

Chronology of Events

(August 16 - September 15)

August 2010

- 16** The Legislative Yuan held the second provisional session in the year.
- 16** US Department of Defense published its annual report to Congress Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China 2010.
- 16** Assistant Secretary of State Philip Crowley said Article 5 of the 1960 U.S.-Japan Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security applies to the Senkaku Islands.
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- 17** The Legislative Yuan approved the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement.
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- 18** With regard to how Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) drove the Legislative Yuan to approve ECFA, Tsai Ing-wen, the leader of the opposition DPP, said ECFA will be reviewed under democratic procedure should Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) regain the power.
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- 19** America's final combat brigade in Iraq - Army's Fourth Stryker Brigade, Second Infantry Division left Iraq.
- 19** The Legislative Yuan passed the amendments to allow the admission of Chinese students to Taiwan's education institutions.
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- 21** Australian federal election ended, neither Labor, the current government, nor the conservative opposition Liberal party had enough members to call a government. Both have to rely on the Green Party and independent members to form a coalition.
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- 22** A Bahamian-registered survey ship belonging to Shanghai Offshore Oil Bureau conducted surveys in Japan's Economic Exclusive Zone around the Senkaku Islands.
- 22** North Korea's official Rodong Sinmun (Labor Daily) ran a long poem hailing and praising Kim Jong-in, the son of Kim Jong-il.
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- 23** A Hong Kong tourist group facilitated by Hong Thai travel agency was held hostage in Manila, the Philippines. The day ended with 8 dead and 7 injured.

- 23 The Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan announced that the unemployment rate for July is 5.2 percent.
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- 24 President Ma Ying-jeou has appointed Lai Hao-min President of the Judicial Yuan, and Su Yung-ching Vice President.
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- 25 US-Taiwan Business Council welcomed the Obama administration to approve the three arms deals for Taiwan and upgrade IDF fighters.
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- 25 The Security Committee of Japan's House of Representatives took the Japan Self-Defense Forces airplane for an airborne tour around East China Sea oil fields and Senkaku Islands.
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- 26 Ichiro Ozawa, former Chief Secretary of the Liberal Democratic Party, announced his candidacy for the president of Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ). The election was held on September 14.
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- 26 China's Ministry of Science and Technology and State Oceanic Administration jointly announced its domestically-made manned submersible "Dragon" had successfully reached 3,759 meters below sea level and planted a Chinese national flag at the bottom of the South China Sea.
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- 27 Japanese Foreign Minister Katsuya Okada led a delegation to Beijing for the third China-Japan high-level economic dialogue. With 120 members in total, the delegation included five other cabinet ministers and three vice ministers.
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- 27 Taiwan's Vice President Vincent Siew told Japan's Daily Yomiuri during his interview that the timing is too immature for Taiwan and China to rush into political dialogues.
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- 27 Taiwan has been granted full membership of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission.
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- 28 Chinese Lawyer Xie Yanyi, one of the signatories of charter 08, proposed the draft of the Party Act to China's National People's Congress. The draft forbids political parties from establishing armed forces.
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- 29 South Korean PM nominee Kim Tae-ho withdrew candidacy.
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- 30 China's Foreign Ministry confirmed the visit of Kim Jong-il, DPRK leader, to Jilin and Heilongjiang provinces of China from August 26 to 30.
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- 31 US President Obama declared the end of the US war in Iraq.
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September 2010

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Wang Yi, Director of the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council, called for the timely establishment of the Cross-Strait Economic Cooperation Council, in particular the selection of council members and council procedures. Wang emphasized that the council will operation on the four principles: equal negotiations, friendly communication, reciprocity and win-win, transparency.

1

The US deployed its military UAV Global hawk on Guam for the first time.

2

Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) said to maintain the policy that has been implemented for two years: MOFA will not bid for UN membership but for UN specialized agencies.

3

The Central Bank of Taiwan announced that the foreign reserve for August reached US\$972.063 billion, which was \$1.955 billion more than the figure for July. Taiwan's foreign exchange reserves at the end of August hit a record high for the 22nd consecutive month, and the increase largely reflected returns on the bank's investments.

4

With regard to a controversial overpass construction project in Taiwan that has impacted the mayoral election, Taipei Mayor Hau Lung-bin released the investigation report that found 176 problematic price quotations. Former office director Huang Hsi-hsun, former chief engineer Chang Li-yen, former New Construction Office section chief Chen Chih-sheng as well as Join Engineering the contractor construction company were sent to the Taipei Prosecutors Office.

5

Ichiro Ozawa, former Chief Secretary of the Liberal Democratic Party, said that Senkaku Islands never in history have been acknowledged in China territory.

6

Chinese President Hu Jintao announced at the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone that the SEZ has to drive the country's economic, political, cultural and social reforms and make breakthrough at important areas and key reforms.

7

A Chinese fishing trawler "Min Jin 5179" clashed with Japan Coast Guard patrol vessel Yonakuni and Mizuki at waters around Senkaku Islands.

7

Commonwealth Magazine has published survey results showing satisfaction rates for each county/city executive. The result showed the top six are all DPP governed counties, while the bottom twelve are all KMT governed. Yang Chiu-hsing, the Governor of Kaohsiung County was ranked 1st, the Governor of Hualien County, was ranked 7th but was the best among KMT leaders.

12

Taiwan and China exchanged the documents of the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) and the Intellectual Property Right Protection Cooperation Agreement and the two agreements started to be effective. SEF Chairman Jiang Bing-kun and ARATS Chairman Chen Yunlin, representatives of Taiwan and China, will meet for the sixth time to negotiate four other agreements including dispute-resolving mechanisms.

8

Chinese President Hu Jintao received US National Economic Council Director Larry Summers and Deputy National Security Adviser Thomas Donilon at the Great Hall of the People, signaling that China and the US are resuming civilian cooperation.

13

Taipei City Mayor Hau Lung-bin, who is currently seeking re-election, approved the resignation of Deputy Mayor Lee Yong-ping, and consultants, Chuang Wen-su and Ren Shiao-chi over growing scandals surrounding the Taipei Flora Expo.

9

In the latest TVBS poll, the DPP challenger Su Tseng-chang (45%) holds a lead over the KMT incumbent Hau Lung-bin (42%). Su is particularly supported by neutral voters, male voters, and voters aging from 30 to 39.

14

Japan Prime Minister Naoto Kan won DPJ leadership and stayed in power. He won by 721 points to Ichiro Ozawa's 491 in the election.

10

Japan published its 2010 Defense White Paper and showed its concern over Chinese Navy activities. It also pointed out that Taiwan was in the face of China's improving missile, air force and navy capabilities, so the modernization of equipments is a critical issue for Taiwan.

15

Taiwan's Department of Health released its first "Dengue News" and reported that there have been 371 dengue cases in 2010, which was higher than the 227 cases in 2009. The report suggested that the number of dengue cases may reach one thousand this year.
