| **Individual Action Plan Update for Chinese Taipei for 2018** |
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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 2016 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 5,786 items or 63% of the Schedule. Among these, 2,669 items or 29% of the Schedule are tariff free (updated 1 Jan. 2017). 3. The average nominal tariff rate of all products is 6.36%. Among these, the average nominal tariff rate of agricultural products is 14.91% and industrial products is 4.21% (updated 1 Jan. 2017). 4. The average trade-weighted tariff for all goods is 1.98%, and the average effective tariff rate is 1.57% (updated 10 Jan. 2017).   **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 rate of tariff lines with tariff quotas for all lines is 0.4%.   **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% on 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 attachment of the list of the relevant 201 products and tariff concession product items which went into force on 20 May 2016. | **Applied Tariffs**   1. Chinese Taipei actively participated in the agricultural, non-agricultural, and ITA Expansion negotiations in the WTO. Further reduction of tariff rates is expected in accordance with the outcome of the WTO Doha Round negotiations. | | |
| Website for further information: | | <http://web.customs.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=1>  https://web.customs.gov.tw/News.aspx?n=00B1FC12C8BDBDBE&sms=8B21287C7D016EC8 |  | | |
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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 3 Jan. 2018,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*** | | 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,” which allows our companies more flexibility on hirng foreign talent, and makes it easier for foreign talent to live, work, and stay in Chinese Taipei. This policy is expected to create favorable 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), and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).   Chinese Taipei relaxed provisions originally stipulated in the “Compliance Approval Regulations on Controlled Telecommunications Radio-Frequency (RF) Devices” on 7 June 2017 and “Regulations for Administration on Type II Telecommunications Business” on 13 April 2017 through the following measures:   1. Introducing a simplified Declaration of Conformity for a subset of low-power RF devices, such as Bluetooth wireless keyboards, computer mice, headsets, camera remote controls, stylus pens and speakers using DC power. 2. Relaxing restrictions on the eligibility of natural persons to apply for equipment authorization. 3. Permitting e-labelling for all RF devices equipped with a screen. 4. Allowing Mobile Virtual Network Service Operators (MVNOs) to provide mobile broadband service. 5. Relaxing restrictions on communication services provided by MVNOs, which are no longer constricted to voice communication services.   **Foreign Exchange Management / Movement of Capital**   1. As of 23 March 2016, insurance enterprises may disburse foreign currency loans as one of the participants of a foreign currency syndicated loan. 2. As of 28 April 2016, authorized banks and post offices under the Chunghwa Post Co. Ltd. shall act in accordance with the “Money Laundering Control Act” and relevant rules when performing domestic and cross-border outward/inward remittance business. 3. Since 29 March 2017, Chinese Taipei has allowed securities firms to engage in NTD spot foreign exchange transaction business, and responsively amended the “Regulations Governing the Declaration of Foreign Exchange Receipts and Disbursements or Transactions”. 4. On 4 January 2018, Chinese Taipei promulgated the “Directions Governing Authorized Banks for Operating Foreign Exchange Business through Electronic and Communication Equipment”. 5. As of 6 January 2018, authorized banks may allow customers to open digital foreign currency savings accounts via the internet.   **Creation of an open and efficient capital market**   1. Implementing several measures that encourage domestic and foreign institutions to issue international bonds in the Chinese Taipei securities market. 2. Helping young people to achieve their dreams and providing more diverse sources of funding for innovative micro-enterprises, the Taipei Exchange (TPEx) was authorized to manage and supervise the equity crowdfunding market by amending the Regulations Governing the Operation of Equity Crowdfunding by Securities Firms. 3. Enabling investing to be more convenient for foreign investors, encouraging foreign investors’ participation in the bonds and mutual fund markets, and thereby expanding the size of Chinese Taipei’s securities market, specific provisions of the Regulations Governing Investment in Securities by Overseas Chinese and Foreign Nationals were amended on 11 Feb. 2014. 4. Facilitating securities firms’ efforts to increase the business of their offshore securities units and develop distinctive products that will attract non-residents 5. Allowing investors to execute long-day trades and short-day trades, and relaxing rules to expand the scope of securities allowed for day trading 6. Permitting the Taiwan Futures Exchange (TAIFEX) to launch a series of FX and offshore equity index futures   **Encouraging insurance product innovation**   1. To encourage product innovation and accelerate the product review process： 2. Amended “Regulations Governing Pre-sale Procedures for Insurance Products” and related rules to shorten the prior-approval procedure 3. Extended the exclusive selling period for innovative insurance products in July 2015 4. Allowed faster review procedures for new insurance products according to differentiated supervisory principles for insurers that have demonstrated sound financial capabilities and good risk control 5. To encourage insurers to design and develop health management products that have a spillover effect on health   **Amendments to the Electricity Act**  Amendments to the Electricity Act were passed in January 2017 to enable step-by-step reform of the electricity industry as a supporting pillar for energy transition.  The first priority of the Amendments is to liberalize the supply of green energy within 1 to 2.5 years, while renewable energy will be allowed to be sold to users directly from generators. Also, all users of electricity will be granted the right to purchase power among different suppliers, including public utilities, renewable power generation companies or renewable power retailers. | 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 Foreign Nationals* was amended successively in 2010, 2012 and 2013. These amendments removed a considerable number of limitations or restrictions on foreign investors. The latest review has reduced the list to less than 4% of manufacturing categories and less than 7% of service industries. 2. In 2017, Chinese Taipei conducted a comprehensive evaluation of *The Negative List for Investment by Foreign Nationals*. Now, the draft has been submitted to the Executive Yuan for approval. 3. In addition, to facilitate the current approval process for FDI, Chinese Taipei is undertaking to amend *The Statute for Investment by Foreign Nationals*. Future amendments will revise foreign investment regulations from “approval beforehand” to “notification afterwards in principle, approval beforehand in exception.” |  | | |
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| 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 24 target international standards under the SCSC’s Voluntary Action Plan 2014-2018 for alignment work, Chinese Taipei has aligned 22 of its national standards with the international ones. 2. Chinese Taipei has adopted WTO/SPS principles for the implementation of food sanitary regulations. 3. By late December 2017, Chinese Taipei established or revised the following food safety-related standards: 4. 6,499 Maxim Residues Limits (MRLs) for 379 pesticides; 5. 1,456 MRLs for 144 veterinary drugs; 6. Scopes, limits, and specifications of usage for 794 types of food additives; 7. 40 food sanitation standards. | 1. Chinese Taipei will continue to align national 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/> | |  | |
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| ***Customs Procedures*** | | **Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Certification and Management System**  Chinese Taipei has already established mutual recognition of AEO with the US, Singapore, Israel, and Korea. Chinese Taipei is working hard to establish mutual recognition of AEO with other economies in order to enhance supply chain security. There were 696 AEOs in Dec. 2017 (336 General AEOs; 360 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. This seal combined a paper seal with RFID electronic components, which adopts NFC (Near Field Communication) specifications, can be encoded and scanned to reveal its message about the containers with a smart phone. It is easy to deploy and not limited to locations.   **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, or inquiries about 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/> | |  | |
| Contact point for further details: | | 1. Tel: (02) 2550-5500#2566   Email:007126@customs.gov.tw   1. Tel: (02) 2550-5500#2962   Email:007526@customs.gov.tw   1. Tel: (02) 2550-5500#2445   Email:008608@customs.gov.tw | |  | |
| ***Intellectual Property Rights*** | | 1. On 1 January 2016, the revised Patent Attorney Act entered into force to expand areas of practice, impose more severe punishments on patent attorney malpractices and simplify administrative procedures. 2. On 1 January 2016, a mechanism for electronic exchange of priority documents was set up between TIPO and KIPO to simplify international application procedures. 3. As of 15 April 2016, the PPH Mottainai program between TIPO and the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (SPTO) was extended for three years. The program will be automatically implemented. 4. On 1 July 2016 TIPO’s electronic service for patent and trademark documents went 24/7 to allow for more flexible downloading service to users. 5. An amendment to the Patent Act was promulgated on 18 January 2017 and came into force on 1 May 2017. Major revisions to the Patent Act include:    1. The existing grace period for filing invention patent and utility model patent applications was extended from 6 months to 12 months.    2. Invention patents, utility model patents, and design patents eligible to request for grace periods can now be publicly disclosed with or without the applicant’s intent.    3. To prevent applicants’ interests being nullified due to their failure to state a claim, provisions requiring that an applicant “has to claim the disclosure at the time of filing a patent application” has been removed from the Act, to better protect the rights of applicants. 6. On 22 February 2017, Chinese Taipei and the US signed an MOU to strengthen cooperation on combatting intellectual property infringement and trade fraud crimes. This MOU will enable Chinese Taipei’s prosecution, police, investigation, and customs authorities to work even more closely with their counterparts in the US on investigations of cross-border and new types of crimes. 7. As of 1 March 2017, people no longer need to apply to TIPO for a copyright inspection certificate before they export audiovisual works in order to save money and streamline export customs procedures. 8. On 20 March 2017, Chinese Taipei’s TIPO started a new section on its website dedicated to information regarding geographical marks. In this section, people can find information such as a pamphlet about the basics regarding geographical marks, guidelines for applications and relevant samples, samples regarding the regulations governing the use of the geographical marks, and a list of products with registrations for geographical marks. 9. On 1 May 2017, the PPH Mottainai pilot program between TIPO and the JPO was extended for three more years, in order to continue providing this convenient and efficient PPH service to respective applicants. 10. On 1 August 2017, the PPH Mottainai program between TIPO and the Polish Patent Office (PPO) commenced. 11. In August 2017, with TIPO’s coordination and facilitation efforts, the Taipei Association of Advertising Agencies (TAAA) and the Taiwan Intellectual Property Alliance (TIPA) signed an MOU on the Infringing Website List (IWL) in the hope of disrupting the flow of revenue of infringing websites, curbing online infringement, and protecting the brand image of brand owners. 12. On 1 December 2017, TIPO and the UK IPO signed an MOU on the deposit of biological materials for the purpose of patent procedure. This mutual recognition thus lessens the burden of patent applicants having to repeatedly make deposits in respective economies. | | 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: | | http://www.tipo.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=2 | |  | |
| Contact point for further details: | | Tel:886-2-2376-6147  Email: tina00714@tipo.gov.tw | |  | |
| ***Competition Policy*** | | 1. In response to the changes to the merger control regime of the amendments to the Fair Trade Act (FTA) on 4 February 2015, the Fair Trade Commission (FTC) reviewed and amended the “Thresholds and Calculation of Sales Amount which Enterprises of a Merger shall File with the Fair Trade Commission” in 2016. The FTC increased domestic turnover thresholds for non-financial sectors and financial sectors, and adopted a standalone threshold including the global scale of merging parties. 2. Furthermore, to make merger review more discreet and comprehensive, the amendments to Article 11 of the FTA on 14 June 2017 revised the merger review period from 30 days to 30 working days, as well as added regulations which stipulate that the FTC may consult opinions from the public when conducting merger reviews. With regard to hostile acquisitions, if one of the merging parties disagrees to the merger, the FTC shall provide necessary information to that party in advance and consult its opinions. | | 1. The FTC will actively investigate anti-competitive 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 regulatory enforcement. 2. The FTC will strengthen the transparency of information relating to competition policies and laws, and strengthen the transparency of competition by: 3. Continuously reviewing fair trade regulations and effectively investigating actions that severely restrict competition; 4. Conducting statistical surveys on market structures and industrial activities; 5. Expanding the current channels and adopting new media tools to advocate competition policy and law and foster transparency of relevant laws and regulations; and 6. Continuously reviewing fair trade regulations and effectively investigating actions that severely restrict competition. 7. The FTC will establish positive communication and interaction by 8. Expanding the current channels and adopting new media tools to advocate competition policy and law and foster transparency of relevant laws and regulations; and 9. Improving and expanding the APEC Competition Law and Policy Database, and ensuring the integrity of its data. | |
| 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*** | |  | |  | |
| Website for further information: | | https://www.pcc.gov.tw/en/ | |  | |
| Contact point for further details: | | Tel : 886-2-8789-7585  Email: karen.cho@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 extended from 14 days in principle to 60 days, for which administration is being continually monitored. Chinese Taipei is working to remove barriers to enterprise investment and build a regulatory environment that is effective and convenient for the people, beginning with finance and economic regulations and initially focusing on review of interpretative orders, administrative directives and regulations. Since October 2017, finance and economic related ministries and agencies have been required to report the review results of deregulations that are tangible to the people every two weeks. As of 8 January 2018, related ministries/agencies had together put forward 194 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 2018. 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, as well as 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. Between 2016 and 2017, Chinese Taipei completed review of over 2,000 suggestions made by domestic and foreign chambers of commerce, coordinated government response with respect to finance, retail, human resources, medical devices, pharmaceuticals, and automobiles, and held over 40 consultation meetings. The main results are as follows: 2. Tax and finance: 3. The Financial Technology Innovation and Experiment Act was drawn up to help bring about the world’s first financial regulatory sandbox law. 4. The application process for offshore income tax deduction has been simplified and an electronic Withholding Income Tax Statement has been introduced. 5. The Money Laundering Control Act has been amended to include the identification and monitoring of well-known politicians; and the Anti-Money Laundering Office, Executive Yuan has been established. 6. Insurance brokers and insurance agents are now allowed to use digital signatures when handling electronic mobile device insurance. 7. Pharmaceuticals and medical devices: 8. The Pharmaceutical Affairs Act has been amended by setting up a drug patent linkage system. 9. Regulations have been eased with regard to Drug Master File (DMF) substitute documents. 10. Retail: 11. The tariff on Hard Disk Cameras has been revoked. 12. The prior-approval mechanism for cosmetics advertising has been revoked. 13. Chemicals: 14. Established a single registration window for chemical substances and coordinated related regulatory adjustments to avoid repetitious regulations; 15. Added industrial and commercial secret protection regulations to existing regulations on chemical substances registration; 16. Made reference to international practices and planned for a good registration system for chemical substances; 17. Adopted management registration according to quantity grade or registration exemption for the manufacture or importation of “Polymers of Low Concern.” 18. Agricultural chemicals: The pesticide data protection period has been increased from eight to 10 years (legislative process currently underway). 19. Talent (manpower): 20. The Recruitment and Employment of Foreign Professional Talent Act has been enacted, requirements have been eased for National Health Insurance Scheme applications by accompanying family members of foreign professionals posted in Chinese Taipei and bringing foreigners who are permanent residents within the scope of the Labor Pension Act. 21. Work attendance recording regulations for work outside of the workplace have been relaxed. 22. Regulations of Labor Health Protection have been revised, allowing enterprises with over 300 employees to handle health service matters using specially engaged medical personnel. 23. Automotive industry: Incentive and subsidy measures for reduced carbon emission vehicles have been established, and vehicle noise control standards brought in line with international norms. 24. The main results concerning business environment reform are: 25. Directions on the Processing of Applications for Electricity Supply to Buildings under a Certain Size have been amended, shortening the waiting time for contractors to complete external work for underground lines. 26. Stewardship Principles for Institutional Investors have been announced, and Corporate Governance Best Practice Principles for TWSE/TPEx Listed Companies have been amended to help companies raise the level of corporate governance. 27. Guidelines Regarding Implementation of The Verified Gross Mass of a Container Carrying Cargo have been set based on the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS). 28. Guidelines on Use of Fax or Other Technological Devices for Civil Lawsuit Documents have been amended to comply with initiation of the civil lawsuit filing of the online filing and document transmission platform. 29. 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. It allows startup operators to file clarification requests online or in writing. The government (National Development Council) will then 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. 30. The main achievements with respect to regulatory adjustment to provide a friendly regulatory environment for digital economy related industries and entrepreneurship are as follows: 31. Nationality Act has been amended, conditionally allowing high level professionals in each field to hold dual nationality. 32. The Value-added and Non-value-added Business Tax Act has been amended, stipulating that foreign businesses that sell cross-border labor online to a natural person buyer in Chinese Taipei should carry out tax registration in Chinese Taipei to facilitate control of tax sources. 33. The Fundamental Science and Technology Act has been amended, relaxing regulations governing public academic and research institutions’ self-disposal of income (stock) from their scientific research and restrictions relating to the holding of concurrent positions to encourage public schools and legal persons to release the results of research or patents, or set up a new company or cooperate with a startup. 34. The Act for the Recruitment and Employment of Foreign Professional Talent has been enacted, relaxing regulations on visas, residence, insurance, tax pensions, etc. to make Chinese Taipei’s work environment friendlier. 35. The Financial Technology Innovative Experimentation Act has been drawn up, giving legal exemption and establishing related administrative regulations within a specific scope and time period for FinTech innovative experiments and to promote Fintech development. 36. The Regulatory Adjustment Reference Principles for Executive Yuan-subsidiary Agencies in Response to the Development of Platform Economy have been set, providing reference for the Executive Yuan’s subsidiary agencies to carry out regulatory adjustment. 37. Legislation and amendment work currently under way: 38. Drawing up the Information and Communication Security Act to enhance information and communication security regulations; 39. Drawing up the Digital Communication Transmission Act and Telecommunication Administration Act in response to digital convergence trends; 40. Amending the Copyright Act, adjusting tangible and intangible use power and reasonable use regulations to increase intellectual property rights protection in the digital era; 41. Amending the Civil Aviation Act to bring drones (unmanned aerial vehicles) inside the scope of applicability in response to drone development trends. | **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 further the people’s well-being. 2. Strengthening implementation of Good Regulation Practice (GRP), referring to the reform experience of international organizations, adjustment of related mechanisms will be planned from the perspective of the whole government to improve the quality of regulations and build a good regulatory environment.   **Reform of Industry/Sector Specific Regulations**   1. In order to meet the target of APEC’s EoDB action plan (2016-2018) and reduce time, costs and processes by 10% before 2018, Chinese Taipei is actively planning business environment reform programs for 2018 that will build a friendlier environment for doing business. Content related to the five main areas (starting a business, dealing with construction permits, getting credit, trading across borders, and enforcing contracts) includes:   (1) Studying the removal of the seal of the company and person in charge on the company’s registration form;  (2) Simplifying the building permit application process to shorten the time required;  (3) Studying the feasibility of reform measures for the property secured transaction system;  (4) Continuing to streamline the customs clearance process and facilitate import and export C2 paperless declaration;  (2) Simplifying the building permit application process to shorten the time required;  (3) Studying feasibility of reform measures for the property secured transaction system;  (4) Continuing to streamline the customs clearance process and facilitate import and export C2 paperless declaration;  (5) Studying the establishment of commercial courts.   1. 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:886-2-2316-5437  Email:wei@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 ROOs 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*** | |  | |  | |
| 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. 2017, Chinese Taipei had approved 18,249 APEC Business Travel Cards and completed the pre-clearance processing for 465,631 applications from other APEC economies. 2. Nationals of 60 countries, including 12 APEC economies, are eligible for Chinese Taipei’s Visa-Exempt Entry program for a stay of 14 days, 30 days or 90 days, respectively. 3. Chinese Taipei launched its eVisa Program on 12 January 2016. This Program greatly streamlines the visa application process and is applicable to nationals from 23 countries as of January 2018. 4. Chinese Taipei established the APIS system at end of July 2011 and started a trial run of the system. Since 1 Sept. 2011, all air carriers flying to and from Chinese Taipei have transmitted APIS information to National Immigration Agency.   Chinese Taipei established the interactive APP system in Sep. 2013 and required all departure flights to electronically transmit passenger’s check-in data to the National Immigration Agency in real time.  In order to pre-check passengers before arrival, Chinese Taipei implemented the Inbound Advanced Passenger Processing System (APP-IN) in Aug. 2017.   1. Chinese Taipei launched the Automated Immigration Inspection System (E-Gate) for Chinese Taipei passport holders on 1 Jan. 2012, for foreign residents on 3 Sep. 2012, and for U.S. Global Entry members on 1 Nov. 2017 for immigration clearance. E-gate uses facial images and fingerprints to verify travelers’ identity. 2. Chinese Taipei launched the Biometric Verification System on 1 August 2015 at main airports and seaports to collect, store, and authenticate biometric data of foreigners and prevent imposters and identity fraud from entering the borders. | |  | |
| *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> | |  | |
| Contact point for further details: | | Tel:886-2-2380-3475  Email: [jun06@dgbas.gov.tw](mailto:jun06@dgbas.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 14 July 2017, Chinese Taipei published an order specifying that IFRSs, IAS, and IFRIC or the SIC be implemented in 2018. 2. Chinese Taipei held 6 promotional events for enterprises, media and juristic persons in 2017. The FAQs 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. In addition, to ensure that financial information is compatible with international practices, Chinese Taipei has already 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 IFRSs 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** | | | | | |
| ***-*** ***Description of current agreements*** | | Chinese Taipei signed the Agreement on Economic Cooperation with the Republic of Paraguay on 12 July 2017 and is expected to enter into force by 28 February 28 2018. | | |
| ***- Agreements under negotiation*** | |  | | |
|  | ***Agreement #1*** |  | | |
| ***Agreement #2*** |  | | |
| ***Agreement #3*** |  | | |
| ***Agreement #4*** |  | | |
| ***-*** ***Future plans*** | |  | | |
| Website for further information: | |  | | |
| Contact point for further details: | | 1. Tel: 886-2-2389-1999#3203   Email:wclee@ey.gov.tw   1. Tel: 886-2-2397-7251   Email:jh13@trade.gov.tw   1. Tel: 886-2-2397-7293   Email:anyi@trade.gov.tw | | |
| ***Other voluntary reporting areas*** | | **Supply Chain Connectivity**   1. To enhance supply chain security, Chinese Taipei has already established mutual recognition of AEO with the US, Singapore, Israel, and Korea, thus improving the benefits from trade facilitation, supply chain security, and connectivity.   **Enhancing logistics services**   1. To build capabilities of the international logistics service industry by encouraging the 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 the Free Trade Zones, which were initiated in 2017, enable logistics service providers to improve their efficiency of Less than Container Load (LCL), container loading, importing/exporting processing. It is expected that more foreign and local cargos will be dispatched, transferred and value-added at the Free Trade Zones in the future. All in all, this program has helped logistics service provides to increase sales by NT$0.15 billion in 2017. 2. To promote e-commerce logistics with the upgrading and transformation of local e-commerce logistics in 2017, which enabled EC companies to apply the automatic picking and tallying technologies as well as the routing system for their distribution centers to meet the demand of quick responses 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 cooperate 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: | | <http://web.customs.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=1> |  | | |
| 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 |  | | |