

Introduction and Reference of ‘Responses from all sectors to the ranking result of the 2011 Corruption Perception Index (CPI) of Taiwan, published by Transparency International, and the direction for future improvements’

The Taiwanese government has achieved success with the efforts to establish a clean government; in accordance with the ranking results of the 2011 Corruption Perception Index (CPI) published by Transparency International (TI) on December 1st 2011, and which has ranked 183 countries and areas (5 more countries were ranked after 2010). It is the first time that Taiwan has scored 6.1, which is an improvement of 0.3, and thus becomes one of the five countries with the highest number of improvement points added which are: Taiwan, Norway, Rwanda, Georgia and Chad. This score is the highest one that Taiwan has ever achieved during the 17 years since the CPI was first launched in 1995. Taiwan is ranked as number 32, and was ranked as number 33 with a score of 5.8 last year; an increase of one number. This range of progress is the biggest one within the Asia-Pacific area, and it is now the third consecutive year that the rank of Taiwan has improved.

Accordingly, it is emphasized that ‘Taiwan joining the club of score 6 is a significant achievement’ and indicates that ‘The improvement of 0.3 points is an effective and actual one’ states Mr. Ran Liao, senior head of the East Asia and South Asia regional department of Transparency International. Spokesman of the President’s Office, Fan Chiang Tai-chi representing

President Ma also said that it was not easy for any country to continually make progress in this highly competitive ranking; it is a precious moment for Taiwan because the improvement shows that the goal of a 'clean government' and one which has been pursued for the 3 years since President Ma's team took up office, has been internationally recognized and approved. The President appreciated the efforts of the Ministry of Justice, Agency Against Corruption, the Prosecutor General Huang Shih-Ming, and all ethics officers, as well as the cooperation of all governmental officers.

However, the President also indicated that compared to countries or other high ranking areas such as New Zealand, Singapore, Hong Kong, etc, Taiwan still had plenty of room for improvement. Therefore, for the purpose of establishing a 'clean government' and making it a norm in Taiwan, more active and progressive projects need to be realized in the near future: people's expectations for a clean revolution will be reached, all new judicial reform plans will be continually processed, a citizen-friendly judicial environment will be achieved, and a society with justice will be created. The above are merely the main projects for helping Taiwan to continually improve; in addition, the press will actively promote such an approach with the use of headlines or eye-catching titles.

For the past several years the government has strived to establish a clean government and an honest society: the 'National Integrity Building Action Plan' was legislated and announced, the setting up of the 'Central Integrity Commission', the 'Ethics Directions for Civil Servants' was implemented, the

'Anti-Corruption Statute' was amended, the 'Bribery committed regardless of whether the person who commits it is a government official or one who has been commissioned to handle public affairs or not' and the 'Property crimes of unknown origin' were added, and the 'Money Laundering Control Act' was also amended; more recently, on July 20th 2011, the Agency Against Corruption, Ministry of Justice was established to actively process all projects for the clean revolution. Additionally, in order to make the legal provisions for a clean government more certain and effective, the 'Act on Property-Declaration by Public Servants' and 'Act on Recusal of Public Servants Due to Conflicts of Interest' have been discussed with a view towards amendment, and 'The Anti-Corruption Informant Rewards and Protection Regulation' has been evaluated and amended; furthermore, the reporting of attempted bribes will be set as an incentive in the near future.

The commitment of anti-corruption must be real and strong; anything that may block the way such as concerns regarding reputations must be removed and relevant actions for carrying out the anti-corruption should be allowed to progress. Currently the Agency against Corruption and its Government Ethics Setup, Ministry of Justice have actively discovered more corruptions. For example, serious corruptions such as researchers at the National Palace Museum were suspected of copying disks which had been categorized as a national treasure without permission, a district prosecutor was suspected of accepting bribes for covering up dealers' illegal acts, a member

of the construction license review committee of a local government was suspected of demanding bribes, staff in a laboratory of a researching authority were suspected of receiving subsidies by means of fraud, a doctor in a public hospital was suspected of submitting dishonest surgical fees for receiving National Health Insurance subsidies by means of fraud, and staff responsible for school lunches in junior high and elementary schools were suspected of accepting bribes etc.

The fact that Taiwan's ranking result this year is better than the results of the past three years proves that the direction made towards the clean revolution has been correct and actual successes have been achieved, though there is still room for improvement. Since the Corruption Perception Index of each country is essentially affected by the assessments and opinions made by international managers and experts, references taken into consideration for the survey of the CPI are mainly these three assessing aspects: whether a country is or not 'putting the anti-corruption law into practice', 'insuring the disclosure of information', and 'preventing conflicts of interest'. Therefore, in order to reach the goal of establishing 'a clean government, an honest society, and a clean community' in order to create positive conditions so as to join the countries who boast highly clean governments, several actions must be taken in the future.

The Agency against Corruption and its Government Ethics Setup, Ministry of Justice will not only keep implementing positive Acts such as the Act on Property-Declaration by Public Servants and the Act on Refusal of Public Servants Due to

Conflicts of Interest etc, but also will keep promoting all programs in accordance with 'The United Nations Convention against Corruption' and the 'National Integrity Building Action Plan' implemented by the Executive Yuan, and will complete the provisions for operating anti-corruption of all authorities, and will actively make the anti-corruption mechanism more completed, as well as enhance the participation of communities , private sectors and business to work together and to reach the goal of establishing a clean and honest government.

Appendix : The Comparison between the
1995-2011'Corruption Perception Index' of Taiwan and
other Asia-Pacific countries

Table 1 The ranks and scores of the 1995-2011 'Corruption Perception Index' (CPI) of Taiwan

Year	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Score	5.08	4.98	5.02	5.3	5.6	5.5	5.9	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.8	6.1
Rank	25	29	31	29	28	28	27	29	30	35	32	34	34	39	37	33	32
Country ranked	41	54	52	85	99	90	91	102	133	146	159	163	180	180	180	178	183
Percentile Rank (PR)	40	46	40	66	72	69	70	72	77	76	80	79	81	78	79	81	83

Note 1 : The Transparency International, by the method of statistics, obtained the ranking results from the combination of several surveys and expert assessments, put the results into an index 0-10, and then ranked the countries. 10 indicates the cleanest government while 0 indicates the most unclean government. This index shows the subjective perspective regarding whether a country has a clean government or not.

Note 2 : Percentile Rank (PR) 83 indicates being superior to 83% of the countries ranked; this method applies to all.
 (Reference : <http://www.transparency.org/>)

The ranks and scores of the 1995-2011 'Corruption Perception Index' (CPI) of Taiwan

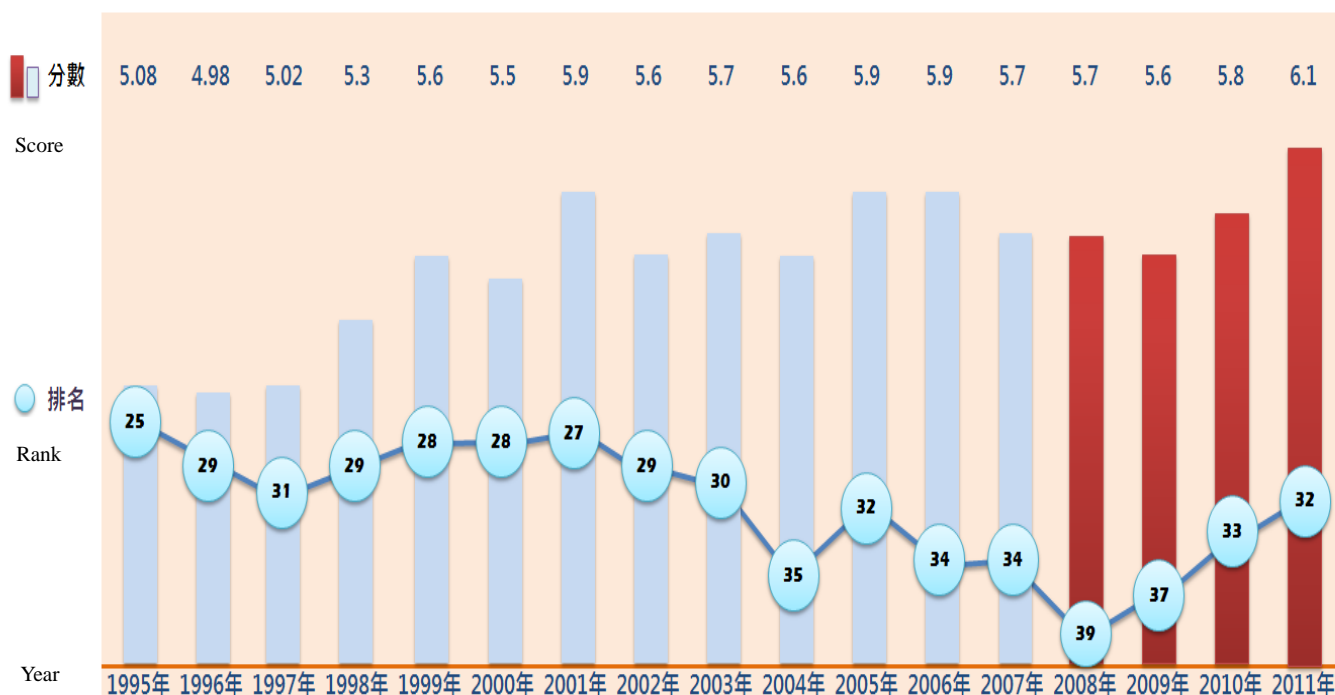


Table 2 Comparisons among the 1995-2011 ‘Corruption Perception Index’ (CPI) of the main countries in Asia-Pacific area

Country	Rank Score	Year																	2010~2011 change
		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
New Zealand	rank	1	1	4	4	3	3	3	2	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
	score	9.55	9.43	9.23	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.5	9.5	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.4	9.3	9.4	9.3	9.5	+0.2
Singapore	rank	3	7	9	7	7	6	4	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	3	1	5	-4
	score	9.26	8.8	8.66	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.2	9.3	9.4	9.3	9.4	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.2	9.3	9.2	-0.1
Australia	rank	7	10	8	11	12	13	11	11	8	9	9	9	11	9	8	8	8	0
	score	8.8	8.6	8.86	8.7	8.7	8.3	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.8	+0.1
Hong Kong	rank	17	18	18	16	15	15	14	14	14	16	15	15	14	12	12	13	12	+1
	score	7.12	7.01	7.28	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.9	8.2	8	8	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	0
Japan	rank	20	17	21	25	25	23	21	20	21	24	21	17	17	18	17	17	14	+3
	score	6.72	7.05	6.57	5.8	6	6.4	7.1	7.1	7	6.9	7.3	7.6	7.5	7.3	7.7	7.8	8.0	+0.2
Taiwan	rank	25	29	31	29	28	28	27	29	30	35	32	34	34	39	37	33	32	+1
	score	5.08	4.98	5.02	5.3	5.6	5.5	5.9	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.8	6.1	+0.3
South Korea	rank	27	27	34	43	50	48	42	40	50	47	40	42	43	40	39	39	43	-4
	score	4.29	5.02	4.29	4.2	3.8	4	4.2	4.5	4.3	4.5	5	5.1	5.1	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.4	0
Macao	rank	Not Ranked											26	34	43	43	46	46	0
	score	Not Ranked											6.6	5.7	5.4	5.3	5.0	5.1	+0.1
People's Republic of China	rank	41	50	41	52	58	63	57	59	66	71	78	70	72	72	79	78	75	+3
	score	2.16	2.43	2.88	3.5	3.4	3.1	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.6	+0.1

Note : The change between 2010~2011 compares the rank and score of 2011 with those of 2010. plus (+) represents improvement, minus (-) represents falling, and 0 represents no change.
 (Reference : <http://www.transparency.org/>)