| **Individual Action Plan Update for Chinese Taipei for 2020** |
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| ***Highlights of recent policy developments which indicate how Chinese Taipei is progressing towards the Bogor Goals and key challenges it faces in its efforts to meet the Goals.*** |
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| IAP Chapter (and Sub-Chapter and Section Heading, if any) | **Improvements made since 2018 IAP** | **Further Improvements Planned** | | |
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| Tariffs | **Applied Tariffs**   1. Chinese Taipei has been using the HS 2017 version since 1 Jan. 2017. 2. Tariff rates are 5% or lower on 5,822 items or 63.7% of the Schedule. Among these, 2,673 items or 29.3% are tariff free (updated 1 Feb. 2019). 3. The average nominal tariff rate for all products is 6.37%. Among these, the average nominal tariff rate of agricultural products is 15.12% and industrial products, 4.16% (updated 1 Feb. 2019). 4. The average trade-weighted tariff for all goods is 1.78%, and the average effective tariff rate is 1.34% (updated 1 Feb. 2019).   **Tariff Quotas**   1. Agricultural products subject to tariff rate quotas include 32 tariff lines, including red beans, liquid milk, peanuts, garlic, dried forest mushrooms, dried daylilies, young coconuts, betel nuts, pineapples, mangoes, shaddock, rice and rice products, longans, deer velvet, fresh pears, bananas, and others. 2. The tariffs for tariff lines with tariff quotas are 0.4% across the board.   **Tariff Preferences**   1. To fulfill the outcomes of the APEC List of Environmental Goods agreed on during the APEC Economic Leaders’ Meeting in Vladivostok, Russia, Chinese Taipei reduced its import tariffs to 5% for 4 items of renewable energy power generating sets and 2 items of turbine generating sets, which went into force on 11 Dec. 2015 and 20 May 2016, respectively. 2. To carry out the tariff concession commitment made in the WTO’s Declaration on the Expansion of Trade in Information Technology Products, Chinese Taipei reduced its import tariffs in accordance with the Declaration’s attached list of the relevant 201 products and tariff concession product items, which went into force on 20 May 2016. | **Applied Tariffs**  Chinese Taipei continues to participated in the agricultural, non-agricultural negotiations in the WTO. | | |
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| ***Non-Tariff Measures***  Non-tariff measures include but are not restricted to quantitative import/export restrictions/prohibitions, import/export levies, minimum import prices, discretionary import/export licensing, voluntary export restraints and export subsidies | **Current Non-Tariff-Measures Applied**  Quantitative import Restrictions: None (10-digit HS Code)  Import Prohibitions: 91 items (10-digit HS Code)  Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ): 92 items (10-digit HS Code)  Import Licensing: 3 items (10-digit HS Code)  **Automatic Import Licensing**  Chinese Taipei reduced the number of items for which import licenses are required from 130 to 38 (10-digit HS Code) after its accession to the WTO on 1 Jan. 2002 and further reduced the number to 18 in 2003. The items that are still restricted are those for which WTO rules permit restrictions, such as rough diamonds.  As of 31 Dec. 2019,the number of items for which import licenses are required has been reduced to 3 (10-digit HS Code), from 37 in 2015. |  | | |
| Website for further information: | <http://www.trade.gov.tw> |  | | |
| Contact point for further details: | Tel: 886-2-23970522  Email: [sv-dept@trade.gov.tw](mailto:sv-dept@trade.gov.tw) |  | | |
| ***Services*** | **General policy**   1. To improve the internationalization of Chinese Taipei’s services industry, we are helping the services industry grasp business opportunities in international markets, especially those of emerging economies. Also, we are speeding up negotiations with important trading partners on economic cooperation agreements so that we can maintain our status on the global economic and trade landscape while helping our industries access global markets. Moreover, we are active participants in the international arena and willing to participate in several multilateral and plurilateral agreement negotiations. 2. In 2016, Chinese Taipei launched the “Five plus Two Industrial Innovation Plan” with the aim of building a complete ecosystem for an innovation-driven economy. As such, we have been reviewing our legal system and amending some critical laws and regulations. For example, we formulated a special act called the “Act for the Recruitment and Employment of Foreign Professionals on 8 February 2018,” which allows our companies more flexibility on hiring foreign talents, and makes it easier for foreign talent to live, work, and stay. This policy is expected to create favourable conditions for Chinese Taipei’s industries, as well as facilitate Chinese Taipei’s participation in regional trade agreements such as the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).   **Facilitating Foreign Related Business on Financial Services**   1. Since 15th February 2019, Internet-only banks may apply for approval to become foreign exchange business authorized banks. 2. Since 18th February 2019, securities firms may apply for approval to issue or reopen an "Exchange Traded Note (ETN)" that tracks the performance of a foreign index. 3. On 11 November 2019, Chinese Taipei approved “The Template of Operation for Banks to Accept Digital Deposit Account Opening Online” for reference and authorized banks to allow foreigners over 20 years old to use IC Residence Certificate to open digital saving accounts. 4. Chinese Taipei introduced the Regulations on April 17,2018 to support the development of the green energy industry. Foreign banks or their local branches may issue NTD financial bonds to raise funds for mid and long-term financing when they engage in project finance with regard to domestic major infrastructure, offshore wind farms or other green energy development projects.   **Amendments to Renewable Energy Development Act**  The Amendments amended on 1 May 2019 set a goal for renewable energy sources to reach a total of capacity of 27 GW by 2025, increased from 10 GW in the original version 10 years ago.  In accordance with the Amendments to Electricity Act renewable energy is permitted to sell to users directly from generators, allowing a more liberalized market where renewable energy generators can make decision between Feed-in Tariff system and market-based transaction, instead of being limited by guaranteed purchase agreement for 20-year period.  The Amendments also requires large energy users to install renewable power generation, energy storage facilities in proportion with their energy consumption, which can be substituted with the purchase of renewable energy certificate or the payment of cash allowance. | Chinese Taipei will continue with its commitments on promoting relevant reform programs by focusing on deregulation and institutional innovation to comply with international best practices and standards. | | |
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| ***Investment*** | 1. “*The Negative List for Investment by Overseas Chinese and Foreign Nationals*” was amended in 2010, 2012, 2013 and 2018. These amendments removed a considerable number of limitations or restrictions on foreign investors. 2. From 2018 to 2019, Chinese Taipei conducted a comprehensive evaluation of “*Statute For Investment By Foreign Nationals*”. Now, the draft has been submitted to the Executive Yuan for approval. 3. On 29 July 2019, Chinese Taipei promulgated the “*Regulations for Verification of Investment by Overseas Chinese and Foreign Nationals*” to simplify administrative procedures and increase the flexibility in the use of funds for investors and domestic companies. 4. Chinese Taipei in July 2018 restructured its investment authorities and established “InvesTaiwan” as a single-window platform to assist investors. It works with a wide range of public and private stakeholders to provide customized services for investors, and assists in investment dispute and complaint resolution. This platform also has a three-level administrative coordination mechanism that was created to deal with ad hoc investment issues in order to ensure prompt and efficient implementation of investment projects. 5. Chinese Taipei invites relevant stakeholders to work collaboratively to assist investors in resolving investment obstacles. The stakeholders include its overseas offices, industry associations, foreign chambers of commerce in Chinese Taipei, intermediation service providers, (such as banks, lawyers' associations, accounting associations, and investment consultants), local departments of land administration, local governments, the Taiwan Power Corporation and the Taiwan Water Corporation. 6. Chinese Taipei has signed 32 BIAs or FTAs/RTAs with other economies and they all incorporate National Treatment and Most- Favored-Nation Treatment in relation to foreign investment to promote investment liberalization and facilitation. |  | | |
| Website for further information: | <http://www.moeaic.gov.tw/>  <https://investtaiwan.nat.gov.tw/> |  | | |
| Contact point for further details: | 1. Tel:886-2-2389-2111#611   Email: jfpu@moea.gov.tw   1. Tel:886-2-3343-5700   E-mail: ylhung@moeaic.gov.tw |  | | |
| ***Standards and Conformance*** | 1. For the 99 target international standards under the SCSC’s 7th Voluntary Action Plan for alignment work, Chinese Taipei has aligned 72 of its national standards with international ones. 2. Chinese Taipei has adopted WTO/SPS principles for the implementation of food sanitation regulations. 3. By late December 2019, Chinese Taipei established or revised the following food safety-related standards: 4. 7,244 Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for 380 pesticides; 5. 1,439 MRLs for 142 veterinary drugs; 6. Scopes, limits, and specifications of usage for 792 types of food additives; 7. 29 food sanitation standards. | 1. Chinese Taipei will continue to align its standards with international standards in accordance with SCSC’s decisions. 2. Chinese Taipei will continue establishing or revising food safety-related standards, including those on residues of veterinary drugs and pesticides, the scope and application standards of food additives, and sanitation standards for other products. | | |
| Website for further information: | <http://www.bsmi.gov.tw/wSite/mp?mp=2>  <http://www.fda.gov.tw/> | |  | |
| Contact point for further details: | 1. E-mail: intl@bsmi.gov.tw   Tel: 886-2-23434560   1. Tel:886-2-2787-7276   Email:http://faq.fda.gov.tw/Message/Default.aspx | |  | |
| ***Customs Procedures*** | **Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Certification and Management System**  Chinese Taipei has established mutual recognition of AEOs with the US, Singapore, Israel, Korea, Australia, Japan, and India. Chinese Taipei is working hard to establish mutual recognition of AEOs with other economies in order to enhance supply chain security. There were 768 AEOs in Dec. 2019 (402 General AEOs; 366 Security and Safety AEOs).  **Cargo Movement Security Project**   1. Chinese Taipei Customs has carried out the “Cargo Movement Security Project” since 2010. This project adopts passive and active RFID e-Seal and information and communication technologies to monitor the movement of import, export, transit, and transshipment containers. Chinese Taipei Customs implemented RFID e-Seal systems at Keelung harbor, Taipei harbor, Taichung harbor, Kaohsiung harbor and Taoyuan International airport at the end of 2012. 2. RFID e-Seal systems can replace physical escorts for Customs and reduce operational costs for shipping companies. This project improves security control, enhances the efficiency of container transportation, and tangibly benefits Customs authorities, port authorities, and shipping companies. 3. Chinese Taipei Customs deployed a new e-seal mechanism in 2017 to seal standard and non-standard containers, as well as other transport containers that do not have a locking bolt with electronic paper seals. The seal, which combines a paper seal with RFID electronic components that adopts NFC (Near Field Communication) specifications, can be encoded and scanned with a smart phone to reveal information on the containers. It is easy to deploy and can be performed anywhere.   **Customs-Port-Trade (CPT) Single Window**   1. To promote trade facilitation and security, in 2013, Chinese Taipei implemented the Customs-Port-Trade (CPT) Single Window which is a single entry point for traders to lodge electronic documents related to import, export, and transit of goods to meet regulatory requirements. CPT is not just a fully automated customs administration system, it also provides a variety of useful one-stop services for traders, such as e-payment for duties, and serves as an enquiry window for the processing status of their declarations. 2. The CPT Single Window has interconnected 28 government agencies, while serving as a platform for information sharing to enable better border management. 3. Regarding the progress of Single Window Interoperability, since 2014, Chinese Taipei has conducted cross-border data exchange with partner member economies by utilizing the CPT Single Window so that it not only ensures data accuracy, integrity, and security but expedites the clearance of goods between two parties. | |  | |
| Website for further information: | http://web.customs.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=1  http://aeo.customs.gov.tw/aeo/HomeIndex.aspx  <http://portal.sw.nat.gov.tw/PPL/> | |  | |
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| ***Intellectual Property Rights*** | 1. In order to effectively help domestic industries quickly keep track of technology trends, TIPO launched the "Global Patent Search System" on January 1, 2018. GPSS is a one-stop multinational patent search platform containing information on more than 53 million patent cases from IP5, WIPO and TIPO. Using different search grammars, the system helps users access accurate patent information and serves as the basis for enterprises to build their R&D and patent portfolio. 2. On February 1, 2018, TIPO and the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO) launched the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) MOTTAINAI. This program provides applicants with more efficient examination services. 3. In order to expedite the paperless process, TIPO completed the set up of an online examination system for substantive examination of invention patents in October 2018, conducted systematic correction and testing, and provided education training. Launched in 2019, the new system will help examiners review the contents of application documents online in real time and will remarkably limit the requirement of access to paper case files. This will further improve examination efficiency and achieve the "paperless" goal. 4. Article 19 of the Enforcement Rules of the Trademark Act was amended and promulgated on June 7, 2018. TIPO now has the authority to publish the Classification of Goods and Services according to the latest headings of classes under the International (Nice) Classification of Goods and Services published by WIPO to simplify the legal procedures for the classification change of goods and services. 5. In order to strengthen collective management organizations and MSMEs’ competitiveness in the digital age, TIPO applied for APEC funding for the first time to implement "the Best Licensing Practices of Collective Management Organizations (CMOs) to MSMEs" project. In October 2018, TIPO held a workshop in Taipei, inviting experts from international CMOs to share their licensing experiences. Twenty-seven representatives from 13 economies, and more than 350 domestic participants including those from the industry and government officials attended the workshop. A booklet was completed in November and was provided to every economy as a reference in December. 6. The MOU on patent dossier information exchange between TIPO and JPO was signed in November 2018. The service will be officially provided to the public starting in January 2021. Patent applicants will be able to use the application number or publication number of an application to view its patent family, list of examination documents, and the content of the documents. 7. Based on changes to global trends and to make patent examination practices more robust, some Articles of the Patent Act were amended and promulgated on May 1, 2019 and came into effect on November 1. The key revisions include: 8. The scope of applicability of division following the approval decision was expanded from invention patent to utility model patent. The application period was extended from 30 days to 3 months following the approval. 9. Supporting measures were added to improve efficiency in examining invalidation cases. 10. Period of post-grant amendment to utility model patent and examination of the amendment was changed from formal examination to substantive examination. 11. The term of design patent was extended from 12 to 15 years. 12. The preservation and retention period and destruction of patent files were amended to solve the problem of insufficient file storage space. 13. The MOUs on the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) and on the Design Patent Priority Document Exchange (PDX) between TIPO and JPO were signed on Oct. 30, 2019. They provide applicants with more efficient and convenient examination services. From May 1, 2020, they will be changed to a permanent cooperation plan and continue to provide the applicants of both sides with more stable and convenient PPH service. | | 1. Enhancing patent and trademark examination to stay abreast of international standards; improving examination efficacy and quality. 2. Staying aware of global IPR trends; drawing up policies that support industrial development. 3. Strengthening IP bilateral relations with our important trade and investment economies to enhance international cooperation. | |
| Website for further information: | https://www.tipo.gov.tw/tw/mp-1.html | |  | |
| Contact point for further details: | Tel:886-2-2376-6138  Email: ivyho00727@tipo.gov.tw | |  | |
| ***Competition Policy*** | 1. At the end of 2019, Chinese Taipei handled 56,668 cases relating to anti-competitive and unfair practices as well as illegal multi-level marketing. Among these, 40,027 were complaints filed by the public, 4,670 were investigations initiated by the Fair Trade Commission (FTC), 4,714 were interpretation of law cases, and 7,257 involved applications or notifications for concerted actions or mergers. These figures demonstrate the government’s resolve in upholding fair trade in Chinese Taipei. 2. The FTC completed at least four technical assistance activities, including training courses, for the Philippines, Mongolia, Indonesia, and the Kingdom of Eswatini from 2018 to 2019. The FTC also organized regional seminars in collaboration with the KPPU (Indonesia) and the Malaysia Competiiton Commission (MyCC) to implement capacity building programs in the Asia-Pacific region. 3. In response to the development of the new-emerging business model in the era of digital economy, the FTC set up a "Digital Economy and Competition Policy Task Force" in April 2017 to discuss potential competition issues arising from the digital economy. In the short term, the "Digital Economy and Competition Policy Task Force" will collect and study relevant literature, research, or report on digital economic issues published by major international competition authorities and international organizations such as the OECD, ICN, and APEC. The FTC will also hold symposiums to consult with external stakeholders to clarify competition issues that may be involved in the sharing economy, e-commerce, big data and platform economy, etc. In the long term, the Task Force will pay close attention to the trend of international competition enforcement and the dynamic development of the digital economic industry, and review relevant competition regulations to evaluate the necessity of amendment or formulate specific laws and regulations so as to build a comprehensive competition regime and maintain the competition order. 4. The FTC has assisted government departments in reviewing all laws and regulations under their respective jurisdictions in order to provide an environment for fair market competition and enforce the competition policy. 5. The FTC actively held regular meetings and workshops with local competent authorities, and organized regional promotion and training seminars for industrial, academic, government, and consumer organizations to foster awareness and communication. 6. The FTC consistently promoted the Fair Trade Act through announcements and messages, promotional materials, fixed-point billboards, transit media, magazines, video-sharing website, online platforms, and apps to enhance the general public’s awareness of the FTA. | | 1. The FTC will actively investigate anti-competition and unfair practices to maintain the orderliness of competition and business transactions in industries and apply economic analysis to violation cases to enhance the quality of investigations and the stringency of law enforcement. 2. The FTC will strengthen the transparency of information relating to competition policies and laws and strengthen the transparency of competition by:    1. Continuously reviewing fair trade regulations and effectively investigating actions that severely restrict competition.    2. Conducting statistical surveys on market structures and industrial activities; and    3. Expanding the current channels and adopting new media tools to advocate competition policies and laws to foster the transparency of relevant laws and regulations. 3. The FTC will establish communication and interaction with different sectors and monitor selected industries, including developments in the digital economy industries, so as to create a fair competition environment in the market. 4. The FTC will keep participating actively in the APEC region and seek to sign multilateral agreements with relevant APEC member economies to improve mutual cooperation in the area of competition law and work toward the liberalization of regional trade. 5. The FTC will continue to support APEC/CPLG related missions and promote regional cooperation of competition laws and policies. 6. The FTC will continue to expand the international competition policy database by: 7. Compiling information on competition policies and laws; 8. Routinely maintain and update the database; 9. Publishing the Competition Policy Newsletter regularly. 10. The FTC will continue to offer technical assistance in competition policy/law to developing member economies by organizing regional technical exchange activities or offering competition law training courses and committing itself to contributing as much as possible to APEC objectives, i.e. free and open trade investment. | |
| Website for further information: | <http://www.ftc.gov.tw/internet/main/index.aspx> | |  | |
| Contact point for further details: | Tel: 886-2-2351-7588 # 463  Email:tricia@ftc.gov.tw | |  | |
| ***Government Procurement*** | An amendment to the “Government Procurement Act” was promulgated on May, 22, 2019. The amendment covers the following: improvement to procurement process, adjustment of the suspension period of debarred suppliers, and other provisions related to procurements for art or cultural purposes, social welfare services, conservation of natural resources and protection of environment. | | Nil. | |
| Website for further information: | https://www.pcc.gov.tw/en/ | |  | |
| Contact point for further details: | Tel : 886-2-8789-7582  Email: hychen@mail.pcc.gov.tw | |  | |
| ***Deregulation/Regulatory Review*** | **General policy**   1. To allow stakeholders sufficient time to express opinions, in October 2016, the preview period for draft laws and regulations was increased from 14 days in principle to 60 days, and the handling of such is constantly monitored. Chinese Taipei is working to remove barriers to enterprise investment and building a regulatory environment that is effective and that provides convenience for the people, focusing initially on review of interpretative orders, administrative directives and regulations. From October 2017 to December 31, 2019, ministries/agencies together had put forward 559 deregulation results. 2. In line with APEC’s Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) Action Plan, Chinese Taipei has since conducted self-reviews annually with reference to the World Bank’s Doing Business and APEC study reports. Related regulations and administrative procedures are reviewed, then reform plans drawn up and promotion by relevant agencies coordinated. Currently, Chinese Taipei is implementing reform programs to improve the business environment for 2020. 3. In response to emerging technological trends and developments of new business models internationally, Chinese Taipei has, with reference to the EU’s A European Agenda for the Collaborative Economy (2016), drawn up the “Regulatory Adjustment Reference Principles for Executive Yuan-subsidiary Agencies in Response to the Development of Platform Economy,” which clarifies issues relating to new platform business models by each agency in line with its area of responsibility, and its review and adjustment of related regulations. The aim is to build a good regulatory environment conducive to industrial growth. In addition, with respect to important aspects of the digital economy, issues of concern and suggestions from business associations are collected and, with reference to international digital economy development trends, concrete strategies are formulated and regulatory adjustment promoted.   **Review of Existing Regulations**   1. To remove obstacles to enterprise investment in a practical way so as to optimize the domestic investment environment, Chinese Taipei undertook deregulation between 2018 and 2019 on 365 regulations; the main achievements are as follows: 2. Providing enterprises operational flexibility: 3. Chinese Taipei amended the Negative List for Investment by Overseas Chinese and Foreign Nationals, allowing Overseas Chinese and foreigners to invest in food crop and ship leasing businesses; 4. Amended the Regulations for Verification of Investment by Overseas Chinese and Foreign Nationals, relaxing the authorization procedure for installment investment; 5. Amended the Regulations Governing Company Registration and Regulations Governing the Certification and Management of the Authorized Economic Operators, and simplifying the registration procedure for foreign companies; 6. Amended the Regulations Governing the Certification and Management of Authorized Economic Operators, shortening the time required for the branch of a foreign company to be qualified as an Authorized Economic Operator, allowing various customs clearance benefits to be enjoyed; 7. Amended the Regulations Governing Payment of the Reciprocation Fund for the Development and Utilization of Hillsides, making feedback fund collection reasonable to reduce enterprise investment costs. 8. Optimizing the entrepreneurship environment: 9. Issued an interpretative order, allowing limited companies to issue stock with a par value under NT$1 to allow startups to attract early stage investment with the “low capital contribution for high allotment of shares” method; 10. E-commerce was added as a type of business listed on the OTC market to assist domestic startups raise funds. 11. Increasing manpower use flexibility: 12. Amended the Regulations Governing Visiting, Residency, and Permanent Residency of Aliens and Regulations Governing Nationals without Registered Permanent Residence in the applying for the Entry Permit, Residence Certificate and Permanent Residence Certificate for Household Registration, lengthening the period of residence for foreign professionals who leave their jobs, and overseas compatriot and foreign students who want to look for a local job after graduation; 13. Issued interpretative orders increasing the types of jobs foreigners do not need a permit for and relaxing the scope of multinational companies for which foreigners can work and requirement for the employment of foreigners in 5+2 industry companies to attract outstanding foreign talent to work. 14. Refining the tax regime 15. Amended the B Checklist for Goodwill Recognition, establishing a consistent standard for goodwill examination and determination principle; intended to reduce disputes and ease the operational burden of the taxpayer, and create an environment that is more merger and acquisition-friendly. 16. Amended the Scope of Major Infrastructure Projects Under the Act for Promotion of Private Participation in Infrastructure Projects, widening the scope of major investment projects under the Act and applicable tax preferential treatment to attract private investment. 17. The main results of business environment reform (Ease of Doing Business) are: 18. Exempted company or persons-in-charge seals for company registration applications; 19. Released the orders that financial, securities, and insurance industries and exchange-listed and OTC-listed futures commission merchants and non-financial industry companies that have issued stocks in accordance with Security Exchange Act shall have independent directors; emerging stock companies in the non-financial industry shall have independent directors from January 1, 2020; 20. Launched the ADR Organization Enquiry Platform; 21. The e-service certification system now allows government agencies, legal persons and banks to submit applications for their accounts on the e-lawsuit platform for access to the platform with GCA, XCA and MOEACA certificates for presentation of lawsuit documents; 22. The e-lawsuit system now includes natural persons as litigation agents and allows government agencies, legal persons and banks to bring civil lawsuits online via the e-filing portal. 23. To help startups clarify the uncertainty about the legal landscape upon which emerging business models will be built, Chinese Taipei has established the Startup Regulatory Adjustment Platform on October 18, 2017. It allows startup operators to file clarification requests online or in writing. The government (National Development Council) has hold meetings at which the competent authorities and startup operators can communicate face-to-face to speed up confirmation of the applicability and restrictions of regulations and thus provide a quality investment environment that facilitates the growth of startups. A case from 2019 was the promotion of regional revitalization through coordination with competent authorities to produce interpretative directives, clarifying feasible ways of engaging in agricultural, tribal village or other experiential activities by regional revitalization business operators without involving the licensing requirement for travel agencies, to assist young people return to their home areas to start a business. | **General policy**   1. Promotion of regulatory reform: By aligning with international norms as the objective and with the aim of increasing overall benefits, regulatory review will be carried out to help Chinese Taipei integrate into the international economic and trade system and enhance the people’s well-being. 2. Strengthening implementation of Good Regulatory Practice (GRP) and referring to the reform experience of international organizations, adjustments of related mechanisms will be planned from the whole government perspective to improve the quality of regulations and build a good regulatory environment.   **Reform of Industry/Sector Specific Regulations**   1. To meet the call of the 3rd APEC-wide EoDB reform (2020-2023), Chinese Taipei is actively planning business environment reform programs for 2020 that will build a friendlier environment for doing business. Content related to the five priority areas proposed by the United States (registering property, getting credit, protecting minority investors, enforcing contracts, and resolving insolvency) includes: amending the Personal Property Secured Transaction Act, facilitating the establishment of commercial courts, and so on. 2. In order to break down regulatory obstacles to the development of related industries, Chinese Taipei is continuing to assist startups clarify questions about applicable regulations through the “Startup Regulatory Adjustment Platform.” Through related research, international regulatory trends are also understood to serve as reference in promoting regulatory reform. | | |
| Website for further information: | https://www.ndc.gov.tw/en/default.aspx | |  | |
| Contact point for further details: | Tel:886-2-2316-5483  Email:apecdop@ndc.gov.tw | |  | |
| ***Implementation of WTO Obligations/ROOs*** | 1. To promote transparency and provide the public with better access to basic information, Chinese Taipei Customs has posted up-to-date ROO information on the website. 2. The information on the website is categorized into Non-Preferential and Preferential Rules of Origin. Preferential Rules of Origin include “Rules of Origin for Least-Developed Countries” and “Rules of Origin for Free Trade Agreements.” Chinese Taipei will update this information on a timely basis and ensure predictable and consistent application of rules of origin. | |  | |
| Website for further information: | <https://eweb.customs.gov.tw/cp.aspx?n=0546649C8F2D44B4> | |  | |
| Contact point for further details: | 1. Tel: 886-2-2550-5500#2531   Email: 008924@ customs.gov.tw   1. Tel:886-2-2397-7233   Email: ctboft@gmail.com   1. Tel:886-2-2397-7215   Email: YuTing@trade.gov.tw   1. Tel: 886-2-23228185   Email: tfl@mail.mof.gov.tw | |  | |
| ***Dispute Resolution*** | Chinese Taipei continues to engage in investment promotion and protection agreement negotiations with other economies. Chinese Taipei also has modified regulations to improve investment treatment and transparency of regulation. | | Chinese Taipei is putting more effort into providing facilities for international and domestic commercial arbitration and conciliation, and in promoting arbitration and conciliation as alternatives to litigation for the settlement of commercial disputes. | |
| Website for further information: | https://www.moj.gov.tw/mp095.html | |  | |
| Contact point for further details: | 1. Tel: 886-2-2191-0189#7207   Email: tseng620@mail.moj.gov.tw   1. Tel:886-2-2389-2111#611   Email: jfpu@moea.gov.tw | |  | |
| *Mobility of Business People* | 1. Chinese Taipei joined the ABTC scheme in August 2001 and started issuing ABTC in May 2002. As of 31 Dec. 2019, Chinese Taipei had approved 30,176 APEC Business Travel Cards and completed the pre-clearance processing for 693,324 applications from other APEC economies. 2. 13 APEC economies are eligible for Chinese Taipei’s Visa-Exempt Entry program for a stay of up to 14 days, 30 days or 90 days. | | Chinese Taipei plans to launch the 3rd generation e-Gate in 2020. The 3rd generation e-Gate is a method of immigration clearance open for all outbound travellers. With the new e-Gate system, Chinese Taipei can offer a more efficient immigration clearance service. | |
| *Website for further information:* | <http://www.boca.gov.tw> | |  | |
| *Contact point for further details:* | 1. Tel:886-2-2343-2896   Email: [cychen03@mofa.gov.tw](mailto:cychen03@mofa.gov.tw)   1. Tel:886-2-2388-9393#2917   Email:shamita2819@immigration.gov.tw | |  | |
| *Official websites that gather economies’ information* | Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics:  <http://eng.dgbas.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=2>  Department of Statistics, Ministry of Economic Affairs:  <http://www.moea.gov.tw/Mns/dos_e/home/Home.aspx>  <http://www.cbc.gov.tw/ct.asp?xItem=856&CtNode=480&mp=2>  <http://www.cbc.gov.tw/np.asp?ctNode=507&mp=2> | |  | |
| Website for further information: | <http://eng.dgbas.gov.tw>  <http://www.boca.gov.tw> | |  | |
| Contact point for further details: | Tel:886-2-2380-3475  Email: [jun06@dgbas.gov.tw](mailto:jun06@dgbas.gov.tw)  Tel:886-2-2388-9393#2917  Email:shamita2819@immigration.gov.tw | |  | |
| ***Transparency*** | **General policy**  To allow stakeholders sufficient time to express opinions, in October 2016, the preview period for draft laws and regulations was extended from 14 days in principle to 60 days, for which administration is being continually monitored.  **Promoting the internationalization of accounting information and enhancing its transparency**   1. On 17 July 2018, Chinese Taipei published an order specifying that IFRSs, IAS, and IFRIC or the SIC be implemented in 2019. 2. Chinese Taipei held 9 promotional events for enterprises, media and juristic persons in 2018. The Q & As during these events have already been published on the website for reference. 3. To enhance the comparability and usability of financial information, Chinese Taipei has made it mandatory for listed companies to use the XBRL format beginning with their semi-annual financial reports for 2010. Moreover, to further enhance financial reporting readability, the specification has been transformed to the Ionline XBRL format since 2019. In addition, to ensure that financial information is compatible with international practices, Chinese Taipei signed an agreement with the IFRS Foundation to translate the IFRS Taxonomy. The listed companies adopting IFRSs have used the XBRL format to disclose their IFRS financial reports since 2013, and unlisted companies since 2015. | |  | |
| Website for further information: | https://www.ndc.gov.tw/en/default.aspx  <http://www.fsc.gov.tw/> | |  | |
| Contact point for further details: | 1. Tel:886-2-2316-5437   Email:wei@ndc.gov.tw   1. Tel:886-2-8968-0823   Email: [international@fsc.gov.tw](mailto:international@fsc.gov.tw) | |  | |
| **RTAs/FTAs** | | | | |
| ***- Agreements under negotiation*** | none | | |
| ***-*** ***Future plans*** | 1. As a highly liberal economy, Chinese Taipei strongly pursues free trade on a mutually beneficial, open, and fair basis. In order to achieve such goals, we strive to participate in regional economic integration. 2. Regarding economic integraton in the APEC region, the CPTPP collectively accounted for 25% of our total trade in 2019, representing 29% of total imports and 22% of total exports. CPTPP members welcome any state or separate customs territory that is willing to comply with CPTPP standards to join as a new member. Chinese Taipei has made various institutional adjustments based on the CPTPP's high standards, and our regulations are now in line with the standards of the agreement. Chinese Taipei will continue to deepen cooperation with CPTPP members, strengthen bilateral economic and trade relations, and seek multifaceted support to join the CPTPP to our best effort. | | |
| Website for further information: | none | | |
| Contact point for further details: | Tel: +886-2-23977211  Email: [pohsuan@trade.gov.tw](mailto:pohsuan@trade.gov.tw) | | |
| ***Other voluntary reporting areas*** | **Supply Chain Connectivity**   1. To enhance supply chain security, Chinese Taipei has established mutual recognition of AEOs with the US, Singapore, Israel, Korea, Australia, Japan and India, thus improving the benefits from trade facilitation, supply chain security, and connectivity.   **Enhancing logistics services**   1. Chinese Taipei improved the capabilities of the international logistics service industry by encouraging local logistics service providers to adopt innovative ideas, operation modes and various ICT technology applications so as to provide customers with professional and value-added logistics services. The value-added services and the freight transfer logistics models at Free Trade Zones, which were initiated in 2017, enable logistics service providers to improve their efficiency of Less than Container Load (LCL), container loading, and importing/exporting processing. It is expected that more foreign and local cargos will be dispatched, transferred and value-added at Free Trade Zones in the future. All in all, this program has helped logistics service provides increase sales by NT$0.15 billion in 2017. 2. Chinese Taipei promoted e-commerce logistics with the upgrading and transformation of local e-commerce logistics in 2017, which enabled EC companies to apply automatic picking and tallying technologies and routing systems for their distribution centers to meet the demand of quick response in the EC world. In addition, to promote cross-border e-commerce, this program helped EC companies shorten the arrival time between Chinese Taipei and Malaysia from 7 days to 4 days and cooperated with two Malaysian companies to establish two overseas warehouses. On the whole, the program helped companies increase export sales by NT$0.6 billion in 2017. |  | | |
| Website for further information: | https://eweb.customs.gov.tw/ |  | | |
| Contact point for further details: | Tel:886-2550-5500#2566  Email:007126@ customs.com.tw  Tel: 886-2-2321-2200 #8763  E-mail: cywu@moea.gov.tw |  | | |