



Headline News

President Ma touts Taiwan's achievements in emission reduction

During a symposium held by the Asian Productivity Organization in Taipei on 4 November, ROC President Ma Ying-jeou said that the government's efforts to reduce Taiwan's energy consumption and carbon emissions have shown concrete results after overcoming "tremendous challenges." From 2008 to 2013, Taiwan's energy intensity - the amount of energy needed to produce a unit of GDP - decreased by 2.45% per year on average. Also, the country's carbon dioxide emissions dropped by 0.37% annually on average during the same period, with emissions per capita GDP down by an average 3.11% per year.



Ma said that Taiwan used to account for 0.91% of global carbon dioxide emissions before 2008, although the country's population was only 0.3% of the world's total. Its emissions have now fallen to 0.84%, and Taiwan now ranks 24th among global emissions producers, compared with 18th six years ago.

Belgium-ROC Relations

ROC, Belgium civil service training centers sign MoU

On 7 November, Dr. Tsai Bih-Hwang, President of the ROC National Academy of Civil Service (NACS), and Director-General Sandra Schillemans of the Belgian Training Institute of the Federal Administration

(TIFA) signed, via video-link, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on academic exchanges, expressing the intention to strengthen information exchange in the fields of education and research over the next 5 years. ROC Representative to the EU and Belgium Kuo-yu Tung, was also present, as well as a delegation of senior ROC officials who followed trainings at the TIFA in September. Ms Schillemans said that Taiwan and Belgium face similar challenges. Through this MoU, both institutions can learn from each other, so as to enhance the competitiveness of public administration.



First Belgian and Taiwanese schools sign cooperation agreement

On 5 November, Chung Shan Industrial and Commercial School in Kaohsiung and the Ecole Hôtelière Provinciale de Namur signed a MoU establishing a close partnership, to promote Taiwanese and French/Belgian cuisine. The two schools started their cooperation with a delegation of students from Kaohsiung, who visited Namur to learn about French cuisine in 2012.

This MoU is unprecedented, as this is the first time a Taiwanese and Belgian high school have concluded such an agreement, making them 'sister schools'.

Educational News

KU Leuven Campus Brussels student receives scholarship

The Taipei Representative Office (TRO) in the EU and Belgium has been offering a Chinese language course, in collaboration with KU Leuven Campus Brussels (formerly HUB), since 2011. In 2013, the best student of the program was awarded with a month-long scholarship for a summer intensive Chinese course at National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan. The 2014 scholarship recipient is Wendy Eyckmans. On 28 October, an official award ceremony, co-chaired by Dean Remco Sleiderink and Hueiwen Hsu, Director of the Education Division of the TRO, was held to grant her a certificate acknowledging her achievement.

Information

Taiwanese avant-garde calligraphy show in Brussels

Yang Tze-yun is a popular artist, mainly focusing on traditional and avant-garde Chinese calligraphy. His calligraphy is influenced by movements and music, which he uses while performing. His brush follows the sound of the music and is driven by his inner energy, resulting in a "bodily expression of avant-garde calligraphy". Yang studied philosophy at Ghent University from 1994 to 1998, and has exhibited many times in Belgium and around the world.



When: 5-30 November, Wed. through Sat., 13:30-18:30, on appointment

Where: Galerie Cosmoswords,
Charleroisesteenweg 141, 1060 Brussels
<http://www.cosmoswords.org>