

Chronology of Events

(October 16 and November 15)

October 2010

- 16** A right-wing group in Japan launched the largest ever anti-China protest in Tokyo condemning China for claiming Senkaku Island.
- 16** Chung-Hua Institution for Economic Research released its latest projection that the average unemployment rate for 2010 is 5.29 percent, which means Taiwan's Premier Wu Den-Yih has not fulfilled his promise to lower the rate to under 5 percent.
- 17** Shanghai Morning Post acknowledges that the Taiwan Pavilion at World Expo 2010 deserves an Expo Oscar for the "Best Performance" for its sky-lantern blessing ritual.
- 19** China's 5th Plenary Session of the 17th Congress concluded in Beijing and Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping was appointed Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC) of the Communist Party of China (CPC).
- 19** During the interview by the Associated Press, Taiwan's President Ma Ying-jeou said political talks with China could start as early as the second four-year term if he wins re-election in 2012.
- 20** Henry Kissinger, former Secretary of State, and Tang Jiaxuan, China's former Foreign Minister, co-hosted the U.S.-China Track Two Dialogue at the Hay-Adams hotel in Washington D.C.
- 21** Typhoon Megi brought heavy rainstorms to Yilan county of northeastern Taiwan. Suao Township suffered the most as it received a total of 939mm of rainfall in one day. Suao-Hualien Highway was blocked between the points of 106 km and 116 km.
- 22** While attending a seminar organized by Brookings Institute in Washington D.C., Wang Yi, Director of Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council of PRC, told that Taiwan needs to go through Beijing if it wants to participate in international organizations. Seeking the support from countries in Europe and America is useless.
- 23** At Tokyo International Film Festival, Taiwan's directors, producers and stars were requested to be introduced as coming from "Taiwan-China" and walk the green carpet with the Chinese delegation.

- 24** Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan, a member of the Democratic Party of Japan (DPF), addressed the threat from North Korea and China on the 24th Self-Defense Forces parade.
-
- 25** Japan and India reached a broad agreement to form an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) and negotiated a nuclear energy cooperation pact in the conference.
-
- 26** Transparency International released the 2010 Corruption Perceptions Index, which measures the perceived levels of public sector corruption in 178 countries. Taiwan ranked no. 26 in 2009 and no. 22 in 2010 while China was no. 79 in 2009 and no.78 in 2010.
-
- 27** Minister of Civil Service Chang Che-shen put a stop to the performance assessment program that stipulated at least one percent of civil servants should be given a “C” grade or worse due to its incompleteness. After the program is passed by the legislature and supportive measures are initiated, the new program will be implemented in 2012.
-
- 28** According to the “National Debt Clock” program set up by the Ministry of Finance, the outstanding amount by the end of September was 4 trillion 291 billion and 800 thousand dollars, which equals to 32.86 percent of the GDP. Each person in average has to pay a government debt of over 186 thousand dollars.
-
- 29** South Korea immediately returned fire after North Korean artillery hit its forward post near the border.
-
- 31** Flight services resumed between Taipei's inner-city Songshan airport and Tokyo's Haneda airport after a hiatus of 31 years. Former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe arrived in Taipei via an All- Nippon Airways's (ANA) maiden flight.
-

November 2010

1

Taiwan's Environmental Protection Agency made a prompt decision to conditionally accept the environmental impact assessment for an upgrade project for the Suao-Hualien Highway, a highway in northeastern Taiwan with safety concerns.

2

Eight managers for Taiwan's largest bulletin board service were requested by the Ministry of Education to better manage and control the comments of users regarding political issues.

3

The Republicans made a grand victory at the US midterm elections by increasing 64 seats in the House and became the majority party. The Democrats remained the majority at the Senate despite of losing 6 seats.

4

Employees in Taiwan's Control Yuan are criticized for collecting an extra four to eight thousand dollars for their assistance with research. Legislators condemned the pork barrel and suggested to remove the allowance.

5

Taipei District Court gave a verdict that former Taiwan president Chen Shui-bian, his wife and other 21 defendants are not guilty in the Second Financial Reform case.

6

The 2010 Taipei International Flora Exposition opens.

8

Charged with bribery and collusion, the prosecutors sought a lengthy imprisonment of 3 to 24 years for Tsai Kuang-chih and other 12 judges. They were fined 500 thousand to 2 million.

9

Taiwan Brain Trust released its latest poll: Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) Sinbei mayoral candidate Eric Chu led with 39.9 percent against his Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) counterpart, Tsai Ing-wen, at 37.2 percent. A cross analysis showed that of shows that Tsai Ing-wen received 32.8% of support from independent voters while Eric Chu received 23.1%.

10

Japan's Ministry of Defense plans to send a "coast watch" team of 200 soldiers, mostly Japan Ground Self-Defense Force, to Yonaguni Island the western tip of its territory. The unit is assigned radar surveillance missions to observe China's activities in the area.

11

Taiwan's Supreme Court on Thursday cut former president Chen Shui-bian's prison sentence for corruption in a land deal to 11 years. A court statement said Chen's wife Wu Shu-chen also had her term cut to 11 years and they were fined NT\$150 million each for bribe-taking in connection with the contract. In the case of taking bribe from Diana Chen, Chen Shui-bian and Wu Shu-chen were sentenced 8 years in prison and fined 5 million dollars.

13

Leader in Myanmar's democratic movement Aung San Suu Kyi has been released after seven years under the last house arrest. She has been arrested by Myanmar's military junta for over 15 years in total.

13

Naoto Kan and Hu Jintao held a Japan-China summit in Yokohama during APEC Leaders Summit. It was their first official meeting since the September ship collision incident nearby Senkaku islands.

15

According to the Terrorism Risk Index (TRI) by the global risks advisory firm, Maplecroft, Somalia tops the list while terrorist threats are rising in Russia, Greece and Yemen.
