

## Chronology of Events

April. 2011

April 15 – May 15

**15**

The Legislative Yuan approved Luxury Tax Act which goods valued at more than NT\$3 million (US\$103,300), including automobiles, yachts, private jets and helicopters, will be subject to a 10-percent luxury tax. In addition, a 15-percent luxury tax will be imposed on the resale within a year after purchase of real estate.

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**17**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs claimed in a press release that the Republic of China (Taiwan) enjoys all rights over the Nansha Islands (Spratly Islands), as well as their surrounding waters, seabed and subsoil, which are an inherent part of the territory of the Republic of China (Taiwan), and that it does not accept any claim to sovereignty over, or occupation of, these areas by other countries or territories.

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**17**

In the 2011 Finnish parliamentary election, the populist party True Finns that opposed Euro became the third largest party in the Finnish Parliament. That outcome is likely to put the True Finns into a new Government coalition.

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**18**

After the earthquake, Japan Economic Newswire presented the latest poll indicating that the general public in Japan most expects Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano to exercise his influence.

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**19**

The Central Election Commission yesterday proposed Jan. 14 as the date for the merged presidential and legislative elections.

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**21**

U.S. Department of Defense announced that Obama has ordered the U.S. military can use drones, “Predator”, for more precise attacks at targets in Lybia.

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**22**

President Ma has come out against the proposed Kuokuang petrochemical complex in the coastal wetlands of Changhua.

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**23**

Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh agreed on stepping down in 30 days after signing an agreement to form coalition Government and end protests in exchange for immunity from prosecution for him and his family.

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**24**

The ruling Democratic Party of Japan lost a parliamentary seat in local elections, marking the first failure at nation-wide local elections.

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**26**

At the 25th anniversary of the nuclear disaster in Chernobyl, Russian President said that “the duty of the Government is to tell its people the truth.”

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**27**

The Kuomintang (KMT) Central Standing Committee approved its chairman Ma's nomination for the 13th president of the Republic of China.

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**27**

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**28**

The Vice Defense Minister Andrew Yang disclosed in Washington DC that Taiwan is requesting for a pol-mil dialogue platform at a higher level.

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**30**

Saif al-Arab Gaddafi, 29, the youngest son of Libyan leader Moamer Gaddafi, was killed Saturday in a NATO airstrike on the capital Tripoli, while Moamer Gaddafi survived the bombing.

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## May. 2011

**01**

On the Labor Day over 10,000 labors took on the street calling on the Government to deal with problems of low wages and long working hour. They complained that during the three years of the Ma administration, national debt surged, wealth gap widened and work hours increased.

**01**

Al-Qaeda leader Osama Bin Laden has been killed by US forces in Pakistan, President Barack Obama has said. Bin Laden was shot dead at a compound near Islamabad by the US Special Forces and identity confirmed.

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**02**

Canadian Conservatives won majority in parliamentary elections. Canada may put an end to the current minority Government situation.

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**03**

The United Nations decided to grant the European Union observership, and its 27 members the special rights to voice at the UN.

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**04**

The DPP's Central Executive Committee passed unanimously to nominate its chairwoman Tsai Ing-wen to represent the party for the 2012 president campaign.

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**05**

Gu Kwan-Ming the founder of the Taiwan Brian Trust (TBT) recommended DPP legislator nominees Lo Chih-Cheng, Liu Chien-kuo, Ho Po-wen, and Taipei City Councilor Jian Yuyen to run for the next legislative election and form "Our Generation" action group.

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**08**

the 2011 Singapore election, the ruling People's Action Party remained in power but the received vote of 60.14% marks as the lowest since independence. Prime Minister and PAP Secretary-General Lee Hsien Loong said Sunday that his People's Action Party would re-examine its style of Government.

**08**

The seventh Cross-Strait Economic, Trade and Culture Forum closed with the adoption of 19 "shared" proposals. Jia Qinglin, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, reiterated the opposition to Taiwan's independence and insisted on the 1992 consensus. The 19 shared proposals

included the implementation of ECFA, expanding cross-strait economic cooperation, completing an economic cooperation mechanism for the two sides, researching on the visibility of involving in the ethnic Chinese economic zone and bridging with regional economic cooperation mechanism, improving nuclear security exchanges and cooperation, broadening cross-strait industrial cooperation, promoting currency settlement system to strengthen financial cooperation across the strait, encouraging SMEs to enhance cooperation, increasing cross-strait agricultural cooperation and exchanges, facilitating two-way investment, pushing for cross-strait investment agreement.

**09**

The Liberty Times reported that the World Health Organization sent a confidential memo in September 2010 requesting its member countries to refer to Taiwan as a “province of China.” The Ma administration admitted that it had known about the confidential memo in advance. Legislators of the opposition party condemned that this is an insult to Taiwan and its sovereignty. The Ma administration knew but kept it secret, and didn’t even protest against it. This has undermined Taiwan’s dignity.

**10**

Newt Gingrich, one of the most senior conservatives in the Republican Party and former Speaker, is officially running for the 2012 president campaign challenging President Obama.

**11**

The European Parliament passed a resolution unanimously to reiterate its support for Taiwan’s meaningful participation at UNFCCC, WHO, ICAO and other international activities and organization as an observer. For the first time, the European Parliament to support economic cooperation agreement between Taiwan and the European Union with a resolution.

**12**

The TBT proposed ”draft Taiwan Constitution” and called on the formulation of a new constitution to replace the ROC Constitution based on the one-China framework.

**13**

Twin suicide bombings Friday that killed at least 80 paramilitary recruits in northwest Pakistan, in an attack that Taliban militants said was to avenge the killing of Osama bin Laden. Over 140 were injured and more than 40 of them were in critical conditions.

**14**

The Singapore Government published a joint statement by SM Goh Chok Tong and MM Lee Kuan Yew. It indicated that “The Prime Minister and his team of younger leaders should have a fresh clean slate. A younger generation, besides having a non-corrupt and meritocratic Government and a high standard of living, wants to be more engaged in the decisions which affect them. After a watershed general election, we have decided to leave the cabinet and have a completely younger team of ministers to connect to and engage with this young generation in shaping the future of our Singapore.