

## *Chronology of Events*

*(May 16 – June 15)*

### May 2010

- 16** The Taiwan Joint Irrigation Association held elections to select its presidents and executive committee members for all of the 15 local irrigation associations in Taiwan. The DPP garnered a record-high of four presidents.
- 16** Japanese Foreign Minister Katsuya Okada demanded during a meeting with his Chinese counterpart Yang Jiechi that China cut its nuclear arsenal or at least stop stockpiling more atomic weapons.
- 17** The Cross-Strait Express Passenger Transport Initiative was officially signed at Jiangyin Port in Fuqing city of China's Fujian Province. A Cross-Strait Express Corridor linking Fuqing's Jiangyin Port and Taiwan's Taichung Harbor and Taipei Harbor will be established under the initiative. Travel time via the corridor will be around three hours.
- 18** Taiwan was ranked eighth in the 2010 World Competitiveness Scorecard issued by International Institute for Management Development based in Lausanne, Switzerland.
- 18** Department of Health Minister Yang Chih-lian attended and delivered a speech at the World Health Assembly in Geneva as an observer.
- 19** President Ma Ying-jeou made a "six-country" statement in which he declared the six steps needed to achieve a "golden decade." The six steps are "to strengthen the country through innovation, to revive the country by promoting culture, to save the country through environmental protection, to stabilize the country by adhering to the constitution, to secure the country by providing social services, and to protect the country by promoting peace."
- 20** The two-year anniversary of President Ma's inauguration.
- 20** A multinational investigation team issued its finding that the March 26 sinking of the Cheonan, a South Korean warship, was caused by a North Korea-built CHT-O2D torpedo fired by a shark-class submarine and a salmon-class submarine from North Korea.
- 21** The U.S. Department of Defense officially activated Cyber Command, which is headquartered at Fort Meade in Maryland. Created to defend against cyber hackers and attacks and having approximately 1,000 personnel, Cyber Command will operate under U.S. Strategic Command.
- 21** The Executive Yuan's Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics raised its forecast for Taiwan's 2010 annual economic growth rate to 6.14 percent.

- 23 Tsai Ing-wen was re-elected chairwoman of the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) and announced her decision to run for Sinbei Mayor as the party's 13th chairperson.
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- 24 The second round of the U.S.-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue was held in Beijing on May 24 to 25. Issues including sanctions against North Korea after the Cheonan incident, the renminbi appreciation, trade frictions between the two countries, and the Iran nuclear problem were discussed in the meeting and 26 concrete results were achieved at the conclusion of the talks.
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- 25 South Korea blocked all North Korean vessels from entering the Jeju Strait. North Korea immediately severed all ties with South Korea and abrogated a non-aggression agreement, stating that all inter-Korean issues would be handled under a wartime law.
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- 26 Council for Economic Planning and Development Chairwoman Christina Liu said it would be difficult to fulfill President Ma's campaign pledge of "the 633 goal" (which stands for six percent annual economic growth, per capita income of US\$30,000 and an unemployment rate lower than three percent) by 2012.
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- 27 The Japanese Ministry of Defense decided to redraw its air defense identification zone (ADIZ) near Yonaguni. Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a statement on May 29 saying it found the expansion plan "unacceptable."
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- 28 The Joint Statement of the U.S.-Japan Security Consultative Committee emphasized that the U.S.-Japan alliance remains indispensable not only to the defense of Japan, but also to the peace, security, and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region.
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- 29 Leaders of China, Japan and South Korea convened in Jeju on the occasion of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Trilateral Summit Meeting and passed the Trilateral Cooperation Vision 2020. The Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat is scheduled to be established in South Korea in 2011.
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- 30 Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao visited Japan. The achievements of the trip included setting up a hotline between Wen and his Japanese counterpart, establishing a maritime communication mechanism between the defense departments of the two countries, negotiating and signing an agreement on maritime rescue, and strengthening bilateral economic and trade cooperation (with green economy, energy conservation, and e-commerce as priority areas of cooperation). China called the visit "a trip of confidence and hope."
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- 31 Israeli marines stormed a Turkish aid ship carrying humanitarian supplies and intending to break Israel's blockade of the Gaza Strip. The attack killed at least nine activists and triggered international condemnation.
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## June 2010

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DPP Chairperson Tsai Ing-wen, the party's candidate for Sinbei mayor, officially launched her election campaign with a press conference in Tamsui entitled "This Is Where We Will March toward Victory."

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The Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in response to Taiwan's efforts to negotiate and sign free trade agreements (FTAs) with other countries, said China does not object to non-governmental economic and trade exchanges between its diplomatic allies and Taiwan, but firmly opposes these countries' developing any forms of official contacts with Taiwan.

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Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama announced his resignation. The ruling Democratic Party of Japan's Secretary-General Ichiro Ozawa also stepped down as party leader.

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The Executive Yuan's Referendum Review Committee rejected the Taiwan Solidarity Union's request to hold a referendum on the government's proposed Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) with China by a vote of 12 to 4, with one abstention.

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U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates said after China refused his visit that the Chinese People's Liberation Army seems unwilling to have dialogue with the U.S.

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Japan's parliament elected Naoto Kan as prime minister. Kan received 313 votes out of 477.

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President Ma published an article entitled "Observations on the Anniversary of the June 4<sup>th</sup> Incident." Reflecting on the tragedy in Beijing's Tiananmen Square, Ma urged China to adopt an unprecedented new approach to resolve problems left behind by major human rights incidents of the past.

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A delegation led by U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein visited Taiwan and met with President Ma.

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U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates said during the 9<sup>th</sup> IISS Asia Security Summit, the Shangri-La Dialogue, that Beijing's cutting off U.S.-China military ties to protest against American arms sales to Taiwan is meaningless.

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China released the National Outline for Medium- and Long-Term Talent Development, an initiative aiming to turn China into a world power with a strong talent pool by 2020.

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President Ma said during his meeting with President Anote Tong of Kiribati that Taiwan will strengthen relations with Kiribati, but does not object to Kiribati's developing non-governmental connections with China.

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The Coast Guard Administration, the Environmental Protection Administration, and other agencies of the Executive Yuan held activities to mark the World Oceans Day. In his address on this occasion, President Ma urged the pursuit of sustainable development and the avoidance of “draining the lake to get all the fish.”

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The DPP Central Standing Committee stated in a resolution that the party is not against normal and realistic exchanges between Taiwan and China, but is firmly opposed to conferences such as the Straits Forum that set peaceful cross-strait unification as a precondition and have the ultimate goal of political unification. The party forbade DPP officials and members to attend these conferences.

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U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner said in a congressional hearing that China’s refusal to revalue its currency has impeded global economic reforms.

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South Korea’s first carrier rocket, the Naro-1, crashed 137 seconds into its flight.

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The Taiwan High Court handed down the verdict for the second trial of former president Chen Shui-bian and other defendants, who were convicted of involvement in four cases, including the embezzlement of the state affairs fund. The verdict reduced Chen’s life sentence in the first ruling to 20 years in prison, fined him NT\$170 million, and lowered a lifetime ban on his civil rights to 10 years.

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Seventeen cities and counties across Taiwan held township representative and borough chief elections. Of the 2,322 township representative seats in the election, the Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) garnered 714 seats, the DPP 169, the People First Party 1, the Chinese Unification Promotion Party 1, and independent candidates and candidates without party recommendation 1,433. Among the 4,077 borough and village chief seats, the KMT won 1,020 seats, the DPP 52, and independent candidates and candidates without party recommendation 2,994.

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Taiwan and China held the third-round negotiations on the ECFA and completed the agreement’s 16-article text and five appendixes.

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Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan held a telephone conversation, marking the official launch of the China-Japan prime ministerial hotline.

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Direct flight services between Taipei Songshan Airport and Shanghai Hongqiao Airport were officially launched.

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Ethnic violence in the southern city of Osh in Kyrgyzstan has prompted ten thousand ethnic Uzbeks to flee to Uzbekistan. China has evacuated 195 Chinese nationals from Kyrgyzstan.

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