

Jan. 23, 2020: Taiwan's ranking of Global Corruption Perceptions Index in 2019 hit the best score

Transparency International (hereinafter referred to as TI) announced the 2019 Corruption Perceptions Index on January 23, 2020. 180 countries and regions (including Taiwan) are included in the evaluation, and Taiwan ranked 28th, an increase of 3 from the 31st in 2018. Taiwan's score was 65 points, an increase of 2 points (out of 100 points) from 63 points in 2018, exceeding 84% of the countries evaluated. It is the best score since the new evaluation criteria in 2012. In recent years, the government's efforts and progress in promoting various anti-corruption actions in the public and private sectors have gradually been implemented and achieved considerable results obviously.

The government attaches great importance to the national integrity, transparency, and clean impression. In 2018, it invited experts and scholars at home and abroad, combined with the Executive Yuan, the Judicial Yuan, the Examination Yuan, the Control Yuan and its total of 27 institutions, to comprehensively review Taiwan's implementation of United Nations Convention against Corruption. Taiwan has successfully completed its first national report after 21 domestic review and finalization meetings. In order to implement the report mentioned above, the Ministry of Justice has proposed a draft amendment to the Criminal Code's malfeasance chapter, and introduced the "trading in influence", as well as a draft of the "Whistleblower Protection Bill", which integrates public and private sectors. Taiwan will continue to promote the completion of the bill, and discuss the criminal liability and accountability mechanisms of legal persons, in order to promote the legal system and policies of our country in line with international standards, and help improve the supervision of anti-corruption work in various sectors of society. The Agency Against Corruption makes its efforts to promote the transparency of administrative measures and important public constructions of the country, in order to eliminate undue interference and improve people's perception of the government's image of integrity.

For a long time, the government's determination to fight against and clean out corruption has not changed. The Ministry of Justice not only required the prosecutor's offices to strengthen evidence investigation, coordinate case handling, and prosecute cautiously but also published "Analysis and Compilation of the Cause of Innocence in Corruption Cases" and established a "Government Procurement Joint Audit Platform" with the Public Construction Commission, Executive Yuan, to provide reference for prosecutors. Regular anti-corruption seminars are hold every year to

improve the professional knowledge of the investigation of corruption cases. These measures can improve the measurement scores of TI's subjective impressions of public sector corruption and interactions between public and private sectors.

In addition, in order to achieve teamwork goals, effectively integrate resources and enhance the effectiveness of investigations, the Ministry of Justice requires the Agency Against Corruption and the Ministry of Justice Investigation Bureau to set up fixed contact windows to enhance interaction between the two parties and establish a horizontal contact mechanism for resource sharing, information exchange and mutual cooperation. It is now running smoothly and with good results.

The Ministry of Justice will continue to work together with law enforcement agency and ethics unit to promote anti-corruption advocacy, strengthen the concept of civil servants to uphold integrity, and cooperate with the people to fight corruption and increase people's confidence in government administration.