



For Release March 21, 2018, 7:30 p.m.

President Tsai and U.S. Official Address AmCham's 2018 Hsieh Nien Fan

Joining President Tsai Ing-wen as a keynote speaker at AmCham Taipei's annual Hsieh Nien Fan banquet this evening was Alex Wong, U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and the Pacific. Wong, who took office last December, is currently on a brief visit to Taiwan.

Both President Tsai and Deputy Assistant Secretary Wong emphasized the strength of the bilateral relationship between Taiwan and the United States due to the shared values of democracy and human rights, as well as the large volume of trade, investment, and travel.

Also speaking at the dinner was American Institute in Taiwan Director Kin Moy, who introduced Deputy Assistant Secretary Wong.

The purpose of the Hsieh Nien Fan banquet is to thank Taiwan government officials, as well as local business leaders and scholars, for their constructive interaction with the foreign business community over the past year. This year's event, the 50th annual, was attended by about 700 people, including more than 100 government officials and other dignitaries. It was held in the Grand Ballroom of the Grand Hyatt Taipei,

In pre-dinner remarks, AmCham Taipei Chairman Albert Chang referred to the results of the Chamber's 2018 Business Climate Survey, which were released earlier this month. He noted that AmCham members remain enthusiastic about the business environment in Taiwan, praising the quality of the workforce and the excellence of the living conditions. Some 80% of the survey respondents expressed confidence that their businesses would continue to grow in the coming three years.

Chang added that "in this highly uncertain, increasingly competitive, rapidly changing global environment, it's often hard for Taiwan to get the attention it deserves." As a result, the "urgent challenge is to make clear to the world why Taiwan counts – to achieve so much progress in this society and economy that Taiwan simply cannot be ignored."

Because AmCham member companies are deeply rooted in Taiwan and have a strong stake in its success, Chang said, the Chamber is eager to partner closely with the government to help shape a business environment conducive to increased foreign investment and more dynamic economic growth.

He said that AmCham "recently proposed to Taiwan officials that we jointly create an Industry Council to discuss concrete measures to provide that momentum." Further details are due to be announced in the near future. "The goals of the Chamber and the government are identical – a prosperous and stable Taiwan," said Chang, "and we are committed to doing our part toward reaching that objective."



About AmCham Taipei

Founded in 1951, the American Chamber of Commerce in Taipei (AmCham Taipei) is a non-profit, non-partisan business organization dedicated to promoting the interests of international business in Taiwan. With around 1000 members from more than 500 companies and 24 committees representing various industry interests, AmCham speaks with collective authority on business issues as they affect its member companies operating in Taiwan.

For more information, please contact:

Erica Lai

ericalai@amcham.com.tw
(02) 2718-8226 Ext. 213

Amy Chang

amychang@amcham.com.tw
(02) 2718-8226 Ext. 314