

## CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

<b>NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP</b>
Cross-Party Group on <b>Taiwan</b>
<b>DATE GROUP ESTABLISHED</b> (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.)
<b>5 June 2019</b>
<b>DATE OF MOST RECENT AGM</b>
<b>3 June 2020</b>
<b>DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED</b>
<b>15 June 2020</b>
<b>DATE OF PRECEDING AGM</b> [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]
<b>5 June 2019</b>
<b>GROUP MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES</b>  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.
<b>5 June 2019 (AGM)</b>  Attended by: Margaret Mitchell MSP (Co-Convener), Rhoda Grant MSP (Co-Convener) and 14 other non-MSP attendees.

#### Annual General Meeting (AGM):

- Margaret Mitchell MSP chaired the AGM and welcomed members and friends of the CPG on Taiwan to the meeting. Margaret Mitchell MSP noted that Co-Conveners James Dornan MSP, Rhoda Grant MSP and herself are willing to stand again as the Office Bearers (Co-Conveners) of the CPG on Taiwan if there is no objection. It was unanimously agreed that Margaret Mitchell MSP, Rhoda Grant MSP and James Dornan MSP will continue to be the Co-conveners of the CPG on Taiwan and that Blanca Kao will continue to be the Secretary of the group.
- Mindy Chang, Assistant Director of the Taipei Representative Office (TRO) in Edinburgh, provided a brief review of the CPG meetings held in 2018/2019. She noted that three CPG on Taiwan meetings had been held in 2018 with presentations on 'Circular Economy in Taiwan', Tea tasting and the formal establishment of Taiwanese Scholars Association of Scotland (TSAS). In 2019, 3 CPG on Taiwan meetings have been held thus far, including presentations on 'Scotland Taiwan Chamber of Commerce (STCC)', 'Scotland Taiwanese Association (STA)', and 'the contribution of Dr James Laidlaw Maxwell Senior and Dr James Laidlaw Maxwell Junior to Taiwan'. The Assistant Director remarked that the CPG on Taiwan has established a firm foundation for cooperation between Taiwan and Scotland and that she is very pleased to have Susan Pacitti to speak to everyone about the cultural cooperation between Taiwan and Scotland in this meeting. For the next CPG on Taiwan meeting in September, the Assistant Director noted that we will have the honour to have Prof. Ava Hsueh, former Director of National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, to come to Edinburgh to speak to us about the important exhibitions in the museum and the important development of Taiwanese contemporary art in the context of globalisation.
- Margaret Mitchell MSP introduced the guest speaker, Susan Pacitti – Publishing, Commissioning and Licensing Manager of Glasgow Museums, to the audience. She noted that the annual Creative Expo Taiwan has been showcasing Taiwan's culture and creativity since 2010. This year the Creative Expo Taiwan 2019 has adopted the theme of 'Culture on the Move' to bring together culture and time by connecting historical spaces to create a 'Cultural Corridor', and Susan was invited to attend the Creative Expo Taiwan and will share with us her visit to the Creative Expo.

#### Guest Presentation:

- Susan Pacitti noted that she was very excited about the opportunity to go back to Taiwan again and attend the Creative Expo. Prior to Susan's visit to the Creative Expo in April, Susan had previously lived in Taiwan for five years with her parents who were Church of Scotland missionaries. Before sharing with everyone her visit to the Creative Expo, Susan provided an introduction to Glasgow Museums and collections. Susan noted that the mission statement of Glasgow Museums is 'Connecting people, objects and place' and that she could see that being a recurrent theme everywhere in Taiwan, and indeed in museums, communities and cultural institutions across the world. Susan noted that Glasgow Museums belong to Glasgow City Council and are a branch of Glasgow Life, a trading name for Culture and Sport Glasgow. She noted that Glasgow Museums have huge collections and house over five million objects splitting across museums in the City. Glasgow Museums' collections are recognised as 'one of the greatest civic collections in Europe' by Neil MacGregor, the former Director of British Museum. In addition, Glasgow Museums' collections are also recognised by the Scottish Government as of National Significance and are the largest civic Museums Service in the UK outwith London. Glasgow Museums are Glasgow City's best-known tourist attractions and are open all year round. Glasgow Museums Service is also fully accredited, which means the Museums Service is governed by legislation and it provides account of what it does to ensure Glasgow Museums are run ethically and responsibly.

- On the subject of her visit to the Creative Expo Taiwan, Susan remarked that the Expo was incredibly well-organised. The Expo was organised by the Ministry of Culture. It ran across 12 days in five locations spread across the city showcasing Taiwan's crafts, design, history, lifestyle, performing arts and the latest cultural and design trends. Susan shared with everyone the performing arts, museums and places that she has seen and been in Taiwan, and noted that she really enjoyed her visit to Taiwan.

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## 25 September 2019

Attended by: Rhoda Grant MSP (Co-Convener, Chair), Richard Lyle MSP and 16 other non-MSP attendees.

- The Co-Convener, Rhoda Grant MSP, chaired the meeting and welcomed the members and friends of the CPG on Taiwan to the meeting.

Update on Taiwan's Recent Developments:

- The Director General of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Edinburgh, Jason C.C. Lien, provided an update on the recent state of affairs in Taiwan. He thanked the friends and colleagues in the Scottish Parliament for their continuous support and warm friendship. Thanks to this continuous support and friendship, the Scottish Parliament has proposed and passed four motions, covering topics around the importance of safeguarding the independent identity, democracy and human rights in Taiwan, Taiwan's constructive participation in WHA, and Taiwan's recent achievement on passing same sex marriage bill.
- The Director General noted that Taiwan was a founding member of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO). However, Taiwan was excluded from ICAO following its withdrawal from the UN in 1971. The government and the 23 million people of Taiwan have since been unable to participate in ICAO meetings, activities and mechanisms, and to safeguard our civil aviation development rights and welfare. Taiwan's Taoyuan International Airport ranked 10<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in the world in 2017 in terms of international passenger and cargo volume. Taiwan undoubtedly occupies a key position in both regional and global civil aviation transport and flight control, and yet it is unable to participate in ICAO. As the 40<sup>th</sup> Assembly meeting took place in Montreal yesterday, the Director General hoped that the Scottish Parliament could take actions to support Taiwan's participation in ICAO and its Assembly sessions as an observer.
- Turning to the situation in Hong Kong, the Director General noted that the recent events in Hong Kong have attracted substantial attention from around the world since June. He remarked that the democratic protests not only made Taiwanese cherish their existing democratic system and way of life more, but also made it clear that "one country, two system" is not viable. We believe the people of Hong Kong also have the right to pursue their own democracy and freedom, and to choose their own lifestyle and political system.
- With the new round of CPG meetings beginning, the Director General noted that he welcomes increased co-operation between Taiwan and Scotland, particularly in cultural affairs. The Director General introduced Dr Ava Hsueh, a cultural promotor as well as the former Director of National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts (NTMoFA) to the audience.

Guest Presentation: "Cultural Promotor: Multiple Art Aspects of National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts"

- Dr Ava Hsueh provided an introduction of NTMoFA and discussed her work as a cultural promoter in her presentation. She noted that in her role as the former Director of NTMoFA, she very much focused on the education and promotion of visual arts. She aimed to organise the most diverse range of themed visual art exhibitions; to foster long-term art exchanges with overseas institutions; to actively participate in major international events; to promote art education; and to provide the public with a pleasing and multi-faceted environment in her former role. Dr Ava Hsueh then moved on to present the iconic exhibitions of the NTMoFA in 2007-2009. She noted that when she took office, she saw the urgent need to connect with the Asian trends and to introduce the uniqueness of Taiwan's visual arts. Consequently, she organised the first Asian Art Biennial with the attempt to increase the awareness of the development of Asian cultures and arts among the Taiwanese public, as well as to ensure that Taiwan would not be left behind when a new world of arts was emerging in Asia. The 2007 Asian Art Biennial "*Have You Eaten Yet?*" exhibition reflected the cultural self-awareness of Asian community amid the far-reaching transformation of the region at large, and the notable characteristics that may distinguish Asian cultures from Western counterpart in the process of social-cultural changes. The 2009 Asian Art Biennial "*Viewpoints & Viewing Points*" exhibition explored how a multiplicity of perspectives have come to inform our contemporary reality, and how such reality, characterised by high degrees of interactivity, has in turn enriched the cultural perspectives of Asia. Following which, Dr Ava Hsueh touched on the genealogy of the Taiwanese Art, the Asian Art Forum (an academic forum) and the cultivation of cultural citizenship (a volunteering programme). She noted that NTMoFA also collaborates with institutes of higher education in art, and one of the examples is the doctoral programme in Art Creation and Theory at Tainan National University of the Arts, where Dr Ava Hsueh was a faculty member. In addition, NTMoFA passed "*The Directions for Museum Volunteer Management*" in 1988. During her service at NTMoFA in 2006, over 400 volunteers were recruited. The number had increased to 600 (or higher) in 2018. After years of re-organisation, there are now six units of volunteers including museum guiding, exhibition gallery management, library and information, picture book area, playground for children, and administration assistance. Dr Ava Hsueh concluded that an art museum is a cultural space. It is not just a place where visitors see the content and format of the exhibition and are engraved with such cultural attributes, but also a space where visitors are encouraged to translate the dynamics and significance of the exhibits, and to become cultural interpreters of fluidity.

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## 27 November 2019

Attended by: James Dornan MSP (Co-Convener, Chair), Richard Lyle MSP and 18 other non-MSP attendees.

- Richard Lyle MSP welcomed members and friends of the CPG on Taiwan to the meeting, and shared with everyone his experience of visiting Taiwan in October. He noted that he was very pleased with the hospitality he received from Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) during his stay and would like to pass on his thanks to MOFA.
- The previous meeting minutes dated 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019 has been approved unanimously.

Update on Taiwan's Recent Developments:

- Being aware of the fact that some guests were new to the meeting, Jason C.C. Lien, the Director General of Taipei Representative Office in Edinburgh, took a few minutes to introduce the CPG on Taiwan.

- Speaking of Taiwan’s meaningful participation in international organisations, which China insists that it must be handled in line with the “One China” principle, Jason reiterated that Taiwan has never and will never capitulate under the pressure from China. Taiwan is willing and able to contribute to the international community as well as to the collective effort to realise 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Jason further noted that the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP25) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) will take place in Spain in December, and he has been to the session five times in the past. Faced with the impact of extreme weather events, Taiwan has developed a great deal of relevant expertise, and is willing to share this with the world in terms of environmental governance, disaster prevention and warning, green finance, innovation and technology, etc. With what Taiwan has to offer, Taiwan should be given the opportunity to participate in global mechanisms, negotiations and activities that promote the implementation of the Paris Agreement in just the same way as any other country.
- Jason remarked that he is very pleased to see that Taiwanese youths are getting involved in public affairs and increasingly engaging with social issues through TW-PASE platform. In the past, Taiwanese overseas students had played an important role in the development of Taiwanese democracy, especially during the martial law ruling period. Taiwanese overseas students, e.g. alumni of Edinburgh University, the founding father of DPP (Mr. Hsin-Liang Hsu), etc. were core persons to Taiwan’s democratisation. Jason wished Taiwan Public Affairs and Social Engagement Association (TW-PASE) and everyone every success.

Guest Presentation: “Taiwanese Oversea Youth Engagement in Public, Social and Political Affairs”

- The President of Taiwan Public Affairs and Social Engagement Association (TW-PASE), Vivi Lin, gave a presentation that touched on (1) youth engagement; (2) the establishment of TW-PASE; and (3) connecting the world. More specifically, she discussed at length why overseas youth engagement in public, social and political affairs is important and the reasons why TW-PASE was founded. Vivi Lin also provided an introduction to other Taiwanese overseas youth’s groups.
- On the importance of youth engagement, Vivi Lin noted that “it is our future, and therefore, we deserve the right to represent our own interests.” Furthermore, youth occupies almost half of the world population according to the World Bank, who have a wide range of different perspectives to offer. Additionally, youth engagement can help eliminate the sense of political alienation amongst youths.
- On the reasons why TW-PASE was founded, Vivi Lin noted that she and the founding members felt that there seems to be (1) a lack of safe, respectful and interactive space for youth engagement; (2) a lack of understanding of and attention to East Asian affairs; and (3) an urgent need for initiating a dialogue for youth engagement. Consequently, Vivi Lin and the founding members decided to establish TW-PASE, which provides a safe and respectful space and an active and interactive social forum for everyone. TW-PASE hosts a reading club that empowers everyone, hold seminars on selected topics and serves as a deliberative forum for dialogues and debates on contested issues via a deliberative discussion framework.
- Vivi Lin noted that the mission of TW-PASE is to raise awareness, to encourage social proactivity and to foster discussion on Taiwan’s public affairs. In addition, TW-PASE also seeks to increase the visibility of Taiwan in the international community and connect people who care about Taiwan and are willing to support Taiwan together.

Discussion:

- James Dornan MSP and Richard Lyle MSP suggested that TW-PASE could perhaps link up with other youth activist groups in Scotland and organise an event together at the Scottish Parliament. James Dornan MSP noted that he would be happy to provide contact details for this.

## 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
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	<p> Ellie Casson  Emma Wheater  Eric Milligan  Hsien-Lin Ro  Ian Irvin  Ian McKee  Isabella Morton  Jack Lin  Jenny Chen  Jhenyi Wu  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>
<b>Organisations</b>	<p> Scotland Taiwanese Association (STA)  Scotland Taiwan Chamber of Commerce (STCC) </p>

Taipei Representative Office (TRO) in the UK Edinburgh Office

### GROUP OFFICE BEARERS

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.

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