

## CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

### NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on **Taiwan**

**DATE GROUP ESTABLISHED** (the date of establishment is the date in this parliamentary session that the Group held its initial meeting, where the office bearers were elected and not the date that the Group was accorded recognition. All Groups should hold their AGMs on, or before, the anniversary of this date.)

**7 June 2018**

### DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM

**5 June 2019**

### DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED

**18 June 2019**

**DATE OF PRECEDING AGM** [this date is required to aid clerks in verifying that the most recent AGM has taken place within 11-13 months of the previous AGM]

**7 June 2018**

### GROUP MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Please provide details of each meeting of the Group including the date of the meeting, a brief description of the main subjects discussed and the MSP and non-MSP attendance figures.

Details of any other activities, such as visits undertaken by the Group or papers/report published by the Group should also be provided.

#### **7 June 2018 (AGM)**

Attended by: Rhoda Grant MSP, James Dornan MSP and 13 other non-MSP attendees.

### **Annual General Meeting (AGM):**

- MSP James Dornan, as the Chair of the meeting, provided a brief review of the CPG meetings held in 2017/2018. Following which, the election of office bearers (Co-Conveners) and Secretary took place. It was agreed that MSP James Dornan, MSP Rhoda Grant and MSP Margaret Mitchell will continue to be the Co-Conveners for the CPG on Taiwan, and Ms. Blanca Kao will be the new Secretary of the group.

### **Update on CPG on Taiwan's Recent Developments:**

- The Director General of the Taipei Representative Office (TRO) in Edinburgh, Jason C.C. Lien, noted that the CPG has been instrumental in facilitating the political, cultural, educational and economic links between Taiwan and Scotland. The presentation on Taiwanese tea trade history and tea tasting in the previous CPG meeting in April was very well received. In addition to that, a motion supporting Taiwan's participation in the 71<sup>st</sup> World Health Assembly (WHA) has been proposed with the endorsement of many MSPs following the last CPG meeting. The Director General of TRO thanked all the friends from the Scottish Parliament for the support Taiwan has received. The Director General of TRO further noted that during the 71<sup>st</sup> WHA Plenary Session, 17 diplomatic allies along with six other countries i.e. Canada, Germany, New Zealand, Japan, Australia and the United States, and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta had directly and indirectly expressed their support for Taiwan's participation in the WHA. In order to ensure global public health security, the Director General of TRO noted that Taiwan will continue to collaborate with members of the international community and seek opportunities to take part in relevant international affairs.
- The Director General of TRO noted that the links between Taiwanese and Scottish academia have been strong with over 500 Taiwanese students pursuing different levels of education here in the fields of biochemistry, medicine, art and more, and the close collaboration between Taiwan's Ministry of Science and Technology and the Royal Scottish Academy since the sign-off of MOU in 2001. Seminars in various domains, e.g. marine energy, cancer and stem cell studies, electronic materials, information and communication technology, and smart city have been held and fruitful outcomes have been achieved. The Director General welcomes the establishment of 'Taiwanese Scholar Association in Scotland (TSAS)' and believes that the links between Scotland and Taiwan can be broadened and deepened further.

### **Guest Presentation:**

- Dr Thomas C.J. Tan gave a presentation on "Taiwanese Researchers and Academia in Scotland: The Past and the Future". As part of the presentation, Dr Tan discussed the objectives of the formal establishment of 'Taiwanese Scholar Association in Scotland (TSAS)' that he co-chairs with Dr Chih-Jen Lin. With the establishment of TSAS, Dr Tan hopes that TSAS can achieve the following objectives:
  - (i) Maintaining a vital research community through regular knowledge exchange activities, e.g. seminars, forums, symposiums, workshops, etc., and with an annual celebration of Taiwan-Scotland research links.
  - (ii) Experience sharing and mentoring
  - (iii) Providing a focal point for bilateral collaborations, e.g. bridging funding opportunities and identify suitable collaborators, etc.
- MSP James Dornan welcomed the establishment of TSAS and asked if it would be of interest if the topics of the following CPG meetings to be centred around higher education, bio technology, medicine, technology, etc. All agreed to have a think about the relevant topics for the future

meetings.

- Dr Simon Chin commented that the establishment of TSAS is timely and much needed considering the likely shortage of future research funding coming from the EU after Brexit.

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## 31 October 2018

Attended by: Margaret Mitchell MSP, James Dornan MSP, Jamie Greene MSP and 40 other non-MSP attendees.

### Update on CPG on Taiwan's Recent Developments:

- The Co-Convener, Margaret Mitchell MSP, chaired the meeting and warmly welcomed the Taiwanese delegation led by the Vice Minister of Economic Affairs (R.O.C.), Ms. Mei Hua Wang, and all the members and friends to the meeting.
- The Director General of the Taipei Representative Office (TRO) in Edinburgh, Jason C.C. Lien, provided a brief update that since he took office, the Scottish Parliament has proposed and passed four motions, covering topics such as Taiwan's constructive participation in UNFCCC and contribution in WHA. The Director General thanked all the friends in the Scottish Parliament for their continuous support and warm friendship. Furthermore, the Director General noted that the Taiwanese government has embarked on a new economic model with sustainable development in mind. A '5+2 Innovative Industries Programme' that covers intelligent machinery, Asia Silicon Valley, green energy, biomedicine, national defence and aerospace, new agriculture and circular economy has subsequently been launched. As Taiwan and Scotland share the same values such as democracy and human rights, and face similar social and economic challenges, the Director General remarked that we can be firm that Taiwan and Scotland's common goals include developing renewable energy and circular economy.
- The Vice Minister of Economic Affairs (R.O.C. Taiwan), Ms. Mei-Hua Wang, thanked the Scottish Parliament for the invitation to the CPG meeting. The Vice Minister remarked that the UK and Taiwan have had close economic ties with its bilateral trade exceeding \$5.7 billion USD last year. The Vice Minister noted that the recent focus of such bilateral relationship has shifted from discussing issues around trade barriers to opportunities for industrial cooperation, e.g. cooperation within agriculture, green energy, financial sectors, etc. One of the many reasons for such focus is that the Taiwanese government is committed to creating a sustainable environment for the future generations, and has set an ambitious target for Taiwan to go nuclear power free by 2020. The Vice Minister expressed hope that, through industrial cooperation, the UK's renowned expertise in renewable energy, off-shore wind farm in particular, can help Taiwan to achieve its ambitious goal, and that she looks forward to having more opportunities to strengthen the industrial cooperation between the UK and Taiwan.

### Guest Presentation:

- The CEO of Taiwan Circular Economy Network, Ms. Shadow Huilin Chen, gave a presentation on the 'Circular Economy in Taiwan'. Ms. Shadow Huilin Chen noted that the Taiwanese government is keen to "*bring Taiwan into an age of circular economy, turning waste into renewable resources*" (a quote from President Tsai Ing-Wen's inaugural address, 2016). The presentation discussed Taiwan's Circular Economy Framework and its 12 Strategies. The presentation also discussed 'Circular Taipei White Paper' – the initial plan to implement circular economy in 8 areas, covering sustainable housing, shared mobility, industrial innovation, ecosystem enhancement, water recycling, energy optimisation, civic education and zero waste.

The presentation was very well received.

- Jamie Greene MSP remarked that Taiwan's effort in creating a circular economy is commendable. He asked how Taiwan would marry the ambition of reducing carbon emission with ambitious economic growth. The Vice Minister of Economic Affairs responded that despite the fact that Taiwan is not part of the UN, Taiwan is still fully committed to meeting the global standards. Taiwan can endeavour to marry the two ambitions through learning from other countries. The Vice Minister noted that she believes that advanced technology can provide some solutions. Ms. Shadow Huilin Chen commented that circular economy is vital to transforming how we deal with waste and is expected to cut 56% of the carbon emission if Taiwan is able to develop a successful circular economy.

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## 9 January 2019

Attended by: Rhoda Grant MSP, James Dornan MSP and 23 other non-MSP attendees.

### Update on CPG on Taiwan's Recent Development:

- The Co-Convener, Rhoda Grant MSP, chaired the meeting and warmly welcomed the members and friends of the CPG on Taiwan to the meeting.
- The Director General of the Taipei Representative Office (TRO) in Edinburgh, Jason C.C. Lien, provided an update on Taiwan, noted that Taiwan has successfully held local elections last November and China delivered the so-called "message to Compatriots in Taiwan" last week, which reiterated that China would not give up the use of force against Taiwan and suggested a deadline to unify by force by 2050. The Director General remarked that, as President Tsai Ing-Wen stated in her reply, China's refusal to relinquish the use of force against Taiwan negatively impacts peace and stability in the Asia Pacific region. China's oppression of the people of Taiwan violated the core values of democracy, freedom, and human rights. The so-called "One China Principle" ignores the reality that the Republic of China is a sovereign and independent country, and the principle is absolutely not a consensus in international society. The Director General noted that Taiwan will continue working to uphold the status quo in the Taiwan Strait and seeking to improve cross-strait relations, and that the existence of a democratic Taiwan is in line with the common interest of the international society. Regarding the 'one country, two systems' model that China proposed, the Director General noted that Taiwan is completely different from Hong Kong and will not accept such proposal. The Director General remarked that Spokesman for National Securities Council of White House also expressed Washington's support toward Taiwan that "Beijing should stop its coercion and resume dialogue with the democratically-elected administration of Taiwan," and "the US rejects the threat of use of force to compel the people of Taiwan, and any resolution of cross-strait differences must be peaceful and based on the people on both sides. The Director General urged the international communities to support Taiwan's response to China's threat and encourage a peaceful resolution between the cross-strait differences.

### Guest Presentations:

- The Chair of Scotland Taiwan Chamber of Commerce (STCC), Ms. Hsien-Lin Ro, provided an introduction to the STCC. Ms. Hsien-Lin Ro noted that the STCC is a non-profit organisation that was established in Glasgow in December 1998, a time when Taiwanese electronic enterprises began to invest in Scotland. The missions of the STCC are (a) to improve the interaction amongst Taiwanese business people in Scotland; (b) to help develop members' business

ambitions in Scotland; (c) to strengthen the network amongst the members; and (d) to organise activities for members.

- The Chair of Scotland Taiwanese Association (STA), Ms. Jenny Chen, gave a presentation on what STA is about and what it does. Ms. Jenny Chen remarked that STA is a home to all Taiwanese people in Scotland. Ms. Jenny Chen noted that STA creates a platform for both Taiwanese and local communities to create a supportive network for both Taiwanese and local communities. The activities and events STA organises include weekly Taiwanese Mandarin class, Fringe shows, monthly Taiwanese films screening, UK Passport to Taiwan, fundraising, etc.

#### **Discussion and remarks:**

- Philip Chan asked if the MSPs would support Taiwan's response to China's threat to take control of Taiwan by force if necessary. Rhoda Grant MSP responded that it is hoped that China's renewed vow is only rhetoric and noted that the spokesperson of the European Union expressed an willingness to continue to develop relations with Taiwan and to support the shared values that underpin Taiwan's system of governance. Rhoda Grant MSP remarked that a better understanding of Taiwan and the culture of Taiwan is needed.
- Simon Chiu remarked that Taiwan and Scotland share very similar values in terms of democracy and human rights, and that Scotland has a duty to defend such values. James Dornan MSP noted that the Scottish Government is not in the position to comment on this as it is not within its remit to do so given the devolved powers Scottish Government has.
- Douglas Kinloch Anderson remarked that speaking from his own experience of having over a hundred Anderson stores in Taiwan, Taiwan is an excellent country to invest in. Additionally, he asked the Director General of TRO how the Taiwanese Government views its relationship with the US and what support is available to Taiwan from the US Government. The Director General of TRO responded that there is legal agreement between the US and Taiwanese Governments with regard to weapon supply.

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## **27 March 2019**

Attended by: Rhoda Grant MSP, James Dornan MSP, Alison Harris MSP and 18 other non-MSP attendees.

- The Co-Convenor, James Dornan MSP, chaired the meeting and warmly welcomed the members and friends of the CPG on Taiwan to the meeting. The previous meeting minutes were unanimously approved by the members of the CPG on Taiwan.

#### **Update on CPG on Taiwan's Recent Developments:**

- The Director General of the Taipei Representative Office (TRO) in Edinburgh, Jason C.C. Lien, provided an introduction of the contribution that both Dr Maxwell Senior and Dr Maxwell Junior made in Taiwan 150 years ago. He noted that today, Taiwan would like to carry the torch of realising WHO's vision of health as a human right.
- Dr Maxwell Senior, one of the pioneering Scottish missionaries (the first Scotsman to have come to Taiwan), was the first to introduce modern hospital and medicine to Formosa (the former name of Taiwan). He landed in Takao (former name of Kaohsiung) in 1865, and began his medical and evangelistic work in Tainan. He opened the first western-style hospital, Sin-Lau

Hospital (新樓醫院), which is still in operation today and has also been expanded. Not only did Dr Maxwell Senior provide medical treatment to the local people, which included Taiwan's indigenous people, he also united them spiritually. Both Dr Maxwell Senior and his son (Dr Maxwell Junior) were devoted in medical mission work in southern Taiwan, which had opened a path of care and study that many foreign missionaries have followed.

- Today, Taiwan is renowned for its success in achieving universal health coverage (the Taiwanese model of NHS). Taiwan has also managed to eradicate several deadly tropical diseases, e.g. malaria, and more importantly, Taiwan has transformed itself from a recipient of foreign aid to a provider of international humanitarian assistance. Taiwan has trained thousands of medical professionals and doctors from around the world in medical technologies and microsurgeries and held numerous workshops to strengthen the capacity to diagnose and prevent Zika, dengue fever, and MERS in the Asia Pacific region.
- Taiwan's experience has actively helped many people in need just like the role Dr Maxwell Senior played 150 years ago. However, Taiwan was not invited to attend the WHA in 2017 and 2018 and it is unclear if Taiwan will be invited this year. Despite the fact that Taiwan only has limited access to participate in WHA meetings, during the Ebola virus outbreak, Taiwan donated more than \$1 million USD to WHO to help fight the outbreak. Taiwan is determined to participate in international medical corporation and will continue to do what it can do to support the international community.

#### **Guest Presentation:**

- James Dornan MSP remarked that he is very excited about the presentation, especially it is related to one of the Scotsmen who have made a difference to the world and thanked the guest speakers for coming along to the meeting to share their recent experience of visiting Taiwan with everyone.
- Hilarie Burnett shared with everyone her journey from Highland Perthshire to Taiwan with her husband Peter Hounam. She began by noting that her mother was born in the hospital her great grandfather (Dr Maxwell Senior) built in Taiwan. Her family were offered a lot of help despite the language barrier. Hilarie and Peter also visited Sin-Lau Hospital (新樓醫院) and one of the many Presbyterian Churches Dr Maxwell Senior established. The following were what Hilarie had realised concerning the contribution that her great-grandfather had made in Taiwan 150 years ago. Hilarie noted that her great-grandfather introduced Western medicine to Taiwan; started the first hospital and built the first elevator for patients; trained local people in medicine and pharmacology; brought in the Christian Presbyterian faith; Romanised the local language and taught its use; then translated the New Testament and published it in his new script; and also introduced the first printing press from Arbroath. Hilarie and Peter also visited many places in Taiwan, e.g. the National Palace Museum, Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall, the Taroko National Park, Kenting, Alishan, etc. Hilarie noted that it was easy to travel around Taiwan even though the people they encountered were unable to speak much English.
- James Dornan MSP remarked that how the difference Scotsmen have made to the world could sometimes go unrecognised back home and suggested that perhaps there is something that the Scottish Government can do to honour the contribution that Dr Maxwell Senior had made abroad.

#### **MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP**

Please provide names and party designation of all MSP members of the Group.

**Conservatives:**

Margaret Mitchell MSP

**SNP:**

James Dornan MSP

Richard Lyle MSP

**Labour:**

Rhoda Grant MSP

**Lib-Dem:**

Liam McArthur MSP

**NON-MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP**

For organisational members please provide only the name of the organisation, it is not necessary to provide the name(s) of individuals who may represent the organisation at meetings of the Group.

**Individuals**

Blanca Kao - Secretary  
 Hsinyen Lai  
 Alex MacKinnon  
 Angel Lin  
 Ariel Liu  
 Brian McLeish  
 Candy Lotus  
 Chen Burger  
 Chen Yen Fa  
 Chia Ling Yang  
 Chimin Wu  
 Chiu Wen Hsiung  
 Craig Ballard  
 David Birrell  
 Deirdre Kinloch Anderson  
 Donald Anderson  
 Douglas Kinloch Anderson  
 Klaus Staubermann  
 Gari Donn  
 Helen Robertson  
 Hung-Chieh Chang  
 Ellie Casson  
 Emma Wheeler  
 Eric Milligan  
 Hsien-Lin Ro  
 Ian Irvin  
 Ian McKee  
 Isabella Morton  
 Jack Lin  
 Jenny Chen  
 Jhenyi Wu

	<p> Jim Ramage  John Kinloch Anderson  John Leighton  Kevin McLoughlin  Li Feng Su  Lindsey Low  Lisa Hsu  Lord Andrew Hardie  Martin Bell  Martin Hunt  Maya Lu Luna Schumacher-Lu  Martino Chan  Mei Jung Fu  Michael Bates  Michael Clarke  Owen Kelly  Raffkas Liu  Robert Mitchell  Roger Huang  Ron Hewitt  Sheng-Feng Huang  Simon Chiu  Siobhan Paterson  Stephen Blackmore  Steve Cardownie  Thomas Lee  Tony A.T. Shek  Tuang Jung Lee  Wei Lee Ger  Wei Sheng Hong  Wingsie Ng  Winston Wu  Yen Yi Lee  Yi Chiao Chung  Mark Hughes  Rob Munn  Toni Taylor </p>
<p>Organisations</p>	<p> Scotland Taiwanese Association (STA)  Scotland Taiwan Chamber of Commerce (STCC)  Taipei Representative Office (TRO) in the UK Edinburgh Office </p>
<p><b>GROUP OFFICE BEARERS</b></p> <p>Please provide names for all office bearers. The minimum requirement is that two of the office bearers are MSPs and one of these is Convener – beyond this it is a matter for the Group to decide upon the office bearers it wishes to have. It is permissible to have more than one individual elected to each office, for example, co-conveners or multiple deputy conveners.</p>	

Convener	Co-conveners: Margaret Mitchell MSP James Dornan MSP Rhoda Grant MSP
Deputy Convener	N/A
Secretary	Blanca Kao
Treasurer	N/A

### FINANCIAL BENEFITS OR OTHER BENEFITS RECEIVED BY THE GROUP

Please provide details of any financial or material benefit(s) received from a single source in a calendar year which has a value, either singly or cumulatively, of more than £500. This includes donations, gifts, hospitality or visits and material assistance such as secretariat support.

Details of material support should include the name of the individual providing support, the value of this support over the year, an estimate of the time spent providing this support and the name of the organisation that this individual is employed by / affiliated to in providing this support.

Groups should provide details of the date on which the benefit was received, the value of the benefit and a brief description of the benefit.

If the Group is not disclosing any financial information please tick the box to confirm that the Group has considered the support received, but concluded it totalled under the threshold for disclosure (£500).

### SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

Please provide details of the amount charged and the purpose for which the subscription is intended to be used.

N/A

### CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Co-conveners: Margaret Mitchell MSP, James Dornan MSP and Rhoda Grant MSP
Parliamentary address	<p><b>Margaret Mitchell MSP</b></p> <p>M2.11 The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP</p> <p><b>James Dornan MSP</b></p> <p>M4.05 The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP</p> <p><b>Rhoda Grant MSP</b></p> <p>MG.06 The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP</p>
Telephone number	<p><b>Margaret Mitchell MSP</b></p> <p>Telephone: 0131 348 5639</p> <p><b>James Dornan MSP</b></p> <p>Telephone: 0131 348 5682</p> <p><b>Rhoda Grant MSP</b></p> <p>Telephone: 0131 348 5766</p>