plan and the concluding observations and recommendations regarding the five core United Nations Human Rights Conventions, are all closely connected to various administration plans. The above relevant human rights action plans, concluding observations and recommendations to each core United Nations Human Rights Conventions, and administration plans are separate but not mutually exclusive, working in tandem in complementary ways on affairs of human rights protection. At the same time, these plans all reflect the consistent goal of human rights concepts and human rights protection - realizing human rights. When the contents of each action plan are put into practice, it not only satisfies the overall development interests of the country, but also further ensures the overall improvement of human rights protection and standards, pushing the country towards a world-class human rights environment.

VII. Additional Notes and Limitations of this Action Plan

Some of the human rights issues and their sub-issues in this action plan include overlaps between deficiencies listed in the concluding observations and recommendation of the five above-mentioned core UN human rights conventions, responses to those observations and recommendations, completed or in-progress human rights relevant action plans, and the contents of various administration plans. This is to highlight the importance of the issues and sub-issues. However, it must be acknowledged that human rights issues are far-reaching and this action plan cannot cover planning and detailed policies and measures for all human rights issues.

Chapter 2. Formulation Process and Selection of Human Rights Issues

I. According to the Plan to Promote the Establishment of a Mechanism for Formulating a National Human Rights Action Plan, a Human Rights Action Plan Consultative Committee and Working Group Was Set Up

Before this action plan is formulated, the Ministry of Justice referenced the guiding principles regarding the preparation stages and the formation of a national coordination committee in the UN Handbook on National Human Rights Plans of Action to form the Plan to Promote the Establishment of a Mechanism for Formulating a National Human Rights Action Plan. The plan determined that the Consultative Committee be formed under the Executive Yuan Human Rights Protection Working Group to establish specific tasks and timetables regarding the National Human Rights Action Plan. The plan is presented and passed at the 35th meeting of the Executive Yuan Human Rights Protection Working Group on March 25, 2019.

Considering that the size of the Consultative Committee should be large enough to meet with representatives from government agencies, stakeholders, NGOs, and other parties while operating smoothly and cost-effectively, it was determined that the committee should have around 20 members. Additionally, to achieve the goal of effectively implementing this action plan and obtaining broad support and participation, the members should include representatives from important government agencies and NGOs. In line with strategies of “establishing a dedicated working group,” “open disclosure of information,” “strengthening diverse participation,” and “interdisciplinary (inter-departmental) collaboration” and taking into account the recommendations of the UN Handbook on National Human Rights Plans of Action, a representative and diverse Consultative Committee with 21 members was formed in November 2019.

The Consultative Committee has a dual-chairmanship system to ensure gaining attention of the public and playing role in coordinating and integrating government and non-governmental observations and resources. The Executive Yuan officials that oversees the human rights affairs of the Two Covenants and the health and welfare affairs served jointly as chairmen to raise awareness of the universal human rights values of this action plan and made the plan more complete. Other members include

1. 10 representatives from important government agencies: one representative each from the Judicial Yuan, the Legislative Yuan, the Control Yuan, the Department of

Gender Equality under the Executive Yuan, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Health and Welfare, the Ministry of Labor, and the Council of Agriculture of the Executive Yuan; 2. Four representatives from the Executive Yuan human rights working groups: one representative each from the Gender Equality Committee, the Human Rights Protection and Promotion Working Group, Working Group for Promoting the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the Working Group for Promoting the Welfare and Rights of Child and Youth; 3. Five representatives from non-governmental organization: one representative each from human rights groups, human rights scholars and experts, media, business groups, and trade union groups.

To effectively utilize the professional knowledge of committee members and handle specific affairs regarding human rights issues listed in the action plan in order to share the workload of the Consultative Committee and balance administrative efficiency, the National Human Rights Action Plan Development Consultative Committee Working Group (hereafter referred to as the Working Group) was established under the Consultative Committee. Consisting of two conveners and five members representing groups other than the non-governmental organizations, the Working Group helps in the selection of priority issues to be included in the National Human Rights Action Plan and other related matters.

II. Gathering and Selecting Human Rights Issues

(I) Stage 1 of Gathering Human Rights Issues

1. Soliciting concerns from various government and non-governmental agencies

Human rights issues covered by the National Human Rights Action Plan should be extensively discussed with NGOs to reach a consensus on the content of each issue, a point that is emphasized by the UN Handbook on National Human Rights Plans of Action. Regarding the human rights issues that should be covered by this action plan, letters were sent in August 2018 to agencies under the Judicial Yuan, the Legislative Yuan, the Control Yuan, the Examination Yuan, and the Executive Yuan to gather human rights issues that are closely connected with human rights protection, can have a major impact on human rights, or oversights in dire need of improvement that each agency has identified throughout their work. These urgent issues can be listed as major priority human rights issues that should be promoted and protected in the National Human Rights Action Plan. Letters were also sent to NGOs in June 2019 to gather major human rights issues that should be included in the National Human Rights Action Plan. Information was also posted to the Public Policy Online

Participation Network Platform - Talk Section to seek out more diverse opinions from various sectors of society.

In total, 17 government agencies including the Ministry of Justice put forward 30 human rights issues, and 33 NGOs including Covenants Watch put forward 123 human rights issues. The content of each issue involves the protection of fundamental rights stipulated in relevant core UN human rights conventions and domestic laws (e.g., the right to equality, the right to health, the right to work, the linguistic rights, the right of access to the courts, the right to life, the right to privacy, the property rights, the labor rights, the right to adequate housing, and the right to truth); additionally repeated issues raised by various government agencies and NGOs are also summarized and described here.

2. Commission research to gather case studies

To fully understand the human rights conditions in Taiwan, in-depth research into how human rights conventions are implemented in Taiwan was conducted to present major human rights issues that should be prioritized and included in this action plan. Major issues listed for the National Human Rights Action Plan in 2019 were studied first, with research being completed in the same year.

In addition to the 30 human rights issues raised by the above-mentioned government agencies and 123 human rights issues raised by NGOs, the concluding observations and recommendations of previous national reports on core human rights conventions ratified or incorporated into domestic law by Taiwan, follow-up implementation and management of these observations and recommendations, parallel (alternative, shadow) reports by NGOs, and the major factors for selecting priority issues listed in the Handbook on National Human Rights Plans of Action were also considered as the basis for selection. The six major issues suggested by studies to be included in this first National Human Rights Action Plan include “establishing an independent national human rights institution based on the Paris Principles,” “equality and non-discrimination,” “abolition of the death penalty,” “housing justice,” “businesses and human rights,” and “human rights education.”

3. Complete a first draft of the action plan based on human rights issues gathered in stage 1

After considering the recommendations of government agencies, domestic human rights organizations, and the commissioned studies, the Consultative Committee and its working group had discussions and decided to include seven major human rights

issues (including their sub-issues) into the action plan. These issues are “strengthening the human rights protection system,” “human rights education,” “equality and non-discrimination,” “housing justice,” “digital human rights,” “business and human rights,” and “protection of refugee rights.” After the competent authorities formulated actions, a completion schedule, and key performance indicators for each issue, the Consultative Committee and its working group invited relevant experts and scholars as well as members of the Executive Yuan Human Rights Protection Working Group for further reviews and discussions. Throughout these discussions, competent authorities were provided with relevant recommendations to make revisions. The action plan (first draft) was completed in September 2020.

(II) Stage 2 of Gathering Human Rights Issues

1. Organize public hearings for the action plan (first draft)

On October 29, 2020, the Consultative Committee held a public hearing on the formulation of the action plan (first draft). Nearly 200 people from nearly 60 NGOs, experts and scholars, and members of the National Human Rights Commission of the Control Yuan participated in the meeting. There were extensive exchanges and heated discussions. Similar ideas were consolidated into one comment, and 155 comments were made on the action plan (first draft). After extensive discussions at the public hearing, NGOs expect the first draft of the first action plan to incorporate some important human rights issues in the current administrative efforts. Therefore, the Consultative Committee and working group continued to convene meetings starting on December, 2020 to revise certain issues included in the first draft (after the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights was announced on December 10, 2020, the issue “business and human rights” was removed from the draft). Additional sub-issues were discussed, and the issues “strengthening protection of the right to life” and “climate change and human rights” were added. Also added were the sub-issues “monitoring and assessment mechanisms of human rights education,” “guaranteeing and promoting citizens’ right to participate in public affairs,” and “priority applicability of conventions.” After competent authorities formulated “plans,” “timetables,” and “key performance indicators” for the added (sub) issues, the action plan (second draft) was completed in September 2021.

2. Organize hearings for each issue of the action plan (second draft)

The Consultative Committee organized four hearings on various issues included in the action plan (second draft) between October 3 and 17, 2021 to again communicate

with relevant NGOs and human rights experts and scholars regarding the content of the second draft of the action plan. Approximately 440 people, including representatives from nearly 50 NGOs, experts and scholars, and members of the National Human Rights Commission of the Control Yuan participated in the four sessions. In addition to in-depth discussions on various issues, the hearings also explained the factors behind why relevant issues were included in the action plan, as well as the supervisory mechanisms planned for the future to win the support and trust of NGOs, experts, and scholars. After the hearings, the Consultative Committee considered the opinions gathered and then revise the content of the second draft. The draft was then submitted to the 42nd meeting of the Executive Yuan Human Rights Protection Working Group for finalization. After being approved through administrative procedures, the final draft will be released to the public.

III. Human Rights Issue Selection Process and Reasons

Taiwan's commitment to improving human rights oversights through this action plan includes taking a comprehensive inventory of human rights oversights that need to be improved, listing them in this action plan, which proposes concrete steps that can be taken to make improvements, organizes resources, and ensures improvements are made within a certain period of time. The decision of which human rights issues to include in the action plan is based on the two-stage issue selection process described above. Human rights issues were gathered through stages, and submitted to the Consultative Committee and Working Group, as well as the Executive Yuan Human Rights Protection Working Group meetings. Relevant government agencies, experts and scholars, and NGOs were invited to take part. After repeated and careful discussions, it was agreed that there are many human rights issues and that the government's limited resources cannot tackle them all. Also, some human rights issues lack the immediate social consensus needed to overcome them. Improving human rights is non-stop work that requires managing limited resources to complete a large amount of work; considering that the National Human Rights Action Plan is a commitment made by Taiwan to protect human rights, the specific steps taken must be able to be effectively implemented within the time limit. Therefore, important indicators for selecting priority issues include the feasibility of specific implementations, the irreversibility of human rights violations, the current international trends, human rights abuses, and public attention. Based on this, the eight major priority issues selected for Taiwan's first National Human Rights Action Plan are "strengthening human rights protection," "human rights education," equality and non-discrimination," "strengthening protection of the right to life," "housing

justice,” “climate change and human rights,” “digital human rights,” and “protection of refugee rights.” Under each issue are sub-issues that are highlighted as matters in need of special attention. This allows the action plan to focus on human rights issues that need to be improved upon and develop concrete solutions and schedules. The reasons for including the eight major issues are listed below:

- 1. Strengthening human rights protection:** Guaranteeing the rights of minorities and disadvantaged groups to participate in political affairs should be the ultimate manifestation of the protection of human rights in a politically democratic country, to ensure political participation is accessible and approachable for minorities and disadvantaged groups and achieve equality. Strengthening human rights protection is the cornerstone of a sound system. By establishing and strengthening human rights protection systems, the government can effectively formulate appropriate plans, launch processes, and allocate resources, which is why strengthening such systems is important. Taiwan has addressed international reviews of various core human rights conventions, the concluding observations and recommendations of which all included strengthening human rights protection systems, such as the need to establish a national human rights institution according to the Paris Principles as soon as possible, the incorporation and implementation of the nine UN core human rights conventions into domestic legislation, and having these conventions take precedence over domestic law. Additionally, NGOs want the government to establish a special human rights unit at the highest administrative level, a unit with sufficient supervisory power to coordinate human rights affairs and oversee relevant human rights statistics, impact assessments, establish indicators, and research developmental policies for effective vertical promotion and horizontal integration of different departments to share labor and resources in tackling human rights protection affairs. Therefore, “protecting and enhancing citizens’ right to participate in public affairs,” “setting up a dedicated human rights unit in the Executive Yuan,” “completing the incorporation and implementation of the UN core human rights conventions into domestic legislation,” “priority of the conventions,” “implementing the International Labour Organization Convention No. 188 and other core conventions,” and “establishing Taiwan’s human rights indicators and human rights impact assessment mechanisms” are the major focus of this action plan. After Taiwan’s National Human Rights Commission began operating on August 1, 2020, it serves the function of monitoring human rights conditions and investigating human rights violations, proposing relevant legislative recommendations and demanding administrative agencies to actively propose ways to improve overall human rights. Regarding the link between the National Human

Rights Convention and this action plan, please read the following chapters.

- 2. Human rights education:** Human rights education is an important issue that has been addressed in the concluding observations and recommendations of the core human rights conventions that have undergone international reviews. Like the international review committee pointed out in their Concluding Observations and Recommendations of the second national report on the Two Covenants: “The adequacy and effectiveness of human rights education and training remain serious concerns. Limited improvements have been made since the review committee noted the problem of ‘quantity not quality’ in relevant education and training courses during their initial review in 2013.” Other concluding observations and recommendations, like the ones for the national reports of the CRC or the ones for the first CRPD, all went a step further to suggest that the government should provide widespread training and education on the highest principle of the right to life. They also took the lead in raising public awareness that the prohibition of torture and inhuman punishment is the priority in realizing the right to life, something NGOs actively advocated for. In addition, human rights education is one of the more important parts of other countries’ human rights action plans (e.g., the Netherlands, Finland, Australia), which shows the necessity of including human rights education issues to the curriculum. However, promoting the education of the significant human rights issues mentioned above, human rights education for specific personnel, and assessment of the effectiveness of such education requires a set of systematic monitoring and assessment methods. Therefore, human rights education was included in this action plan and requires the establishment of monitoring and effectiveness assessment mechanisms.
- 3. Equality and non-discrimination:** Like it is suggested in the UN Handbook on National Human Rights Plans of Action, special attention should be paid to disadvantaged groups to achieve equality and non-discrimination. These groups often face problems like marginalization, uneven distribution of resources, and isolation. Therefore, when selecting major issues for the National Human Rights Action Plan, special care should be given to the human rights conditions and improvements of these groups. Equality and non-discrimination is an issue found in every core human rights convention, and the major issue proposed by government agencies also includes improving equality for women, LGBTI, children and adolescents, disabled people, and indigenous peoples. Furthermore, this issue is commonly a major issue in other countries’ human rights action plans (e.g., the Netherlands, Finland, Australia), which shows its importance. This action plan will provide more detailed plans to protect the rights of different disadvantaged groups.

4. **Strengthening the protection of the right to life:** Suicide is the second leading cause of death among adolescents aged 15 to 24 in Taiwan. According to the World Health Organization, more than 700,000 people die by suicide every year around the world, and suicide is the fourth leading cause of death among adolescents. This is a serious public health problem, and the country should take effective preventive measures accordingly; although military personnel is not the main demographic for suicide, the specificity of their occupation, the fact that there were eight suicides of military personnel within two months at the end of 2021, and the fact that most military personnel are young or middle-aged have drawn society's attention to military personnel's right to life. Additionally, accident injury has long been among the top ten causes of death in Taiwan. Accident injuries are the leading cause of death among people under the age of 24, and an average of 3,000 people die from traffic accidents each year. In particular, the number of youths and elderly people that die in traffic accidents has increased year by year, making it clear that Taiwan should focus on establishing effective measures to reduce suicide among teens and young soldiers and the number of deaths caused by road traffic accidents. The right to life is the supreme right and a prerequisite for all other human rights. The death penalty is not only contrary to the protection of the right to life, but also inconsistent with the meaning of human dignity. The concluding observations and recommendations of the two international reviews of the national reports on the Two Covenants all stressed that Taiwan should abolish the death penalty. Point 58 of the second concluding observations and recommendations called the death penalty "the most extreme form of corporal punishment" and said that the government should lead the development of human rights instead of using public opinions as a reason for suspending the abolishment of the death penalty. The concluding observations and recommendations also stressed the importance of raising public awareness against torture and inhuman punishment. As Taiwan pushes to incorporate the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (hereafter referred to as the CAT) into domestic legislation, strengthening awareness of the protection of the right to life is particularly important. Regarding the above-mentioned concluding observations and recommendations, follow-up review measures have been carried out in recent years (including the Research and Implementation Group on Gradual Abolishment of Death Penalty resuming meetings on December 5, 2017). These issues are also closely followed by the public and have significant impact on human rights in terms of the right to life, human dignity, and abolishment of torture. In conclusion, issues related to suicide prevention, reduction of traffic accident fatality rates and death penalty policies are prioritized.

- 5. Housing justice:** The concluding observations and recommendations of the two international reviews of the national reports of the Two Covenants all paid considerable attention to the issue of the right to adequate housing. In particular, the second concluding observations and recommendations directly pointed out Taiwan’s current housing problems, including the government’s “market-based” solutions in response to the housing and land crisis, resulting in a lack of accessible and affordable housing, as well as other violations of the right to adequate housing due to land expropriation, zoning, and other policies. Among major issues raised by NGOs, concerns from different groups on related issues can also be found, including “improving transparency and public participation in urban planning (spatial projects),” “cases of forced evictions and forcible occupation of land continue to appear, making it clear that there are still institutional problems to be resolved,” and “there is insufficient protection of indigenous people’s rights to housing in urban areas,” indicating that housing justice is a human rights issue that has received widespread social concern and is an urgent human rights issue. In addition to the importance of the issue of housing justice itself, the government has also proposed considerable explanations and specific measures for housing justice in its response to the above-mentioned concluding observations and recommendations, including implementing the due process for land expropriation, expanding public participation, amending relevant laws (e.g., amendments to the Land Expropriation Act), taking inventory and obtaining more accurate data on the occupation of state-owned public real estate. These measures show that the government has a specific direction when it comes to taking measures to implement housing justice, which should be able to be completed within the timetable set in this action plan. Therefore, the issue should be included as a major human rights issue. In addition to the above-mentioned issues related to housing justice, the housing rights of disadvantaged groups such as homeless people, indigenous peoples, disabled people, and the LGBTI community, also fall within the scope of this issue. Therefore, this action plan refers to the recommendations to plan specific improvement measures as a whole.
- 6. Climate change and human rights:** The environment is inextricable with human rights. The impact of climate change on the environment has threatened all human beings, especially disadvantaged groups such as children, the elderly, the physically and mentally disabled, indigenous peoples, and the homeless, making it difficult for them to fully enjoy human rights. For example, the lack of a safe, clean, and healthy environment results in people not being able to fully enjoy the right to life, health, good, water, housing, worsening violations of their human rights. Therefore, the

United Nations passed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (hereafter referred to as UNFCCC) in 1992, declaring the protection of the climate system for the interests of present and future generations, helping the climate system adapt to climate change. The Convention's goal is to protect human rights, but also takes into account the needs of economic development. In 2018, the UN adopted 16 Framework Principles on Human Rights and the Environment, which clearly stated that countries have basic obligations to enable people to enjoy a clean, healthy and sustainable environment in accordance with the human rights law. These principles highlight how the impact of climate change on the protection of human rights is an issue that transcends nations. All countries must share the responsibility and work together to develop prevention strategies and measures in response to climate change. Therefore, the inclusion of this issue in this action plan not only pledges to the international community that Taiwan will take on its responsibility, but also conforms to the international trend of emerging human rights issues.

- 7. Digital human rights:** With the rapid development and changes of digital technology, violations of privacy is a constant problem. The establishment of an independent and specialized agency for personal data protection and privacy protection mechanisms has gradually become an emerging issue explored by the international community. In the concluding observations and recommendations for the third national report on CEDAW, the review committee is concerned about the current forms of violence occurring on the internet and other digital environments, reminding Taiwan to raise awareness of online violence and develop relevant regulatory mechanisms for hate speech, ways to evaluate the effectiveness of various measures, and remedial measures. Major issues raised by NGOs also contend that the government should examine and revise the emerging patterns of crimes against women and children enabled by digital technology. These emerging patterns of gender-based violence or discrimination enabled by digital technology are ongoing. Every country in the world are facing this new issue, although most have not included it as an important issue in their human rights action plans. Governments should be aware of this crisis and take measures against it.

8. **Refugee rights protection:** The concluding observations and recommendations of the two international reviews of the national reports of the Two Covenants both recommended that Taiwan promptly establish a refugee law that includes the principle of no forced repatriations. So far, Taiwan has yet to establish a relevant legal system on refugee issues, resulting in the lack of specific and clear asylum application procedures for cases seeking asylum from China, Hong Kong, Tibet or other countries. Domestic NGOs have called for such measures for a long time and recommended the issue be included as a major issue during the human rights issue gathering process for this action plan to protect the rights and interests of refugees. Furthermore, the protection of the rights and interests of refugees is also a major issue that the international community is concerned about. Therefore, the inclusion of this issue in this action plan can demonstrate that Taiwan, as a member of the international community, has the same attitude towards human rights protection as countries that focus strongly on human rights and that it is willing to assist and safeguard refugees regardless of nationality or race.

Chapter 3. Maintaining the Independence of the National Human Rights Commission

In accordance with the Paris Principles, Taiwan formulated and promulgated the Organic Act of the Control Yuan National Human Rights Commission on January 8, 2020, and established the Control Yuan's National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on August 1 of the same year. The functions and powers of the NHRC are as follows: Investigate incidents involving torture, human rights violations, or various forms of discrimination; study and review national human rights policies and make recommendations; publish thematic reports on major human rights issues or annual reports on the state of human rights in the nation; assist in promoting the incorporation of important international human rights instruments into domestic legislation; monitor the implementation of human rights education; collaborate with domestic and international human rights organizations; and provide independent opinions for national reports submitted by government agencies in accordance with the provisions of international human rights conventions.

In terms of maintaining the NHRC's financial and personnel independence, government departments should ensure appropriate support is given to the NHRC for its budgetary bills and essential facilities so that it can fulfill operational needs and carry out its duties. With respect to exercising the NHRC's functions and powers, the executive branch of the government shall respect the independence of the NHRC when coordinating, communicating, and collaborating with the NHRC to facilitate the enhancement of the overall state of human rights in Taiwan's; by the same token, relevant recommendations, reports and observations concerning human rights concluded by the NHRC shall be abided by, implemented, and incorporated by the executive branch into governance goals.

Chapter 4. Human Rights Issues

The “actions” described in this chapter on each sub-issue are not intended to cover all the actions planned by the government, instead, they are the core issues that must be prioritized, including common issues and mechanisms consistent across conventions, and actions with high policy level and organizational structure.

Each chapter will first include a brief explanation of the background, implementation status, current shortcomings, deficiencies, or areas in need of improvement of each sub-issue, before going into detail about “actions” taken to solve the above-mentioned problems, the relevant parties and competent authorities involved in the “actions,” a “timetable” for completing said actions, as well as “key performance indicators” for evaluating whether the goals of the “actions” have been achieved. Depending on the characteristics of the “actions” taken, if the specific content of an “action” has already been presented in each of the action plans or related actions, it will be presented through an outline and not described in detail in this chapter (e.g., Chapter 4, Human Rights Issue I. Strengthening the Human Rights Protection System (II) Promote the incorporation and implementation of the core UN human rights conventions into domestic legislation is the Implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination(hereafter referred to as ICERD). Regarding the specific content of the implementation and promotion of the Convention, the government has formulated a separate International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination Promotion Plan(hereafter referred to as ICERD Promotion Plan); as for “actions” that do not fall into the above-mentioned situations or are not mentioned in other action plans, but are of great importance and can accurately address human rights deficiencies in sub-issues with clear and concise steps, the content of these “actions” will be summarized so that different sectors of society are made aware of the clear actions that the government intends to take.

The “actions” proposed by competent authorities in this chapter were all proposed after taking a comprehensive inventory of available resources, weighing the current inadequacies of human rights protection in Taiwan as well as international human rights changes, evaluating the organization of resources (including budget and manpower), and setting concrete goals and completion schedules; other than the first draft stage of this action plan, as described in Chapter 1, Section 4, Public Participation and Communication, relevant large-scale public hearings and briefing sessions for separate issues were held to initiate dialogue and communication with various sectors of the community. In addition, depending on factors like type, nature, or necessity of different “actions,” competent

authorities may have studied the feasibility of public participation in the process of implementing or handling these “actions,” encouraging public participation by organizing public hearings, review meetings, and briefing sessions, for example, the government encouraged public participation in process of implementing the key performance indicator “complete the 3rd national report and its international review, and implement the resulting concluding observations and recommendations” for the action “continue to implement the Two Covenants.”

I. Strengthen the Human Rights Protection System

(I) Set Up a Dedicated Human Rights Unit in the Executive Yuan

In order to implement the Two Covenants, the CEDAW, the CRC, the CRPD, and the ICERD, the Executive Yuan established the Gender Equality Committee, the Human Rights Protection and Promotion Working Group, the Working Group for Promoting the Welfare and Rights of Child, Committee for the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the Coordination Committee on Prevention of Human Trafficking and Elimination of Racial Discrimination to provide advice for government policies and supervise competent authorities’ implementation of relevant affairs. Also, 11 ministries, including the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of National Defense, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Health and Welfare, the Environmental Protection Administration of the Executive Yuan, the Ministry of Labor, the Council of Indigenous Peoples, the Ocean Affairs Council, and the Ministry of Finance, have also established their respective human rights working groups to promote the above-mentioned human rights affairs at the ministry level through the diversity of committee members, the normalization of working group operations, as well as clear functions and objectives. Since 2020, the Human Rights Protection Working Group of the Executive Yuan has regularly tracked the operation status and proposal content of the human rights working groups of various ministries and committees to strengthen and improve their functions.

However, seeing as agencies under the Executive Yuan had poor organization and lack of effectiveness when it comes to handling human rights affairs, and the Presidential Office Human Rights Consultative Committee and the Supervisory Yuan both made repeated suggestions for the Executive Yuan to establish a dedicated unit for human rights, the Human Rights System Team under the Executive Yuan’s Human Rights Protection Working Group discussed the formation of a dedicated human rights unit under the Executive Yuan (Department of Human Rights) to act as

the highest administrative unit for the research and development of human rights affairs in Taiwan, helping to formulate national human rights policies, to direct and supervise the implementation of human rights among relevant ministries and committees, and to coordinate and track the effect of inter-departmental issues across different conventions.

Once established, the Department of Human Rights will be in charge of formulating Taiwan's human rights policies, human rights laws, and national human rights action plans; researching and developing human rights indicators, human rights budgeting, and human rights policy assessment; and serving as the staff unit of the Executive Yuan's human rights working group and handling relevant human rights matters; considering the development of international trends, human rights protection is becoming increasingly important, complex and professional, yet government agencies lack dedicated manpower to carry out relevant tasks. Therefore the government will actively confer with the Examination Yuan about the feasibility of adding human rights and gender issues as subjects of civil service exams.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--|-----------|--|
| 1 | Establish a Department of Human Rights under the Executive Yuan. | Executive Yuan (Executive Yuan Human Rights Protection Working Group (Human Rights System Team)) and relevant ministries and departments | 2020-2022 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submit the Assessment Report on the Establishment of the Department of Human Rights Under the Executive Yuan to the Human Rights Protection Working Group of the Executive Yuan. 2. Complete the division of labor and personnel allocation with relevant agencies (units). 3. Amend the Regulations for Departmental Affairs of the Executive Yuan and the Executive Yuan Organization Chart, which includes the Department of Human Rights. |

(II) Promote the Incorporation and Implementation of Core UN Human Rights Conventions into Domestic Legislation

Since 2009, Taiwan has successively incorporated and implemented core human rights conventions such as the Two Covenants, the CEDAW, the CRC, and the CRPD, comprehensively and continuously reviewing laws and regulations, writing national reports, and hosting international review meetings to meet the norms of international conventions.

Also, the ICERD went into effect in Taiwan on January 9, 1971, and has the same effect as domestic law. However, the Convention has yet to be fully implemented in Taiwan. In order to comprehensively protect the rights of those who face racial discrimination, the government formulated the ICERD Promotion Plan as a guideline for education training, publicity, and regulatory review measures. Starting in 2020, the Elimination of Racial Discrimination Working Group was established under the Executive Yuan's Coordination Committee on Prevention of Human Trafficking and Elimination of Racial Discrimination to help and supervise relevant measures to implement the Convention, as well as handle matters such as the review of the Convention or consultation regarding the Convention.

Taiwan is also actively working to incorporate conventions that have yet to be incorporated into domestic law, such as the the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (hereafter referred to as ICPPED), the CAT, and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (hereafter referred to as ICMW), gradually constructing a full picture of human rights protection in Taiwan.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---------------------|-----------|--|
| 2 | Continue to implement the Two Covenants. | Ministry of Justice | 2021-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete the 3rd national report and its international review, and implement the resulting concluding observations and recommendations. 2. Continue to conduct legal reviews. |

**NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
ACTION PLAN**

2022 ~ 2024

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|----------------------------------|---|-----------|---|
| 3 | Continue to implement the CEDAW. | Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan | 2021-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete the 4th national report and its international review, and implement the resulting concluding observations and recommendations. 2. Continue to conduct legal reviews. |
| 4 | Continue to implement the CRC. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2021-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete the 2nd national report and its international review, and implement the resulting concluding observations and recommendations. 2. Continue to conduct legal reviews. |
| 5 | Continue to implement the CRPD. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2021-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete the 2nd national Report and its international review, and implement the resulting Concluding Observations. 2. Continue to conduct legal reviews. |
| 6 | Implement the ICERD. | Ministry of the Interior | 2021-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete the 1st national report and its international review, and implement the resulting concluding observations and recommendations. 2. Organize reviews of laws and administrative measures that involve the Convention. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--------------------------|-----------|---|
| | | | | 3. Complete the interpretation of the Convention's provisions and the training of seed personnel; establish a dedicated website for the Convention to promote information. |
| 7 | Promote the incorporation of the ICPPED into domestic legislation. | Ministry of Justice | 2024 | Send the proposal for incorporation of Convention into domestic legislation to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation. |
| 8 | Promote the incorporation of the CAT into domestic legislation. | Ministry of the Interior | 2022-2024 | <p>1. A draft of the implementation act of this Convention has been submitted to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation and has been proposed as a priority for consideration.</p> <p>2. After passing the bill, the related agencies will examine the act and the first national report shall be completed within a year.</p> |
| 9 | Promote the incorporation of the ICMW into domestic legislation. | Ministry of Labor | 2024 | 1. Finish revising the Chinese translation (draft) of the Convention to properly convey the meaning of the official UN text and stay in line with the direction of Taiwan's legal subjectivity. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--------|---------------------|-----------|---|
| | | | | <p>2. Examine the appropriateness and necessity of the reservation clauses proposed by various agencies, and propose the value of joining the Convention on the protection of international human rights and the substantive meaning of promoting relevant national policies.</p> <p>3. Send the proposal for incorporation of Convention into domestic legislation to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation.</p> |

(III) Implement Convention No.188 of the International Labor Organization and the Other Core Conventions

1. Implementing the International Labor Organization (hereafter referred to as ILO) - Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188)

In order to carry out the provisions in ILO C188 Work in Fishing Convention, Taiwan is formalizing preliminary research projects on the Convention, collaborating across ministries to facilitate the incorporation of the key elements of the Convention into domestic legislation, and dedicating further efforts to protecting human rights. After reviewing the relevant regulations of the Convention regarding vessel owners, captains' responsibilities, minimum employment age, physical examination, staff deployment, working hours, crew lists, and living care, Taiwan has regulated relevant provisions through the Regulations on the Authorization and Management of Overseas Employment of Foreign Crew Members and the Regulations on the Management of the Crew of Fishing Vessels. Taiwan will keep promoting and strengthening relevant awareness and knowledge among the fisheries sector.

2. **Implement C029 of the ILO - Forced Labour Convention**

The Executive Yuan's Coordination Committee on Prevention of Human Trafficking and Elimination of Racial Discrimination serves as a platform for coordinating Taiwan's migrant workers' rights protection and human trafficking prevention efforts, integrating resources from different departments to actively carry out relevant tasks. Additionally, the Migrant Workers' Rights Group has been established under the Human Rights Protection Working Group of the Executive Yuan in January 2020. The group is responsible for discussing matters regarding the protection of the labor rights of migrant domestic workers and foreign fishers.

The concept of forced labor referred to in ILO C029 falls under the definition of labor exploitation in human trafficking. However, the current definition of labor exploitation in the Human Trafficking Prevention Act (labor to which pay is not commensurate with the work duty) does not encompass the concept of forced labor, and it is not distinctive enough to be clearly distinguishable from labor disputes. Therefore, the draft amendment to the Human Trafficking Prevention Act has revised the definition of labor exploitation to "the intention to subject people to slavery or slavery-like conditions, forced labor, or labor to which pay is not commensurate with the work duty" with the internationally-accepted concept of forced labor. Also, investigation of such cases, there are plans to promote the Human Trafficking Investigation Seed Instructor Qualification Program in order to improve the police's precision of action in crime fighting.

The Labor Standards Act and Employment Service Act each contains provisions, respectively, governing labor conditions and forbidding forced labor in the employment of foreigners. In practice, however, there are still institutions that are not familiar with the legal provisions, and migrant workers are often, due to lack of access to information, subject to unreasonable debts bondage which results in forced labor or labor to which pay is not commensurate with the work duty.

3. **Implement C087 of the ILO - Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention**

In order to protect workers' right of association and diversify the development of labor unions, the Labor Union Law was amended and implemented on May 1, 2011. The law not only changed the way to form labor unions from the original "permission-based system" to the more open and free "registration system." In addition, vertical industry-specific labor unions that allow workers to directly organize or join other workers in different plants or units are added as a category of

labor unions, following principles like “protection of the right to labor solidarity,” “autonomy of trade unions” and “democratization of trade union operations” to achieve the goal of safeguarding the rights and interests of workers and their right to assemble. Most regulations in the Labor Union Law are in line with the Convention.

However, when the Trade Union Law was amended, the fact that the “official relationship in public law” between civil servants and the state was different from the “labor-employer relationship in private law” between workers and employers was taken into consideration. Therefore, civil servants may only organize based on the Civil Servant Association Act. The outside world, however believes that civil servants’ right of association should not be restricted and that they, like regular workers, should be able to form associations or unions at their own discretion. In order to improve the legal system of labor unions, experts and scholars, relevant ministries and associations (the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Civil Service, the Directorate-General of Personnel Administration of the Executive Yuan, the National Police Agency of the Ministry of the Interior, and the Ministry of Interior Police Administration, the Fire Department, and the National Fire Agency) and relevant units and labor groups (including unions, police units, and consumer groups) will be regularly invited to conduct research and consultation on matters related to safeguarding workers’ right to assemble and improving the legal system of labor unions.

4. Implement C098 of the ILO - Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention

The three labor laws (including the Labor Union Act, Collective Agreement Act, and the Act for Settlement of Labor-Management Disputes) were amended and implemented on May 1, 2011, establishing a mechanism for handling unfair labor practices and setting up the Ministry of Labor Board for Decision on Unfair Labor Practices to review cases of unfair labor practices. The establishment of an adjudication mechanism complies with the provisions of the Convention, but to ensure the protection of laborers’ right to exercise the three labor rights, follow-up efforts will focus on improving the review process of unfair labor practices, promoting the full-time assignment of members on the Board for Decision on Unfair Labor Practices, strengthening coordination with judicial agencies, and handling measures to help workers utilize the adjudication mechanism.

5. Implement C100 of the ILO - Equal Remuneration Convention

According to the Act of Gender Equality in Employment, employers shall not

discriminate against employees because of their gender or sexual orientation in the case of paying wages. However, if such differentials are the result of seniority systems, award and discipline systems, merit systems or other justifiable reasons of non-sexual or non-sexual-orientation factors, the above-mentioned restriction shall not apply. If employees believe that they are given unequal pay for equal work due to their gender, they may file a complaint to the local competent authorities to protect their rights and interests. Nevertheless, considering it is hard to recognize equal pay for equal work in practice, the Research on Formulating the Equal Pay for Equal Work Checklist for Enterprises and Public Institutions was completed in 2020. Feasible measures such as implementing the Equal Pay for Equal Work Checklist for enterprises and public institutions will be analyzed and developed.

6. Implement C138 (Minimum Age Convention) and C182 (Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention)

The Labor Standards Act stipulates that no employer shall employ any person under the age of 15. This does not apply if the person has graduated from junior high school or the nature and environment of the work have been determined and authorized by the competent authority that no harm will result to the worker’s mental or physical health. The Central Competent Authority shall stipulate the determination criteria, review procedures and other measures governing the matters for compliance with regulations of the Labor Standards Act so that local governments have specific criteria for determining whether persons are allowed to work. The Occupational Safety and Health Act also stipulates that employers shall not employ persons under the age of 18 to perform potentially dangerous or harmful work. To urge business entities to implement these laws and regulations, the above-mentioned regulations were included in the labor inspection items.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|-------------------------------|-----------|--|
| 10 | Promote the incorporation of C188 of the ILO into domestic legislation | Ministry of Labor | 2022 | Completed commissioned research and put forward an overall assessment recommendation on Taiwan’s efforts in promoting the incorporation of ILO C188 into domestic legislation. |
| | 1. Conduct commissioned research and | Ministry of Labor (Organizer) | 2023 | Send the draft regarding ILO C188 to the Legislative Yuan |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--|------------------|--|
| | <p>complete inspection of regulatory gaps and domestic legislation methods.</p> <p>2. Hold consultation meetings to solicit opinions from stakeholders, experts, scholars and relevant ministries on the incorporation of the Convention into domestic legislation.</p> <p>3. Invite the relevant competent authorities to discuss the incorporation of the Convention into domestic legislation and the relevant division of labor.</p> | <p>Council of Agriculture (Co-organizer)</p> | | <p>for deliberation.</p> |
| 11 | <p>Strengthening the awareness and understanding of ILO C188 Work in Fishing Convention among marine and fishing industries.</p> | <p>Council of Agriculture</p> | <p>2020-2024</p> | <p>Organize 20 forums each year on the Convention.</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---------------------------------|------------------|---|
| 12 | <p>Implement C029 of the ILO:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote the amendment of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act. 2. Promote the Human Trafficking Investigation Seed Instructor Qualification Program. | <p>Ministry of the Interior</p> | <p>2024</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Send the draft amendment to the Human Trafficking Prevention Act to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation. 2. Include judicial police officers with experience in handling cases as instructors for investigating human trafficking. |
| 13 | <p>Implement other core conventions of the ILO:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Actively raise employers' awareness of the prohibition of forced labor, equal remuneration, and the protection of children and youths' labor rights and interests to prevent employers from breaking the law because they are not familiar with the laws and | <p>Ministry of Labor</p> | <p>2020-2024</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to hold public hearings and seminars on the Labor Standards Act, workplace equality, and sexual harassment prevention with a target audience of 20,000 people. 2. Research on formulating the Equal Pay for Equal Work Checklist for enterprises and public institutions. 3. Continue to hold public hearings to strengthen awareness of human trafficking prevention and migrant workers' rights protection laws among employers, migrant workers, and agencies, |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---------------------|-----------|---|
| | regulations, thereby improving the domestic labor environment. | | | with over 150 sessions held each year. |
| 14 | 2. Labor inspection strategies are adjusted each year based on social developments and industry trends. Labor inspection of relevant industries are strengthened to protect the rights and interests of works under the age of 18. | Ministry of Labor | 2020-2024 | Conduct an average of 500 labor inspections per year. |
| 15 | 3. Create a favorable environment for workers to organize and improve tribunals for unfair labor practices. | Ministry of Labor | 2020-2024 | 1. Regularly communicate with experts and scholars, relevant ministries and associations (the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Civil Service, the Directorate-General of Personnel Administration of the Executive Yuan, the National Police Agency of the Ministry of the Interior, and Ministry of Interior Police Administration, the Fire Department, and the National Fire Agency) and |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--------|---------------------|-----------|--|
| | | | | <p>relevant units and labor groups (including unions, police units, and consumer groups) will be regularly invited to conduct research and consultation on matters related to safeguarding workers' right to assemble and improving the legal system of labor unions.</p> <p>2. Promote the full-time assignment of members on the unfair labor practice committee and strengthen measures to help workers utilize tribunal systems for unfair labor practices.</p> <p>3. Provide a reference book on possible patterns of unfair labor practices between employers and employees.</p> |

(IV) Precedence of Conventions

Though Taiwan's legal system for human rights protection is improving, it is not perfect. According to Article 8 of the Act to Implement the Two Covenants, Article 8 of the Enforcement Act of the CEDAW, and Article 9 of the Implementation Act of the CRC, government agencies at all levels shall examine laws, regulations, and administrative measures under their jurisdiction after conventions are incorporated into domestic law, establishing, amending, or abolishing laws and improving administrative measures within a set period of time if they are not in line with the conventions. If domestic laws and regulations continue to be reviewed and revised, they will gradually fall in line with the norms of international conventions.

However, the progress of law revision is beyond the control of administrative departments. Before domestic laws fall in line with international conventions, the administrative and judicial authorities may face the problem of legal co-existence. As the concluding observations and recommendations of the 2nd national report on the Two Covenants pointed out, in the event that existing or subsequent regulations conflict with the Two Covenants, it is not clear how much the Taiwanese court should give priority to the Two Covenants. Therefore, it is suggested that Taiwan regard the Two Covenants as part of the constitution while strengthening the domestic application of the Two Covenants and other core human rights conventions of the United Nations. In summary, any doubts about the priority application of conventions need to be amended in the implementation acts of the conventions.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---|-----------|---|
| 16 | Evaluate the feasibility of amending Article 8 of the Act to Implement the Two Covenants. | Ministry of Justice | 2021-2024 | Convene law amendment meetings to formulate amendment drafts. |
| 17 | Evaluate the feasibility of amending Article 8 of the Enforcement Act of the CEDAW. | Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan | 2021-2024 | Convene law amendment meetings to formulate amendment drafts. |
| 18 | Evaluate the feasibility of amending Article 9 of the Implementation Act of the CRC. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2021-2024 | Convene law amendment meetings to formulate amendment drafts. |

(V) Establish Taiwan's Human Rights Indicators and Human Rights Impact Assessment Mechanisms

1. Human rights indicators

In 2012, the United Nations developed a complete framework and methodology for

human rights indicators, developing 14 human rights “model indicators.” These indicators provide a standard for evaluating how each country is implementing the Two Covenants to protect people’s rights. Each nation may develop its own human rights indicators to suit domestic situations. Taiwan currently adopts some concepts of the human rights indicators in the follow-up response to the concluding observations and recommendations of the international review of the Two Covenants, the CRC and the CRPD. Additionally, the competent authorities of various human rights conventions plan their own development of localized human rights indicators. However, the establishment of localized human rights indicators involves a wide range of aspects and has far-reaching impacts, and more discussions and overviews need to be conducted to build consensus and accelerate Taiwan’s progress of developing human rights indicators.

The Taiwan Women’s Human Rights Indicators Development and Situational Analysis completed in June 2017 included the contents of the CEDAW and the gender equality policy framework to develop 33 important women’s human rights indicators. These indicators will be used in the writing of national reports for the convention to examine the development of women’s human rights every four years.

2. Human rights impact assessment

Taiwan’s human rights impact assessments are handled according to laws or medium- and long-term individual projects. Relevant laws are handled in accordance with the provisions of Subparagraph 4, Article 3 of the Notices Regarding the Submission of Bills of Executive Yuan Agencies. While drafting relevant bills, a thorough assessment of the aspects and scope of its impact, including cost, benefits, and effect on human rights must be conducted. The current Regulatory and Gender Impact Assessment Checklist includes Constitutional Provisions on People’s Rights, ICCPR and ICESCR. The checklist examines impacts on human rights but is not regulated by human rights indicators. In addition, the medium- to long-term case plan includes human rights impact assessment regarding gender and accessibility based on the “Self-assessment Checklist” and “Gender Impact Assessment Form for Medium- and Long-term Individual Projects” formulated by the “Directions for Editing and Deliberation of Medium- and Long-Term Individual Projects of Executive Yuan Subordinate Agencies.”

The above-mentioned human rights impact assessment tools lack a complete and comprehensive assessment design. What’s worse, localized core human rights indicators have yet to be developed for most conventions. Currently, assessments for

the CRC are being developed, with certain bills selected for trial implementation to determine effectiveness and accumulate experience. The bills may be expanded to other human rights conventions. The core human rights indicators of each convention are selected to gradually develop a set of impact assessment tools that include the core indicators of the human rights conventions in bills and medium and long-term individual projects.

3. Human rights statistics

Constructing Taiwan's human rights indicators and human rights impact assessment mechanism requires sound human rights statistics. There is currently a lack of statistical data on the implementation of many human rights aspects, making it impossible to fully evaluate how conventions are implemented. Moreover, the current statistical categories are not in line with human rights indicators, but human rights statistics are the responsibility of various agencies and require inter-agency cooperation.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--|-----------|---|
| 19 | 1. Human rights indicators: (1) Each competent authority of human rights conventions develops a plan to promote the development of human rights indicators. | Various human rights competent authorities: Ministry of Justice, Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Ministry of the Interior | 2020-2024 | 1. Each competent authority of human rights convention develops 5-10 indicators for important points or specific groups. 2. Establish a mechanism for data collection, aggregation and analysis, and regular reports on human rights indicators. |
| 20 | (2) Each competent authorities of human rights conventions develops a plan to promote the education of human rights indicators. | | | Raise awareness of human rights indicators among the competent authorities of various human rights conventions. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---|-----------|---|
| 21 | (3) Monitor CEDAW human rights indicators and publish CEDAW human rights indicators statistics. | Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan | 2022 | Examine the progress of women’s human rights through women’s human rights indicators in national reports every four years, and publish CEDAW human rights statistics in the “important gender statistics database” section of the Executive Yuan Gender Equality Committee. |
| 22 | 2. Human rights impact assessment: (1) Formulate and develop human rights impact assessment promotion plans, establish training groups for human rights impact assessment, and develop operational tools for assessing the human rights impact of developing bills and medium- and long-term individual projects. | Current: Executive Yuan (Executive Yuan Human Rights Protection Working Group (Human Rights System Team)) and relevant ministries and departments Future: Department of Human Rights, Executive Yuan and relevant ministries and departments | 2022-2024 | Establish a standard mechanism for the human rights impact assessment of bills and mid- to long-term case plans. |

**NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
ACTION PLAN**

2022 ~ 2024

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|------------------------------|-----------|--|
| 23 | (2) Cooperate with the standard human rights impact assessment mechanism for bills and medium- and long-term individual projects established by the Human Rights Protection Working Group of the Executive Yuan and discuss feasible practices, assessment categories, and procedures. | National Development Council | 2022-2024 | Design human rights impact assessment items and methods for mid- to long-term plans. |
| 24 | (3) Promote the assessment mechanisms developed by the Human Rights Protection Working Group of the Executive Yuan (including the recommended assessment format and content) on a trial basis. | National Development Council | 2022-2024 | Trial completed. |
| 25 | (4) Revise the Directions for Editing and Deliberation of Medium- and | National Development Council | 2022-2024 | Complete revisions of the Directions for Editing and Deliberation of Medium- and Long-Term Individual Projects of Executive Yuan |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---|------------------|---|
| | <p>Long-Term Individual Projects of Executive Yuan Subordinate Agencies according to the results of the trial operation. Incorporate the above-mentioned assessment system into the self-assessment checklist for the official launch.</p> | | | <p>Subordinate Agencies.</p> |
| 26 | <p>(5) After the competent authorities of various human rights conventions have developed indicators on important human rights items or specific groups, relevant provisions of the Notices Regarding the Submission of Bills of Executive Yuan Agencies will be examined and revised, requiring all agencies under the</p> | <p>Executive Yuan Legal Affairs Committee</p> | <p>2022-2024</p> | <p>Complete revisions to relevant provisions of the Notices Regarding the Submission of Bills of Executive Yuan Agencies.</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---|-----------|---|
| | Executive Yuan to carry out assessments based on the indicators they established if impacts on human rights are discovered in impact assessments conducted by Executive Yuan agencies. | | | |
| 27 | (6) Review the adequacy of the scope of gender impact assessment. | Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan | 2024 | Complete review of the scope of the gender impact assessment and the revision of related forms. |
| 28 | 3. Human rights statistics: Human rights statistical categories are jointly formulated by the competent authorities of human rights conventions and the Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics. | Organized by the competent authorities of each human rights convention (Ministry of Justice, Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan Ministry of Health and Welfare, Ministry of the Interior) and Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan; co-organized by other agencies | 2020-2024 | Add important human rights statistical categories for each convention. |

(VI) Guarantee and Enhance Citizens' Right to Participate in Public Affairs

Taiwan is a politically democratic, culturally diverse, and economically prosperous country, where citizens' rights to participate in political affairs are protected in laws like the Constitution, the Referendum Act, Civil Servants Election and Recall Act, and the Presidential and Vice Presidential Election and Recall Act. In terms of participation in political affairs, every citizen is given the right to vote and be elected in genuine and regular elections to ensure that everyone has a full, effective, and equal right to political participation. To achieve the above goals, not only do the stipulation that those whose declaration of guardianship has yet been revoked have no right of suffrage need to be revised and improved upon, but discussions and social consensus are also required for measures like cheaper election deposits and higher campaign subsidies that can lower the barrier of entry for minorities to actively and effectively participate in politics.

To implement participatory democracy, Taiwan actively discloses government information in accordance with the law. Additionally, improving the transparency of government decision-making in various fields and involving the public to facilitate dialogue, communication and consultation are all important principles of participatory democracy. For example, policy decisions on issues such as land expropriation policies, indigenous rights, and the rights of persons with disabilities focus on internal discussions within government agencies, expert groups or similar mechanisms as the basis for decision-making, while stakeholders whose rights are affected by these policies rarely get a voice. The contents of these decisions are long-term concerns of the public, with different sectors having different opinions. Therefore, it is important to have rational dialogue to strengthen communication between the government and citizens. In addition to reviewing the following actions, the government can also refer to the mechanisms developed by other democratic countries to figure out how to more actively consult stakeholders in the process of formulating policies and hold public discussions on major social policies to build social consensus. Going forward, competent authorities should promise to abide by the above norms and spirit of participatory economics when it comes to public human rights issues, continually promoting public participation to form meaningful social dialog.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|-----------------------------|-----------|--|
| 29 | Guarantee the suffrage of ethnic minorities and disadvantaged groups, and reduce the barriers to their participation in public affairs. | Ministry of the Interior | 2022 | 1. Finish taking inventory of existing measures to promote the political participation of ethnic minorities and disadvantaged groups, as well as examples of relevant foreign legislation. |
| | | | | 2. Organize a symposium to gather opinions from different sectors of society and establish a consensus plan for government agencies to discuss. |
| | | | 2024 | 3. Draft amendments of the two elections and recall acts and submit them to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation. |
| 30 | Establish an amount of election deposit for candidates of public elections to balance the right of candidates to register for elections and people's suffrage rights. | Central Election Commission | 2021-2024 | Gather foreign legal examples regarding election deposits and organize a public hearing in June 2022 to gather opinions from different sectors of the community as reference for determining the election deposit amount for Taiwan's 2022 local elections. The Central Election Commission shall be in charge of reviewing information and making a decision. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|-------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 31 | 1. Select issues such as land expropriation, rights of indigenous peoples, and rights of persons with disabilities. Through case studies, have the competent authority of various issues conduct direct dialog with individuals or groups affected by policies, focusing on the individual/information users' perspective throughout different stages of various policies to examine the current information and data disclosure process of the central and local governments in the policy formation process, make suggestions on the practical implementation of the government transparency governance strategy, and review the | Ministry of the Interior | 2022-2024 | With the case “Indicative land expropriation (including general expropriation and zone expropriation)” as an example, inspect, analyze, and evaluate the current government transparency strategies, mechanisms, and relevant regulations from the perspective of information users and put forward suggestions on the necessity of revising the aforementioned strategies, mechanisms, and relevant regulations. |
| | | Council of Indigenous Peoples | 2021-2024 | With Article 21 of the Indigenous Peoples Basic Law - Construction of the Right to Consent and Its Practical Implementation as a case study, examine, analyze, and evaluate existing transparent governance strategies, mechanisms, and relevant regulations from the perspective of information users and propose recommendations regarding the necessity of revising said strategies, mechanisms, and relevant regulations. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---|-----------|---|
| | <p>necessity of the aforementioned strategies, mechanisms, and relevant regulations.</p> <p>2. Regarding the legal amendments aforementioned, the National Development Council and the Ministry of Justice provide legal assistance and consultations and will assist agencies in completing their tasks.</p> | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022 | With Adjustment of the Classification of Physical and Mental Disabilities as a case study, examine, analyze, and evaluate existing transparent governance strategies, mechanisms, and relevant regulations from the perspective of information users and propose recommendations regarding the necessity of revising said strategies, mechanisms, and relevant regulations. |
| | | Ministry of Justice National Development Council | 2021-2024 | Cooperate with competent authorities to discuss their needs and provide legal consultation in a timely manner. |
| 32 | <p>1. Select issues such as land expropriation, rights of indigenous peoples, and rights of persons with disabilities. Through case studies, the competent authority should invite representatives of the parties and groups affected by policies as well as</p> | Ministry of the Interior | 2022-2024 | 1.(1) Select indicative cases of general and zone expropriation for research and analysis, the results of which can serve as a reference for subsequent law revisions. |
| | | Council of Indigenous Peoples | 2021-2024 | (2) With Implementation of Article 21 of the Indigenous Peoples Basic Law as the |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
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| | <p>the local government to review how public hearings were held in the past (e.g., the number of hearings held, their effectiveness, difficulty, and whether follow-up hearings were held to review the decision-making process after a decision has been made); if only public hearings were held, discuss how to improve the process of public hearings in order to achieve the goal of effective communication and protection of human rights.</p> <p>2. For those who have discretionary powers to conduct public hearings for regulations, the competent authority shall, through the review of the cases mentioned in the preceding paragraph, formulate discretionary principles for</p> | | | indicative case study, analyze the case to provide references for future law revisions. |
| | | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | (3) Analyze The Mental Health Act on Policies of Mandatory Medical Treatment as an example, to provide reference for subsequent law revisions. |
| | | Ministry of the Interior | 2022-2024 | 2. Discuss the formulation or revision of the principles for conducting public hearings. |
| | | Council of Indigenous Peoples | 2021-2024 | |
| | | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | |
| | | Ministry of Justice | 2021-2024 | 3. Cooperate with competent authorities as they conduct case studies and discussions, providing legal consultation whenever needed. |
| | | | 2022 | 4.(1) Organize one hearing education training. |
| | 2024 | (2) Plan to organize public hearings or public hearings education training, depending on the results of the previous training sessions and circumstances that | | |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|-------------------------------------|-------------|---|
| | <p>conducting public hearings (setting specific standards, scope, timing, and procedures for conducting public hearings).</p> <p>3. The Ministry of Justice will provide legal consultation for the above-mentioned matters.</p> <p>4. Conduct advanced/improved public hearings and public hearing education training.</p> | | | <p>affect policy from 2022 to 2023.</p> |
| 33 | <p>Referencing France’s Commission nationale du débat public or similar systems in other countries, research and propose feasible plans for a public debate mechanism for major policies, evaluate the operation of such mechanism, the scope of which it can be applied in terms of issues, and how it can be integrated with existing laws and regulations to further democratic participation and improve administrative effectiveness.</p> | <p>National Development Council</p> | <p>2022</p> | <p>Complete the research on the Feasibility of Establishing a Public Debate Mechanism for Major Policies at the National Level, and distribute the research and analysis results to the relevant competent authorities for further research and discussion.</p> |

II. Human Rights Education

(I) Education for Significant Human Rights Issue

Since enacting the Two Covenants and their implementation acts in 2009, Taiwan has actively promoted human rights education of the Two Covenants, with government agencies following the “Human Rights in Taiwan” plan. Depending on education levels, human rights education is incorporated into the Curriculum Guidelines of 12-Year Basic Education or campus human rights indicators and assessment checklists, gradually discussing human rights themes to promote the implementation of various significant human rights issues. The key point of human rights education is to establish respect for human rights values and awareness of the provisions of human rights conventions. The CEDAW, the CRC, the CRPD, and other conventions gradually incorporated into domestic law have also been promoted through education and training actively organized by government agencies and schools.

The aforementioned human rights education allows the public and civil servants at all levels to gain a preliminary understanding of the types of rights guaranteed by conventions and foster values of safeguarding human dignity. Also, considering that Taiwan is currently promoting the incorporation of the CAT into domestic legislation, deepening people’s understanding and respect of the meaning of issues like human dignity, the right to life, the prohibition of torture and inhuman punishment, and equality and non-discrimination is particularly urgent and is a priority of current human rights education.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|-----------------------|-----------|--|
| 34 | Continue to enhance the school’s understanding and respect of significant human rights issues such as equality, social rights, and freedom through the curriculum. Through the human rights education | Ministry of Education | 2020-2024 | Completed commissioned research on campus human rights and environmental indicators and assessment checklists. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---------------------|-----------|--|
| | environment indicators and assessment checklist, review and strengthen schools' ability to improve education on significant human rights issues. | | | |
| 35 | Through the EU-Taiwan Judicial Exchange Program: Invite European human rights experts and scholars to conduct exchanges and discussions on human rights-related issues with domestic judicial experts, scholars, and NGOs, solicit experience and advice on practical operations, and publicize human rights protection issues. | Judicial Yuan | 2020-2024 | Continue to conduct exchanges and discussions on human rights issues with European experts and scholars, depending on the issues that need promoting each year. The plan is to invite NGOs or students in the judicial or academic issues to participate in these discussions. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--------------------------|-----------|--|
| 36 | Every year, the Judicial Film Festival is held to publicize significant human rights issues to the public. | Judicial Yuan | 2020-2024 | The Judicial Film Festival is held every year, along with related touring screening and lectures. It is estimated that at least 4,000 people attend the festival every year. Related activities will also be broadcast on official social media accounts of the Judicial Yuan (Facebook, Instagram, LINE) to promote the importance of significant human rights issues and values. |
| 37 | Organize the Taiwan International Human Rights Film Festival (TIHRFF) as a public platform for dialogues regarding significant human rights issues. | Ministry of Culture | 2020-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> At least eight human rights films are selected each year. Each year's festival is expected to invite 20 academic institutions and NGOs to hold joint screenings. Over 1,000 people are expected to attend each year. |
| 38 | <p>Promote and raise awareness of the CAT:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> By organizing promotional campaigns, creating promotional | Ministry of the Interior | 2022-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Promotional campaigns are expected to reach over 10,000 people each year. Over 200 civil servants are expected to attend each year. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| | <p>videos, distributing promotional materials, and setting up a website to provide relevant information and advertisements, the government strives to make the public aware of the importance and necessity of the CAT and its domestic legislation.</p> <p>2. Organize speeches, education training, or seminars for government personnel that can exercise public authority so that they understand the spirit and content of the Convention, and to prompt agencies to examine whether the laws, job regulations, and duties they are in charge of violating the Convention.</p> | | | |

(II) Planning and Implementation of Human Rights Education and Training for Designated Personnel

1. Training for general civil servants

(1) Training for first-time civil servants and promotions

Human rights education courses are included in all training for new hires and promotions. The content of these courses includes the Two Covenants, the CEDAW, the CRC, and the CRPD, to enhance the knowledge and skills required by trainees. The relevant training should be appropriately divided according to the trainees' rank and level to enhance the training effect.

(2) On-the-job training for civil servants

Institutionalize and normalize physical human rights education courses for civil servants. In addition to the aforementioned physical courses, various online courses are made available at the Public Service e-Learning⁺Platform - Civil Servant 10-Hour Courses - Human Rights Education Section. These online courses are reviewed annually and made available for civil servants to select at will.

To keep the planning of human rights education and training in line with policy goals and training needs, human rights education has been included in the training needs survey. Feedback from the trainees of the previous year's human rights education and training course has also been considered, with experts and scholars in the field of human rights invited to hold course consultation meetings. Training is planned according to the level of the trainee. Human rights education in special fields is conducted through a diverse range of learning methods, including field visits and experiences. This is to give trainees a deeper understanding and appreciation of human rights and to improve their ability to incorporate human rights concepts into their work.

(3) Planned training

To improve issues regarding human rights education and training, the Implementation Plan for the Education, Training, and Assessment of Human Rights Education on the Two Covenants was formulated in 2018 (to be implemented until 2020). Key points in the plan stipulated that each agency formulate their own training material regarding the Two Covenants, train seed teachers, adopt diverse teaching methods, and expand the reach of courses to improve issues like how dogmatic one-way teaching is unlikely to resonate with trainees, and the problem of quantity over quality as pointed out by international human rights experts and scholars.

Additionally, the Two Covenants Education, Training, and Promotion plan (to be implemented from 2021 to 2024) was formulated at the end of 2020 with the goal of improving the public and civil servants' understanding and application of the Two Covenants and relevant case studies to continue strengthening the promotion of the Two Covenants. The human rights education and training materials compiled by the various ministries and departments will also be integrated into the Ministry of Education's human rights education resources website and the Ministry of Justice's Human Rights in Taiwan website for easy browsing and application in order to deepen the promotion of human rights education.

In 2020, the Education, Training, and Promotion Plan for the CEDAW (to be implemented from 2020 to 2023) was formulated with the goal of promoting understanding and application of the Convention among civil servants, the general public, the media, and members of professional groups. The courses are taught through lectures, workshops, seminars, and forums with topics that include direct discrimination, indirect and intersectional discrimination, temporary special measures, the connection between the CEDAW and government tasks and their application, and awareness of gender diversity.

2. Training for designated professionals

(1) Judicial personnel

The education and on-the-job training of judges, prosecutors, prosecutorial officers, clerks and other judicial personnel all have human rights education as a key point of study and training. However, the human rights courses offered in the past often involves inviting scholars and experts to give one-way lectures and rarely touched on actual case studies in depth, which is not conducive to motivating people to learn, stimulating problem awareness, and helping trainees apply what they've learned to specific cases. In addition, judicial personnel have busy schedules that make it difficult to participate in studies at specific times, which can hinder the popularization of human rights education. It is best to include human rights courses in regular training to increase willingness to participate. Therefore, a diversified curriculum design has been adopted in recent years to improve learning motivation and effectiveness. Judicial interpreters provide interpretation services for the public in the judicial remedy process. Their duties involve the rights and interests of the public, which makes it particularly important for them to have human rights awareness and literacy. Therefore, human rights education is incorporated into annual education and training seminars for special judicial interpreter candidates to improve their concrete understanding of human rights issues.

(2) Correctional personnel

The treatment of inmates involves most human rights conventions. Human rights education can enhance the human rights awareness of correctional personnel, which can reduce incidents in which correctional officers inadvertently infringe upon the rights and interests of inmates due to lack of human rights awareness and knowledge of human rights regulations.

(3) Police and immigration personnel

To ensure the protection of human rights, human rights and the rule of law are listed among compulsory courses in the training and education of police officers. In addition, a new edition of the training material Introduction to the Two Covenants and the CRPD and the Police's Actions to Implement Human Rights Protection is compiled every year and sent to various units for on-the-job training of police officers. The training material is meant to enable police officers to understand human rights concepts and regulations so that they avoid infringing on human rights while carrying out their duties. Due to how immigration is closely related to human rights protection, it is important to strengthen immigration personnel's understanding of human rights in order to enhance their sensitivity when it comes to human rights awareness.

3. Human rights education in schools

In 2016, the Ministry of Education Human Rights and Civic Education Mid-Term Plan was issued to promote human rights and civic education through curriculum integration, teaching material development and teacher empowerment, with a review of the results of its implementation conducted every six months. After the program expired in 2021, to continue furthering the promotion of human rights education and deepen students and faculty's understanding of core human rights conventions, and extend the experience of promoting the mid-term plan, international human rights conventions were integrated into the Ministry of Education Plan to Promote the Implementation of International Human Rights Conventions, providing schools with effective and accurate information to guide students and teachers to exercise their rights and create a school environment where rights are guaranteed.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--|-----------|--|
| 39 | 1. Training for general civil servants: | Civil Service Protection and Training Commission | 2020-2024 | Complete various measures to improve human rights training courses and continuously review their |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---------------------|-----------|---|
| | <p>(1) Training for new hires and promotions:</p> <p>To organize basic training for new hires and training for promotions, the following steps are taken to improve human rights training courses:</p> <p>① Hierarchical course names:</p> <p>Different course names and course designs are planned based on the level of the trainees (elementary rank, junior rank, senior rank) in order to implement different training objectives.</p> <p>② Differentiated teaching materials:</p> <p>Different levels of teaching materials are compiled to accommodate different levels of</p> | | | <p>implementation. Up to 10,000 people receive such training each year.</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--|-----------|--|
| | <p>training targets and courses. Course materials of the same level should still be differentiated based on “job attributes” or “public service experience.”</p> <p>③Differentiation of case studies: Continue to enrich and combine current events and update case studies in teaching materials at different levels to keep pace with the times.</p> | | | |
| 40 | <p>(2) On-the-job training for civil servants:</p> <p>①For civil servants of central and local agencies under the Executive Yuan, continual plans are made to improve relevant human rights education and training substantive courses, including</p> | <p>Directorate-General of Personnel Administration (Civil Service Development Institute)</p> | 2020-2024 | <p>Continue to organize physical human rights education courses for civil servants. Over 1,250 people have attended the courses over five years, with overall satisfaction rating of the courses averaging over 80%.</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--|-----------|---|
| | <p>courses on core human rights conventions incorporated into domestic law and cultural diversity, to strengthen understanding and application of human rights protection by civil servants of all agencies.</p> | | | |
| 41 | <p>②The Civil Servant 10-Hour Course - Human Rights Education Section was added to the Public Service e-Learning⁺Platform. Affiliated institutions are also allowed to add digital human rights education courses to the platform. The contents of the website are reviewed at least once a year. Any content that is out of date or rendered inaccurate by policy changes should be removed or amended.</p> | <p>Directorate-General of Personnel Administration (Civil Service Development Institute)</p> | 2020-2024 | <p>Read by over 100,000 people each year.</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---------------------|-----------|---|
| 42 | <p>(3)Planned training:</p> <p>①All ministries and departments shall compile cases (including analysis) under their jurisdiction involving the Two Covenants into training materials.</p> | Ministry of Justice | 2020-2024 | <p>1. The human rights education training materials regarding the Two Covenants compiled by ministries and departments should include at least five cases under their jurisdiction, complete with analysis. The content should also be published on the ministry or department's official website.</p> <p>2. The 11 ministries and departments that make up the Human Rights Protection Working Group should publish teaching materials on the Two Covenants.</p> |
| 43 | <p>②Ministries and departments should take initiative in planning diversified courses on the Two Covenants that are relevant to everyday life to improve the momentum of self-organized courses on the</p> | Ministry of Justice | 2020-2024 | <p>1. Up to 60% of civil servants participated in annual education and training on the Two Covenants.</p> <p>2. Departments shall conduct pre-training and post-training assessments to assess the effectiveness of the Two Covenant training courses.</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---|-----------|---|
| | Two Covenants. Ministries and departments should also encourage employees to attend relevant courses organized by other institutions or groups to improve learning effectiveness. | | | |
| 44 | ③ Establish education training and a promotion plan for the CEDAW. | Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan | 2020-2023 | The number of civil servants that have received training on the CEDAW, different types of discrimination, and temporary special measures have reached the following standards based on the number of people at each agency with general civil servants and managing staff counted separately: 20% for agencies with 1000 (inclusive) people or less, 15% for agencies with 1001 to 5000 people, and 10% for agencies with over 5001 people. |
| 45 | ④ The human rights education teaching materials | Ministry of Education | 2020-2024 | Gather human rights education teaching materials developed by each |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---------------------|-----------|---|
| | developed by each department are published on the Ministry of Education's human rights education resource website for easy access and utilization. | | | department for the human rights education resource website. |
| 46 | 2. Training for designated professionals: (1) Judicial personnel: ① Orientation training phase: Improve human rights education for judicial personnel. | Ministry of Justice | 2020-2024 | 100% of orientation training courses include human rights education courses, which have a satisfaction rate of over 80%. |
| 47 | ② On-the-job training phase: a. Human rights education courses are included in standard education and training. These courses not only introduce the content of human rights conventions but also include discussions on notable human | Judicial Yuan | 2020-2024 | 1. Strengthen judges' and administrative personnel's understanding of human rights-related issues. Learn about how they are performing in courses based on the number of relevant courses available, actual number of trainees, and trainee feedback to review the courses and add suggested topics and |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
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| | <p>rights issues.</p> <p>b. Open special human rights education courses.</p> <p>c. Open interactive workshops: Organize four sessions of special courses like the CEDAW Workshop. The courses are conducted through seminars and case exercises among or between groups to stimulate trainees' awareness of problems in hopes of giving them a deeper understanding of human rights issues.</p> <p>d. Launch a series of human rights education courses for special contract judicial interpreters.</p> | | | <p>seminars.</p> <p>2. Aside from the CEDAW Workshop, which are small classes with less than 20 trainees, courses are designed for over 35 participants.</p> <p>3. The Judges Academy organizes three training sessions for special contract judicial interpreters each year.</p> |
| 48 | (2) Correctional personnel Improve the human rights awareness of | Ministry of Justice | 2020-2024 | At least 80% of the personnel at the Ministry of Justice Agency of Corrections and its affiliated agencies receive human |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
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| | correctional personnel. | | | rights education and training each year. 100% of new correctional facility management staff receive human rights education and training. |
| 49 | (3)Police and immigration officers: ①Improve human rights education for police and immigration officers. | Ministry of the Interior | 2024 | At least 60% of the personnel at the National Police Agency and National Immigration Agency of the Ministry of the Interior shall participate in human rights education and training. |
| 50 | ②Promote human rights education at police academies. | Ministry of the Interior | 2022-2024 | 100% of students at the Central Police University and Taiwan Police College shall participate in human rights education and training. |
| 51 | 3. Human rights education at school: In continuation of the Ministry of Education Human Rights and Civic Education Mid-Term Plan, the Ministry of Education Plan to Promote the Implementation of International | Ministry of Education | 2020-2024 | Complete the Ministry of Education Plan to Promote the Implementation of International Human Rights Conventions, integrating various international human rights conventions and continuously promoting human rights education to implement and deepen the protection of human rights on campus. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
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| | Human Rights Conventions was formulated to help schools better understand international human rights conventions and continue to incorporate them into the curriculum design, teaching material development, and teacher training to raise awareness of human rights at school. | | | |

(III) Monitoring and Performance Assessment Mechanism

In view of how Taiwan's human rights education and training often suffers from the problem of quantity over quality, with the quality and effectiveness repeatedly questioned by the international review committee in their review of Taiwan's national reports on human rights conventions, it is necessary to establish a human rights education monitoring and assessment system when promoting human rights education and training for the aforementioned significant human rights issues and designated personnel to guarantee the quality and effectiveness of relevant education and training.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--|-----------|--|
| 52 | Reference UN human rights education manuals and publications to establish mechanisms for monitoring and assessing the results and impact of human rights education. | <p>Current: Executive Yuan Human Rights Protection Working Group (Human Rights Education Team) and relevant ministries and departments</p> <p>Future: Department of Human Rights, Executive Yuan and relevant ministries and departments</p> | 2022-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish human rights education targets and goals. 2. Develop editorial guidelines for human rights education textbooks. 3. Establish speaker selection procedures and sources. 4. Design human rights education training methods and methodologies. 5. Design the content and methods of assessment, including the subject of assessment, questionnaire design, assessment tools, and data collection and analysis. |

III. Equality and Non-Discrimination

(I) Establish a Comprehensive Equality Law

Taiwan ratified the ICERD in November 1970. After that, Taiwan also ratified or joined other core human rights conventions like the Two Covenants, the CEDAW, the CRC, and the CRPD and incorporated them into domestic law. So far, there have been some gender equality legislations and laws that regulate the prohibition of discrimination, but relevant provisions prohibiting discrimination are still scattered throughout various laws with no specific law designated to address the prohibition of discrimination or the protection of equality. After years of advocacy by human rights groups in Taiwan, and international review of national reports on relevant human rights conventions where several international human rights scholars and experts suggested that a comprehensive equality law should be established, Taiwan began conducting research on related legislative suggestions in 2018 and published the research report in June 2019.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--|-----------|---|
| 53 | Formulate a comprehensive equality law: Consult with relevant authorities to develop a draft of the law; consult scholars, experts, and NGOs, and organize public hearings to complete the draft law. | Current: Executive Yuan (Executive Yuan Human Rights Protection Working Group (Human Rights System Team)) and relevant ministries and departments Future: Department of Human Rights, Executive Yuan and relevant ministries and departments | 2022-2024 | Send the draft for the Equality Act to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation. |

(II) Equality and Non-Discrimination for Children and Adolescents

The 2017 international review committee for the CRC commended Taiwan for its existing laws to prevent and protect disadvantaged children and adolescents, like

indigenous children and adolescents, LGBTI children and adolescents, and children and adolescents with disabilities, from discrimination. However, this is a lack of information on the actual results of the implementation of such laws and regulations, as well as a response plan against obstacles of the implementation of the Gender Equity Education Act. The committee suggested that the government continue to consult children and adolescents as well as professionals and NGOs that work with children and adolescents to promote and support campaigns to raise awareness on anti-discrimination of disadvantaged children and adolescents. The above points have been included in the follow-up response for the concluding observations and recommendations. How these issues are addressed will be included in the second national report of the CRC. In response to the expectations of various sectors of the community, the government has kept pace with the times and proposed measures for equality and non-discrimination for children and adolescents in this plan. Due to limitations from chapter arrangements, please refer to relevant sections of this chapter for action plans regarding the aforementioned subjects. The focus of this section is to raise awareness of anti-discrimination for children and adolescents among children and adolescents, those whose work involves children and adolescents, and the general public.

According to the 2018 Survey of Children and Adolescents Living Conditions, 91.5% of the adolescents surveyed did not feel discriminated against, and only 8.5% felt discriminated against; specifically, 22.2% of adolescents without mothers felt discriminated against, which was significantly higher than the 8.4% of those with mothers; the highest rate of discrimination was based on personal views, opinions, appearance or skin color, accounting for 34.7%; 45.6% of females surveyed felt discriminated against for their appearance or skin color, which is significantly higher than the 22.9% of males.

Research on human rights protection and prohibition of discrimination in Taiwan is classified by types of discrimination, with deeper discussions into the background, rule of law, and subsequent impact of discriminatory behaviors. For example, there are studies on gender discrimination in the workplace, as well as studies on discrimination based on nationality in terms of law enforcement. However, studies observing discrimination faced by children and adolescents are rare.

To understand how children and adolescents are discriminated against, a team of experts was commissioned to conduct research from 2020 to 2021. Three working group meetings and three focus discussions were convened to compile cases of

discrimination based on gender stereotypes, sexual orientation and gender identity, indigenous status, placement status, involvement in judicial cases, disabilities, and age. Based on these studies, a compilation of anti-discrimination cases for children and adolescents was published to raise awareness of discrimination faced by children and adolescents among those who work in relevant fields as well as the general public in order to reduce instances of discrimination.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--------------------------------|-----------|--|
| 54 | Investigate children and adolescents' awareness of the current anti-discrimination living environment, whether they have ever encountered instances of discrimination and the manner of discrimination they may have encountered to provide a reference for relevant ministries to formulate response strategies. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022 | Every four years, surveys on the living conditions of children and adolescents are examined to analyze their awareness of the current anti-discrimination living environment, whether they have ever encountered instances of discrimination and the manner of discrimination they may have encountered. |
| 55 | Compile cases of discrimination against children and adolescents and invite experts, scholars, administrative agencies and representatives of children and adolescents to | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022 | 1,800 volumes of anti-discrimination case studies for children and adolescents were printed and distributed to 300 relevant children's affairs units for promotion and to serve as teaching materials for subsequent education and training. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--------------------------------|-----------|--|
| | discuss steps for improvement, which are used in teaching materials for subsequent education, training, and promotional materials. | | | |
| 56 | Provide CRC education and training for professionals whose work involve children and adolescents (including education, social services, judicial and police personnel) to raise awareness of equality and discrimination. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | Organize CRC education and training with content that includes the anti-discrimination principles of CRC. 12 courses are planned for different regions and up to 600 people are expected to participate. |

(III) Equality and Non-Discrimination for the Elderly

To draw up a new blueprint for social policies for the elderly in response to the continuous rise of the elderly population in Taiwan, the Executive Yuan approved a revision of the White Paper on Aging Society on September 27, 2021 which features four main visions: autonomy, self-reliance, inclusion, and sustainability. The White Paper also includes five policies goals: improving the health and autonomy of the elderly, enhancing social connections of the elderly, promoting harmony and integration between generations, constructing a safe and senior-friendly environment, and strengthening the sustainability of society, covering aspects like health, medicine, long-term care, learning, employment, leisure, housing, economics, social participation, protection, and disaster prevention and rescue, with relevant ministries and departments actively making annual plans to reach these goals. Also, the working group for the White Paper on Aging Society has been established under the Social

Welfare Committee of the Executive Yuan to conduct follow-up reviews every six months and report regularly to the Social Welfare Committee in order to respond to the diverse needs of the elderly and actively protect their rights and interests.

With social changes come more diversified ways for the elderly to participate in society. In response to the social participation needs of the elderly across different generations, genders, socioeconomic statuses, and urban or rural areas, the government has actively subsidized NGOs and village offices to set up community care stations across the country, encouraging communities to provide home visits, phone calls, meal services and health improvement activities, and other services based on local characteristics to enhance social connections and support for the elderly since 2005. As of the end of December 2021, 4,610 of such stations have been set up across the country. More centers will continue to be set up in the future to strengthen elderly community participation and reduce social exclusion of the elderly.

In addition, according to a 2017 survey on the status of the elderly, among the population over 65 years old, 60.13% believed that the public's attitude towards the elderly was fairly respectful, while 15.8% felt that the public did not respect the elderly. Since 2019, to encourage intergenerational integration, the government has actively encouraged the development of various service programs to promote intergenerational interaction and integration.

To protect the rights and interests of residents of elderly welfare institutions and improve their autonomy, the Senior Citizens Welfare Act was revised and promulgated on May 27, 2020 to authorize local competent authorities to work with NGOs to supervise the service quality of elderly welfare institutions for residents with no legal supporters or legal representatives. Going forward, the government will continue to promote advocacy services, pay attention to the basic human rights of the elderly, and allow them to participate in decision-making related to their own rights and interests.

To prevent employers from restricting employment opportunities of the elderly due to age stereotypes, the Employment Service Act and Middle-aged and Elderly Employment Promotion Act include clear provisions against age discrimination to create a senior-friendly employment environment that protects the rights and interests of the elderly.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 57 | Construct a diverse and continuous community care network, respond to the diversity of community participation of the elderly, and reduce the social exclusion of the elderly. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | Facilitate the establishment of 100 new community care stations each year to reach a total of 4,800 stations by 2024. |
| 58 | Organize activities to promote intergenerational interaction and integration every year to create a friendly aging environment. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | Through outreach centers as a platform, organize at least 5,000 activities that encourage intergenerational interaction and integration each year. |
| 59 | Conduct workplace equality and sexual harassment prevention seminars every year to prevent employers from discriminating against employees or job applicants on the basis of age. | Ministry of Labor | 2020-2024 | Organize 25 sessions every year to remind employers to abide by the prohibition of age discrimination, eliminate social stereotypes, and promote workplace equality through channels like websites, Facebook and pamphlets to foster friendly workplace environments. |
| 60 | Strengthen protection of the rights and interests of elderly people under care, assist the elderly in institutions to | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | Assist local governments to promote advocacy services on their own or with NGOs in 22 cities and counties. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
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| | advocate for themselves, and protect the fundamental rights of the elderly. | | | |

(IV) Equality and Non-Discrimination for Women

1. Improve women's economic power

Gender statistics show that as women's education level and awareness of economic autonomy rise in Taiwan, the labor force participation rate of women between the ages of 25 and 29 is high, but factors like marriage and childbirth prompt women to leave the workplace. After that, women's labor force participation rate drops sharply with age, making the second career and labor force participation rate of middle-aged and elderly women in Taiwan lower than other major counties. Women retiring early in Taiwan is not in line with the current international trend of later retirement. Therefore, the plan is to foster a friendly employment environment that encourages women of marriage and childbearing age to continue to stay in the workplace and strengthen mechanisms for those who have left the workplace and return or seek re-employment. The goal is to avoid early retirement for women and enhance the labor participation rate and economic power of women in Taiwan.

2. Promote domestic division of labor

Article 5 of the CEDAW states that governments should take all appropriate measures to eliminate prejudices based on stereotyped roles for men and women while emphasizing the common responsibility of men and women in the upbringing and development of their children. According to the 2019 survey report on the living conditions of women aged 15 to 64, women with partners (including cohabitation) over the age of 15 spend an average of 4.41 hours each day on unpaid care (including caring for children under the age of 12, caring for family members over the age of 65, caring for family members age 12 to 64, housework, and volunteer services), while their partners (including cohabitants) spend an average of 1.48 hours, which shows that women are the main caregivers of family. Therefore, the central and local governments should establish measures like advocacy campaigns and programs regarding domestic division of labor.

3. Promote gender equality in decision-making

Taiwan's gender equality policy framework, the CEDAW, and the UN SDGs all stress the importance of women's participation in decision-making and public affairs. Due to the influence of traditional gender stereotypes, there is a significant gender gap in public affairs decision-making participation and influence in Taiwan. Compared to men, women have fewer avenues and opportunities to participate in public affairs. To give women more opportunities to participate in public affairs and become a decision-maker, ensuring their full and equal rights to participate in national policies and therefore achieving true democracy, the government has strengthened its promotion of gender equality in government decision-making. Raising the rate of neither gender occupying less than one-third of the seats of the committees subordinated to the ministries of the Executive Yuan is the priority goal of gender equality.

4. Promote gender equality in health

Article 13 of the CEDAW states that governments should take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in other areas of economic and social life in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, particularly the right to participate in recreational activities, sports and all aspects of cultural life. According to a 2021 Sport and Athletics Survey, 33.9% of Taiwanese people over the age of 13 engage in regular exercise, with a gap of three percentage points between men (35.4%) and women (32.4%). The biggest gap of 24.6 percentage points between genders is among adolescents aged 13 to 17. In addition, according to the analysis of the Report of the Senior Citizen Condition Survey 2017, 31.43% of women over the age of 65 have trouble with instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs), which is higher than that of men at 24.14%. Therefore, a gender-friendly exercising environment should be established to eliminate gender stereotypes regarding exercise. Women should be actively encouraged to participate in regular exercise to improve their physical and mental health and reduce the risk of disabilities caused by aging.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--|-----------|---|
| 61 | 1. Improve women's economic power: Implement strategies like | Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan Ministry of Labor | 2020-2022 | Raise the labor force participation rate of women aged 30 to 39 and 50 to 59 so that the growth rate in |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
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| | <p>promoting women’s entrepreneurship (employment), creating gender-friendly work environments, promoting flexible working hours/locations, facilitating re-employment, and avoiding early retirement.</p> | <p>Ministry of Economic Affairs Council of Agriculture Ministry of Education</p> | | <p>the next four years will not be lower than the average growth rate of the previous three years.</p> |
| 62 | <p>2. Promote domestic division of labor: Promote measures like advocacy for domestic division of labor, relevant programs, and surveys of women’s living conditions at the central and local government level to facilitate shared domestic responsibilities.</p> | <p>Ministry of Health and Welfare Ministry of Education Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan</p> | 2020-2023 | <p>Increase the average daily unpaid care time of the spouses (including cohabitants) of women over the age of 15 with partners (including cohabitants) from 1.48 hours to 1.83 hours.</p> |
| 63 | <p>3. Promote gender equality in decision-making: Supervise</p> | <p>Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan</p> | 2024 | <p>Increase the percentage of committees under Executive Yuan ministries and departments (including</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
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| | committees under Executive Yuan ministries and departments (including second and third-level agencies) to discuss relevant measures, revise relevant measures, or formulate temporary special measures to ensure that they comprise at least one-third of each gender. | | | second and third-level agencies) that comprise at least one-third of each gender from 89.53% in December 2019 to over 97%. |
| 64 | 4. Promote gender equality in health: Improve the physical and mental health awareness and physical health of women in different life cycles and disadvantaged situations, establishing more accessible and gender-sensitive environments for physical exercise. | Ministry of Education Ministry of Health and Welfare Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan | 2024 | Increase the rate of regular exercise among women aged 13 to 34 by four percentage points. |

(V) Equality and Non-Discrimination for Persons with Disabilities

1. Make reasonable accommodations to regulations and concept advocacy

To ensure that government personnel at all levels understand the meaning behind reasonable accommodations, first-stage guides and teaching materials for reasonable accommodation as a reference for entities in all fields were completed in 2020. In terms of laws and regulations, the spirit of reasonable accommodation is a part of laws like the Educational Fundamental Act, the Special Education Act, the Regulations Governing National Examination Rights for Persons with Disabilities, the Guidelines for the Implementation of and Subsidies for Job Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities, the Prison Act, and the Detention Act. Drawn up in 2020, the draft amendment to the People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act states that when handling a case, government agencies, schools, institutions, juridical persons, and organizations shall provide necessary and appropriate reasonable accommodations that do not impose a disproportionate or undue burden and accords with the needs of persons with disabilities on the grounds of their individual conditions. The draft will be submitted to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation according to proper procedures. At the same time, there are discussions to clearly stipulate the obligation of reasonable accommodations and that the denial of reasonable accommodations constitutes discrimination in the Special Education Act.

2. Promote accessible environments

To facilitate the independent living of persons with disabilities in the community, accessibility is a basic necessity, especially important to enable persons with disabilities to have equal access to buildings, transportation (including tourist routes), and medical facilities. To promote the accessibility of existing public buildings, inspections and improvement projects have been carried out since 2004. As of 2021, there are 62,063 recorded and managed cases. 34% of the cases have yet to be improved. As for transportation, there are accessibility regulations in place for all mass transit vehicles and stations. The HSR, MRT, and aviation sector all comply with relevant regulations, and improvements are being made with other transportation systems. With regard to medical facilities, accessibility regulations have been put in place in medical institutions (including partially medical institutions) establishment standards, hospital assessment standards, and public buildings under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of the Interior. Relevant incentive measures have also been promoted. In 2020, 620 Chinese medicine and dental clinics had been given incentives from the health insurance quality assurance fund to improve accessibility

to medical treatment. These incentives encourage hospitals and clinics to build accessible environments and establish inclusive communication services. Disability-friendly medical treatment procedures were also planned, with public resources and benchmark case studies made available for medical institutions to reference.

3. Improve information accessibility

Access to information is a prerequisite for freedom of expression. In addition to signing language interpreting, real-time translation, Braille, audiobooks and other accessibility methods, the production of easy-to-ready versions of materials ensure persons with disabilities understand the content and promote information equality. However, principles regarding the production of easy-to-read versions have yet to be developed.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|-----------|--|
| 65 | 1. Incorporate reasonable accommodations into laws and regulations and promote relevant concepts: Promote the concept of reasonable accommodations and incorporate it into the People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act and discuss the stipulation of such obligations regarding special education in the Special Education Act. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | Send the amendment proposal for the People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation. |
| | | Ministry of Education | 2020-2024 | Send the amendment proposal for the Special Education Act to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--|------------------|--|
| 66 | <p>2. Promote accessible environments:</p> <p>(1) Promote accessibility improvements for existing public buildings to accommodate persons with disabilities.</p> | <p>Ministry of the Interior</p> | <p>2022-2024</p> | <p>Increase completion rate of existing public buildings improvements by 2% year by year.</p> |
| 67 | <p>(2) Strengthen common accessibility service facilities for land, sea, and air transportation to establish a disabilities-friendly transportation environment.</p> | <p>Ministry of Transportation and Communications</p> | <p>2021-2024</p> | <p>1. Subsidize local governments to purchase accessible buses and improve station facilities to provide accessible bus stations. Ensure that at least 72% of buses in urban areas (six municipalities) are accessible vehicles.</p> <p>2. Replace a total of 25 slope boarding aids across 11 airports including Taipei International Airport, providing a safer, more comfortable and disabilities-friendly boarding environment for persons with physical and mental disabilities.</p> <p>3. Handle the improvement project of the waiting rooms of Taoyuan</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
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| | | | | <p>International Airport Terminal 1 to create a disabilities-friendly environment.</p> <p>4. Complete the replacement of at least five passenger ships and boats that provide accessibility services and facilities.</p> <p>5. Complete at least three accessible landings.</p> <p>6. Complete accessible facilities at Kaohsiung Port Cruise Terminal, including accessible parking spaces, elevators, restrooms, check-in counters, and outdoor accessibility ramps.</p> <p>7. Complete accessible facilities at Budai Port Visitor Service Center, including accessible parking spaces, restrooms, and outdoor accessibility ramps.</p> |
| 68 | (3) Promote benchmark case studies of accessible healthcare for persons with disabilities. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | Increase the number of cities and counties that establish benchmark learning facilities by 10% year on year. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 69 | 3. Increase information accessibility: Discuss the formulation of an easy-to-read reference guide to promote the concept of easy-to-read materials. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | 1. Establish a guide for easy-to-read materials. 2. Discuss the establishment of an easy-to-read database. |

(VI) Equality and Non-Discrimination for Indigenous Peoples

1. Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Indigenous Peoples Basic Law

- (1) In accordance with 1989 C169 of the ILO, Taiwan respects the wishes of indigenous peoples in all decisions affecting indigenous peoples. Article 2 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples stipulates that indigenous peoples and individuals are free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination, in the exercise of their rights, in particular that based on their indigenous origin or identity. To implement the Declaration, the Indigenous Peoples Basic Law enacted and promulgated in 2005 not only included the constitutional spirit of protecting human rights but also referenced the content of the declaration (draft) at that time. The declaration was subsequently passed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007, and Taiwan incorporated it into domestic law. To implement the Indigenous Peoples Basic Law, the Executive Yuan convenes the Indigenous Peoples Basic Law Promotion Committee annually to track the implementation status of the law and guarantee the relevant rights and interests of indigenous peoples.
- (2) Additional Article 10 of the Constitution guarantees indigenous peoples' status and political participation. Not only does Additional Article 4 of the Constitution stipulate seats for indigenous peoples in the Legislative Yuan, but the Local Government Act also established legislative seats for mountain indigenous peoples and stipulated that the mayor of mountain indigenous townships must be a mountain indigenous person

so that there is political participation of indigenous peoples throughout every part of Taiwan's government system, substantially facilitating "the right to self-determination of all peoples, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development" as described in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

- (3) The Regulations on the Consultation to Obtain the Consent of Indigenous Peoples stipulates that the government or private groups must obtain the informed consent of the local indigenous peoples before developing, utilizing, or extracting minerals, water or other resources. The Indigenous Peoples' Right to be Consulted for Consent and Tribal Meeting Seminar is organized every year to explain common questions and case studies to better familiarize front-line grassroots personnel, private manufacturers, indigenous residents, or administrative agencies with the aforementioned laws and regulations to minimize the gap between the planning and practical implementation of policies.
- (4) In order to increase the cultural sensitivity of law enforcement in judicial decisions, avoid damaging the rights and interests of indigenous peoples due to a lack of understanding of their traditional culture, and to encourage domestic scholars to study legal issues related to indigenous peoples, indigenous legal scholars were brought together through the publication of legal journals and seminars to better inform Taiwan's adjudicators on cultural defenses, protecting the judicial rights of indigenous peoples and improving their passive and disadvantaged status in law.
- (5) The indigenous community lacks talents with expertise in international exchange. Therefore, the permanent international organization Austronesian Forum was established as a regional communication platform that also organizes international exchange events to cultivate relevant talents.

2. Implement indigenous people's rights to education, culture and language as well as their media access rights

- (1) Comprehensively revise the Education Act for Indigenous Peoples to develop and strengthen the knowledge system of indigenous communities and establish mid- to long-term plans to construct an indigenous education and culture knowledge system and create a comprehensive, practical education system for indigenous peoples.
- (2) Subsidize local governments to handle the preliminary investigation and research of indigenous cultural assets and preserve feasible assessment plants so that local governments can actively take stock of indigenous cultural assets and increase the number of relevant assets designated and registered. Continue to deepen the

preservation and maintenance of indigenous cultural assets and enrich the culture of Taiwan.

- (3) The Indigenous Languages Development Act establishes indigenous languages as national languages and comprehensively promotes the preservation, study, research, and promotion of indigenous languages; the Indigenous Languages Research and Development Foundation was also established to promote the research, education, promotion, corpus collection, dictionary compilation, the establishment of an indigenous languages database, and language proficiency certifications to safeguard indigenous peoples' linguistic rights.
- (4) To ensure indigenous peoples' right to media access, the plan is to continue using wireless satellites to connect to TV stations and improve poor digital wireless TV signals in certain rural areas.

3. Guaranteeing indigenous peoples' right to health

- (1) Establish indigenous peoples' access to medical care resources
 - ① To eliminate the healthcare inequality in indigenous areas, improve the capacity of local medical care resources to allow locals to serve their own community. Actively train indigenous medical staff and establish medical care services and resources to improve indigenous peoples' access to medical care and ensure their right to health.
 - ② Conduct research on traditional indigenous medical culture, gather and establish an index of documents related to traditional indigenous medical knowledge, and award and subsidize research projects regarding traditional indigenous medical care to construct indigenous peoples' right to interpret their own health and restore their body autonomy.

- (2) Improve indigenous peoples' access to long-term care resources

To actively improve the long-term care capacity of indigenous villages and realize the goal of allowing the elderly to age in place, the government continues to promote cultural health station projects to strengthen preventative, outreach, and continuous care services for indigenous elders. The government also actively injects resources and encourages local governments to assist in matching idle public spaces for the indigenous community to establish long-term care facilities, thereby improving indigenous peoples' access to long-term care services.

4. Guarantee the economic power of indigenous peoples

To protect the traditional knowledge and culture-based economic opportunities and activities of indigenous peoples, establish cultural and economic autonomy of

indigenous tribes, share and provide mutual economic aid and strengthen the industry structure, promote plans related to the economic and industrial development of indigenous communities, facilitate sustainable economic development for indigenous communities, and revitalize the local economy.

5. Safeguard the land rights of indigenous peoples

To restore and recognize the land rights of indigenous peoples, plan reasonable use of lands reserved for indigenous peoples, promote transitional justice for indigenous peoples and investigations to uncover historical facts, elevate the Regulations on Development and Management of the Lands Reserved for Indigenous People from regulation to law, and establish laws regarding indigenous peoples' lands. Additionally, actively communicate with the general public and complete relevant legislations to improve the legal source and management system of lands reserved for indigenous peoples and ensure the land rights of indigenous peoples.

6. Provide equal educational opportunities for indigenous children and adolescents

To protect indigenous peoples' right to education, cultivate talents needed by the indigenous community to facilitate the development of indigenous peoples. Establish the Education Act for Indigenous Peoples, which stipulates that the central government shall increase the number of dedicated budget items and allocate funding specially designated for indigenous education in order to safeguard indigenous students' enrollment and education opportunities.

Also, to provide indigenous students with language and cultural opportunities under non-discriminatory education, fully promote ethnic cultural education for young children, establish subsidy guidelines for community or tribal mutual aid education and care centers to provide child education services with a curriculum that includes indigenous language, history, and culture. Subsidize kindergartens that provide immersive indigenous language education and promote indigenous teacher training programs. Establish indigenous language learning centers, train enough teachers to provide language and cultural education for indigenous children, strengthen language and culture learning, and improve the indigenous language and cultural education system.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--------------------------------------|------------------|--|
| 70 | <p>1. Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Indigenous Peoples Basic Law.</p> | <p>Council of Indigenous Peoples</p> | <p>2020-2024</p> | <p>1. The promotion committee for the Indigenous Peoples Basic Law at the Executive Yuan is convened to regularly examine how the Indigenous Peoples Basic Law and relevant laws are being implemented.</p> <p>2. Formulate and implement legal development plans for indigenous peoples.</p> |
| 71 | <p>2. Implement indigenous people's rights to education, culture and language as well as their media access rights:</p> <p>(1) Formulate a mid-to long-term plan (2021-2025) to establish an indigenous education and cultural knowledge system.</p> <p>(2) Subsidize local governments to organize preliminary investigation and research of</p> | <p>Council of Indigenous Peoples</p> | <p>2020-2024</p> | <p>1. Construct knowledge systems of six tribes and develop education curriculum modules for these six tribes.</p> <p>2. Subsidize local governments to carry out 15 cases of preliminary research and preservation feasibility assessment of indigenous cultural assets.</p> <p>3. The Taiwan Indigenous Television (TITV) continues to entrust the Taiwan Public Television Service Foundation to handle its digital channel broadcast. Complete the establishment of 37 broadcast stations for Alian96.3.</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---------------------|-----------|--|
| | <p>indigenous cultural assets and formulate assessment plans for determining the feasibility of preserving any findings to increase the number of indigenous cultural assets.</p> <p>(3) Promote the inclusion of indigenous TV stations into wireless digital channels and produce high-quality shows with diverse indigenous languages to safeguard indigenous people’s right to access the media.</p> <p>(4) Comprehensively promote the research and development of indigenous languages.</p> | | | <p>4. Comprehensively promote indigenous language research and development:</p> <p>(1) Establish the Indigenous Languages Research and Development Foundation. Promote the research and development of indigenous languages, complete “written symbols,” and gather 400 pieces of corpus each year.</p> <p>(2) Subsidize 25 township, town, city and district offices to promote bilingual writing of official documents of indigenous peoples, and subsidize 44 agencies to put up indigenous language signs for place names and public facilities.</p> <p>(3) Establish seven indigenous language learning centers across the nation.</p> <p>(4) Organize two indigenous language proficiency tests each year.</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 72 | <p>3. Guaranteeing indigenous peoples' right to health:</p> <p>(1) Establish medical care resource accessibility for indigenous peoples.</p> | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cultivate local medical personnel. Train at least 15 indigenous medical personnel with public scholarships. 70% of trainees stay to serve at local medical facilities. 2. Subsidize medical travel expenses (including hospital transfers, major or emergency medical treatment, use of social welfare resources, and obstetric examinations or births) for at least 10,000 indigenous individuals from indigenous regions. 3. Reward medical personnel that establishes clinics in indigenous regions with subsidies of up to NT\$500 thousand for each clinic. 4. Set up at least 20 stations that provide remote ENT outpatient services at public health centers in indigenous areas. |
| | <p>(2) Conduct research on the culture of traditional indigenous medicine through cross-departmental collaboration.</p> | Council of Indigenous Peoples | 2020-2024 | <p>Complete research, processing, and promotion of at least three kinds of medicinal plants traditionally used by indigenous people with plans to train 150 to</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--------------------------------|-----------|---|
| | | | | promote traditional indigenous medicinal plants. |
| | <p>(3) Improve indigenous peoples' access to long-term care resources:</p> <p>①Establish cultural health stations according to the National Ten-Year Long-Term Care Plan 2.0 (2016-2025).</p> | Council of Indigenous Peoples | 2020-2024 | Increase the number of cultural health stations for indigenous peoples to 420. |
| | ②Enrich long-term care service resources in indigenous areas. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2024 | 80% of indigenous administrative areas have long-term care facilities. |
| 73 | <p>4. Guarantee the economic power of indigenous peoples:</p> <p>Implement plans related to the economic and industrial development of indigenous peoples.</p> | Council of Indigenous Peoples | 2020-2024 | 1. An estimated 20 entrepreneurial cases will be selected each year in effort to help indigenous entrepreneurs develop their businesses. 12 high-quality cases are expected to be selected year for in-depth counseling that will encourage companies to innovate and develop for transformation and upgrading. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|-------------------------------|-----------|---|
| | | | | 2. Set up eight industry operation bases to promote and sell products related to indigenous culture. |
| 74 | <p>5. Safeguard the land rights of indigenous peoples:</p> <p>(1) Actively communicate with the general public and hold briefings for attendees to exchange opinions on indigenous land policies and laws.</p> <p>(2) Accelerate the restoration of indigenous peoples' rights to reserved land and help indigenous peoples obtain ownership of reserved land.</p> <p>(3) Promote plans to expand the scope of lands reserved for indigenous people and help indigenous</p> | Council of Indigenous Peoples | 2020-2023 | <p>1. Organize an estimated 1,200 briefs to exchange opinions on indigenous land policies.</p> <p>2. Handle approximately 20,000 cases of land rights restoration involving a total of approximately 8,500 hectares of land.</p> <p>3. 1,500 plots of additional land covering an area of 400 hectares are planned to be reserved for indigenous peoples.</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--|-----------|---|
| | people recover their rights to the land left by their ancestors. | | | |
| 75 | 6. Provide indigenous children and adolescents with equal educational opportunities: (1) Establish community or tribal mutual aid education and care centers. | Council of Indigenous Peoples | 2020-2024 | Establish at least eight community or tribal mutual aid education and care centers. |
| 76 | (2) Guarantee education funds for indigenous peoples according to the Education Act for Indigenous Peoples. | Ministry of Education Council of Indigenous Peoples | 2020-2024 | Indigenous education funding shall account for no less than 1.9% of the total budget of the central education agency. |
| 77 | (3) Promote indigenous language teacher training programs. | Council of Indigenous Peoples | 2020-2024 | Establish and subsidize seven indigenous language learning centers across Taiwan. |
| | | Ministry of Education | 2020-2024 | Promote special courses to train indigenous teachers. Subsidize universities with a focus on cultivating indigenous teachers to open a 20-credit class on indigenous languages. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|-------------------------------|-----------|--|
| 78 | (4) Train early childhood education and care talents indigenous communities, organize immersive indigenous language teaching and professional courses in early childhood education and care. | Council of Indigenous Peoples | 2020-2024 | Train at least 513 indigenous language caregivers that can pass down indigenous languages and professional ability to take care of 575 young children. |
| 79 | (5) Guarantee indigenous students' right to further their education and provide additional quotas for indigenous students according to the Regulations on the Education Rights and Government Sponsorship of Indigenous Students. | Ministry of Education | 2020-2024 | Regularly count the number of indigenous students across enrollment channels as well as the number of additional places. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|-----------------------|-----------|--|
| 80 | (6) Help indigenous dropouts return to school stably by collaborating with the Indigenous Families Service Center. | Ministry of Education | 2020-2024 | Decrease the drop-out rate of indigenous students by 0.01% year on year. |

(VII) Equality and Non-Discrimination for the LGBTI Community

1. Promote respect, protection, and non-discrimination of LGBTI

Of the referendum held at the end of 2018, No. 10 “Do you agree that marriage defined in the Civil Code should be restricted to the union between one man and one woman?” (72.48% voted yes), No. 11 “Do you agree that the Ministry of Education should not implement SOGIESC (acronym for sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics.) education stipulated in the Enforcement Rules of the Gender Equity Education Act in elementary and junior high schools?” (67.44% voted yes), and No. 12 “Do you agree to the protection of the rights of same-sex couples in co-habitation on a permanent basis in ways other than changing of the Civil Code?” (61.12% voted yes) generated heated public discourse regarding same-sex marriage rights and SOGIESC education. The results of the referendum showed that 70% of the public does not support expanding the Civil Code to protect the rights of same-sex couples to get married, while 67% of the public does not support SOGIESC education at schools.

To protect same-sex couples’ right to marry, Taiwan issued the Act for Implementation of the J. Y. Interpretation No. 748 in May 2019, becoming the first country in Asia to legalize same-sex marriage, an important human rights milestone. The LGBTI Section of the Executive Yuan Gender Equality Committee website provides information about protecting LGBTI rights, including issues like gender identity, sexual orientation, transgender issues, and intersex issues, helping the public gain a better understand of LGBTI issues and providing resources for gender quality courses at government agencies or schools to reference. As part of an important gender equality issue in Taiwan - eliminating gender stereotypes and prejudices, agencies and departments are guided to promote better understanding and acceptance

of LGBTI people and diversified families from 2019 to 2022. The government also issued the CEDAW Education, Training, and Promotion Plan (2020 to 2023), incorporated courses on protecting LGBTI people, compiled physical and digital teaching materials on LGBTI Rights Protection, organized education and training to help government workers and the general public better understand the circumstances of LGBTI people, and created the “XX’s Room” promotional film to help the public get to know and understand transgender people and bisexual people. Meanwhile, through the gender equality counseling and assessment mechanisms, the promotion of LGBTI people and the rights of diversified families is included in the assessment indicators of various ministries and local governments.

The Executive Yuan conducted a telephone poll on gender equality in 2020 which showed that 51.8% of the public did not agree with the statement “same-sex marriage will destroy the family system and ethics,” an increase of 13.1 percentage points compared with the results of the 2018 survey; 52.5% of the public agreed with the statement “same-sex couples should have the right to be legally married,” an increase of 15.1 percentage points compared to the 2018 survey; 60.1% of the public agreed with the statement “students should properly learn about homosexual and transgender people in elementary school,” an increase of 18.8 percentage points compared to the 2018 survey. However, the 2020 survey shows that 46.0% of the public still disagrees with the statement “same-sex couples should have the right to be legally married,” and some online communities and media reports still feature discriminatory messages against LGBTI people, indicating that there is still a need to increase public awareness and acceptance of the LGBTI community and diversified families.

2. Legalization of gender-changing requirements

The current regulation of gender-changing registration is based on the Ministry of the Interior’s decree No. 0970066240, issued on November 3, 2008, which regulates the identification requirements for gender-change registration at household registration offices. The decree requires that an applicant shall have the document of assessment given by two psychiatrists and a document of completing gender reassignment surgery. The aforementioned requirements are not specified by law, and they require the removal of reproductive organs to change one’s gender, which fails to fully protect the gender human rights of transgender and intersex people.

On April 24, 2020, the Executive Yuan convened the Research and Consultation Meeting on Policy Directions Regarding the Legalization of Gender-Changing Requirements. It was decided that a special law will be formulated regarding

requirements for gender-changing. The government will then commission experts and scholars to conduct relevant research and propose suggestions and a draft for legalization. The content of the law includes specific legal suggestions regarding the determining factors of gender identity and gender-change, the recognitions process, the rights and obligations of those who change genders, and supplementary measures of social support.

3. Protect LGBTI children and youths from discrimination

According to the International Civic and Citizenship Education Study (ICCS 2016), Taiwanese students ranked second in their support for gender equality, an excellent ranking that is higher than the international average. However, the actual implementation of such support in student behavior still requires the joint efforts of schools and society.

The Gender Equity Education Act already has provisions that protect LGBTI children and youths from discrimination, and most laws that prevent and protect LGBTI children and youths from discrimination have been adopted into relevant school rules and the basic values of teachers and students and therefore implemented in everyday education. However, in order to tie school education into social dynamics, it is necessary to incorporate gender equality into the 12-year Basic Education curriculum so that students can think about these issues in different learning contexts, achieve mutual inspiration and integration, and immediately respond to and clarify gender equality education events of concern, and guide the public to establish the correct understanding and attitudes of gender equality education.

4. Eliminating employment discrimination against LGBTI people

Current relevant laws and regulations allow competent authorities to issue penalties based on instances of discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in the workplace (including on campus). In practice, however, most employers lack awareness of LGBTI people. It is therefore advisable to raise employers' awareness of SOGIESC and relevant laws and regulations so that they can develop suitable employment plans for LGBTI employees and establish a friendly workplace environment of gender equality and non-discrimination.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---|-----------|---|
| 81 | 1. Promote respect, protection and non-discrimination for gender diversity: (1) Promote public awareness and acceptance of gender diversity and diversified families. | Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan | 2020-2024 | By 2024, increase the public's acceptance of gender diversity and diversified families by 4% from the results of the 2020 poll. |
| 82 | (2) Commission the study of Taiwan's LGBTI Community Living Conditions Survey. | Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan | 2022-2023 | Complete the Taiwan's LGBTI Community Living Conditions Survey and propose an analysis report of the survey and policy suggestions. |
| 83 | (3) Incorporate the promotion of the rights of LGBTI and diversified families into the gender equality assessment indicators of various ministries and local governments. | Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan | 2020-2023 | 70% of ministries and local governments promote gender-friendly measures and advocacy. |
| 84 | (4) Invite representatives from other countries in Europe and Asia | Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan | 2020-2022 | Organize one conference on the promotion of LGBTI human rights in Taiwan, the EU, and Asia. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---|-----------|--|
| | to share Taiwan's human rights policies regarding LGBTI rights and experience implementing such policies. | | | |
| 85 | (5) Organize gender equality education and training. | Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan | 2020-2023 | Increase the number of civil servants working at ministries and departments under the Executive Yuan or local governments taking physical or digital gender diversity courses by 10%. |
| 86 | 2. Legalizing gender-changing requirements: Discuss the legalization of gender-changing requirements. | Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan | 2020-2022 | Commission research on gender-changing requirements and legalization, propose policies, and legalization suggestions. |
| | | Ministry of the Interior | 2024 | Based on the review by competent authorities, it is stipulated that back-end household registrations should include the necessary paperwork. |
| 87 | 3. Protect LGBTI children and youths from discrimination. (1) Incorporate gender equality education into the 12-year Basic | Ministry of Education | 2020-2024 | Textbook resources and lesson plan examples that can be used by various fields have been uploaded to the Gender Equality Resource Center and the CIRN website for teachers to reference. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|-----------------------|-----------|---|
| | Education curriculum as one of 19 main issues so that it is implemented throughout different learning environments. | | | |
| 88 | (2) Establish a professional support mechanism for subject consultation and counseling. | Ministry of Education | 2020-2024 | Establish a seed teacher community to assist schools in different regions establish teacher communities and curriculum co-preparation mechanisms. |
| 89 | (3) Investigate statistics regarding reports and complaints filed regarding Article 13, Article 14, and Article 14-1 of the Gender Equity Education Act. | Ministry of Education | 2020-2024 | Reduce the ratio of the number of legitimate cases (legitimate/reported) of discrimination against LGBTI students in schools at all levels (elementary school, junior high school, high school) by 2% year on year. |
| 90 | (4) Continue to promote gender equality education by focusing on issues that society is concerned about, using the current | Ministry of Education | 2020-2024 | Establish a Press Release and Information Clarification Section to publish timely explanations and clarifications regarding gender equality education issues that the public is concerned about. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---------------------|-----------|--|
| | emerging media to regularly publish clarifications or explanations regarding gender equality education in a timely manner. | | | |
| 91 | 4. Improve the problem of gender discrimination in employment: Create relevant online courses to provide training for employers or internal affairs-related personnel. | Ministry of Labor | 2020-2024 | Create at least two online courses on gender equality. |

(VIII) Equality and Non-Discrimination for Migrant Workers

In the concluding observations and recommendations of the second national report on the Two Covenants, the international review committee clearly pointed out that the current protection for foreign fishers' human rights fell short of international standards. In response, the Fisheries Agency of the Council of Agriculture has listed related issues and invited experts, scholars, NGOs, and relevant ministries and departments to discuss effective improvement measures. The implementation strategies to protect foreign fisher's rights have been proposed as the Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights in 2022. With the incorporation of key elements of ILO C188- Work in Fishing Convention into domestic legislation, and amendments to the Regulations on the Authorization and Management of Overseas Employment of Foreign Crew Members, it is expected that relevant policies will be aligned with the international standards and further safeguard foreign fisher's rights and benefits.

Relevant actions include labor rights, living conditions, and interpreter availability for migrant workers.

1. Ensure migrant workers have decent working and living conditions

(1) Improve food, water, and everyday care services

Migrant workers contribute greatly to Taiwan's industrial and caregiving manpower. To provide them with a certain level of living care, Taiwan has established the Foreign Worker's Living Care Service Plan Discretionary Standards (hereafter referred to as the Discretionary Standards) that urges employers to provide migrant workers with three living care services: food, accommodations, and management. To protect the rights and interests of migrant domestic workers, the Ministry of Labor revised the Discretionary Standards on December 14, 2020 to stipulate that employers hiring migrant domestic workers must provide accident insurance in the labor contract. The provision took effect on January 1, 2021. Also, to ensure the hygiene and safety of food and water provided to foreign fishers, the Ministry of Labor revised the Discretionary Standards on February 18, 2021 to focus on the drinking water provided to foreign fishers on fishing boats, stipulating that employers should provide ample drinking water of at least 2000ml per day. If the water must be boiled before drinking, employers shall supply the necessary equipment and provide clear instructions or signs that foreigners can easily comprehend.

(2) Reduce agency involvement in migrant labor contracts

Currently, migrant workers must prepare a salary affidavit and labor contract that has been verified by the labor department of their home country to ensure that they have a clear understanding of the work they will be conducting, their remunerations, and the fees they need to pay. However, there are occasional instances where there are discrepancies between the affidavit and labor contract verified by the migrant workers' country of origin. To protect the rights and interests of the migrant workers, it is necessary to strengthen labor contract verification measures.

(3) Improve occupational health and safety for migrant workers

Most of the migrant workers that come to Taiwan engage in higher-risk jobs, particularly in the manufacturing industry. In order to reduce the occurrence of occupational disasters, high-risk business units that often employ migrant workers, such as metal product manufacturing, machinery and equipment manufacturing, plastic product manufacturing and construction industries should strengthen supervision and inspection mechanisms to urge institutions to improve health and safety facilities and conduct occupational health and safety management.

2. Establish foreigner-friendly interpretation environments

(1) Comprehensive foreigner-friendly interpretation environment

In cases where migrant workers that have suffered physical abuse, mistreatment, been victims of human trafficking, or caught up in cases involving the Employment Service Act and are required to cooperate with administrative disputes or criminal investigations and therefore need to have their statements taken, it is necessary to help them fully express their thoughts and advocate for their rights and interests as they are being interviewed by the local government. Taiwan has the Guidelines for Local Governments to Handle Non-Profit Organizations Accompanying Foreigners in Inquiries in place so that migrant workers can ask for company and translation services from local governments or non-profit organizations. According to the regulations, each local government shall establish its own roster of interpreters. In addition, overall planning in terms of the manpower, remuneration, and training of domestic interpreters have been coordinated through cross-departmental collaborations during regular meetings convened by the Executive Yuan. The government will continue to strengthen promotion of this system so that migrant workers clearly understand how the system works.

(2) Foreigner-friendly interpretation environment at police agencies

To protect the rights of those who speak another language in accordance with the spirit of human rights conventions, all police agencies have a roster of interpreters so that police officers can call on an interpreter to assist in cases as soon as possible. Additionally, according to the Notices Regarding the Use of Interpreters by Police Agencies issued by the National Police Agency of the Ministry of the Interior, police officers should pay attention to the nature of each case and the gender of the parties involved, and fully respect the wishes of the parties when selecting an interpreter. Police officers must also pay attention to whether an interpreter has a conflict of interests. If there is any doubt of violating the ethics of interpretation, another more suitable interpreter should be asked to assist instead.

Additionally, to ensure the quality of interpretation and strengthen the professional skills of interpreters, police agencies conduct regular lectures and examinations for the interpreters on their roster. These lectures and exams cover topics like police business, legal knowledge, investigation procedures, ethical responsibility of interpreters and professional interpretation skills to ensure that the interpreters provide accurate, complete, and faithful interpretations.

(3) Foreigner-friendly interpretation environment in the judicial system

Migrant workers account for a considerable proportion of Taiwan's population. In judicial proceedings, the problem of language interpretation has attracted much attention. Therefore, it is paramount that the judicial system protects the rights and interests of migrant workers to participate in legal proceedings and guarantees the basic human rights of people with language barriers as stated in human rights conventions.

Taiwan's courts work with interpreters proficient in languages including Southeast Asian language, English, and European languages. A list of interpreters in different language categories is compiled for the court to use. Prosecution offices also have a list of interpreters, with the names and language skills of each interpreter registered online for prosecution offices to select and for the public to reference. Contract renewals or new hires occur from time to time, and videos like Notices for Witness Before Going to the Court and Interrogation Procedures and the Rights of Defendants in the Court in Southeast Asian languages were uploaded to YouTube for people to browse.

(4) Foreigner-friendly medical interpretation environment

To shorten the distance between doctors and patients, improve the quality of medical services, and establish a friendly medical interpretation environment for foreign migrant workers, the government has organized training courses for medical interpreters, completed medical communication documents in 20 languages, and compiled interpreting resources in 10 languages. These resources are available on the website of the Ministry of Health and Welfare for medical institutions to reference and utilize.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---------------------|-----------|---|
| 92 | 1. Ensure decent working and living conditions for migrant workers: (1) Reduce agency involvement in migrant labor contracts: | Ministry of Labor | 2020-2024 | Coordinate with the countries of origin of migrant workers through bilateral meetings to ensure the implementation of labor contract verifications. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---------------------|-----------|--|
| | Coordinate the country of origin of migrant workers to continuously implement labor contract verification. | | | |
| 93 | (2) Improve occupational health and safety for migrant workers: Implement safety, health and labor supervision and inspections at high-risk business units that often employ migrant workers. | Ministry of Labor | 2020-2024 | Conduct an average of 6,000 labor inspections per year. |
| 94 | 2. Establish foreigner-friendly interpretation environments: (1) Comprehensive foreigner-friendly interpretation environment: Strengthen the promotion of the mechanism of non-profit organizations accompanying foreigners to police | Ministry of Labor | 2020-2024 | There are up to 500 cases of migrant workers needing accompaniment or interpretation services each year. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---------------------------------------|-----------|---|
| | interviews or statement-taking. | | | |
| 95 | (2) A foreigner-friendly interpretation environment in policing: Organize educational and training programs for interpreters listed by the police. | Ministry of the Interior | 2022-2024 | Ensure the coverage rate of the interpreter workshops organized by the National Police Agency of the Ministry of the Interior reach 100% (a total of 1,537 interpreters are currently listed) |
| 96 | (3) Foreigner-friendly interpretation environment in the judicial system: Guarantee migrant workers' right to access the judicial system, enrich the database of contract interpreters, and widely recruit interpreters of various languages. | Judicial Yuan, Ministry of Justice | 2020-2024 | Establish a qualification review system for contract interpreters and conduct relevant education and training. |
| 97 | (4) Foreigner-friendly medical interpretation environment: ①Continue to compile interpreting resources on the website of the Ministry of Health and Welfare for | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2024 | Add at least two interpreting resources to the Ministry of Health and Welfare website. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|-----------|---|
| | medical institutions to reference and use. | | | |
| 98 | ②Organize training courses for medical interpreters. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | Each year, more than one foreign language is selected for a medical interpreter training course. To ensure the teaching quality of the course, each course is limited to 15 trainees. |

(IX) Equality and Non-Discrimination for Prisoners and Rehabilitated Offenders

1. Improve medical human rights in prisons

Since the implementation of the 2nd Generation of the NHI in 2013, the National Health Insurance Administration of the Ministry of Health and Welfare has formulated plans for medical treatment in correctional facilities, bringing medical care and healthcare in correctional facilities into the fold of the social structure so that local medical institutions can provide stable medical services in correctional facilities. Inmates can receive treatment in correctional facilities and receive healthcare with the same standard as the general public. This improves the accessibility and convenience of inmates to obtain medical resources. As of 2021, 54 correctional facilities across Taiwan all have hospitals providing medical services. Also, according to Article 49 of the Prison Act amended in December 2019, the central and local health authorities should assist prisons in managing inmates' medical treatment, preventive healthcare, screening, prevention of communicable diseases, and food hygiene, to improve the medical standards in prisons. Additionally, private resources are utilized to subsidize inmates with HIV who meet certain qualifications (e.g., the economically disadvantaged) to get dentures. There is also the Baby Teeth Program, which provides dental and healthcare services for the children of inmates to protect inmates' right to health and children's rights.

2. Improve the forensic psychiatric assessment system

To improve the qualifications, abilities, identification methods, and credibility of the professionals providing assessments in the current criminal trial appraisal system to strengthen the neutrality and impartiality of assessments and implement the directive

“discuss the formulation and improvement of the expert witness system, and at the same time review the deficiencies of the current appraisal system and its potential abolishment” issued by the National Conference on Judicial Reform. Amendments to certain articles in the Code of Criminal Procedure were drafted. These amendments include that appraisers should have professional skills. Appraisal reports should include a sufficient foundation, as well as reliable principles and methods; the defendant may appoint their own appraiser; the person who conducted the appraisal shall be named in the written report; the appraiser should appear in court for cross-examination; the court may select experts and scholars to state their opinions regarding legal opinions; polygraph results that cannot be reproduced cannot be used as evidence to determine the existence of criminal facts. The draft was submitted to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation on August 31, 2021. In addition, the Ministry of Health and Welfare also assists the Judicial Yuan and the Ministry of Justice to complete the accreditation of medical institutions and specialists for forensic psychiatry, and continues to cultivate medical professionals for forensic psychiatry.

3. Set up a forensic psychiatric hospital

To enable offenders with psychiatric disorders to receive professional assessment, treatment, and other medical assistance throughout judicial procedures and declaration of guardianship; plans were made to establish a forensic psychiatric hospital with equal emphasis on judicial monitoring and medical treatment, introducing resources such as professional medical treatment, social work counseling, occupational therapy or psychological counseling to provide good medical care for mentally ill offenders. Security hardware facilities and training of security personnel are also strengthened to strengthen the cooperation between criminal justice and mental health, establishing a professional and humanizing mode of appropriate treatment, helping mentally ill offenders to reintegrate into society, and using clinical research experience and results to prevent more crimes due to mental illness, effectively achieving the purpose of keeping society safe; the Ministry of Health and Welfare is in charge of providing psychiatric health care, while the Ministry of Justice handles matters such as adjudication, execution of orders, guardianship, and the transferring inmates to the community after the guardianship is over.

4. Protecting inmates' rights and interests

In order to protect the rights and interests of inmates, in 2020, the Ministry of Justice announced amendments to the Prison Act, Detention Act, and relevant delegated legislations to stay in line with international trends, strengthen protection of inmates'

human rights, establish a system for inmates' complaints and judicial remedy system, promote the modernization of prison administration, and improve management efficiency.

5. Employment discrimination against rehabilitated offenders

In order to solve the problem of the difficulty of rehabilitated offenders to find employment, Article 24 of the Employment Service Act clearly stipulates that a plan should be formulated for rehabilitated offenders to help them find employment. In addition, in order to improve the problem of employment discrimination against rehabilitated offenders, the Taiwan After-Care Association connects friendly social resources to establish a network of affiliated companies that facilitate the employment of rehabilitated offenders and regularly commend them for good behavior. Inmates and rehabilitated offenders who are discriminated against by employers on the basis of one of the 18 aspects named in Item 1, Article 5 of the Employment Service Act, or are asked to provide private information that is not necessary for employment, may file a complaint with the local government to protect their employment rights.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 99 | The plan for the National Health Insurance to provide insured subjects admitted to correctional institutions is in its 3 rd phase. 34 teams of healthcare professionals from 112 institutions now continue to provide stable medical services for inmates. | Ministry of Justice | 2020-2024 | 1. Medical accessibility: If the inmate suffers from an acute illness, they shall be sent to an outside hospital for emergency medical treatment. Ensure the timeliness of consultations and establish principles for waiting times. 2. Medical care capacity: Establish the maximum service capacity for each clinic as a reference for additional appointments. |
| 100 | Establish a comprehensive forensic psychiatric | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | 1. Cooperate with professional associations to complete the selection of forensic psychiatrists, |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---|-----------|--|
| | assessment system. | | | and provide references for local prosecutors' offices and courts. 2. Complete investigation of forensic psychiatric appraisal institutions, training courses for appraisal personnel, and a certification system for appraisal personnel. |
| 101 | Plan the establishment of a forensic psychiatric hospital and to improve the comprehensive custody system. | Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | Cross-departmental collaboration to establish at least 1 forensic psychiatric hospital (forensic psychiatric ward) as an appropriate place for custody. |
| | | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | Train forensic psychiatric medical professionals, and conduct training for at least 100 people every year. |
| 102 | Develop regulations for detention in juvenile correctional institutions. | Ministry of Justice | 2024 | Establish (amend) and issue the Regulations on the Implementation of Detention in Juvenile Correctional Institutions and relevant delegated legislations. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---------------------|-----------|--|
| 103 | Facilitate employment for rehabilitated offenders. | Ministry of Justice | 2022-2024 | Supervise the Taiwan After-Case Association, continue to deepen collaborations with employment service agencies, handle various employment services, and assist rehabilitated offenders in reducing obstacles and finding employment smoothly. 5,000 people are expected to benefit from these services each year. |
| | | Ministry of Labor | 2022-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assist rehabilitated offenders to find employment. The number of employment service referrals is expected to reach 5,000 each year. 2. Provide pre-employment training to 150 unemployed rehabilitated offenders each year. |

IV. Strengthening the Protection of the Right to Life

(I) Reduce the Number of Teenage Suicides

Article 15 of the Constitution states that people's right to life shall be protected. Adolescents are in a stage where their bodies and minds are still developing, and their futures are full of possibilities. However, their life experience and psychological state are relatively immature compared to adults, so they are relatively high risk to commit suicide or self-harm out of impulsiveness. There is an upward trend in the number of teen suicide deaths in Taiwan from 2017 to 2019. Though the Suicide Prevention Act was promulgated and implemented in 2019, suicide remains the second leading cause of death among youths aged 15 to 24 in recent years. Past research data shows that the causes of deaths by suicide often involve multiple factors, including disease, family, education, social welfare, employment, economy and other factors, these factors may influence one another and cause an increase in the number of youth suicides. The problem of youth suicides is one faced by many countries around the world. Therefore, it is important to establish an interdisciplinary, cross-departmental collaboration mechanism to reduce youth suicide rates and strengthen the protection of young people's right to life.

To investigate the causes of self-harming behaviors on campus and to formulate a plan to prevent self-harm on campus, the Ministry of Education regularly analyzes cases reported by schools at all levels. According to the Ministry of Education's analysis and prevention strategy report of student self-harming behaviors on campus, it is difficult to attribute student suicides to one cause. Typically, more than one cause is reported, the most common causes are mental illness (41.9%), family relationship (33%), and relationship problems (24.6%). By subsidizing schools to promote campus mental health programs, the government aims to strengthen school resources for dealing with mental illness, improve school faculty's mental health awareness, improve school personnel and parents' suicide prevention knowledge, and strengthen emotional education on campus.

The physical and mental health of soldiers is the foundation of the overall combat power of the national army. However, the National Army is an armed group that must be in combat readiness at all times. How to protect the basic human rights such as the mental health of officers and soldiers while maintaining combat power is a continued focus of the Ministry of National Defense. Looking at past military suicide cases, most are committed by young adults, and most involve a combination of personal and workplace factors and can rarely be attributed to just one reason.

Compared to the national suicide rate, military suicide rates are not particularly high, but every suicide is a loss to combat power of the national military. In order to strengthen the protection of young soldiers' right to life, the Ministry of National Defense has established mechanisms such as "three-level defense" and "timely exit," combined with actions such as "sound internal management" and "reasonable duty training." The national army will continue to improve and create environments. Going forward, it will continue to improve actions in order to reduce the suicide rate of young soldiers and build a high-quality modern national army.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
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| 104 | <p>Lower the number of adolescent suicides:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proactively promote the 1925 suicide prevention hotline through various channels to increase adolescents' use of the hotline. 2. Ensure that school personnel follow Article 11 of the Suicide Prevention Act and report any cases of teen suicides so that persons who attempted suicide could be brought into the outreach visit system and be provided with community mental health resources to | <p>Ministry of Health and Welfare Ministry of Education</p> | 2022-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Ministry of Health and Welfare established a 24-hour suicide prevention hotline. The number of youths that called in increased by 10% compared with 2021. 2. The number of suicides attempts reported by education personnel increased by 10% compared with 2021. 3. The implementation rate of the plan to subsidize campus mental health promotion programs in colleges and high schools has reached 95%. 4. Teen suicides mortality rate have dropped 3% compared to 2021. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|------------------------------|-----------|--|
| | <p>lower the likelihood of them committing suicide once again.</p> <p>3. Encourage colleges, universities, high schools, and junior high schools to promote campus mental health promotion.</p> | | | |
| 105 | <p>Lower the suicide rate of young adult soldiers:</p> <p>1. Learn about the conditions of individual soldiers and make use of defense mechanisms.</p> <p>2. Promote psychological counseling education and improve self-introspection capabilities.</p> <p>3. Counsel and trace diagnosed individuals.</p> | Ministry of National Defense | 2022-2024 | <p>1. Having officers get to know the conditions of individual soldiers through simple health surveys, family contacts, and the “three-level” defense mechanism can raise awareness and prevent suicide attempts.</p> <p>2. Increase the number of mental health education courses, counseling sessions, and primary defense classes to strengthen officers and soldiers’ ability to self-detect psychological problems.</p> <p>3. Improve provisions of psychiatric medical services such as clinical diagnosis, notification</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--------|---------------------|-----------|--|
| | | | | contact and medical care in hospitals at all levels of the National Army, and level three medical care facilities that received calls requesting care. |

(II) Reduce the Number of Traffic Accident Fatalities Among the Elderly and Youth Population

In 2020, 2,972 people died in road traffic accidents. Categorized by mode of transportation, scooters accounted for 61%, pedestrians by 14%, automobiles 8%, and bicycles 8%. Based on age group (per 100,000 population), the number of deaths was 0.9 children (0-12 years old), 6.1 teens (13-17 years old), 17.8 youths (18-24 years old), 9.3 adults (25-64 years old), and 32.3 senior citizens (over 65 years old). In terms of where accidents happened, intersections accounted for 57.4%, while roads accounted for 42.6%. In particular, young people and the elderly are at higher risk, with the total number of deaths among young people reaching 349 (298 in 2017, 297 in 2018, 339 in 2019) (accounting for 11.9% of the deaths), 83.4% rode a scooter; as for the elderly population, the number of deaths was 1,235 (998 in 2017, 1,067 in 2018, and 1,158 in 2019) (accounting for 41.2% of deaths), 51.8% rode scooters, while 25 % were pedestrians. Therefore, a multi-pronged approach tackling the issue from education, engineering, law enforcement, supervision, and advocacy is hoped to effectively reduce the number of traffic accident fatalities among the aforementioned high-risk population groups.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---|-----------|--|
| 106 | Reduce the number of traffic accident fatalities in the elderly and young population groups. | Ministry of Transportation and Communications Ministry of the Interior Ministry of Education Ministry of Labor | 2021-2023 | 1. Reduce the number of fatal traffic accidents involving the young population to 300: (1) Encourage youths to enroll in scooter driving training, with a certain |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
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| | | | | <p>quota for subsidies.</p> <p>(2) Encourage youths to participate in danger awareness tests and road safety lectures before getting their licenses.</p> <p>(3) Continue to organize bus routes on campus to reduce the need of scooters.</p> <p>2. Reduce the number of fatal traffic accidents involving the elderly population to 1,100:</p> <p>(1) Continuously train teachers to conduct interactive traffic safety education to strengthen the concept of correct road use.</p> <p>(2) Strengthen the management of driver's licenses for the elderly.</p> <p>(3) Strengthen the construction of an elder-friendly transportation environment.</p> <p>3. Amend laws to increase penalties for major violations and re-offenses. Strengthen the legal and regulatory management of new</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--------|---------------------|-----------|--|
| | | | | <p>types of transportation to improve driving safety.</p> <p>4. Regarding engineering services, increase people-oriented design concepts, including pedestrian crossings, shelter space, lane reduction, and speed management. Meanwhile, utilize accident collision patterns, big data, and information about the surrounding traffic to propose an improvement plan.</p> <p>5. Engage in public-private cooperation to promote road safety education for all. Establish different teaching materials for different age groups and people of different lifestyles, work with the Ministry of Education to integrate these concepts into the curriculum or classes, since 2021 academic year, and continue to encourage colleges and universities to hold seminars or hands-on activities.</p> |

(III) Progress on the Gradual Abolition of the Death Penalty

According to Article 2 of the Act to Implement the Two Covenants stating “Human rights protection provisions in the two Covenants have domestic legal status,” and Article 6, Paragraph 6 of the ICCPR also stating “Nothing in this article shall be invoked to delay or to prevent the abolition of capital punishment by any State Party to the present Covenant,” abolishing the death penalty is in line with global trends. In the concluding observations and recommendations of the first and second national report on the Two Covenants, international experts also strongly called for the government to completely abolish the death penalty. Therefore, the issue of protecting the right to life and whether the death penalty should be abolished is an important task that Taiwan’s legal system must take seriously and communicate with various sectors of society about.

To gradually achieve the policy goal of abolishing the death penalty, the government continued to operate the Implementation Group on Gradual Abolishment of Death Penalty to organize meetings to communicate and exchange views with individuals or groups in Taiwan with different positions, as well as discussed relevant supplementary measures in hopes of dispelling doubts from the public and gradually building a consensus of public opinion in order to achieve the long-term policy goal. The government also referenced Article 6 of the ICCPR and the General Comment No. 36 that the United Nations Human Rights Committee proposed regarding the right to life stated in Article 6 of the Covenant (hereafter referred to as General Comment No. 36) to propose three concrete actions under this plan in the protection of the right to life.

1. Prosecutors shall seek sentencing with caution

Article 1 of the current Important Notes Regarding Prosecutors in Seeking Sentencing states that “Prosecutors investigating a crime may consider the matters stipulated in Article 57 of the Criminal Code in cases that should be prosecuted to make an appropriate request for sentencing when making an indictment or argument. For severe crimes that seriously endanger social security, prosecutors may urge the court to impose severe sentences to curb such crimes.” Additionally, Article 101, Paragraph 2 of Important Notes Regarding Prosecution Offices’ Handling of Criminal Procedures states that “Indictments should not only record matters stipulated in Article 264, Paragraph 2 of this law, but for severe crimes that seriously endanger social security for which the prosecutor believes a specific sentence is necessary, also include the items stipulated in Article 57 of the Criminal Code of the

Republic of China and specific reasons for calling for that sentence. When a case is tried in the court, the public prosecutor shall not only present facts and legal evidence to prove and debate the case, but also present specific evidence and express opinions on the sentencing. If the defendant meets the requirements of Article 74 of the Criminal Code, the prosecutor may indicate the period and conditions for probation, keeping in mind the current criminal policies of Taiwan and the defendant's subjective situation. For defendants that are habitual criminals, the prosecutor should ask the court to issue security measures. The prosecutor shall prompt the court to pay attention to defendants with factors that may mitigate or aggravate sentencing such as a confession or habitual criminality, as well as penalties like confiscation or deprivation of civil rights." Considering that the current legal system still imposes extremely heavy sentences on cases of serious crimes, there is a need to include the aforementioned Article 6 of the ICCPR and the General Comment No.36 regarding limiting the death penalty in the aforementioned regulation stipulating that prosecutors shall ask for specific sentencing, prompting prosecutors will seek sentencing with caution. These articles were also included in the curriculum of on-the-job training for prosecutors to improve prosecutors' understanding of the general comment so that it can be implemented in specific cases.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---------------------|-----------|---|
| 107 | Amend Article 1 of the Notes Regarding Prosecutors in Seeking Sentencing as well as Article 101, Paragraph 2 of the Important Notes Regarding Prosecution Offices' Handling of Criminal Procedures to stipulate that prosecutors must consider the position of Article 6 of the ICCPR and the | Ministry of Justice | 2022-2023 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete amendments and issuance of Article 1 of the Notes Regarding Prosecutors in Seeking Sentencing as well as Article 101, Paragraph 2 of the Important Notes Regarding Prosecution Offices' Handling of Criminal Procedures. 2. Incorporate courses such as Sentencing for Serious Crimes and the Requirements of International Conventions in the |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---------------------|-----------|---|
| | General Comment No.36 regarding the death penalty during the indictment or court case and seek sentencing with caution. | | | annual on-the-job training for prosecutors so that prosecutors' seeking sentences meet the requirements of international conventions. |

2. Research and analyze public attitudes and opinions on the death penalty and its alternatives

In 2007, Taiwan commissioned a polling agency to conduct the Public Opinion Survey on the Issue of Death Penalty in Taiwan. It has now been more than 13 years, and so, to understand the public's latest attitude and opinions regarding the death penalty and its alternatives, the government shall commission another academic or neutral institution to conduct a public opinion surveys as a reference for developing alternatives to the death penalty.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---------------------|-----------|--|
| 108 | Commission an academic or neutral institution to conduct the "Public Opinion Survey on the Death Penalty and Relevant Values in Taiwan" to analyze and understand the public's attitude and opinions regarding the death penalty and its alternatives, with hopes of | Ministry of Justice | 2022-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commission an academic or neutral institution to conduct at least 1 sizable public opinions survey in the form of a questionnaire and conduct interviews and opinions surveys of citizens over the age of 18. 2. Consult the opinions of NGOs with different positions in designing the public opinion survey questionnaire and the survey method. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| | abolishing the death penalty and developing relevant alternatives. | | | |

3. Formulate an alternative plan to the death penalty

In 2007, Taiwan commissioned scholars to propose a Research on the Abolition of the Death Penalty and Alternative Plans, but the alternative plan was proposed before society reached a consensus on abolishing the death penalty, so the government did not rashly begin the legislative process. It has been more than 13 years since the research was conducted, and there has been changes to the legal systems of various countries regarding the death penalty as well as people's thinking. Moreover, public attitudes on whether to abolish the death penalty and develop alternatives may also vary with time, space and social environment, making it necessary to commission scholars to conduct the latest research as a reference for formulating feasible policies for alternatives to the death penalty.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---------------------|-----------|--|
| 109 | Formulate an alternative to the death penalty. | Ministry of Justice | 2022-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commission experts and scholars to conduct a project research plan on Alternative Plans for the Abolishment of the Death Penalty to propose suggestions for feasible alternative plans in the legal system. 2. Strengthen communication with the public. Organize at least 5 symposiums with experts, scholars, NGOs, or student associations, |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--------|---------------------|-----------|--|
| | | | | and use effective channels to consult the public for opinions in hopes of gathering opinions widely and building consensus. 3. Develop a politically feasible alternative to the death penalty. |

V. Housing Justice

(I) Fully Discuss and Take Inventory of Policies that Protect Housing Rights

Point regarding housing rights account for a rather high proportion of the concluding observations and recommendations of the two national reports of the Two Covenants, indicating that there is a lot of room for improvements when it comes to housing rights issues in Taiwan. The issue of housing rights involves a wide range of issues and is closely related to land use, urban development, housing policy, wealth distribution, etc.; current housing policies and laws provide insufficient protection for vulnerable groups, such as indigenous peoples, homeless people, persons with disabilities, and the younger generation. Taiwan must gather opinions from various perspectives to formulate a new national policy to achieve housing justice. The Housing Justice Team was set up under the Executive Yuan Human Rights Protection Working Group, which oversees human rights affairs, to comprehensively study and take stock of housing rights policies.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--|-----------|---|
| 110 | With reference to the relevant human rights standards of the United Nations regarding housing rights, | Current: Executive Yuan Human Rights Protection Working Group and relevant ministries and | 2022-2024 | 1. Establish the Housing Justice Team under the Executive Yuan Human Rights Protection Working Group. 2. With reference to the |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--|-----------|---|
| | comprehensively discuss and take stock of Taiwan's housing protection policies. | departments Future: Department of Human Rights, Executive Yuan and relevant ministries and departments | | relevant human rights standards of the United Nations regarding housing, comprehensively discuss and take stock of residency protection policies. 3. Examine the housing justice and existing housing policies for vulnerable groups, such as indigenous peoples, homeless people, persons with disabilities, and the younger generation and how they fall short of UN standards. 4. Identify differences between Taiwan's laws and the United Nations human rights standards regarding housing, and propose relevant research results or draft amendments. |

(II) Guarantee People's Right to Adequate Housing

1. Increase public participation in the urban land readjustment

Taiwan's current laws and regulations clearly stipulate that participation in the urban land readjustment shall be allocated according to the original locations. If residential buildings in an area must be demolished or relocated because they hinder the readjustment or construction, the government shall pay compensation according to the regulations or allocate residents to other buildable land after the area has been

adjusted and rezoned. However, such measures may still affect the housing rights of residents. To enable the people involved in readjusting to fully and reasonably stay informed of the progress and situation of land development, protect their rights and interests, and express their opinions or arrange relocation matters, government agencies should use multiple channels to disclose relevant information on the urban land readjusting (e.g., the urban land readjustment plans, cadastral maps, cost summary, land distribution list for before and after readjusting, and meeting minutes of self-organized municipal land readjusting committees) to expand opportunities for the public to participate in the urban land readjustment.

2. Implement public disclosure of information regarding land expropriation review

Although the current land expropriation review operation has clauses that clearly state that the main text of the expropriation plan must include assessments of public welfare and necessity, the total amount of compensation to be paid out, total amount of compensation prepared, an outline of establishments and their planning progress, and relocation plans, and be posted on the internet along with the meeting information so that the public can fully understand the details of expropriation cases. The government should evaluate and disclose relevant attachments to these plans while urging land owners to use the land in accordance with the expropriation plan.

3. Protect the housing rights of vulnerable groups

This project has already established the Housing Justice Team under the Executive Yuan Human Rights Protection Working Group, which oversees human rights affairs, to fully discuss and take inventory of housing policies to achieve housing justice. Additionally, the housing rights of vulnerable groups require special protection. Going forward, Taiwan will reference relevant housing justice laws of different countries (e.g., the US Fair Housing Act) and relevant international conventions to review relevant laws and regulations on the protection of fair housing rights for vulnerable groups and develop supporting measures. The government will also take the following steps to gradually improve areas of insufficient protection.

Article 4 of the Housing Law stipulates that at least 40% of social housing built by the competent authority and private sector shall be rented to economically or socially disadvantaged persons; a specific ratio of social housing shall be provided to persons whose permanent address is not registered in the area where they are going to school or working in.

According to statistics from the end of 2020, there are 2,927 homeless people in Taiwan, including 2,267 people on the streets and 660 in homeless shelters. According to the Survey and Study on the Living Conditions of Homeless People conducted in 2013, 69.6% of homeless people hope that the state can provide rental assistance, which shows that a high proportion of homeless people desire a stable place to live. Currently, local governments can provide emergency services that homeless people need, but there is still room for further promotion when it comes to rental assistance and active employment seeking.

Additionally, an integrated housing subsidy program has been implemented every year since 2007, providing rent subsidies, interest subsidies for loans for self-purchased or repaired housing to people who meet certain conditions. For economically or socially disadvantaged persons as defined in Article 4, Paragraph 2 of the Housing Act., the government will apply an appropriately higher rating weight when it comes to subsidy applications so that they have the opportunity to receive subsidies first.

The 3796th Executive Yuan meeting on March 31, 2022 reached a resolution and agreement on the NT\$30 Billion Special Program for Expanded Rent Subsidies by the Central Government, in which rent subsidies will be expanded. The eligibility criteria for applications have been loosened to those who earn less than three times the government-specified lowest cost of living, and increased subsidies are provided to unmarried young people newly entering the workforce, newlyweds, those with young children, and economically and socially disadvantaged groups, thereby alleviating the burden on renters.

Article 16 of the Indigenous Peoples Basic Law stipulates that the government shall formulate indigenous housing policies. Currently, the government has formulated a four-year, two-phase indigenous housing plan to provide housing renovation and purchasing subsidies for indigenous peoples, with provisions which clearly stipulate that indigenous low- and middle-income households have priority in obtaining subsidies. Regular reviews of the system are expected to gradually relax the subsidy conditions or increase the subsidy amount according to actual needs.

4. Guarantee the housing right of indigenous peoples

- (1) Improve the housing rights issues of indigenous peoples due to insufficient land for construction

In cases where the National Spatial Plan involves indigenous land or seas, appropriate functional zones and sub-zones shall be demarcated based on the environmental sensitive conditions, the characteristics of land resource, and indigenous groups' needs. Currently, only 1,616 hectares of land are reserved for indigenous peoples for building use, which is unable to meet the housing needs of people living in indigenous areas. In order to deal with the issues of housing rights which came from the lack of constructible land in indigenous areas, the chapters related to the land use in indigenous areas are incorporated into the National Spatial Plan to stipulate that the residential use is allowed in Urban-Rural Development Zone Type 3 and Agricultural Development Zone Type 4. Local governments shall follow the guidance of the National Spatial Plan, announce the implementation of the municipal and county (city) spatial plan, and then implement it based on functional zoning within four years. It is hoped that the reorganization and identification of the spatial order of national lands will allow the government to review land use in indigenous areas and resolve the current unreasonable implementation of land use control of the Regional Planning Act, as well as to solve the conflicts between land use and indigenous groups' traditions.

- (2) Guarantee the right to group housing of urban indigenous peoples as a settlement

To resolve the over 30 years-long issue of illegally built indigenous settlements in urban areas, many of which are located on reserved land for water works, with buildings that fail to meet construction management and land administration regulations, the Executive Yuan established a four-year, two-phase indigenous peoples housing plan, which will continue to assist indigenous tribes to obtain legal land, strengthen public infrastructure, cooperate with six indigenous tribes promote long-term settlement plans that respect the collective will and cultural differences of indigenous peoples, and continue to improve the poor environment of the settlements. An estimated 215 indigenous households are expected to benefit from the plan. Through diverse housing assistance, the government hopes to connect culture, social welfare, and industries to create sustainable urban indigenous settlements to provide long-term protection of indigenous peoples' social network and cultural collective housing rights in urban areas.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--------------------------|-----------|---|
| 111 | 1. Increase public participation in the urban land readjustment. Guide local governments to disclose information on the urban land readjustment (e.g., the urban land readjustment plans, cadastral maps, cost summary, land distribution list for before and after readjusting, and meeting minutes of self-organized municipal land readjusting committees). | Ministry of the Interior | 2022-2024 | Regularly check the status of public readjusting information on various local government websites, and the status of building readjusting information in the Land Development Information System of the Ministry of the Interior. |
| 112 | 2. Implement public disclosure of information regarding land expropriation reviews. | Ministry of the Interior | 2022-2024 | 1. Complete the full disclosure of land expropriation plans (including public welfare and necessity assessment reports, the total amount of compensation required, the total amount of compensation prepared, the outline of the establishment of the business and its planning |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--|-----------|--|
| | | | | <p>progress, resettlement plans and other information).</p> <p>2. Discuss the feasibility of disclosing the attached information in the plans (records of public hearings and minutes of price negotiation meetings, etc.), as well as possible follow-up implementation methods.</p> |
| 113 | <p>3. Protect the housing rights of vulnerable groups:</p> <p>(1) Review regulations regarding the housing rights of vulnerable groups.</p> | <p>Ministry of the Interior (Organizer)</p> <p>Council of Indigenous Peoples Ministry of Health and Welfare Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan (Co-organizer)</p> | 2022-2024 | <p>With reference to foreign legislation and international conventions, review the relevant laws and regulations and develop supportive measures for the protection of fair housing rights for vulnerable groups (persons with disabilities, the elderly, indigenous peoples, LGBTQI+, etc.)</p> |
| 114 | <p>(2) Carry out social housing development plans:</p> <p>Actively carry out the “200,000 units in eight years” social housing plan, including 120,000 newly</p> | <p>Ministry of the Interior</p> | 2020-2024 | <p>1. For the first stage up to 2020, 80,000 social housing units were provided, including 40,000 newly constructed homes and 40,000 units subleased from private owners or managed on their behalf.</p> <p>2. The second stage up to 2024 shall complete the</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--------------------------|-----------|--|
| | constructed homes and 80,000 units subleased from private owners or managed on their behalf. | | | supply of 200,000 social housing units. 3. At least 40% of the social housing units shall be rented to economically or socially disadvantaged groups. |
| 115 | (3) Expand rent subsidies. | Ministry of the Interior | 2020-2024 | <p>1. According to the Integrated Housing Subsidy Program approved by the Executive Yuan, the number of households subsidized has increased to 120,000 since 2020. Application processing has been increased from once to twice each year.</p> <p>2. The 3796th Executive Yuan meeting on March 31, 2022 reached a resolution and agreement on the NT\$30 Billion Special Program for Expanded Rent Subsidies by the Central Government. Rent subsidies will be expanded from 2022, and the program is expected to help 500,000 renting households.</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 116 | (4) Establish detailed information on the rental housing market. | Ministry of the Interior | 2022-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In line with the planning and promotion of the rental housing management system, review the current need for information in the rental housing market. 2. Evaluate channels for gathering and announcing rental housing data, and commission a feasibility study. |
| 117 | (5) Strengthen the “housing before services” counseling strategy, and help homeless people with their housing needs through rental subsidies, rental counseling, and referral to housing welfare services. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide rent subsidy and rental counseling services, which helped 600 people in 2021, a number expected to increase by 5% every year. 2. In addition, for special circumstances such as elderly or disabled homeless cases, the government will assist in placement or provide housing-related welfare services, including referral to homeless shelters or shelters for the elderly and disabled people. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---|-----------|--|
| 118 | <p>4. Guarantee the housing right of indigenous peoples</p> <p>(1) Improve the housing rights issues of indigenous peoples due to insufficient land for construction:</p> <p>Assist local governments to design appropriate functional zones in accordance with the guiding principles of the National Spatial Plan to help solve the problem of insufficient construction land for indigenous peoples.</p> | Ministry of the Interior, Council of Indigenous Peoples | 2024 | <p>1. Completed the draft for the rural area plans for six rural indigenous townships.</p> <p>2. Complete the draft of functional zone for 745 tribes as designated by the competent authorities.</p> |
| 119 | <p>(2) Guarantee the collective housing rights of indigenous peoples in urban areas:</p> <p>Promote the four-year, two-phase</p> | Council of Indigenous Peoples | 2020-2024 | <p>1. In 2020, present the four-year, two-phase indigenous peoples' housing plan.</p> <p>2. By 2024, complete six indigenous community settlement renovation projects, benefiting 215 indigenous households.</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| | indigenous peoples housing plan: Strengthen the living conditions of indigenous peoples in settlements in urban areas and provide diverse housing assistance and services. | | | |

(III) Anti-Forced Eviction

Taiwan has a lot of national lands, parts of which are occupied for residential use, with some occupiers belonging to disadvantaged groups. To protect the housing rights of these people, the government should carry out research before handling these occupations to understand the causes of the occupation, classify each case accordingly, help disadvantaged people to apply for relevant placement, subsidies, or allowances, and establish mutual trust among the occupiers and human rights groups. In addition, the current land expropriation regulations only specify that the land owner must formulate a resettlement plan for the economically disadvantaged owners of buildings to be renovated who will have no home to live in due to the expropriation. This is insufficient for protecting housing rights. In order to further protect housing rights, the government shall discuss expanding the scope of the expropriation resettlement plan.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---------------------|-----------|--|
| 120 | Strengthen measures taken before handling occupations of national non-public use of real estate to | Ministry of Finance | 2024 | Commission research on occupations of state-owned, non-public property before processing the occupation. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--------------------------|-----------|--|
| | understand the causes of occupations, categorize cases accordingly, and avoid disputes. | | | |
| 121 | Refine the regulations and actions related to the handling of occupied national public use real estate, and enhance government agencies' awareness of protecting housing rights. | Ministry of Finance | 2024 | Investigate cases of national real estate being occupied as informal residence and how agencies assisted in the resettlement of the occupiers for reference in future cases. |
| 122 | Discuss relevant regulations for reviewing land expropriation and resettlement plans, expand the application of existing resettlement plans to original residents with proof of residence to protect the housing rights of those affected by land expropriation. | Ministry of the Interior | 2022-2024 | Submit an amendment draft of certain articles in the Land Expropriation Act to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation. |

VI. Climate Change and Human Rights

Since the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published the Fifth Assessment Report and the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, findings which have been widely adopted by the international community and used as the scientific basis for formulating international climate change policies, the Paris Agreement quickly took effect, representing the world's determination to work together to confront and respond to the challenges of climate change. When the Paris Agreement was adopted, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) also submitted a report to the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP 21) of the UNFCCC in 2015. The report delivered Ten Key Messages on Human Rights and Climate Change, that highlight on the responsibilities and obligations of countries and duty-bearers, and became an important basis for the Paris Agreement and for Parties to incorporate human rights into climate actions. The Ten Key Messages are: (1) To mitigate climate change and to prevent its negative human rights impacts, (2) to ensure that all persons have the necessary capacity to adapt to climate change, (3) to ensure accountability and effective remedies for human rights harms caused by climate change, (4) to mobilize maximum available resources for sustainable, human rights-based development, (5) international cooperation, (6) to ensure equity in climate action, (7) to guarantee that everyone enjoys the benefits of science and its applications, (8) to protect human rights from business harms, (9) to guarantee equality and non-discrimination, and (10) to ensure meaningful and informed participation.

Under the UNFCCC, the Paris Agreement is the first international environmental agreement that recognizes the linkages between climate change and human rights, and expressly incorporates the connection between climate change and human rights and the balance among all Parties in the preamble:

“Acknowledging that climate change is a common concern of humankind, Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity.”

After the fifth anniversary of the Paris Agreement, the OHCHR published Fact Sheet No. 38 in 2021, reiterating the importance of the Ten Key Messages as the core obligations of national climate actions, as well as the need for a human rights-based approach to climate policy and development. On Earth Day 2021, Taiwan also announced to reach net-zero

emissions by 2050 to the world. To achieve the goal, climate policies are required to incorporate human rights principles and, follow universal human rights values and, international standards.

(I) Protect the Right to a Clean, Healthy, and Sustainable Environment

The Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Management Act (hereafter referred to as the Greenhouse Gas Management Act) was promulgated by Presidential Order in Taiwan in 2015. Taiwan also announced its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) in step with other countries around the world to incorporate greenhouse gas reduction into the national development vision and continue to respond to the temperature goal set out in the Paris Agreement. The Greenhouse Gas Management Act was formulated and amended to update or strengthen the 2030 greenhouse gas reduction target and to specify actions of key departments. The Act also facilitates the planning process and the development of policies, steering a pathway to net-zero 2050 and implements actions to mitigate climate change and prevent the negative impacts of climate change.

In terms of climate actions regarding the establishment of society's ability to adapt, the National Climate Change Action Guidelines formulated in accordance with Article 9, Paragraph 1 of the Greenhouse Gas Management Act. The Guidelines referred to the UNFCCC, the Paris Agreement, and the UN SDGs to draft overall policies for greenhouse gas reduction and climate change adaptation while integrating climate-related human rights principles based on Taiwan's own conditions and characteristics.

Taiwan is pressing ahead with the National Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan, focusing on eight major fields, to build social, economic and environmental resilience and to ensure that all human beings have the necessary capacity to adapt to climate change. The eight fields are disaster risk management; climate adaptation capacities of life-sustaining infrastructure; balancing water supply and demand; appropriate use of land and resources in land planning; marine and coastal adaptation; energy supply and industrial stability; agricultural production; ecosystem stability; and health. Through various actions, Taiwan responds to many aspects of the UN SDGs including promoting sustainable agriculture, ensuring sustainable water resources, ensuring sustainable modern energy, building resilient infrastructure, and taking measures to address climate change in order to build links and strengthen Taiwan's human rights foundation, to better deal with climate change.

Rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and droughts caused by climate change have already affected the human rights situations of many people who should have access to judicial and other meaningful remedies. In particular, there should be necessary regulations and response measures to address the disproportionate risk that extreme weather events pose to certain individuals or groups (e.g., indigenous peoples, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and farmers whose livelihoods are often impacted by climate disasters).

Taiwan established agricultural disaster insurance and remedy mechanisms to provide farmers with practical and effective remedies. Meanwhile, on the basis of planned climate actions, Taiwan will also consolidate existing regulatory tools, and examine and improve the completeness of relevant laws and regulations in terms of their efficacy in providing judicial remedy channels to the aforementioned disaster-prone or vulnerable groups.

Also, Taiwan enacted the Green Finance Action Plan 2.0, which seeks to promote public and private cooperation to construct a sustainable financial ecosystem, effectively disclose information to facilitate appropriate corporate decision-making, drive the financial industry to respond to climate change risks and grasp business opportunities, and use market mechanisms to guide the economy towards sustainable development. The plan also seeks to mobilize additional resources for green, sustainable and human rights-based development.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--|-----------|---|
| 123 | Formulate the Greenhouse Gas Management Act to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change on the population. | Environmental Protection Agency Ministry of Economic Affairs Ministry of the Interior Ministry of Transportation and Communications Council of Agriculture Ministry of Science and Technology | 2021-2024 | 1. Expand communication with the public throughout the process of revising the Greenhouse Gas Management Act to incorporate human rights protection issues such as balancing intergenerational obligations, gender equality, rights of vulnerable groups, and civic |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|---|-----------|--|
| | | | | <p>participation/litigation into the government's relevant laws, policy planning and management principles, so as to build consensus on revisions to the law.</p> <p>2. Develop guidelines for integrating human rights factors into the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).</p> <p>3. In accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, review, update or strengthen the 2030 greenhouse gas reduction targets and specific actions of key departments, and draw up the development direction and roadmap for net-zero emissions by 2050.</p> |
| 124 | Continue to promote the National Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan to build overall economic, social and environmental resilience, and to ensure that all human beings have the | Environmental Protection Agency, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Ministry of Economic Affairs Ministry of the | 2021-2024 | 1. Formulate an operation guide for the National Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan that incorporates human rights factors (e.g., the needs of climate refugees, indigenous peoples, and other more vulnerable groups). |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--|-----------|---|
| | necessary capacity to adapt to climate change. | Interior, Council of Agriculture, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Council of Indigenous Peoples | | <p>2. Take stock of existing regulatory tools, focusing on disaster-prone or vulnerable groups (e.g., farmers, indigenous peoples, the elderly, and persons with disabilities). Provide comprehensive judicial remedy channels and improve relevant legal systems.</p> <p>3. Disclose measures and results of the action plan in the eight major fields to improve policy transparency.</p> |
| 125 | Promote a sustainable financial ecosystem and mobilize investments in green and sustainable development with the Green Finance Action Plan 2.0. | Financial Supervisory Commission | 2021-2022 | <p>1. Mobilize investments to support green and sustainable development: Establish the scope of sustainable finance, review and discuss the green bond issuance structure and management mechanism.</p> <p>2. Encourage financial institutions to grant credit and invest in green industries and sustainable development through market mechanisms and supporting measures.</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--------|---------------------|-----------|---|
| | | Ministry of Finance | 2021-2024 | Align with international standards: Government-controlled banks discuss signing the Equator Principles to establish financial behavior and environmental and social risks. |

(II) Deliver a Just Transition that Ensures Sustainability

In terms of international obligations, because climate change is a global problem that cannot be solved by any country alone, global cooperation is a necessity. Article 2, paragraph 1 (a) to reduce the negative impacts of climate change on human rights. In terms of international cooperation, as stipulated in Article 7, paragraph 7, Parties are required to strengthen cooperation on enhancing adaptation actions, including sharing information, assisting developing countries, improving the effectiveness and durability of adaptation actions, as well as developed countries' assisting developing countries in their climate mitigation and adaptation to efforts. These could all be areas of cooperation a country can pursue to meet their human rights obligations in response to climate change.

To ensure the global effort to achieve a net-zero emissions society and fair and inclusive economic development that minimizes the impacts of climate change on society in a manner enabling a “just transition,” within which affected workers and departments are supported Response Measures(RM) should be adopted properly to reduce climate risks. The response measures refer to various technologies and management strategies that are conducive to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. A carbon tax/levy, a cap-and-trade system, and energy transition policies are all different forms of response measures.

The goal of all these response measures is to reduce climate risks, but the process of implementing them may have negative social or economic impacts. In view of this, the UNFCCC emphasized that each country should assess the impacts of implementing response measures and minimize negative impacts.

Therefore, several issues have been stressed, such as the just transition of workforces. The process of countries transitioning to a low-carbon or net-zero emission economy will inevitably lead to changes in industrial structure, which will impact employment opportunities in conventional high-energy consuming and high-emissions industries. In response to the booming growth trajectory of the net-zero emission economy, it is necessary to train workers in conventional high-emissions industries in new skills as soon as possible so that they can fill the labor needs of a more sustainable green market. Meanwhile, it is important to ensure ethnic and gender equality, as well as to maintain industrial diversity. This requires the formulation of a long-term plan. Helping people who lose jobs due to the transition obtain other decent work and quality jobs is at the heart of just transition in the face of climate risks.

The connection between climate change and human rights is also inseparable from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations General Assembly. The Sustainable Development Goals laid out in the 2030 Agenda were set out with a human-centered view and require countries to respect human rights while pursuing economic development, including honoring the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international human rights norms and international law. One of the SDGs is to “take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts” (SDG 13), and the UNFCCC is expected to play a crucial role in achieving this goal.

To implement the just transition of Taiwan, it is necessary to understand which industries will experience reduced job opportunities due to various response measures. Therefore, it is necessary to set up an employment statistics mechanism focused on this issue. Furthermore, to implement a just transition and guarantee job opportunities for workers impacted by the transition, it is also necessary to establish a Just Transition Employment Promotion Platform to help the affected workforce obtain quality job opportunities to protect workers’ employment rights. At the same time, the aforementioned tasks also echo Taiwan’s central goals for sustainable development, especially core goal 01 (strengthen social, economic, and security care services for disadvantaged groups) and core goal 08 (promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth, enhancing labor productivity, and ensuring quality employment opportunities for all).

In planning the schedule of each action, to accommodate any relevant work schedules subsequently formulated by the UNFCCC, relevant mechanisms and platforms should be completed and operating before 2022 and conform to the format

regulated by the convention in order to be geared to international standards. In addition, Taiwan should also ensure that, when implementing various response measures, everyone has the right to participate in public affairs freely, actively, meaningfully, and informedly. The government should understand the public's knowledge of climate change and implement climate change and adaptation education for all, thereby promoting the collective social transformation. This includes vulnerable groups and communities (e.g., indigenous peoples) who often face differential treatments such as lacking education or having poor public health conditions, or the elderly with physical and mental vulnerability.

To adhere to the fundamental principle of fairness and non-discrimination, appropriate resources must be provided along with the adoption of climate change response measures, such as strengthening disaster prevention education, or training locals in indigenous areas to manage local cultural and natural in order to fulfill their economic, social, and cultural rights. When it comes to the elderly, as pointed out by the OHCHR, although this population faces higher risks from climate disasters, they also have rich experiences and local knowledge. Establishing and strengthening community support networks can not only reduce the risk of harm to vulnerable groups like the elderly, but also promote community interaction and enhance community resilience to climate change.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---------------------|-----------|---|
| 126 | Establish a just transition employment promotion platform. | Ministry of Labor | 2021-2024 | Determine which workers will be affected based on climate impacts and work to establish transitional mechanisms. Provide adequate social protection so that the transition process does not exacerbate the vulnerability of vulnerable groups, nor compromise their fundamental rights. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---|-----------|--|
| 127 | Enhance public participation and strengthen education. Strengthen education, publicity and talent training regarding climate change and human rights issues. | Environmental Protection Agency Ministry of Education Council of Indigenous Peoples | 2021-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop ways to strengthen the prior, free, active, meaningful and informed participation of indigenous peoples, women, adolescents, and children in climate policy. 2. Subsidize universities and colleges to open relevant courses. 3. Organize relevant advocacy campaigns in elementary and junior high schools. 4. Conduct disaster prevention lectures and safe living symposiums at indigenous villages. 5. Promote plans to maintain traditional sites and ecological resources of indigenous lands. 6. Mentor and train professional cultural and natural resource management talents. 7. By 2023, research, analyze, and promote climate change policies with carbon sinks and carbon vision. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 128 | Strengthen community support networks for the elderly. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Incorporate local resources to strengthen community support networks. Strengthen care visit services for the elderly, especially for those who live alone. 2. Increase the disaster risk awareness of the elderly and those providing them with services. Use smart technology and services to reduce the risk of climate change impacting. |

(III) Facilitate Environmentally-Friendly Technology Development and Transfer

Article 10 of the Paris Agreement clearly states that Parties should have a long-term vision and must fully implement technology development and transfer it to improve resilience to climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Particularly, procedural streamlining, stronger patent protection or substantial rewards should be given for green patents. Taking the most well-known rapid review system, for example, the UK Intellectual Property Office (UKIPO) established the Green Channel system in May 2009 to allow applicants with environmentally beneficial inventions to submit requests for accelerated review. Countries such as Australia, Israel, Japan, South Korea, Canada, and the US also later introduced this system.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 129 | Promote the research and development of green patents. | Ministry of Economic Affairs | 2022 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop the most suitable green patent fast-track program. 2. Regularly publish |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|------------------------------|-----------|--|
| | | | | statistics on accelerated examination for green patent cases. |
| 130 | Strengthen the quality of green patents. | Ministry of Economic Affairs | 2022 | Regularly publish statistics on the approval or rejection of accelerated examination for green patent cases. |

(IV) Ensure Equitable Development Across Generations

In response to global climate change, to promote the reduction of greenhouse gases, and make greenhouse gas reduction more effective, many environmental and human rights groups have called for an end to inefficient fossil fuel subsidies. The Glasgow Climate Pact of the 26th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP26) has also urged countries to gradually reduce inefficient fossil fuel subsidies.

Energy-saving, the development of alternative energy, and net-zero carbon emissions are not only a global development trend but also a part of Taiwan's declared goal of transitioning to net-zero emissions by 2050. Taiwan plans to promote low-carbon-zero-carbon and energy-industry net-zero emissions transition structures, promoting green energy and carbon reduction technology to achieve low carbon emissions in the short-term and transitioning from low-carbon to zero-carbon through alternative energy, circular economy, and carbon capture and storage technology in the long-term to achieve net-zero emissions.

In the past, subsidy measures have been implemented to assist with: maintaining Taiwan's rate of food self-sufficiency; fishery competitiveness; a stable energy supply; safeguarding the survival of groups vulnerable to climate disasters and energy use rights; encouraging the reduction of pollution; and developing public transportation. There were also suggestions to include external costs in electricity prices. Under the global trend of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, it is constructive to reduce subsidies for inefficient projects and encourage development towards renewable energy and non-fossil fuel consumption. At the same time, however, special attention must be paid to the needs of disadvantaged groups, equitable resource allocation, and relevant alternatives, in order to safeguard overall human rights protection.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---|-----------|---|
| 131 | Ensure electricity tariffs reasonably reflect external costs. | Ministry of Economic Affairs | 2022 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take stock of the external costs already reflected in the current electricity tariffs. 2. Propose mechanisms for the electricity tariffs to reflect future additional external costs. |
| 132 | Developing alternative plans to progressively remove fossil fuels subsidy. | Council of Agriculture, Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Ministry of Economic Affairs | 2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reassess the legal basis for fossil fuel subsidy and conduct an impact assessment on the suspension of its removal. 2. Develop a plan for viable alternatives to remove such subsidy. |

VII. Digital Human Rights

(I) Establish an Independent and Dedicated Privacy Agency and a Data Protection Officer (DPO) Mechanism

In light of the personal data protection systems of the EU, Japan, and South Korea, it is clear that establishing a dedicated and independent agency to protect personal information is a global trend. According to Taiwan's Personal Data Protection Act (hereafter referred to as the PDPA), personal data protection is supervised by central competent authorities or local governments. There is no independent and dedicated agency as of yet. However, to establish such agency involves the restructuring of central authorities and related laws such as the Basic Code Governing Central Administrative Agencies Organizations. Therefore, it still needs to under overall considerations and planning of organizational restructure and related schedules to promote the establishment of an independent and dedicated agency for personal data protection.

It is known that Article 37 of the GDPR stipulates that government and some non-governmental agencies have to designate a personal data protection officer. However, Japan, Australia, and Switzerland have no such regulations in their personal data laws. Therefore, to designate a personal data protection officer is not a widespread rule in most countries' Personal Data Protection Acts. According to Article 18 of the PDPA and Article 25 of the Enforcement Rules of the PDPA, government agencies shall assign dedicated personnel to implement security and maintenance measures. In addition, some non-governmental agencies such as travel and tourism agencies shall assign dedicated personnel to implement security and maintenance measures according to the regulations promulgated in accordance with Paragraph 3, Article 27 of the PDPA. In summary, the PDPA and related regulations have stipulated that government agencies and some non-government agencies shall appoint dedicated personnel or organizations to deal with the relevant data security and maintenance matters. With reference to international legislation, the government will discuss the issue of the data protection officer mechanism while reviewing the PDPA.

Additionally, we realized that the digital human rights will affect many rights of data subjects. This can be linked to the commitment of Taiwan's Open Government National Action Plan (2021-2024), which is to "strengthen digital privacy and personal data protection" to promote digital human rights.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 133 | Promote the establishment of an independent and dedicated agency for personal data protection in accordance with overall organizational restructuring plans and relevant timetables. | National Development Council | 2020-2024 | To propose a draft for the organization act of a dedicated personal data protection agency in accordance with the overall considerations and schedule of the Directorate-General of Personnel Administration of the Executive Yuan. |
| 134 | Discuss the issue of data protection officers mechanism while reviewing the Personal Data Protection Act. | National Development Council | 2020-2024 | To propose Draft Amendments to the Personal Data Protection Act. |

(II) Examine and Prevent Discrimination and Human Rights Violations Generated by Digital Technology (E.g., Restrictions on Emerging Criminal Patterns Against Women and Children, Online Hate, and Discriminatory Speech)

With the rapid development of technology and media comes innumerable cases of discrimination and violations on the internet and other digital environments, such as emerging criminal patterns against women and children, online hatred, discriminatory speech, private sexually explicit videos being spread without consent of parties involved. These actions have violated human rights, but due to the lack of complete legal norms (e.g., the immediate removal of sexually-explicit videos of the victims), the lack of education and publicity and statistical surveys on preventive measures, there is still a need to review the construction of a preventative mechanism to prevent against digital/cyber violence. To this end, the Executive Yuan has conducted interdepartmental discussions about the prevention of digital/cyber gender violence through gender equality-related meetings starting in August 2019. It was decided on the 24th meeting of the Executive Yuan Gender Equality Committee that the government will continue to take stock of and amend relevant laws, including the

Criminal Code, the Sexual Assault Crime Prevention Act, the draft of the Digital Communication Service Act, the Crime Victim Protection Act, the Protection of Children and Youths Welfare and Rights Act, and the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act to improve the victim protection and relevant image removal mechanism, thereby enhancing the knowledge of relevant contractors and law enforcement officers in handling such cases and strengthening the reporting system. To promote relevant prevention work, the Executive Yuan listed “digital/online gender-based violence” as a major issue of gender equality from 2022 to 2025 and established three goals: 1. Improve laws and administrative measures and their relevant effects; 2. Promote the public and public agencies’ awareness of digital/online gender-based violence; 3. Comprehensive construction of “digital/online gender-based violence survey statistics.” From 2020 to 2021, a total of three consultation meetings on the prevention of sexual exploitation of children and adolescents were held. All ministries and committees were invited to publish their advocacy results, and Subparagraph 3 of Article 2, Paragraph 1 of the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act was listed as a key issue to strengthen prevention education. Also, in response to online crimes, the Criminal Investigation Bureau of the National Police Agency, Ministry of the Interior and local police stations established relevant technology crime prevention units to establish comprehensive online criminal investigations capabilities.

According to the 717 cases of violations against Article 2 Paragraph 1, Subparagraph 3 of the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act regarding “filming a child or youth engaging in sexual intercourse or obscene acts, or producing pictures, photographs, films, videotapes, compact disks, electronic signals or other objects that show a child or youth engaging in sexual intercourse or obscene acts” investigated by local governments in 2019, adolescents aged 12 to under 15 account for the highest proportion of victims. In recent years, due to the popularization of 3C products, the age at which children and adolescents go online for the first time has been decreasing, which makes strengthening the education and publicity of cybersecurity related knowledge a priority. The government has entrusted NGOs to set up an iWIN online content protection agency to enforce online safety education for children and adolescents and organize campus advocacy campaigns at the request of relevant ministries and departments. Child and youth sexual exploitation prevention materials have also been compiled, covering topics such as online dating scams, violence in intimate relationship, or coercion based on threats of outing one’s same-sex attraction. These educational materials are given to schools to

incorporate into classes and raise awareness in August 2018. Video clips of these materials were also created in 2020 for schools at all levels to use. The hope is to improve the internet literacy of children and youths through early education to prevent them from being harmed from inappropriate content on the internet, and also educate children and youths not to infringe upon others' human rights when using digital technologies.

Infringement of rights on the internet will cause actual rights violations and deepen the inequality or existing discrimination of disadvantaged groups. The government should establish a transparent and responsible content governance framework that protects freedom of speech. Illegal content spreads rapidly on the internet, causing negative impacts on individuals and society. Currently, the government is drafting the Digital Communication Service Act to emphasize the protection of freedom of speech online, promote the free flow of information, encourage self-discipline from industries, and formulate regulations and obligations for intermediary service providers. Through the draft, lawmakers aim to strengthen the regulatory system for accountability and information transparency of online platforms, such as obligations to disclose business information, announce terms of use, provide transparent reports, and establish user remedy mechanisms in order to promote the protection of basic digital human rights such as freedom of speech, personal information, and privacy.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---|-----------|---|
| 135 | 1. Policy formulation: Coordinate relevant ministries and departments to investigate digital/online gender-based violence, conduct lawmaking assessments, and promote relevant prevention measures and awareness-raising. | Department of Gender Equality, Executive Yuan | 2022-2024 | Convene five Gender Equality Committee meetings to oversee ministries and departments' work on preventing digital/online gender-based violence. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|---|------------------|---|
| 136 | <p>2. Investigate statistics: Conduct a survey on the prevalence of digital/online gender-based violence.</p> | <p>Ministry of Health and Welfare</p> | <p>2024</p> | <p>Complete the survey on the prevalence of digital/online gender-based violence.</p> |
| 137 | <p>3. Legal amendments: (1) Discuss the amendment of the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act to increase penalties for offenders that create, distribute, or possess images of sexual exploitation of children, and strengthen the responsibility of online platform operators.</p> | <p>Ministry of Health and Welfare</p> | <p>2024</p> | <p>Complete the amendment of the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act.</p> |
| 138 | <p>(2) The Draft of the Digital Communication Service Act stipulates obligations on internet intermediaries, strengthens platform accountability and information transparency,</p> | <p>National Communications Commission</p> | <p>2020-2024</p> | <p>Send the draft for the Digital Communication Service Act to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation.</p> |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| | introduces third parties into the implementation of internet governance, and sets relevant remedy mechanisms. | | | |
| 139 | 4. Criminal investigation: Strengthen the cultivation of police investigation professionals specialized in science and technology crimes in response to emerging online criminal investigation missions. | Ministry of the Interior | 2022-2024 | Organize annual technology criminal investigation training courses, training up to 60 people per session |
| 140 | 5. Awareness campaigns (1) Implement the Institute of Watch Internet Network, iWIN, to enhance guidance for online platform operators to establish self-discipline mechanisms and review the practice of such mechanisms. | National Communications Commission | 2020-2024 | Guide 30 online platform operators to establish self-discipline mechanisms. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 141 | (2) Establish education and awareness campaigns for the prevention of sexual exploitation of children and youths, including raising awareness of the safe and correct way to use the internet. Competent authorities of relevant industries should follow the plan and make rolling adjustments base on the implementation of each year's events. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2022-2024 | Competent authorities of relevant industries and local governments should raise awareness about different forms of exploitation that violate Article 2, Paragraph 1, Subparagraph 3 of the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act. Education on the subject for adolescents aged 12 to under 15 will be included in the Ministry of Health and Welfare's report on its Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Consultation Meeting. |
| 142 | (3) Promote digital/online gender-based violence prevention education: ① Implement the provisions of Paragraph 4 of Article 5 of the Sexual Harassment Prevention Act and strengthen the prevention education and awareness-raising of sexual harassment | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2024 | Demand all competent authorities of relevant industries and local governments to follow the provisions of Paragraph 4 of Article 5 of the Sexual Harassment Prevention Act and strengthen the prevention education and awareness-raising of sexual harassment cases involving the use of technology in virtual environments. Design relevant materials raising awareness of sexual |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|-----------------------|-----------|--|
| | cases involving the use of technology in virtual environments. | | | harassment prevention in virtual environments for relevant units to reference and use. |
| 143 | ②Organized an “inter-departmental education resources to promote digital/online gender-based violence” project consultation meeting to compile the digital/online gender-based violence prevention materials from relevant agencies. | Ministry of Education | 2020-2024 | Convene a meeting once every six months to submit working reports. |
| 144 | ③Incorporate the issue of digital/online gender-based violence prevention into the plans of the Ministry of Education’s K-12 Education Administration to subsidize local governments to handle student affairs and counseling services, creating friendly campus environments. | Ministry of Education | 2020-2024 | Subsidize up to 22 local governments. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|--|------------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 145 | ④Organize online safety awareness activities at schools with view to improving children’s internet literacy, and cultivating greater understanding of self-protection online. | National Communications Commission | 2020-2024 | Organize at least 25 activities a year. |
| 146 | Organize training courses on internet governance to cultivate a diverse range of talents to grasp at latest issues of the development of internet governance such as digital human rights. | National Communications Commission | 2020-2024 | Organize at least six hours of professional training courses each year. |

(III) Prevent the Use of Digital Technology to Perpetual Digital/Online Gender-Based Violence and Strengthen Protection of Victim’s Rights

With the rapid technological developments, online information technology and artificial intelligence are widely used, bringing convenience and innovation to human lives, but also resulting in criminal issues, such as crimes related to private sex tapes. Through the far-reaching internet where information spreads fast and users have high anonymity, technologies that blur the lines of the virtual and reality (e.g., Deepfake) led to the distribution of sexual images without consent or even the creation of sexual content without consent through computer-generated images, causing deeper and wider harm to the victim’s right to privacy. To tackle these issues, draft amendments to the Criminal Code and the Sexual Assault Crime Prevention Act are being prepared that will give victims of this type of crimes the same protection service measures of victims of sexual assault (including confidentiality of victims’ identity, protected criminal judicial procedures, and protection and assistance). These amendments also include provisions on the detection, deletion, and removal of offending images to combat and deter such crimes and protect the human rights of everyone in Taiwan.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--------------------------------|-----------|--|
| 147 | Develop a draft amendment of the Criminal Code that imposes penalties for the distribution of sexual images without consent, the production of sexual images without consent, and the distribution of sexual images synthesized by computer technology, with heavier sentences for those who steal sexual content without reason. | Ministry of Justice | 2024 | Complete the amendment to the Criminal Code. |
| 148 | Discuss amendments to the Sexual Assault Crime Prevention Act to include victims of Deepfake videos in the victim protection and assistance measures. | Ministry of Health and Welfare | 2024 | Complete the amendment of the Sexual Assault Crime Prevention Act. |

(IV) Improving Media Literacy and Bridging the Digital Gap

1. Planning a white paper on media literacy education in line with the digital age

It has been 20 years since the White Paper on Media Literacy Educational Policy was issued in October 2002. Considering the rapid development of science and technology and how the media ecosystem has completely changed with various forms of emerging digital communication competing against one another. However, open and immediate communication channels also led to the problem of “misinformation,” which can affect everyday life and even national security. Therefore, in order to effectively improve the public’s media literacy and help them

cultivate the ability to recognize and judge media information, and stay in line with international media literacy development trends, there needs to be a new white paper on media literacy education in the digital age that conforms to the current trend and has forward-looking vision to serve as a basis for future media literacy promotion.

2. Tablet computers for every student in rural schools to bridge the urban-rural digital resource gap

The “digital learning improvement plan for elementary and junior high schools” develops digital learning content through public-private cooperation and subsidizes counties and cities to purchase high-quality teaching materials; The plan also involves equipping tablet computers to every student in rural areas and to one class for every six classes at schools in non-rural areas so that teachers may borrow them for relevant classes as needed. In line with the international digital learning trends, the plan adheres to the principle of “digital priority for rural schools” and supplied devices for economically disadvantaged families or families with many children during the pandemic to reduce the educational gap between urban and rural areas and achieve the goal of fair education.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|-----------------------|-----------|--|
| 149 | Referencing international trends and Taiwan’s conditions, plan a white paper on media literacy and education in line with current policies. | Ministry of Education | 2021-2024 | Complete the White Paper on Media Literacy Education in the Digital Age. |
| 150 | Rich digital content and services. | Ministry of Education | 2022-2024 | Used by 21 million people in three years. |

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|---|
| 151 | Mobile devices and better internet | Ministry of Education | 2022-2024 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finish supplying every student in rural schools with a learning device. 2. In 2022, a total of 610 thousand devices have been purchased for teachers and students around Taiwan. 3. In three years, expand the wireless network equipment of 3,440 schools and 30,900 classes. |

VIII. Refugee Rights Protection

(I) Refugee Asylum System

To actively improve human rights to be in line with international standards, Taiwan referenced relevant international conventions and the asylum systems of developed countries in formulating a draft of the Refugee Act to legalize refugee asylum. Unfortunately, the draft was reviewed but not passed by the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th Legislative Yuan, indicating that the issue still lacks consensus among the people. The government will continue to gather legislative examples from other countries and review the contents of the draft in light of Taiwan's situation and plan an appropriate timetable for legalization. Currently, asylum seekers are handled on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration international norms and relevant laws in Taiwan to offer asylum seekers adequate assistance. So far, Taiwan has never returned a refugee to a country or region where they might face torture or inhumane treatment.

(II) Long-Term Residency for Mainland Chinese Individuals on the Grounds of Political Considerations and Assistance System for People of Hong Kong and Macao

1. People from Mainland China:

Article 17 of the current Act Governing Relations between the People of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area (hereafter referred to as the Cross-Strait Act) has provisions regulating long-term residency applications from people of the Mainland Area on the grounds of political considerations. To further complete the relevant system, a draft amendment to Article 17 of the Cross-Strait Act will be prepared in conjunction with the draft of the Refugee Act. Until the amendment is completed, case workers will listen to the appeals of each applicant, ask them to provide relevant supporting documents, consult with relevant agencies to meet with the applicant, learn about the facts and their needs, and write down a transcript before considering whether to grant long-term residency based on current political considerations, the draft of the Refugee Act, and the spirit of the ICCPR.

2. People from Hong Kong and Macao:

Applications for aid from Hong Kong and Macao residents are governed by Article 18 of the current Laws and Regulations Regarding Hong Kong and Macao Affairs. Article 25 of the law and Article 16, Paragraph 1, Subparagraph 11 of the Regulations Governing Hong Kong and Macao Residents' Entry, Residence, and Settlement in

Taiwan includes provisions that provides assistance through case-by-case identification and flexible processing. In response to the changes in Hong Kong caused by the enactment of the Hong Kong national security law by Mainland China, Taiwan has launched the Hong Kong Humanitarian Aid Action Plan, establishing the Taiwan-Hong Kong Services and Exchange Office to strengthen humanitarian aid, consultation, and care services for Hong Kong people.

| No. | Action | Competent Authority | Timetable | Key Performance Indicator |
|-----|---|--------------------------|-----------|--|
| 152 | Establish the Refugee Act | Ministry of the Interior | 2022-2024 | Send the draft for the Refugee Act to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation. |
| 153 | Complete the system of long-term residency for Mainland Chinese individuals on the grounds of political considerations: Amend the Cross-Strait Act | Mainland Affairs Council | 2022-2024 | Submitted the draft amendments of Article 17 of the Cross-Strait Act to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation. |
| 154 | Implement the Hong Kong Humanitarian Aid Action Plan. | Mainland Affairs Council | 2020-2024 | Continue to operate the Taiwan-Hong Kong Services and Exchange Office to strengthen humanitarian aid, consultation, and care services. |

Chapter 5. Execution, Supervision, and Assessment

UN Handbook on National Human Rights Plans of Action mentions that, in addition to formulating detailed implementation plans and objectives, national human rights action plans should also include regular monitoring to ensure fruitful results; also, it is more appropriate and cost-effective to have a dedicated human rights affairs department to conduct the monitoring. Therefore, during the implementation of this action plan, the relevant supervision and assessment will be handled by the highest administrative agency in charge of human rights affairs in Taiwan.

After the announcement of this action plan, competent authorities shall not only implement it according to the content of the plan, but also establish regular assessment mechanisms in order to disclose the implementation status, results in terms of indicator targets, and completed items at an appropriate time. Competent authorities should also make sure that their activities are conducive to achieving the goals set out in the National Human Rights Action Plan.

Also, the National Human Rights Action Plan should have a cycle of monitoring and assessment. Through the development, implementation, monitoring, and assessment of Taiwan's first National Human Rights Action Plan, the government can examine the effectiveness of the plan at any point and make rolling adjustments to relevant details to continue maintaining society's confidence in the National Human Rights Action Plan.

Aside from the execution, supervision, and assessment of this action plan, which shall be conducted by Taiwan's highest administrative authority on human rights, responses to the concluding observations and recommendations of the Two Covenants, CEDAW, CRC, CRPD, as well as the concluding observations on the National Conference on Judicial Reform, the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, and the Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights to be established in the future shall be handled by the competent authorities according to the existing management and assessment mechanisms or other planned management and assessment mechanism. This is to implement hierarchical responsibility, save costs, and improve administrative efficiency.

行政院

Executive Yuan

