

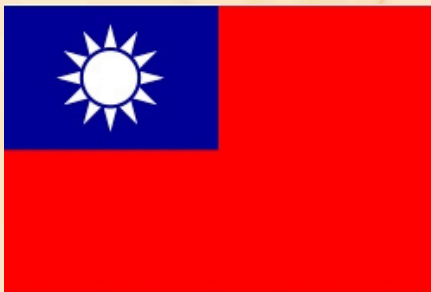
February, 2025



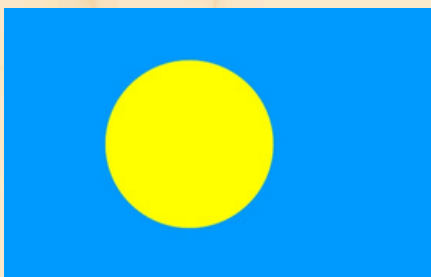
Newsletter

*The General Chamber of  
Commerce of the R.O.C*

## News of the month



**1.The National Chamber of  
Commerce presents  
「 2025 Lunar New Year Fellowship  
Gathering for Business  
associations 」**



**2.Minister of State Palau Gustav  
Aitaro Head a Delegation enhance  
Tourism and Business Development**



**中華民國全國商業總會**

*General Chamber of Commerce of the Republic of China*

# **The National Chamber of Commerce presents 「 2025 Lunar New Year Fellowship Gathering for Business associations 」**

The eight major commercial presents a 「2025 Lunar New Year Fellowship for Business Associations」 event together in Howard Hotels at 2025/2/14, General Chamber of commerce of the Republic of China Chairman Paul Hsu 、 Chinese National Federation of Industries Chairman Pan, Jyun-Rong、 The Chinese National Association of Industry and Commerce Chairman Thomas Wu、 The National Association of Small & Medium Enterprises Chairman Lee Yu-Chia、 Taiwan federation of industry Chairman Ye, Jheng-Yan、 Taiwan Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association Chairman Richard Lee、 The Manufacturers United General Association of Industrial Park of R.O.C Chairman Lai, Bo-Sih、 Taiwan External Trade Development Council Chairman Huang, Zhi-Fang and almost 450 representatives from the business and industrial sectors participated in the grand event.

On the other side about government represent William Lai was invited to attend, marking President Lai's first appearance at the Lunar New Year gathering of the eight major business associations since taking chair.

Also, Secretary General to the President Pan, Meng-An、 Foreign Minister Lin Chia-Lung、 Minister of labor Hung, Sun-Han、 Minister of Environment Peng, Ci-Ming、 Ministry of Digital Affairs Yen-Nun Huang、 Overseas Community Affairs Council Chairman Xu, Jia-Qing、 Transport Vice Minister Wu, sheng-yuan、 Vice minister of agriculture Du, Wun-Jhen、 National Development Council Deputy Chairperson Fang-Guan Jan、 Mainland Affairs Council Deputy Chairperson Li, li-jhen and more government officials attended the event.



## ***Chairman Paul Hsu mentioned...***

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This year's Lunar New Year networking event for industrial and commercial groups is hosted by the National Association of Commerce of the Republic of China. With Chairman Paul Hsu delivering a speech centered on the themes of "stability" and "peace." He expressed gratitude for the outstanding contributions of the business community to Taiwan's economic growth and social development over the past year.

Due to the high uncertainty of the current global landscape—particularly with the ongoing U.S.-China trade war—the world is increasingly shifting toward pragmatism. Chairman Hsu said that facing new policies introduced by the Trump administration and the continued rise of emerging economies, Taiwan's products and services are encountering even serious competition. As a result, the stable development of industries has become even more critical to ensuring national economic and social stability.

As for Taiwan-U.S. relations, Chairman Hsu welcomed the continued progress following the implementation of the first batch of agreements under the U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade last year. He expressed hope for the swift signing of a Taiwan-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and emphasized Taiwan's need to actively pursue membership in international economic and trade organizations to avoid marginalization.

He also pointed out that as Taiwan has no match between the rivalry of U.S. and China, it cannot afford confrontation. Only through national stability, cross-strait stability, and stable interactions with the international community can make Taiwan's economy continue to thrive.

Addressing the current state of cross-strait relations, Chairman Hsu stressed that the business community hopes for positive interactions and peaceful exchanges between people and trade on both sides. He emphasized that cross-strait peace and stability would allow Taiwan's business sector to grow and expand globally, while also encouraging international investment in Taiwan. He urged that cross-strait exchanges be resumed as soon as possible, as dialogue is essential for further negotiations and for enhancing the well-being of all citizens.

Chairman Hsu highlighted that as Taiwan's economy continues to grow—particularly with the expansion of semiconductors, AI, and other high-tech industries—the demand for electricity and energy will only increase.

## ***Additionally...***

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The business sector has become more aware of Taiwan's energy security risks due to global energy market volatility caused by geopolitical issues such as the Russia-Ukraine war and tensions in the Middle East. He noted that ongoing cross-strait tensions could further impact maritime transport security, posing additional challenges to Taiwan's energy supply.

There is 97% of Taiwan energy relies on imports, making it essential for the government to reassess its energy policies. Without proper adjustments, continuous electricity price hikes will impose significant operational pressure on businesses, indirectly leading to higher consumer prices and weakening domestic consumption momentum.

During the event, Chairman Paul Hsu conveyed to President William Lai the challenges faced by the business sector, including the persistent labor shortage, which has seen no significant improvement. The business community hopes that the government will promptly propose practical solutions—whether through further easing migrant labor restrictions, adjusting working hours, or implementing other measures—while maintaining close communication with industry representatives.

Additionally, the expansion of carbon footprint verification regulations to cover convenience stores, department stores, transportation, and hospitals has gradually extended decarbonization pressures to consumer-related industries, fundamentally impacting the long-term planning of SMEs. The government should allocate policy resources to assist SMEs in low-carbon transformation, enabling them to enhance green competitiveness alongside large enterprises.

Chairman Hsu emphasized that a strong economy requires more than just investing in Taiwan; it demands a global vision with a solid local foundation. The five major markets—the U.S., China, Europe, Northeast Asia, and Southeast Asia—along with the rising African market, should be strategic priorities for Taiwan's industries. Only by expanding abroad and strengthening their foundations can businesses truly demonstrate their commitment to Taiwan.



## *The president respond.....*

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Addressing the current political tensions between parties in Taiwan, Chairman Paul Hsu stressed that "Harmony in a family brings success to everything." Political stability is a fundamental factor in encouraging enterprises to invest more in Taiwan. Business associations once again urge rational and cooperative efforts across political lines to address critical national development issues. As Taiwan's democracy continues to deepen, it is hoped that all parties will listen to diverse perspectives and work toward resolving differences.

President William Lai, highlighted that Taiwan's economic growth rate in 2024 reached 4.3%, the highest among the Four Asian Tigers, surpassing the United States, Europe, and even the global average. He emphasized that the government will continue promoting the Three Major Investment Initiatives for Taiwan, which include welcoming overseas Taiwanese businesses to invest back in Taiwan, accelerating investment by SMEs, and encouraging local enterprises to strengthen their presence in Taiwan. These initiatives will be extended until 2027. Additionally, investment tax credits will also be extended and expanded to include startups and SMEs, while ongoing reviews will address issues related to land, water, electricity, workforce, and talent to support industrial development.

President Lai specifically outlined key policy measures for SMEs, including support for digital transformation, net-zero transition, and market expansion. Complementary measures such as inclusive finance, tax incentives, and increased funding for the SME Credit Guarantee Fund will also be provided, along with a one-stop service platform to assist SMEs. He emphasized that the government will maintain open communication with businesses, fostering unity to tackle challenges together and strengthening Taiwan's economic power. The government will also work to stabilize interest rates and exchange rates to minimize investment risks while keeping inflation and the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in check, ensuring a stable business environment for enterprises.

## *As a result.....*

Chairman Paul Hsu expressed his appreciation for the government's support of the business sector over the past year. Looking forward, he hopes that the government and industry can work together to address both new and existing challenges. The National Chamber of Commerce will continue to serve as a bridge between the government and industry, uniting businesses to fulfill both economic and social roles. He also called on the government to continue providing strong support to business associations in the coming year.





# **Minister of State Palau Gustav Aitaro Head a Delegation enhance Tourism and Business Development**

The Republic of Palau is an important ally of our country in the Pacific area. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1999, the two nations have maintained close cooperation in areas such as tourism and trade. To enhance market expansion and sustainable management for both countries, Minister of State Palau Gustav brought members such as Palau Koror state governor Eyos Rudimch, Airai state governor Norman Ngiratecheboet and Airai state parliamentary leader Ralph Kanai to pay a visit, joining hands to inject more energy into Taiwan-Palau economic and trade cooperation.

In 2025, February 8 morning, Chairman Paul Hsu brought Brands Golden Ship Award owner company to visit Palau delegation, such as green building material-Join it Management Consulting Technology Co., Ltd. CEO Xue Weili, Reclaimed water resource - Hwa Seng Bottled Water Corp CEO Hu,Duan-Yuan, Liquor industry - Hometown Liquor Corporation general manager Tsai Mu-Lin, cultural industries - Ystudio Co., Ltd. CEO Yihsien Liao and Health Supplements drinks - Food Laboratories Inc. manager Ching-Hsiang Lin to the Chairman office. They welcome distinguished visitors from afar, to showcase the strengths of Taiwanese SMEs in brand development and global expansion, while seeking international partners and establishing market channels.



# Friendship between Taiwan and Palau

Chairman Paul Hsu show that this year, General Chamber of Commerce of the Republic of China is organizing more overseas trade delegations, including missions to Vietnam and Malaysia in March, as well as Thailand and Indonesia in July. Businesses are encouraged to participate, as we continue to provide opportunities for companies to expand into international markets.

Chairman Hsu also appreciate the visit of the Palauan delegation, which has helped unite domestic brands and foster greater economic and trade cooperation. Their visit not only highlights the friendship between Taiwan and Palau, but also create the way for new chapters of collaboration in the future.

