

## **1209 International Anti-Corruption Events**

### ***Anti-corruption forum for developing taxing transparency and integrity hosted by the Ministry of Finance***

In order to enhance the professional knowledge, legal understanding, and self-discipline of accountants, bookkeepers, agents of bookkeeping and tax filing, and create communication channels between National Tax Administration branches in different areas and the agencies under their jurisdiction, and to promote enterprise integrity and administrative transparency, as well as draw attention to the forum with different stages, the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Finance hosted a forum on developing taxing transparency and integrity on Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The forum aimed to form a consensus on anti-corruption policy and improve cross-industry cooperation. Approximately 120 people participated in the forum.

Chen Ming-Tang, Deputy Director of the Ministry of Justice implied that administrative transparency is the goal of countries all around the world. The Executive Yuan has also listed administrative transparency into interior goals for enforcing the rules, in order to enhance exterior supervision and self-discipline of public institutions. Through cooperation between public and private institutions, the occurrence of corruption can be lowered, while gaining public trust. According to a 2015 survey conducted by Transparency International Chinese Taipei, tax specialists ranked 6<sup>th</sup> place in the 25 general types of government officials, which had been the case for three

years consecutively (2013-2015). It showed the public awareness of the integrity of tax specialists.

At the forum, Hong Pei-Gen, Deputy Director-General indicated that the AAC had proposed the draft of processing the principle of the Executive Yuan and related institutions, and is currently being evaluated by the Executive Yuan. Once it is verified, it will be applied to all government institutions to increase its transparency. In promoting tax administration, once the process of re-evaluation and punishment becomes transparent, the public will be able to perceive the progress of their cases and how they are handled. It would increase agencies and public trust for taxing specialists.

Wu Zih-Hsin, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Finance mentioned that accountants, bookkeepers, and agents of bookkeeping and tax filing are the necessary bridge between taxing institutions and taxpayers, and the key to public trust and government integrity. In order to enhance the cooperation between public and private sectors, and encourage companies to put emphases on integrity and self-discipline, and increase administrative transparency.

Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Justice invited Transparency International Chinese Taipei to co-host 16 forums all over each National Taxation Bureaus, starting from July this year. The participants included employees of the National Tax Administration and representatives from various guilds. Many related issues will be brought up in the forum for discussion. It is hoped that through such discussions, service quality and administrative transparency can be improved.

In addition to having Transparency International Chinese Taipei present on Administrative Transparency and Integrity Governance and its results, Zheng Chao-Kai, Chief Secretary of AAC also invited Transparency International Chinese Taipei and representatives from branches of the National Tax Administration and middle agencies for discussion. They would exchange their opinions on increasing the trust between tax collectors and taxpayers, enhancing the administrative transparency of taxing institutions, publishing former cases in a proper degree, and reinforcing agencies' support from middle agencies on taxing works and anti-corruption tasks.



【Photo from the event】

Chen Ming-Tang, Deputy Director of Ministry of Justice (right 6), Wu Zih-Hsin, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Finance (left 5), Hong Pei-Gen, Deputy Director-General of AAC (right 5), Zheng Chao-Kai, Chief Secretary of AAC (right 4), Ou Jian-Chih, Director of Department of Civil Service Ethics, Ministry of Finance (right 3), Chen Chun-Ming, Executive Director of Transparency International Chinese Taipei (right 2), Tsai Chao-Lin, Chairwoman of Tax-Accountancy Association Union, ROC. (right 1), Huang Ming-Chao, Chairman of Bookkeepers Guild (left 1), Chen Fu-Wei, Chairman of Public Accountant Guild (left 2), Ho Rei-Fang, Director of National Taxation Bureau of Taipei, Ministry of Finance (left 3), Lee Chin-Hua, Director-General of the Taxation Administration (left 4).



【Chen Ming-Tang, Deputy Director of Ministry of Justice speaking.】



【Permanent Secretary Wu of Ministry of Finance giving his speech.】





**【Photo of the Participants】**

**Zheng Chao-Kai, Chief Secretary of AAC (left 4), Lu Jhen-Siou, Deputy Director-General of Taxation Administration (left 5), Hong Dong-Wei, Deputy Director of National Taxation Bureau of Kaohsiung (right 3), Fang Kai-Hong, Deputy CEO of Transparency International Chinese Taipei (right 2), Liu Guang-Ji, Director of AAC (right 1), Ho Rei-Fang, Director of National Taxation Bureau of Taipei. (left 3), Lei Li-Wei, Deputy Director of National Taxation of the Central Area (left 2), Hsu Ning-You, Deputy Director of National Taxation of Southern Area (left 1).**