

Chronology of Events

(September 16 to October 15)

September 2010

- 16** According to the Formosan Association for Public Affairs (FAPA), four US Republican Representatives Scott Garrett (R-NJ), John Duncan (R-TN), Mike Coffman (R-CO) and Walter Jones (R-NC) introduced Congressional resolution HCR316 calling for Taiwan's full membership in the United Nations.
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- 16** US Deputy Secretary of State James Steinberg talked about “the continued commitment to our engagement through the Taiwan Relations Act and all of the other elements that are characterized in the unofficial relationship” at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington.
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- 17** The United States filed WTO cases versus China on steel and credit card services for violating trade principles by deprive U.S. companies of access to the market.
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- 17** The election of mayors, councilors and ward chiefs in Taipei City and four soon-to-be established special municipalities will be held at the end of the year. A total of 14 aspirants registered candidacies for five mayoral positions when the registration ends on September 17.
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- 17** The Chinese currency Renminbi rose 0.1% against the US dollar to its highest level, breaking the record set in 1993. One US dollar bought 6.7082 Renminbi.
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- 18** Japan Prime Minister Naoto Kan replaced 10 of his 17 cabinet members and the new Kan Cabinet was inaugurated on September 17.
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- 18** Taiwan's Mainland Affairs Council announced its latest poll result. 31% of the surveyed support “maintaining the status quo forever”, reaching a record high in the last 8 years. Fewer than 10% of the survey support “reunification with the mainland in the shortest time possible” or “maintaining the status quo, and then reunify [sic] with the mainland”. (86% support maintaining the status quo in the broadest sense.
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- 19** Typhoon Fanapi flooded southern Taiwan, hitting hard on Renwu and Dashe industrial parks, leaving Formosa Plastics and China Man-Made Fiber Corporation and other ten major companies in water.
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- 23 The Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea are covered by the Japan-U.S. security pact that allows for Washington to retaliate against a military strike on Japanese territory, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton told Japanese Foreign Minister Seiji Maehara
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- 24 After a Chinese fishing trawler “Min Jin 5179” clashed with Japan Coast Guard patrol vessel Yonakuni and Mizuki at waters around Senkaku Islands, Japan released the Chinese captain Zhan Qixiong who had been arrested for interference of public function.
- 24 Taiwan’s Legislative Yuan started a new session. Priorities include 3 budgetary cases and 17 bills, including the second generation health insurance, ending military and educator tax-exempt, and the new financial system for reformed municipalities.
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- 26 China’s rare earth export ban to Japan led to disputes. Chen Deming, China’s Minister of Commerce, said that the Chinese government does not ban the exportation of rare earth and does not intervene private businesses.
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- 27 The US and South Korea held a joint anti-submarine exercise from September 27 to October 1 on the Yellow Sea. North Korea condemned that this is military provocation and threat.
- 27 Kim Jong Il issued order No. 0051 that Kim Kyong Hui, Kim Jong Un and Choe Ryong Hae and three others are promoted to generals.
- 27 The US House of Representatives passed by an overwhelming margin (348-79 vote) the Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act (HR 2378) to penalize China for its practice of fixing the RMB to the dollar.
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- 28 According to Kanwa Defense Review, China is building a new 219 Cruise Missile Brigade in Yichun City, Jiangxi Province. The unit is deployed with at least 16 launchers and 48 rounds of CJ10 cruise missiles, targeting at Japan and Okinawa.
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- 30 Taiwan’s Ministry of Justice is establishing an Anti-Corruption Agency. The latest organization act draft abolished the long-term practice of interior affairs office and relocate the office to the Ministry of Justice.
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October 2010

- 1 Ecuadoran troops took over the international airport in Quito as dozens of police protested on the streets. President Rafael Correa accused police officers involved in the protest of treason.
- 1 Taiwan's Ministry of the Interior unveiled a plan to implement absentee voting for all eligible voters in the 2012 presidential election. All eligible voters will have the right to cast their vote outside the county or city where they are registered, in their neighborhood ballots.
- 3 According to Japan's Sankei Shimbun, after President Barack Obama visits Japan in November for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Japan and the United States will hold a joint military exercises, drills back the Diaoyu Islands in the operational plan.
- 3 At eight thirty in the morning, a fire broke out at a plant operated by Nanya Plastics, a part of the Formosa Plastics Group, in Chiayi County. The blaze went out of control due to the presence of flammable materials.
- 4 Taiwan reported first case of superbug NDM-1. The healthy carrier is a Taiwanese photographer who was shot in India, and the Center of Disease Control assessed that the risk of community outbreak is low.
- 5 After the Japan-Sino territorial disputes over the Senkaku Island, the Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao had talks with Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan during the Eighth Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit to remedy bilateral relations.
- 6 Rupert Hammond-Chambers, president of the US-Taiwan Business Council, delivered two messages after the 2010 U.S.-Taiwan Defense Industry Conference. First, the Obama administration is assessing Taiwan's defense needs. Second: Taiwan remains important to the New Asia Strategy of the United States.
- 7 Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao made a surprise detour to Germany when he was visiting Europe and had a talk with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who later promised that Germany would continue urging the EU to recognize China's full market economy status.
- 8 The Nobel Peace Prize 2010 was awarded to Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo for his long and non-violent struggle for fundamental human rights in China
- 8 The South Korea-EU FTA will take effect on July 1, 2011

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A visiting Chinese university basketball team, likely to win the 2010 championship, withdrew Friday from a tournament being playing in Kainan University after seeing hundreds of Taiwanese national flags displayed outside the arena.

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Wu Ching-ji, Minister of Education said at the Legislative Yuan Education Committee that the ministry recognizes Chinese educational certificates received after 1992 and Chinese educational credentials from 41 selected Chinese universities.

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The Republic of China celebrated its 99th anniversary.

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Japan's Defense Ministry said it has canceled a port call at Qingdao, China, by a Maritime Self-Defense Force training fleet in response to China's request to postpone it.

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The ROC President Ma Ying-jeou announced on the National Day Celebration the establishment of a Human Rights Consultative Committee under the Office of the President. Vice President Siew will chair the committee, which will issue regular human rights reports, so as to raise the level of human rights in Taiwan.

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Turkish daily Taraf reported the Chinese participation in Anatolian Eagle, based in the Turkish air base in Konya. Involved were Turkish F-16, Chinese Su-27 and Mig-29 fighter jets.

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The ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting + 8 (ADMM+8) was held in Hanoi, Vietnam. The post-meeting joint statement pointed out that ADMM+8 was an important landmark for ASEAN and contributed to peace, stability and development in the region.
