

# **2024 Republic of China (Taiwan) Trafficking in Persons Report**



**August 2025**



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# **2024 Republic of China (Taiwan) Trafficking in Persons Report**

## **I. Prologue**

Due to the combined impacts of globalization, uneven economic development across countries and regions, escalating turmoil from wars and regime changes, and a widening gap between the rich and the poor, cross-border migration has increased—indirectly fueling a surge in human trafficking. In the U.S. Department of State’s 2024 Trafficking in Persons Report (TIP Report), the R.O.C. (Taiwan) retained its Tier 1 status for the 15th consecutive year. However, the report noted that “authorities’ insufficient staffing and inspection protocols continued to impede efforts to identify, investigate, and prosecute forced labor on fishing vessels in Taiwan’s highly vulnerable Distant Water Fleet (DWF)”, and emphasized the need to “continue to strengthen efforts to screen for trafficking among vulnerable populations, including foreign students and foreign workers, and refer them to protective services”, among other concerns. It also called for closing legislative loopholes, increasing efforts to prosecute and convict traffickers, and formally incorporating civil society input in addressing TIP issues.

Taiwan’s newly amended Human Trafficking Prevention Act officially took effect on January 1, 2024. The revision broadens the definition of labor exploitation offenses while simultaneously strengthening protections for the rights of trafficking victims. This dual approach reinforces Taiwan’s

anti-trafficking framework and enhances its overall effectiveness. In addition, under the supervision of the Executive Yuan, two national-level action plans are being implemented and continuously refined: the Anti-Exploitation Action Plan, led by the Ministry of the Interior and updated biennially, and the Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights, led by the Ministry of Agriculture and revised every four years. These plans provide essential frameworks for adapting Taiwan's anti-trafficking strategies and specific measures.

To further strengthen anti-trafficking efforts, Taiwan—under the Executive Yuan's guidance and through inter-agency coordination—continues to promote communication and resource sharing among government bodies, with a victim-centered protection approach as the core objective. Looking ahead to 2025, Taiwan remains committed to collaborating with the international community and civil society to combat human trafficking and uphold its human rights-based approach to governance.



## **II. Organizational Framework for the Prevention of Human Trafficking**

### **1. Central Government Coordination Mechanism**

1.1 To effectively combat human trafficking crimes and address related issues, the Executive Yuan Coordination Meeting for the Prevention of Human Trafficking was established in 2007. This Meeting serves as a platform for integrating various resources and policies, aiming to enhance collaboration with non-governmental organizations and effectively prevent human trafficking activities.

1.2 In May 2020, to further implement the principles and relevant policies of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the original Meeting was expanded and renamed as the Executive Yuan Coordination Committee on Prevention of Human Trafficking and Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The Committee is responsible for integrating and coordinating anti-human trafficking policies and resources proposed by relevant central ministries and agencies, as well as promoting partnerships between the government and civil society, in order to fully advance anti-trafficking efforts. (See Figure 1 for Taiwan's 4P Policy and Partnership Mechanism for Combating Human Trafficking)

1.3 The Coordination Committee is chaired by a Minister without Portfolio of the Executive Yuan, with representatives from the Judicial Yuan and deputy heads of 13 ministries and agencies serving as committee

members. In addition, 12 experts and scholars are appointed as standing external committee members. The National Immigration Agency under the Ministry of the Interior (NIA) serves as the Committee's Secretariat.

## **2. Local Government Coordination Mechanism**

Each local government has established a local-level liaison and coordination conference on human trafficking prevention and control and designated authorities or departments specifically to integrate the authorities, departments, and manpower related to police affairs, public health affairs, social affairs, labor affairs, and human trafficking prevention and control. These designated authorities are responsible for coordinating prevention measures, identifying locally tailored strategies and available resources, and fostering partnerships between the government and civil society. Local governments may also coordinate and invite local NGOs and representatives from central government agencies to participate in these efforts.

## **3. Thematic Coordination Mechanism**

- (1) Prosecution:** Judicial Yuan (Criminal Department, Courts), Ocean Affairs Council (Coast Guard Administration), Ministry of Justice (Prosecutors Office, Investigation Bureau), Ministry of the Interior (NIA, National Police Agency), and Ministry of National Defense (Military Police Command).
- (2) Protection:** Ministry of Labor (Workforce Development Agency), Ministry of Health and Welfare (Department of Social and Family Affairs, Department of Protective

Services), Ministry of the Interior (NIA), and domestic non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

**(3) Prevention:** In addition to the above agencies, also includes the Mainland Affairs Council, Overseas Community Affairs Council, Financial Supervisory Commission, Public Construction Commission, National Communications Commission, Council of Indigenous Peoples, Hakka Affairs Council, Veterans Affairs Council, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Digital Affairs, among other relevant agencies under the Executive Yuan.

**(4) Partnership:** Domestic and international NGOs, businesses, and governmental entities.

### **III. Achievements in 2024**

The government adopts the 4Ps approach to human trafficking: Prosecution, Protection, Prevention, and Partnership, aligning with anti-TIP strategies in most countries. The highlights of 2024 are as follows:

#### **1. Highlights of 2024**

##### **1.1 Prosecution**

1. The judicial police authorities have referred 125 cases of suspected trafficking crimes—41 involving labor exploitation, 83 involving sexual exploitation, and 1 involving attempted forced organ harvesting—to District Prosecutor's Office for investigation.

2. District Prosecutor's Office prosecuted (or public prosecutors requested summary judgment for) 249 individuals under 157 trafficking charges.
3. The number of persons convicted by the courts in human trafficking-related cases was 76.

## 1.2 Protection

1. Protection and Sheltering of Foreign Human Trafficking Victims: NIA and the Workforce Development Agency (WDA) under the Ministry of Labor collaborate with private organizations to operate 25 shelters throughout Taiwan. In 2024, these shelters provided daily care, psychological counseling, interpretation services, legal assistance, accompaniment during investigations, and necessary medical assistance to 94 newly identified foreign victims.
2. In 2024, the Judicial Police sought assistance for a total of 98 victim identifications. 12 suspected foreign crew victims were identified as non-victims by the relevant judicial police authorities (units). Disagreeing with these determinations, they filed objections with the respective superior authorities (units) via the original identification agencies (units). This marks the first such case under the newly amended Human Trafficking Prevention Act, effective on January 1, 2024.
3. The judicial police authorities provided accompanied interrogation services for 151 persons and interpretation services for 119 persons.

## 1.3 Prevention

1. Highlights of the 2023-2024 Anti-Exploitation Action

Plan:

- (1) The MOL's "LINE@1955" service broadcast a total of 360 messages. The "1955" real-time text service handled 16,736 inquiries through live agents and responded to 153,133 inquiries via the FAQ chatbot. In addition, the "1955 Hotline" Facebook page for migrant workers recorded a total user reach of 153,313.
  - (2) The Fisheries Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture (FA) conducted inspections at both domestic and foreign ports, covering a total of 739 fishing vessels and interviewing 6,165 crew members, including foreign nationals. Additionally, inspections were carried out at 351 operator premises and 50 agent offices, while 2,202 crew members were interviewed either through high-seas boarding inspections or telephone interviews. These efforts aimed to gain a clear understanding of the working conditions of foreign crew members and to verify whether operators and agents complied with relevant regulations.
  - (3) The NIA has established a "Roster of Personnel Assisting in the Identification of Suspected Human Trafficking Cases". In 2024, these identification assistance personnel were dispatched on a total of 98 instances. Among the identification results reported, 56 individuals were determined to be victims, including 5 nationals and 51 foreign nationals.
2. Key Highlights of Action Plan for Fisheries and Human

## Rights:

- (1) The NIA continues to review the research list under the U.S. Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act and monitor developments related to the subsequent 2024 List of Goods Produced by Forced Labor. Based on this, revisions to the appendix of the Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights—titled “Cooperative Mechanism for Strengthening the Combat against Human Trafficking at Sea”—are being drafted to align with regulatory and practical requirements.
- (2) In 2024, the FA subsidized the installation of CCTV monitoring systems on 396 fishing vessels, bringing the cumulative total to 678 vessels equipped. In addition, the FA promoted the installation of Wi-Fi systems on fishing vessels through subsidies and administrative guidance for crew use. As of 2024, 109 Taiwanese distant-water fishing vessels have been equipped with Wi-Fi.
- (3) In 2024, the Ministry of Labor conducted 60 inspections on labor conditions in the fishing industry and 136 inspections on occupational safety for fishery workers.

## 1.4 Partnership

### 1. Enhancing Practical Cooperation on Immigration Affairs and Combating Human Trafficking

- (1) In February 2024, the Ministry of Labor signed a bilateral labor cooperation Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with India. Both parties

agreed to exchange intelligence to prevent migrant workers from being exploited and becoming victims of human trafficking. They also committed to promoting anti-trafficking awareness and cooperating on measures to provide victims with the necessary travel documents for safe return.

- (2) As of 2024, Taiwan has signed agreements with 22 countries, including Mongolia, Indonesia, The Gambia, Honduras, Vietnam, Paraguay, the United States, the Solomon Islands, Belize, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Japan, Guatemala, Eswatini, Nauru, El Salvador, Panama, Palau, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Marshall Islands, Belgium, Australia, and the Philippines. These agreements have significantly enhanced Taiwan's international cooperation on immigration affairs.

## 2. Strengthening Transnational Symposiums and Exchange Activities

- (1) In March 2024, the Executive Yuan's Anti-Fraud Office, the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), the Ministry of Digital Affairs (MODA), the National Communications Commission (NCC), the Financial Supervisory Commission (FSC), and the National Police Agency under the Ministry of the Interior (NPA) jointly organized the "Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF) International Workshop on Combating Transnational Fraud" in collaboration with resident representative offices from countries

including the United States, Japan, Australia, and the United Kingdom. The event brought together nearly 40 officials, scholars, and experts from 24 countries involved in law enforcement or related organizations addressing transnational fraud to engage in exchanges with relevant domestic stakeholders, with approximately 270 participants attending. Through training sessions and site visits, the workshop aimed to enhance interactions between international speakers, participants, and Taiwan's government agencies, while also strengthening cross-border law enforcement cooperation mechanisms to jointly combat transnational fraud and prevent human trafficking.

- (2) In June 2024, the “2024 Mutual Legal Assistance International Conference and its Related Activities” were held, inviting prosecutors, lawyers, and coordinators from the United States, Canada, Estonia, Germany, and the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (EUROJUST) to Taiwan to share their legal systems and practical experiences. This event aimed to discuss key issues such as national security, trade secrets, artificial intelligence, and asset recovery, and to facilitate exchanges with our prosecutors, law enforcement, and judicial personnel, thereby expanding various judicial cooperation relationships with other countries and enhancing Taiwan's visibility internationally. The conference aimed to



continuously strengthen Taiwan's judicial cooperation with other countries and enhance its visibility in the international community.

## **2. Active Prosecution of TIP-Related Crimes**

### **2.1 Human Trafficking Case Investigations**

1. Since 2009, judicial police agencies have consistently assigned dedicated units to plan and coordinate operations against human trafficking. These units enhance inter-agency communication by targeting potential or suspicious locations such as illegal brokerage services, areas frequented or inhabited by foreign nationals, and establishments associated with vice activities. Protecting children and adolescents under 18 from sexual exploitation remains a top priority.
2. To combat human trafficking, the NPA has developed the “Special Implementation Plan for Strengthening the Investigation and Crackdown on Human Trafficking Brokers and Organizations” (also known as the Anti-Slavery Plan). This plan aligns with the “Executive Yuan’s Action Plan for the Prevention of Human Trafficking” and integrates the efforts of foreign affairs, criminal investigation, and women and children protection units under police authorities nationwide. Through extensive inspections and special operations, the NPA actively investigates and cracks down on human trafficking cases.
3. In 2024, judicial police agencies referred 125 human trafficking cases to District Prosecutors Office for investigation. These cases included 41 instances of labor exploitation, 83 of sexual exploitation, and 1 attempted organ harvesting. Table 1 provides a detailed breakdown of human trafficking cases referred by judicial police

agencies from 2009 to 2024.

4. To ensure the effective handling of human trafficking cases by District Prosecutors Offices and to strengthen inter-agency coordination, the Ministry of Justice tasked the Taiwan High Prosecutors Office with establishing the Supervision Task Force against Human Trafficking on January 1, 2007. The task force holds biannual meetings in June and December to review and discuss data related to the detection, prosecution, and adjudication of human trafficking cases. These meetings serve as a basis for assessing the human trafficking situation and formulating relevant investigation strategies.
5. The FA has established “Standard Operating Procedures for Receiving and Reporting Disputes on Distant-Water Fisheries with Overseas Employment of Foreign Crew Members Suspected of Violating the Human Trafficking Prevention Act”. If the agency receives allegations from foreign crew members abroad accusing a Taiwanese distant water fishing vessel of human trafficking, it will forward relevant evidence to the prosecutor’s office where the vessel is registered for investigation, with a copy sent to the Taiwan High Prosecutors Office. In 2024, the FA referred five such suspected cases to District Prosecutors Offices.

## 2.2 Prosecution and Sentencing of Human Trafficking Cases

1. In 2024, District Prosecutors Offices prosecuted (including cases resolved through summary judgments) a total of 157 human trafficking-related cases, involving 249 defendants. The prosecution trends from 2009 to

2024 are detailed in Table 2.

2. In 2024, a total of 76 individuals were convicted in human trafficking-related cases by district courts. The sentencing distribution for imprisonment was as follows:

- 3 individuals: 7 to under 10 years
- 12 individuals: 5 to under 7 years
- 35 individuals: 3 to under 5 years
- 2 individuals: 2 to under 3 years
- 18 individuals: 1 to under 2 years
- 4 individuals: 6 months to under 1 year
- 2 individuals: 6 months or less

The sentencing trends from 2009 to 2024 are detailed in Table 3.

## 2.3 Cases of Prosecution and Sentencing

### 1. Prosecution Cases

#### (1) Case: Sexual Exploitation by Lin○○ and Vietnamese National He ○○

In January 2024, prosecutors from the Taiwan Yunlin District Prosecutors Office, in collaboration with the Yunlin County Police Bureau uncovered a human trafficking operation involving Lin ○○ and He ○○. The duo operated a wellness center in Xiluo Township, Yunlin County, using a legitimate business as a front for illegal activities. The wellness center unlawfully brought in Vietnamese victims, Ms. A and Ms. B, coerced them into sexual transactions. The perpetrators charged each victim a monthly fee of NT\$5,000 for their illegal entry and stay in

Taiwan. If the victims resisted, they were threatened with contract termination and deportation. They were also forced to pay all employer-borne expenses incurred during their stay in Taiwan, including:

- Labor insurance,
- Health insurance,
- Pension contributions,
- Employment security fees.

These threats were systematically used to control and exploit the victims. The entire case was referred to the Taiwan Yunlin District Prosecutors Office for investigation under Article 31 of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act and other relevant laws. In March 2024, the prosecutor from the said office formally indicted the suspects under:

- Paragraph 4, of Article 31: Profiting from improper debt bondage,
- Paragraph 2, of Article 31: Forcing individuals into work with disproportionate compensation.

The charges also included violations of other relevant laws of Taiwan.

## (2) Case: Labor Exploitation Involving Hsu ○○ and Three Others

In 2024, under the direction of a prosecutor from the Taiwan Taipei District Prosecutors Office, the Taipei City Police Department uncovered a case

involving suspects Hsu ○○ and his brother, along with Chen ○○ and Liao ○○. Motivated by the intent to gain profit, they formed an organized fraud ring consisting of more than three individuals. The group functioned as a structured criminal organization engaging in continuous, profit-driven acts of fraud using deceptive means, specifically as money mules for fraud schemes. With a shared intent to unlawfully obtain money through fraud, money laundering, organized crime, and human trafficking, the suspects collaborated in recruitment and division of criminal responsibilities. Hsu ○○ first recruited a minor, Liao ○○, into the money mule ring and instructed Liao ○○ and Chen ○○ to recruit other minors. To coerce two minor victims, Kuo ○○ and Lee ○○, into joining the organization as collectors and cash-withdrawing mules, the suspects directed Liao ○○ and others to contact the victims via messaging apps. They forcibly detained the victims in a corrugated iron shack in Taipei City, where their freedom of movement was restricted. During their confinement, the victims were beaten with aluminum bats and watermelon knives and subjected to electric shocks with Tasers. Hsu ○○ and other perpetrators also filmed the abuse with mobile phones, further traumatizing the victims both physically and psychologically. The entire case was referred to the Taipei District

Prosecutors Office for investigation under Article 277 of the Criminal Code, Article 31 of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act, and other relevant laws. In November 2024, the prosecutor formally indicted the suspects under Paragraph 3 of Article 31 of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act, for using individuals under the age of eighteen to commit acts that are criminally punishable under the laws of the Republic of China.

(3) Case: Labor Exploitation Ring Led by Yu ○○

A human trafficking and labor exploitation ring, led by Yu ○○, operated with the intent to profit by illegally brokering foreign workers for others. In July 2023, the group facilitated illegal employment for several Thai nationals, including undocumented migrant workers and those holding overstayed visas, to perform plumbing and electrical work for Taiwanese suspects surnamed Tsai and Chiu. Yu ○○ also provided brokerage services throughout the process. Between July and November 2023, Yu ○○ took advantage of four Thai victims, who were in a vulnerable situation due to being in a foreign country, burdened with debt, unfamiliar with Taiwanese labor conditions, and limited by language barriers—making them unable, unaware, or unlikely to seek help. Although the four victims were collectively entitled to a total of NT\$516,000 in wages during

this period, they ultimately received only NT\$108,600 in total—equivalent to a daily wage of NT\$254, which was not commensurate with the labor they provided. The case was transferred to the Taiwan Taichung District Prosecutors Office in June 2024 for investigation. Subsequently, the prosecutor indicted three suspects on suspicion of violating the Human Trafficking Prevention Act.

## 2. Sentencing Cases

### (1) Case: Taiwan Taichung District Court Criminal Judgment No. 37, 2023 (Yuan Jin Su Zi)

Ji ○○, Ren ○○, Yin ○, and Bing ○○, fully aware that the victim had no intention of opening a dummy bank account, conspired—motivated by financial gain—with Ren ○○ and unidentified adult members of a fraud syndicate to illegally detain the victim. In November 2022, Ji ○○ and Ren ○○, posing as online male acquaintances, lured the victim to a Christmas event in New Taipei City. Ji ○○ drove his private car, accompanied by Ren ○○, to meet the victim. Once the victim entered the vehicle and realized the deception, she attempted to exit, but Ji ○○ had locked the doors. He then transported her to his rented residence in Hsinchu City and unlawfully detained her there. Subsequently, the victim was handed over to members of the fraud syndicate to open a dummy bank account, for which Ji ○○



received compensation from the group. During the period of detention, syndicate members escorted the victim to a commercial bank in New Taipei City to apply for an account. However, due to suspicious behavior, the application was denied, and the syndicate contacted Ji ○○ to reclaim their payment. Later, Ji ○○ and Ren ○○ once again conspired to illegally detain the victim, bringing her back to Ji's rented property. Unable to endure the unlawful confinement, the victim escaped when the door was momentarily left unlocked and sought help at the Nanmen Police Station, Third Precinct of the Hsinchu City Police Bureau.

Angered by the victim's escape and report to the authorities, Ji ○○ later discovered that she had returned to her residence in Hsinchu County. Seeking to further exploit the victim, he devised a plan to sell her to buyers outside the Republic of China for organ harvesting. Ji ○○, along with Yin ○, Bing ○○, and Ren ○○, conspired to commit a series of crimes, including human trafficking through the use of violence; attempted organ harvesting through coercion, threats, and fraud; fraudulent attempts to transport a person beyond national borders; and unlawful detention. In November 2022, Bing ○○ drove the group to Hsinchu County. Under Ji's direction, Bing ○○ and Yin ○ forcibly dragged and kicked the victim

into the vehicle. She was then transported to a rental property in Miaoli County, where Ji ○○, Yin ○, Bing ○○, and Ren ○○ guarded and detained her. On the same day, Ji ○○ sent a message via a Telegram group stating, “Looking for a stitch remover. Can handle quickly”, in an attempt to find buyers for human organs. The message was discovered by police during cyber patrol operations. The court found Ji ○○ guilty of unlawful confinement under Article 302(1) and extortion under Article 346(1) of the Criminal Code. Ji ○○, Yin ○, and Bing ○○ were convicted of the attempted sale of persons through violence under Article 296-1(6)(3) of the Criminal Code; attempted fraudulent transport of persons out of the Republic of China for profit under Article 297(2)(1) of the Criminal Code; unlawful confinement under Article 302(1) of the Criminal Code; and attempted organ harvesting by violence, coercion, or fraud for profit under Article 34(4)(1) of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act before amendment. For the sentences: Ji ○○ was sentenced to 5 years and 3 months imprisonment; Yin ○ was sentenced to 3 years and 8 months imprisonment; Bing ○○ was sentenced to 3 years and 8 months imprisonment. Ren ○○ was prosecuted separately. (Judgment Date: February 7, 2024)

(2) Case: Taiwan Taoyuan District Court Criminal

Judgment No. 64, 2024 (Su Zi)

In 2022, defendants Chuang ○○ and Lee ○○, with the shared intent to profit from fraudulently inducing individuals to leave Taiwan, joined a human trafficking syndicate. Chuang ○○ was responsible for posting false job advertisements online and arranging for deceived job seekers to leave the country. Lee ○○ was in charge of organizing the deceived individuals' passport applications in Taiwan, collecting their passports, arranging accommodation, transporting them to the airport, and monitoring their departure and boarding. The criminal organization, with the intent to use fraud to send individuals abroad, and through threats, monitoring, and deceit, forced victims into work that was grossly disproportionate to the promised compensation. The victims were transported by unidentified drivers to Taoyuan International Airport and sent to Cambodia. Upon arrival in Cambodia, members of the criminal organization took the victims to the KK Park (scam compound), confiscated their passports, and assigned them to perform scam-related work. It was only then that the victims realized they had been deceived and were not going abroad to work as online game customer service staff. Instead, they had been tricked into committing fraud. Thereafter, the victims were monitored by unknown members of

the fraud syndicate and were threatened with corporal punishment if they failed to meet performance targets, causing them to work in fear and coercion under exploitative conditions. The court found that defendants Chuang ○○ and Lee ○○ committed acts of fraudulently causing another to leave the territory of the Republic of China for purpose of gain under Article 297(1) of the Criminal Code, and the offense of attempting to using such means as intimidation, monitoring and fraud to subject another person to labor to which the pay is not commensurate with the work duty under Article 32(1) of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act before amendment. Chuang ○○ was sentenced to 2 years and 2 months imprisonment, and Lee ○○ to 4 years imprisonment. (Judgment Date: March 13, 2024)

### **3. Enhancing the Protection of TIP Victims**

3.1 Establishing a 24-hour (online) reporting or complaint mechanism for suspected human trafficking cases.

#### **1. Ministry of Labor (MOL)**

(1) The MOL established the “1955 Migrant Worker 24-Hour Consultation and Protection Hotline” in July 2009 (renamed the “1955 Labor Consultation and Complaint Hotline” in 2016 with expanded services, hereinafter referred to as the 1955 Hotline). This hotline is staffed with personnel proficient in five languages—Mandarin, English, Vietnamese,

Indonesian, and Thai. It offers 24-hour (including holidays) bilingual, toll-free phone consultation and complaint services. The hotline also provides legal aid consultation resources, referrals for protection and placement, and information on other government services. Upon receiving a complaint, cases are electronically dispatched to local governments for investigation and are subject to follow-up management. Additionally, the hotline offers real-time online interpretation services for medical care, official matters, employment, and daily life needs.

(2) In 2024, the 1955 Hotline received a total of 202,747 calls, including 178,611 consultation service cases and 24,136 general and emergency complaint service cases. Additionally, the hotline assisted migrant workers successfully transferring to new employers in 2,515 cases.

(3) In 2024, through the 1955 Hotline and migrant worker service centers operated by local governments, a total of 3,455 cases involving coordination with employers or brokers to return owed wages were resolved, recovering a total of NT\$93,508,887 in wage-related payments.

## 2. National Immigration Agency (NIA)

(1) In accordance with Article 10 of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act, judicial police agencies and competent authorities of labor affairs are required to establish 24-hour complaint channels, online reporting platforms, or an emergency hotline for

reporting human trafficking.

- (2) The current human trafficking reporting mechanism includes a 24-hour hotline (02-2388-3095). In response to the amendment of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act effective January 1, 2024, the NIA officially launched an “Online Human Trafficking Reporting Platform” in October 2024. A reporting link was added to the NIA’s official website, allowing the public to report or notify the NIA of any suspected human trafficking cases via email. As of December 2024, no such reports had been received through this platform.

### 3. National Police Agency (NPA)

The 110 Emergency Hotline and the 110 Video Reporting App are widely recognized by the public as the primary means of seeking police assistance. These services operate 24 hours a day and accept reports on a wide range of matters, including traffic incidents, public service requests, general criminal cases (such as suspected human trafficking), social order issues, disaster events, and mass protests. Three-way call services in Mandarin and English are also supported, with dispatchers of various police authorities transferring reports to the relevant field units for further action. Additionally, through the establishment of the “e-Duty Command System”, all public reports are efficiently managed and tracked, thereby improving public trust and satisfaction. In 2024, the system enabled the immediate resolution of 8,971 cases and facilitated

47,484 emergency rescue operations, highlighting the significant contribution of the 110 system to public safety and police services.

4. Coast Guard Administration, Ocean Affairs Council (CGA)

The 118 Coast Guard Service System of the CGA primarily handles matters related to the investigation and countering of smuggling, prevention of illicit entry or exit, maritime salvage, sea disaster rescue, protection and preservation of the oceanic environment, the handling of maritime disputes, and any other matters related to coast guarding. It operates through a fully automated case management mechanism that includes reporting, dispatch, and feedback, ensuring the effective execution of coast guarding duties. For any assistance, dispute resolution in maritime areas, or to report criminal activity (including leads on maritime human trafficking cases), the public can use the 24-hour hotline or the online reporting platform.

5. Fisheries Agency (FA)

In 2024, the FA integrated fisheries-related information and resources to establish a “Foreign Crew Interactive Service Platform” website, available in five languages. This platform offers crew members a 24-hour online complaint channel to help them clarify employment rights, recover unpaid wages, and more. Cases involving labor exploitation are investigated and addressed. In 2024, the FA received complaints from crew members on 41 fishing vessels, with the statistics on handling such

cases are detailed in Table 4. The FA continues to handle complaints related to the employment of foreign crew members outside the Republic of China, as referred by the Ministry of Labor. In 2024, a total of 57 such cases were reported through the 1955 hotline. The annual statistics on handling such cases are detailed in Table 5.

#### 6. Ministry of Justice Investigation Bureau (MJIB)

- (1) The MJIB operates a toll-free reporting hotline (0800-007007) to receive tips and intelligence related to all illegal activities within its purview, including human trafficking.
- (2) This hotline is available to anyone and is staffed 24 hours a day by MJIB investigators. Once a report is received and preliminarily determined to fall within the MJIB's jurisdiction, it's swiftly forwarded to the relevant units for case initiation and distribution to the appropriate field divisions and field offices for investigation. In cases where the reporting individual is in an emergency, the MJIB also provides appropriate advice or assistance in referring the case to the responsible authority or agency to help resolve the issue.

### 3.2 Strengthening Rights Protection during Investigation and Trial

1. Implementing the Victim Identification Assistance Mechanism: In accordance with Article 11 of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act, amended and effective in 2024, the judicial police authority (unit), upon discovering or receiving a report on a suspected human



trafficking case, shall immediately undertake the identification of human trafficking victims. The judicial police shall request assistance as necessary from social workers or relevant experts.

(1) Judicial Police Requesting Identification Assistance

A. According to statistics, the majority of individuals identified as victims by judicial police agencies belong to cases of labor exploitation. In 2024, a total of 279 individuals were identified as victims by judicial police agencies (including 147 males, 132 females). Among them were 129 Taiwanese (including 85 minors) and 150 foreigners.

B. In March 2024, the NIA continued to issue the “Implementation Plan for Assisting Identification in Suspected Human Trafficking Cases” and expanded the roster of professional personnel for identification assistance to a total of 102 members. The roster includes 25 social workers from NGOs, 66 social welfare personnel from central and local government authorities, 9 labor affairs personnel from local government authorities, and 2 public health affairs personnel from local agencies.

C. The roster mentioned above is regionally categorized into Northern, Central, Southern, and Offshore Island areas to enable judicial police, when requesting assistance for victim identification as required by law, to deploy identification assisting personnel effectively. These professionals assist in stabilizing the emotions of suspected victims, explain available

services and measures, and clarify investigative directions and other related matters, thereby safeguarding the rights of suspected victims. In 2024, identification assistance personnel were dispatched for services 98 times, with 56 individuals identified as victims—5 Taiwanese and 51 foreigners.

## (2) Identified Persons Filing Objections

According to Article 11, Paragraph 5 of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act, individuals who disagree with the identification results made by the judicial police authorities (units) may submit a written statement of reasons, upon which the original identifying authority (unit) may file an objection to its superior authority (unit). In 2024, 12 suspected victims, all foreign (fishing) crew members hired abroad, were identified as non-victims by the judicial police authorities (units). Dissatisfied with the results, they filed objections to the superior authority (unit) through the original identification agency (unit). However, all 12 objection cases were dismissed because the objections were not filed within the statutory 20 days.

## 2. Provision of Social Worker Accompaniment during Interrogation

When apprehending suspected human trafficking cases, police authorities will, during the victim identification stage, request the accompaniment of social or labor affairs personnel. At other stages of the investigation, judicial police agencies will also request assistance as

necessary from social workers or relevant experts. In 2024, judicial police agencies arranged social worker accompaniment during questioning or interrogation in a total of 151 instances.

### 3. Provision of Interpretation Services

- (1) To strengthen the professional competencies of incumbent contracted interpreters and ensure the quality of interpretation, the Ministry of Justice continues to organize training sessions on interpreter ethics, basic legal knowledge, and an overview of the Code of Criminal Procedure and investigation procedures. The goal is to ensure that interpreters perform their duties in accordance with relevant legal laws and regulations.
- (2) When prosecutors encounter the need for interpretation in rare or specific dialects during investigations, they may contact relevant foreign representative offices in Taiwan or credible organizations to obtain lists of qualified individuals fluent in the required language. These individuals may then be contacted to provide onsite interpretation services, thereby safeguarding the litigation rights of foreign victims.
- (3) When judicial police agencies apprehend human trafficking cases involving foreign victims who do not understand the local language, they should arrange for interpreters to assist in recording statements, ensuring victims' rights are protected. In 2024, judicial police agencies offered interpretation services for 119 instances.

- (4) Victims and suspected victims holding work visas may be assisted by interpreters when receiving medical care and psychological counseling, seeking legal assistance, or attending training programs at relevant institutions. Interpretation service fees may be subsidized in accordance with the “Operation Directions for Local Governments on the Accompaniment of Foreign Nationals by Non-Profit Organizations during Questioning”.
  - (5) In 2024, interpretation services were provided on 47 occasions to newly sheltered victims and suspected victims holding work visas. The interpretation languages included English, Indonesian, Vietnamese, Thai, and Filipino.
4. Protective Measures and Considerations for Police, Prosecutors, and Courts When Handling Human Trafficking Cases
- (1) Victim Identification and Rights Notification: When apprehending human trafficking cases, judicial police agencies must follow the victim identification principles of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act. Victims should be fully informed of their rights prior to identification, including the right to be accompanied during interrogation, the right to residence after identification, and the right to apply for work permits and subsidies. The agencies should also explain the relevant procedures of investigation and trial. To alleviate the psychological burden on victims, a designated and comforting interview room

separate from the regular interrogation room is planned for use.

(2) Trauma-Informed Approach and Protective Measures:

When handling human trafficking cases, judicial police should implement the principle of trauma-informed care and appropriate protection measures in accordance with the Code of Criminal Procedure for victims during investigation and trial. For instance, with the consent of the victim, a professional or other person the victim trusts may accompany the victim and make statements to reduce secondary harm caused by the investigation procedures. Additionally, if victims need to testify at District Prosecutors Offices or in courts, personnel should be assigned to escort them as needed to ensure their personal safety.

(3) When handling human trafficking cases, prosecutors should follow the procedures below:

- A. When a case is transferred, if the victim is placed in protective custody, the case file should include a note stating, “This case involves a victim currently under protective custody”, to prompt the assigned prosecutor to expedite the investigation.
- B. If the prosecutor becomes aware that the victim wishes to return to their home country (or region), they should immediately question the victim and take the necessary investigative actions, facilitating the arrangements to safely return the victim to their home country (or region).
- C. After the investigation is concluded, relevant

documents should be attached and sent to the transferring unit and the shelter. If the case is prosecuted, it should also be communicated that “the case has been moved to trial”.

- (4) The Ministry of Justice continues to supervise its subordinate prosecutorial agencies in strengthening the protection of the identity information and personal safety of social workers, interpreters, and other personnel who accompany victims to court or appear as witnesses. To ensure the confidentiality of these individuals, it is recommended to make appropriate use of a “Code Name and Real Name Correspondence Table” .
- (5) To enhance the right of crime victims or their family members to access information during criminal proceedings—and in response to the amended Article 26, Paragraph 1 of the Crime Victim Rights Protection Act, promulgated in February 2023—the prosecutors office or the court may, at the request of the crime victims or their family members, provide case progress inquiry or notification services by “criminal procedure information platform”. Accordingly, in June 2023, the Judicial Yuan issued revised “Guidelines for Courts on the Operation of the Criminal Procedure Information Platform”, including the addition of an English version of the application form, to further strengthen the protection of the right of crime victims and their families to obtain information during criminal proceedings.

- (6) The Judicial Yuan has instructed all levels of courts to avoid publicly reading out the personal information of victims, their family members, or accompanying individuals to protect their privacy. Courts at all levels are also instructed to carefully consider the timing, setting, and method of referring victims or their families to restorative justice, in accordance with the “Diverse Promotion Plan for Restorative Justice Referrals in Criminal Trials”, to prevent secondary harm to the victims. Additionally, courts are advised to allocate budgets for the purchase of shielding equipment to ensure the privacy of victims.

### 3.3 Protective Services for Safe and Secure Placement and Related Welfare Measures

#### 1. Provision of Protective Services for Foreign Victims

- (1) When investigating human trafficking cases, judicial police agencies must identify victims in accordance with the “Principles for the Identification of Victims of Human Trafficking” Individuals identified as victims shall, based on the type of visa they hold, be referred to the competent authority responsible for placement and protection, which may either directly implement such services or entrust non-governmental organizations with providing placement, protection, or other necessary assistance.
- (2) The FA has also commissioned the governments of Kaohsiung City, Pingtung County, Keelung City, and Yilan County to handle administrative matters related to the management of foreign crew members hired for

offshore fishing operations. If a foreign crew member employed in Taiwan is found to be a victim of transnational human trafficking, abuse, or assault, the local government may provide relevant protection in accordance with the “Human Trafficking Prevention Act” and related regulations. Additionally, they may request assistance from the Catholic Social Welfare Foundation to arrange placement and other support services for crew members.

### (3) Victim Statistics

- A. Victims Holding Work Visas: In 2024, a total of 43 individuals were newly placed in shelters (including those in community-based placement)—16 females and 27 males. The nationalities of these victims were as follows: 24 from Vietnam, 7 from Indonesia, 7 from the Philippines, 4 from Kenya, and 1 from Thailand.
- B. Victims Without Work Visas: In 2024, a total of 51 individuals were newly placed in shelters (including those in community-based placement)—35 females and 16 males. The nationalities of these victims were as follows: 31 from Thailand, 1 from Vietnam, 11 from Indonesia, 4 from Myanmar, 3 from the Philippines, and 1 from the Hong Kong region.
- C. Overall, the majority of foreign victims were of Thai and Vietnamese nationality. Compared to 2023, there was an increasing tendency in Thai victims without work visas in 2024. This increase is presumed to be associated with the reopening of national borders and



the implementation of a 14-day visa-exempt entry policy for Thai tourists. Table 6 provides statistics on the number of foreign TIP victims placed in shelters over the years.

## 2 Institutional Placement and Protective Services

A. In accordance with the “Regulations Governing the Placement and Service of Victims and Suspected Victims of Human Trafficking” and the “Regulations for the Assistance of Victims or Suspected Victims of Human Trafficking”, the NIA, through public-private partnerships, entrusts private organizations to provide assistance measures to both victims and suspected victims.

B. In collaboration with the Workforce Development Agency (WDA), the NIA has partnered with non-profit organizations to establish 25 shelter facilities that provide foreign victims with protective services, including accommodation, daily care, psychological counseling, interpretation services, legal assistance, accompany during investigations, and necessary medical assistance. The NIA operates two shelter and protection service locations: the Nantou Shelter and the Kaohsiung Shelter. These service facilities are designated to provide placement and necessary services for victims who do not hold work visas, including foreign nationals, residents from Mainland China, Hong Kong, and Macau, as well as nationals without household registration in Taiwan.

C. Given that the NIA’s Nantou and Kaohsiung Shelters

currently lack of accommodations for male human trafficking victims, based on the resolution of the 16th Executive Yuan Coordination Committee, it was agreed that the placement and shelter resources from the Ministry of Labor and the NIA should mutually support when necessary. This means that male victims without work visas can be placed in facilities operated by private organizations commissioned by the Ministry of Labor, a practice referred to as “case-based commissioned placement” .

D. Outcomes of Placement and Protective Services at the Nantou Shelter

(a) The NIA has commissioned the Good Shepherd Social Welfare Foundation to provide shelter services for victims. The Nantou Shelter was established in October 2009 and has been operating for over 15 years. In 2024, the shelter took in 14 new victims without work visas, all of whom were female—10 from Thailand, 2 from Indonesia, and 1 from Myanmar. Additionally, 2 female victims holding work visas, both from Indonesia, were also placed in the shelter.

(b) For the above individuals receiving placement services, the following support was provided in 2024: 47 instances of medical assistance, 331 instances of interpretation services, 7 instances of legal assistance, 2,900 instances of psychological counseling and consultation services, 23 instances of court and investigation accompaniments, 9

instances of emergency financial assistance, and 117 instances of other necessary support (including 11 instances of assistance with residence permits and work permits, 79 instances of vocational training and employment matching, and 14 instances of repatriation to the country of origin). In accordance with service contract requirements, skills training courses for victims and professional training programs for shelter staff were also conducted, with a total of 22 participants attending in 2024.

E. Outcomes of Placement and Protective Services at the Kaohsiung Shelter

(a) Since January 2019, the NIA has commissioned the Taiwan Association for the Rights of Labor to provide shelter services for victims. As of 2024, the program has been in operation for approximately six years. In 2024, the shelter admitted 19 new victims who without work visas (2 males and 17 females). Their nationalities included 1 from Vietnam, 16 from Thailand, and 2 from Myanmar.

(b) For the above individuals receiving placement services, the following support was provided in 2024: 37 instances of medical assistance, 141 instances of interpretation services, 7 instances of legal assistance, 401 instances of psychological counseling and consultation, 15 instances of court and investigation accompaniments, 3 instances of emergency financial assistance, and 56 instances of other necessary support services (including 15

instances of assistance with residence permits, 9 with work permits, 21 with vocational training and employment matching, and 11 instances of repatriation to the country of origin). Additionally, in accordance with service contract requirements, the shelter conducted skills training courses for victims and 19 training sessions for shelter personnel, with a total of 110 participants.

#### F. Outcomes of Case-Based Placement and Protective Services

- (a) In 2024, a total of 16 newly admitted victims without work visas received case-based placement services, including 14 males and 2 females. Their nationalities were as follows: 4 from Thailand, 3 from the Philippines, and 9 from Indonesia.
- (b) For the above individuals receiving placement services, the following support were provided: 6 instances of medical assistance, 12 instances of interpretation services, 4 instances of emergency financial assistance, and 9 instances of other essential support services (such as assistance with residence permits).

### 3 Community-Based Placement and Protective Services

In accordance with the Regulations Governing the Placement and Service of Victims and Suspected Victims of Human Trafficking and the Regulations for the Assistance of Victims or Suspected Victims of Human Trafficking, the NIA has commissioned 21 NGOs across Taiwan to provide community-based

placement and protective services to foreign victims and suspected victims. Referrals to these services were made by judicial police agencies handling the cases.

A. In 2024, two newly admitted victims without work visas (1 male and 1 female) received community-based placement--1 from Thailand and 1 resident from the Hong Kong region. There were no new cases of community-based placement for victims with work visas.

B. For the above individuals receiving placement services, the following services were provided: 1 instance of medical assistance, 6 instances of interpretation services, 6 instances of legal assistance, 10 instances of psychological counseling and consultation, 6 instances of court and investigation accompaniments, and 3 instances of other necessary support (including 1 instance of assistance with residence permit, 1 instance of work permit, and 1 instance of vocational training and employment matching).

## 2. Providing Services for Domestic Adult Victims:

In 2024, local governments provided various services for adult victims of human trafficking in Taiwan. The services offered are detailed as follows:

### (1) Domestic Victims

In 2024, a total of 28 domestic victims (20 males and 8 females) received services, none of whom required placement. Local social affairs units continued to

provide case-based support, including: 5 instances of medical assistance, 4 instances of legal assistance, 7 sessions of psychological counseling and consultation services, 3 accompaniments during investigation or trial, 20 consultations and referrals of welfare service resources, 3 instances of necessary financial support (totaling NT\$44,000), 3 instances of employment skills and educational training, 34 other service instances (including home visits, referrals to the Department of Substance Abuse Control and Prevention, assistance with housing arrangements, job registration, and employment matching).

(2) Victims of Trafficking Returning from Overseas

A. In September 2022, the Ministry of the Interior issued the “Guidelines for the Special Project on the Protection of Nationals Returning from Overseas after Being Trafficked, Victimized, or Forced to Commit Crimes.” Under these guidelines, local police departments, social affairs agencies (units), and protection institutions collaborated to safeguard the rights and interests of trafficked nationals. Services provided include the identification of suspected victims, placement, medical assistance, financial support, and employment matching.

B. As of the end of April 2024, 361 individuals were identified as victims. Among them, 34 were referred by local police departments to local social affairs agencies (units). In total, 607 instances of protective services have been provided by social affairs

agencies (units) and protection institutions. Additionally, 2 domestic victims received placement services by local social affairs agencies (units).

C. In May 2024, the Executive Yuan approved the removal of the project from its list of supervised projects. Since then, protection and services for victims and suspected victims have been integrated into the broader framework established under the Human Trafficking Prevention Act.

D. In cases where nationals were lured to Cambodia or Myanmar and exploited in unlawful activities, resulting in suspected trafficking victimization, the NIA and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs assisted in their repatriation. Upon arrival in Taiwan, the authorities issued “Entry Care Notifications,” with a total of 193 such notifications were issued in 2024.

E. In March 2024, the Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW) promulgated the “Guidelines for the Placement and Provision of Social Welfare Services for Domestic Adult Victims of Human Trafficking”. These guidelines stipulate the operational procedures for delivering social welfare services to victims who have been reported, referred, or placed in shelters, with the aim of strengthening the protection of their rights and interests.

### 3. Provision of Services for Child and Adolescent Victims of Suspected Human Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation

#### (1) Services Provided by Local Governments

In 2024, the competent authority of municipality or

county (city) received approximately 267 reported cases of suspected human trafficking for child and adolescent sexual exploitation (causing a child or a youth to engage in any sexual intercourse or lewd acts in exchange for any monetary or other considerations). In each case, authorities provided services in accordance with relevant regulations, including accompaniment during investigations, assessment of the necessity of placement (including evaluations of family functionality), placement and protective services, referral to appropriate service resources, and post-return counseling and follow-up support, all aimed at safeguarding the rights and interests of children and adolescents.

## (2) Actions Taken by Judicial Police

In 2024, the NPA identified and referred a total of 77 human trafficking victims under the age of 18 who had been subjected to exploitation. In accordance with the Human Trafficking Prevention Act and the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act, 42 of these victims were placed by the local social welfare authorities in the jurisdiction where they were identified. 34 victims were released to the custody of their parents, and 1 victim, who had reached adulthood at the time of police intervention, returned home independently.

## 3.4 Overview of Other Assistance Measures and Special Subsidies



## 1. Details of Assistance Measures

- (1) In accordance with the Regulations for the Assistance of Victims or Suspected Victims of Human Trafficking, the NIA commissioned non-governmental organizations to provide assistance to 51 foreign victims without work visas. The assistance measures included: 91 instances of medical assistance (NT\$96,215); 490 instances of interpretation services (NT\$226,600); 14 instances of legal assistance; 3,311 instances of psychological counseling and consultation services; 44 instances of accompaniment during investigation or trial; 16 instances of necessary financial support (NT\$80,000); 38 instances of residence permit application services (NT\$38,000); 25 repatriations to home countries (including 1 victim who received a NT\$6,813 subsidy for airfare due to financial hardship), and 115 participant attendances in skills training courses and professional training sessions for shelter staff (NT\$75,300).
- (2) The WDA provided the following services to victims and suspected victims holding work visas: 66 instances of personal safety protection; 8 instances of medical assistance; 47 instances of interpretation services; 2 instances of accompaniment during investigation or trial, and 9 instances of other assistance.
- (3) In accordance with the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act, the competent

authorities at the special municipality or county (city) level shall provide victims with assistance in placement, school enrollment, employment, independent living, or other necessary support. In 2024, 49 newly identified suspected child and youth victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation were placed. A total of 477 instances of psychological counseling, consultation, and therapy were provided, along with 222 instances of legal services.

## 2. Victim Subsidy Applications

- (1) The “Regulations Governing Subsidy for Victims of Human Trafficking” came into effect on January 1, 2024. Individuals identified as victims of human trafficking can apply for subsidies in accordance with these regulations. These subsidies are application-based and are classified as administrative measures under special social welfare benefits.
- (2) In 2024, a total of 64 victim subsidies cases were approved, with disbursements totaling NT\$478,000. The approved subsidy items included 38 condolence payments of NT\$3,000 each and 26 unemployment benefits of NT\$14,000 each. Additionally, 1 condolence payment application was submitted more than six months after the date of victim identification, exceeding the statutory time limit; therefore, the subsidy was denied in accordance with the regulations.

## 3. Service Achievements of the Legal Aid Foundation

To safeguard the human rights and fundamental

litigation rights of victims, the Legal Aid Foundation launched the “Legal Aid Program for Victims of Human Trafficking” in 2008. This program assists individuals who meet the eligibility criteria set forth in the “Legal Aid Act”. In 2024, the program received 70 applications, of which 63 were approved for legal aid (including legal representation, criminal defense, and mediation), resulting in an approval rate of approximately 90%.

### 3.5 Ensuring the Comprehensive Provision of Residence Permits and Protection of Labor Rights

#### 1. Residence Permits

In accordance with Article 14 of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act, residence permits valid for one year are granted to foreign nationals identified as victims of human trafficking. These permits may be extended depending on the progress of investigation or trial, ensuring that victims remain in Taiwan safely to testify and assist in combating criminal offenders. In 2024, the NIA issued a total of 98 residence permits to trafficking victims. Since 2024 marks the first year these permits were issued, no applications for extensions have yet been submitted.

#### 2. Provision of Employment Services to Victims

- (1) According to the “Regulations on Work Permit and Administration for Human Trafficking Victims”, foreign victims who have been issued a residence permit valid for one year by the NIA, or a more favorable residence status under other applicable

laws, may apply to the Ministry of Labor for a work permit if they are willing to work. This enables them to work legally in Taiwan and maintain a stable income. In 2024, the Ministry of Labor issued work permits to 80 individuals.

- (2) When issuing work permits to victims, the Ministry of Labor simultaneously notifies the public employment service centers within the jurisdiction of the respective shelters to provide employment services. In 2024, employment services were provided on 70 occasions, with 30 individuals successfully placed in jobs.
- (3) The various branches of the WDA continue to coordinate with shelters housing unemployed foreign human trafficking victims who have obtained work permits. They provide information on relevant training programs and assess the victims' willingness to participate in vocational training to help them enroll in suitable courses, with full subsidies covering training costs. In 2024, a total of 60 victims were served. Among them, 17 found employment, 18 did not wish to participate in training, 2 returned to their home countries, 1 transitioned to general residency status, 4 were in the process of job matching, 2 departed for third countries, and 16 were referred to the Kaohsiung City Government Training and Employment Center for job placement assistance.

#### **4. Active Prevention of Human Trafficking Cases**

#### 4.1 Collaborative Implementation of the “2023-2024 Anti-Exploitation Action Plan”

To strengthen the efforts of central government agencies in combating human trafficking and to guide local governments in aligning with or referencing central strategies, the Ministry of the Interior issued the “2023-2024 Anti-Exploitation Action Plan” in 2023. This plan integrates and coordinates the resources and capabilities of various agencies to collaboratively prevent human trafficking and ensure the protection of human rights. The plan is based on the 4Ps strategy of Taiwan’s anti-human trafficking policy. It addresses unresolved human trafficking issues raised by various sectors, proposing 19 initiatives and corresponding 81 specific strategies. Highlights of each agency’s implementation results in 2024 are summarized below:

##### 1. Ministry of Labor (MOL)

- (1) In 2024, a total of 119 labor condition inspections and 183 occupational safety and health inspections were conducted in the fishing industry. Violations resulting in fines were found in 20 labor condition inspections and 4 occupational safety and health inspections, with all cases handled in accordance with the law.
- (2) To protect the rights and interests of employers and migrant workers and to prevent private employment service agencies from overcharging fees, the Ministry of Labor implemented the “Inspection Plan for Private Employment Service Agencies Engaged in

Cross-Border Labor Brokerage by Municipal and County (City) Governments” . Under this plan, local governments conduct regular inspections of brokerage companies within their jurisdiction, based on their evaluation results. These inspections review the fees charged for cases commissioned by employers or migrant workers, as well as the preparation and preservation of documents, to ensure that brokerage companies charge fees in accordance with regulations. In 2024, a total of 2,924 inspections were conducted on brokerage companies, and 13 cases of excessive fees were identified.

- (3) To continue safeguarding the employment rights of migrant workers, in 2024, a total of 17,440 cases were compiled into an enhanced care inspection list and sent to local governments for inspection, with follow-up actions taken on illegal cases.
- (4) The MOL continued to promote the work of the Domestic Workers’ Protection Task Force and convened the “Consultative Meeting on Regulatory Frameworks for the Protection of Domestic Migrant Workers’ Labor Rights” in November 2024. Additionally, three meetings on the “Work Distribution and Review of Regulations under the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention No. 189 (C189)” were convened to continue the discussion and advance the protection of domestic migrant workers’ rights.

## 2. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA):

- (1) Based on reports from domestic competent authorities regarding specific suspicious patterns, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has enhanced visa screening procedures. Suspected cases of human trafficking or exploitation are reported to the relevant competent authorities for further action, aiming to identify and protect vulnerable groups at risk of human trafficking.
- (2) In March 2024, relevant ministries and agencies convened for the “Consultative Meeting on Enhanced Strategies and Measures to Prevent Nationals from Falling Victim to Overseas Scams and Dangerous Situations”. It was resolved that all agencies should strengthen communication and intelligence sharing in response to the latest scam tactics, maintain the current momentum of diverse cross-ministerial public awareness campaigns, and, when appropriate, increase the dissemination of information regarding the sentences of scam perpetrators, aiming to effectively deter criminal trends.

### 3. Ministry of Education (MOE)

- (1) The MOE continued to strengthen the screening process for foreign students and other vulnerable groups, and referred individuals for counseling based on the results. In 2024, the MOE received a total of 147 counseling cases related to entry, visas, studies, transfers, internships, scholarships, and employment in Taiwan after graduation.

- (2) In June 2024, the National General Conference of Directors of Academic Affairs and School Management of Colleges and Universities was held, featuring a session on “Expanding Recruitment of International Students and Overseas Enrollment Strategies.” The MOE also conducted regular reviews on the implementation of the International Foundation Programs in colleges and universities. If schools fail to comply with relevant regulations in recruitment, demonstrate poor academic performance among overseas students, lack adequate support for them, or violate relevant laws, the MOE may impose a deadline for improvement. Failure to meet the deadline may result in the termination of the school’s program.
- (3) To ensure the quality of Academia-Industry Cooperation International Professional Programs and safeguard students’ rights, the MOE has established the “Operation Directions Governing Applications and Reviews for MOE Subsidies for Technical and Vocational Universities and Colleges to Offer Academia-Industry Cooperation International Professional Programs” and the “New Southbound Industry-Academia Collaboration International Professional Program Regulations”. Each institution is required to set up standard operating procedures (SOPs) for recruitment and internships. These SOPs are subject to ongoing revision based on the results of program inspections (visits), in order to prevent



incidents such as the exploitation of international students.

4. The Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC)

- (1) The Maritime and Port Bureau (MPB) amended the “Notification Mechanism for Human Trafficking Involving Crew Members.” Under the notification mechanism, when handling a suspected human trafficking case involving crew members, MPB officers should immediately notify the judicial police agency, regardless of the crew member’s nationality, and assist in providing relevant information. In addition, if “any blacklisted vessel with a history of forced labor, human trafficking, or crew abandonment enters ports, foreign crew members should be provided with contact cards so that they can contact the MPB or the International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF) at any time to obtain necessary assistance immediately.
- (2) In October 2024, the MPB issued the “Reference Manual for Onboard Internship Programs for Students of Maritime Universities and Colleges”. The manual requires maritime institutions to establish formal contracts with internship shipping companies. It also explicitly stipulates the rights, obligations, and grievance procedures for foreign deck and engine interns during their onboard training, so as to reduce the risk of exploitation and enhance the personal safety protection of foreign students.

5. Coast Guard Administration (CGA): In 2024, the CGA received a total of 6 reports of suspected human trafficking cases from the Maritime and Port Bureau, the FA, and the Environmental Justice Foundation. All cases were promptly assigned to subordinate agencies for investigation. Two of the cases were closed after preliminary investigations found no evidence of criminal conduct, while the remaining four are still under investigation to ascertain the criminal facts.

6. National Immigration Agency (NIA)

(1) Pursuant to the “Standard Operating Procedures for Reporting and Handling Allegations of Human Trafficking Involving Foreign Crew Members Employed Overseas on Distant-Water Fishing Vessels”, issued by the Fisheries Agency, the NIA collaborates with local labor authorities to conduct unscheduled labor inspections. These inspections aim to identify potential cases of forced labor, unauthorized crew transfers, crew impersonation, and crew absconding (commonly referred to as “jumping ship”).

(2) To prevent human trafficking involving foreign minors (aged 12 to under 18), the NIA conducts more thorough interviews at the border to find suspicious cases involving foreign minor travelers accompanied by others, on the nature of their relationship and the purpose of the visit, to identify trafficking. If the result of interviews reveals a high risk of human trafficking, an identification process will be initiated

in accordance with the victim identification principles of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act. If no concrete evidence is found, after confirming the complete contact information of the companion(s), entry is granted, and the specific concerns of the case are summarized and provided to Specialized Operations Brigades for subsequent investigation.

## 7. Fisheries Agency (FA)

(1) In 2024, a total of 739 fishing vessels were inspected at domestic and international ports, and 6,165 crew members—including foreign nationals—were interviewed. Additionally, 351 operators' premises and 50 agent offices were inspected. A total of 2,202 individuals were either inspected onboard on the high seas or interviewed via phone (see Table 7). These efforts aimed to have a clear understanding of the working conditions of foreign crew members and to verify whether vessel operators and brokers were complying with relevant regulations. For vessels or operators suspected of violations during the aforementioned inspections (see Table 8), as well as brokers with potential violations (see Table 9), the Fisheries Agency will conduct further investigations and impose penalties if confirmed. In 2024, there were no cases in which brokerage firms were penalized for violations.

(2) The FA has implemented a joint liability and evaluation system for agents. An applicant intending to become an agent shall register in accordance with the

Regulations for Permission and Supervision of Private Employment Services Institutions and approved to recruit foreign persons to work in the Republic of China (Taiwan). Also, applicants should submit a guarantee bond in advance to the competent authority. The amount shall be from NT\$500,000 to NT\$2,000,000, depending on the number of foreign crew members the agency plans to employ. In 2024, the FA conducted a review of 47 agents, with the results showing 14 rated as Grade A, 32 as Grade B, and 1 as Grade C. This system aims to protect the labor rights of foreign crew members employed on distant-water fishing vessels.

#### 4.2 Continued Implementation of the Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights

1. Prior to 2020, foreign crew members on Taiwan's distant-water fishing fleet often encountered labor exploitation issues including long working hours, poor living conditions, and verbal and physical abuse. These concerns drew attention from key market countries and criticism from human rights organizations. In response, the Executive Yuan tasked the Ministry of Agriculture and relevant agencies with formulating the Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights.
2. The Action Plan outlines a four-year implementation period (2022–2025). In July 2023, relevant subsidy items and associated costs were revised, increasing the total budget to NT\$1,139,225,000 (approximately US\$31.79 million). To address key fisheries and human rights

concerns at the current stage, the Action Plan proposes seven major strategies, each supported by concrete action plans designed to strengthen regulatory frameworks and ensuring effective execution. These seven strategies are: “Full Implementation of Agreed Labor Conditions”, “Improvement on Living Conditions and Social Protection”, “Strengthening Management of Recruitment Agents”, “Increasing Monitoring and Control Capacity”, “Strengthening Management of Foreign-flagged Fishing Vessels”, “Establishing and Deepening International Cooperation”, and “Promoting Mutually-Beneficial Partnerships.” A summary of the implementation strategies relevant to the prevention of human trafficking is provided below:

- (1) Full Implementation of Agreed Labor Conditions: As the “Guidance on Salary Payment to Foreign Crew Members Employed Overseas” has been formulated, vessel operators are now subject to inspections to ensure full and direct payment of wages to foreign crew members. The minimum monthly wage has been raised from US\$450 to US\$550. Operators are strictly required to pay wages in full and directly to the crew, and payments through foreign recruitment agencies are strictly prohibited. To ensure that crew members have adequate rest, regulations on rest periods have been adjusted to align with the International Labour Organization (ILO) Work in Fishing Convention (C188). Furthermore, operators must keep accurate records of

working hours using time clocks or equivalent methods.

(2) Improvement of Living Conditions and Social Protection:

A. By the end of 2024, the labor insurance coverage rate for foreign crew members employed domestically reached 97%, surpassing the plan's target of 92%.

B. The Ministry of Labor (MOL) continues to provide solatium payments to domestically employed foreign crew members who are victims of crimes involving causing personal injury or are unable to work due to occupational hazards or illness and are deemed in need of financial assistance. In 2024, 4 crew members received solatium payments of NT\$170,000.

(3) Strengthening Management of Recruitment Agents: To enhance oversight of recruitment agencies under the law (including those involved in the recruitment of foreign crew members for domestic employment), the frequency of inspections has been increased. The obligations and responsibilities of recruitment agencies are clearly defined. Where domestic agencies facilitate Taiwanese investment in and operation of foreign-flagged vessels (Flags of Convenience, hereinafter referred to as FOC vessels), and cases of human trafficking or forced labor occur due to the agency's failure to fulfill its duties, such agencies shall be subject to suspension or revocation of their operating licenses.

(4) Increasing Monitoring and Control Capacity

- A. The MOL collaborated with the MOA to conduct joint inspections of distant water fishing vessels. The CGA, in coordination with the FA, increased the frequency of high seas inspections as needed to facilitate onboard labor inspections conducted by FA inspectors. In addition, the NIA supported labor inspection measures implemented by local labor departments by conducting random inspections of coastal and offshore fishing vessels where foreign crew members are employed, to proactively detect signs of forced labor or human trafficking.
- B. In 2024, the MOL conducted a total of 196 inspections, including 60 sessions under the “Special Inspections on Fisheries Labor Conditions” and 136 sessions under the “Special Inspections on Fishing Vessel Labor Safety Operations.” Notably, experts and scholars participated in 36 of these inspections, surpassing the set performance target by more than 15%.
- C. The FA has established Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for labor rights inspections on distant water fishing vessels, at operator premises, and agent offices, and continues to inspect over 50% of distant water fishing vessels annually. In 2024, the FA subsidized the installation of CCTV monitoring systems on 396 fishing vessels, bringing the cumulative total to 678 vessels equipped. In addition, the FA promoted the installation of Wi-Fi systems on

fishing vessels through subsidies and administrative guidance for crew use. As of the end of 2024, 109 Taiwanese distant-water fishing vessels have been equipped with Wi-Fi.

(5) Strengthening Management of Foreign-flagged Fishing Vessels:

In December 2022, FA amended the Regulations on the Approval of Investment in or the Operation of Foreign Flag Fishing Vessels, specifying the labor conditions for crew members on FOC Vessels. The regulations require operators to submit crew rosters every six months. Additionally, inter-agency joint inspections are conducted on foreign fishing vessels entering Taiwanese ports. In 2024, a total of 15 FOC fishing vessels underwent joint inspections, accounting for 29% of all FOC vessel port entries.

(6) Establishing and Deepening International Cooperation:

A. In February 2024, Thea Lee, U.S. Deputy Undersecretary of the Department of Labor, led a delegation to Taiwan for on-site visits and meetings. The delegation observed Taiwan's inspections of labor rights on distant-water fishing vessels and engaged in in-depth discussions on fisheries and human rights issues with industry groups, fishers' organizations, civil society groups, as well as the Ministry of Labor, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the National Immigration Agency. The U.S. side recognized and commended Taiwan's efforts to improve human rights in the fisheries sector.



- B. In May 2024, Lasro Simbolon, Deputy Head of Indonesia's Migrant Worker Protection Agency, visited Taiwan and held discussions with the Fisheries Agency on various issues concerning foreign crew members working on Taiwan's distant-water fishing vessels. These topics included handling of crew complaints, wage issues, commercial insurance, employment mechanisms, and support measures for foreign crew members. Both sides also exchanged views on the protection of the rights and interests of foreign crew members.
- C. In August 2024, the Department of Migrant Workers of the Philippine hosted the 9th Taiwan-Philippines Joint Labor Conference (JLC) in the Philippines to exchange views on training cooperation and information sharing for Filipino crew members planning to work on Taiwan's distant-water fishing vessels.
- (7) To encourage fishing operators to fulfill their corporate social responsibility (CSR), efforts are made to promote their participation in CSR programs. This strategy aims to harness the power of market mechanisms to drive advancements within the fisheries sector and encourage operators to adopt responsible business practices. To promote corporate social responsibility (CSR) to fisheries operators, operators are encouraged to join CSR programs, leveraging market mechanisms to drive improvements in the fisheries sector and promote

responsible business practices. In 2024, five CSR advocacy sessions were held for operators.

#### 4.3 Strengthening Training for Public and Private Sector Personnel

Taiwan's Central and local government agencies continued to provide training and workshops for judicial police, prosecutors, judges, and public sector officials across immigration, fisheries, labor, social affairs, education, and foreign affairs. The training activities conducted by various agencies in 2024 are as follows:

##### 1. Ministry of Labor (MOL)

- (1) Anti-TIP Educational Training: In 2024, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration conducted 1 anti-TIP training session for labor inspectors to enhance their ability to identify forced labor. Training focused on the ILO's 11 indicators of forced labor, enabling inspectors to promptly recognize potential labor exploitation cases during complaint handling or inspections and refer them to judicial and law enforcement authorities.
- (2) Foreigner Consultation and Investigation Operations Workshop: From September to November 2024, five three-day, two-night workshops were held focusing on the analysis of labor exploitation cases under the Human Trafficking Prevention Act and related victim protection regulations. A total of 510 participants attended, including 490 from public agencies and 20 from NGOs.
- (3) 1955 Foreign Workers' Free Hotline Personnel

Training: Two training sessions on “Analyzing the Identification and Handling Principles of Human Trafficking Cases” were conducted in 2024, with 131 participants.

- (4) Employers’ orientation programs were conducted to educate employers and their families about relevant laws and regulations, various situations migrant workers might face upon arriving in Taiwan, and available government resources to prevent legal violations. In 2024, a total of 61,578 participants completed the training.

## 2. The Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW)

- (1) The MOHW assigned the core hospitals of the mental health network in the “Mental Health Network Regional Support Plan” to integrate topics on human trafficking and victim protection services into the professional training courses for mental health administrators and medical personnel. In 2024, three sessions were conducted, with a total of 361 participants receiving training.
- (2) The Individual Training Workshop for New Social Workers on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents (Including Internet Safety) was conducted to enhance the professional knowledge of new personnel. A total of 45 people participated in 2024.

## 3. The Ministry of Justice (MOJ)

- (1) The MOJ has consistently allocated funds for prosecutor training on human trafficking prevention,

including topics such as victim protection, placement, investigation, prosecution, and trial procedures.

- (2) In October 2024, the MOJ and ECPAT Taiwan cohosted the “International Conference on Preventing Sexual Exploitation of Children.” Prosecutors from the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS) of the U.S. Department of Justice were invited to deliver lectures on U.S. laws concerning child sexual exploitation and successful prosecutions of online child sexual exploitation offenders. Domestic experts, prosecutors, and judges also shared insights on topics such as “Ideals and Realities in Combating Human Trafficking (with a focus on protecting foreign crew members)”, “Exploring Human Trafficking—Starting from Cases of Labor Exploitation”, “Judicial Practices in Human Trafficking and Child Sexual Exploitation Cases”, and “Investigating Dark Web Crimes Involving the Sale of Child Sexual Abuse Material through Creative Private Channels.” The conference facilitated the exchange of practical investigative experience between domestic and international participants, aiming to strengthen prosecutors’ capacity in investigating human trafficking and online sexual exploitation cases.

4. Ministry of Education (MOE): From April to May 2024, four training workshops on service competence were held for International Student Advisors. These workshops aimed to strengthen professional knowledge, skills, and understanding of human rights and the rule of

law among staff at colleges and universities. A total of 187 institutions participated, with over 257 individuals in attendance.

5. Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC)

- (1) Civil Aviation Administration (CAA): In May 2024, the Civil Aeronautics Administration issued an official notice to all airlines, requesting them to conduct training sessions on the “Identification and Reporting of Suspected Human Trafficking Cases.” Airlines were also encouraged to kindly remind foreign travelers to fill in the contact information of their parent(s) or legal guardian at the point-of-entry service counter.
- (2) Maritime and Port Bureau: In August 2024, the Maritime and Port Bureau held a “Human Trafficking Prevention Advocacy and Training Session”, which was attended by 140 participants from both public sector agencies and civil society organizations.
- (3) Tourism Administration: Every year, in conjunction with training programs for tour guides, tour managers, and other tourism industry practitioners, the Administration strengthens the promotion of its duty to report crimes and to educate the public against engaging in commercial sexual exploitation during domestic or overseas travel. Relevant regulations of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act and the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act are taken into consideration for these training courses. In 2024, a total of 2,733 tour guides and tour managers

received this training.

6. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA): The MOFA conducted training courses in 2024 for newly appointed diplomatic and consular personnel and those posted abroad on international human rights conventions and Taiwan's human rights protections, key aspects of Taiwan's anti-human trafficking efforts, new immigrant policies, as well as human rights and gender equality. These courses aimed to strengthen knowledge and skills related to human trafficking prevention. A total of 131 participants attended in 2024.
7. Ministry of National Defense (MND): The Military Police Command developed instructional materials titled "Key Points of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act Amendments" and "Patterns and Case Studies of Human Trafficking Prevention", which were used in regular legal education sessions and other relevant occasions, with a total of 9,591 participants receiving the training.
8. Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA): The Industrial Development Administration of the MOEA conducted 1 digital course on human trafficking prevention in both June and December 2024, with a total of 143 participants attending.
9. Mainland Affairs Council (MAC): In 2024, the Council organized one training session on human trafficking prevention and a screening of the film "The Runners" with a total of 48 staff members attending.
10. Financial Supervisory Commission (FSC)
  - (1) Banking Sector: The FSC commissioned the Taiwan

Academy of Banking and Finance to conduct 42 pre-employment training sessions for personnel involved in anti-money laundering (AML), counter-terrorism financing (CTF), and regulatory compliance. These sessions included content on human trafficking awareness and were attended by a total of 1,830 participants.

(2) Securities and Futures Sector: The Securities and Futures Institute (SFI) and the Securities Investment Trust and Consulting Association of the R.O.C. (SITCA) were commissioned to incorporate human trafficking issues into the pre-employment training for associated persons of securities firms and futures business, as well as courses on anti-money laundering and insider trading prevention. A total of 8,786 persons attended these 144 sessions of courses.

(3) Insurance Sector: The Taiwan Insurance Institute (TII) and the Institute of Financial Law and Crime Prevention (IFLCP) were commissioned to incorporate human trafficking issues into the training curriculum on anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing. A total of 8,392 individuals attended 153 training sessions.

11. Veterans Affairs Council (VAC): In April 2024, the VAC held a “Workshop and Site Visit on New Immigrant Counseling”, during which personnel from the NIA delivered a lecture on “Taiwan’s Human Trafficking Prevention Policies and Current Implementation Status.” A total of 65 seed personnel

were trained through this program. These individuals were expected to return to their respective units and, based on unit-specific characteristics, enhance their counseling capabilities and promote awareness on the prevention of human trafficking.

12. National Communications Commission (NCC): In 2024, the NCC conducted 3 professional training sessions for broadcasting practitioners. These sessions focused on promoting awareness of regulations related to human trafficking prevention and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. A total of 445 individuals participated in the training.

13. Council of Indigenous Peoples (CIP)

(1) In 2024, educational training sessions were conducted for social work professionals serving indigenous communities to raise awareness of human trafficking prevention. The training targeted directors and social workers from Indigenous Family Service Centers, personnel from indigenous affairs units of local governments, indigenous social workers (licensed), and professional supervisors from regional Indigenous Peoples Family Service Center. A total of 295 individuals participated.

(2) Indigenous Family Service Centers also organized educational lectures and awareness campaigns on human trafficking prevention during social resource network meetings, training sessions, major tribal assemblies, and ceremonial events, with the aim of



enhancing awareness and concern about human trafficking among Indigenous peoples.

14. Public Construction Commission, Executive Yuan (hereinafter referred to as PCC): The PCC incorporated instructions on Article 41 of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act into the training materials for the Basic Training Program for Government Procurement Professionals, delivering this content to personnel from both government agencies and contractors. Relevant regulations were also included in the “Model Statement of Tenderer” for use by various agencies. In 2024, approximately 11,098 individuals participated in the Basic Training Program.

15. Fisheries Agency (FA)

(1) In 2024, the FA participated in five training sessions organized by relevant government agencies or international organizations, with a total of 249 participants, to enhance the professional competencies of interviewers and labor inspectors in the fisheries sector.

(2) The FA continued to conduct awareness campaigns and regulatory briefings for crew members. It also incorporated related courses into the training and regular refresher programs for Taiwanese senior and ordinary crew members to promote awareness of corporate social responsibility and foster a mutually beneficial relationship.

16. National Police Agency (NPA): To enhance frontline officers’ understanding of anti-human trafficking efforts

and improve their investigative skills, the NPA organized training programs for officers directly involved in handling human trafficking cases. The courses featured experienced judges, prosecutors, subject-matter experts, frontline practitioners, and certified Anti-Human Trafficking Seed Instructors from the NIA. These experts delivered lectures on the Human Trafficking Prevention Act, the Principles for the Identification of Human Trafficking Victims, and practical investigative techniques. In 2024, local police departments across Taiwan held a total of 50 regional training sessions on anti-human trafficking, with 6,875 officers participating.

#### 17. National Immigration Agency (NIA)

- (1) Each Port Border Affairs Corps holds human trafficking education and training sessions biannually to continuously enhance the professional knowledge and capabilities of personnel responsible for handling trafficking cases.
- (2) In March, October, and November 2024, a total of five workshops were conducted on investigating illegal migrant workers. These courses incorporated case studies on human trafficking and key indicators in identifying suspected victims, with a total of 244 participants.
- (3) In April and October 2024, the NIA organized the “2024 Advanced Training on Combating Human Trafficking” and the “2024 Combating Human Trafficking and Online Gender-Based Violence”

respectively. Participants included personnel from relevant central and local government agencies as well as civil society organizations involved in anti-trafficking work, aiming to strengthen the frontline capacity in anti-trafficking efforts. A total of 225 people participated.

- (4) In April 2024, the NIA held two training sessions on the “Implementation Plan for Assisting Identification in Suspected Human Trafficking Cases” for social workers and other professionals. The sessions aimed to strengthen understanding of relevant laws, regulations, and administrative measures under the Human Trafficking Prevention Act, as well as to establish foundational concepts for victim identification and enhance case-handling capabilities. A total of 69 participants from local social and labor affairs departments and NGOs attended.

18. Coast Guard Administration (CGA): In 2024, the CGA held two training sessions to educate case officers and frontline personnel. The training covered basic human trafficking concepts, key points of the law amendments, enhancements in TIP investigations, and case study sharing. A total of 144 participants attended.

#### 4.4 Diverse Multilingual Communication Channels and Actions

To strengthen and implement human trafficking prevention policies, government agencies in Taiwan have continued to organize and promote related awareness campaigns. A summary of these efforts is

provided below:

1. Ministry of Labor (MOL)

- (1) The MOL has set up Migrant Worker Service Centers at Taoyuan and Kaohsiung International Airports to provide arriving migrant workers with guidance, legal information, and channels for filing complaints upon departure. These two centers conduct legal orientation sessions for incoming migrant workers through promotional videos, printed materials, and in-person briefings on Taiwan's laws, customs, and workers' rights. This helps migrant workers adapt to life in Taiwan and reduce anxiety. In 2024, a total of 231,575 migrant workers received such orientation upon arrival.
- (2) To help migrant workers adapt quickly to their jobs in Taiwan, the MOL has subsidized local governments to set up Migrant Workers Consultation Service Centers nationwide. Staff of these centers speak the workers' native languages and provide consultation and complaint services on legal matters, psychological counseling, workplace adjustment, and labor disputes. They also offer subsidies for legal proceedings and referrals to legal aid resources. If migrant workers have legal inquiries or encounter unlawful situations—such as unilateral contract termination by the employer, mistreatment, withholding of property, unpaid wages, or sexual assault—they may file complaints directly or seek assistance from local authorities or the relevant

Migrant Workers Consultation Service Center. In 2024, the centers handled a total of 352,197 consultations and dispute cases.

- (3) To provide information on employment, rights, and relevant laws to employers, migrant workers, and the public, the MOL has set up the Foreign National Labor Rights Portal in six languages (available in Chinese, English, Filipino, Indonesian, Thai, and Vietnamese) for inquiries about legal rights, consultations, and complaints. As of the end of 2024, the website had recorded a total of 4,641,353 visits. In addition, the MOL launched the “Line@1955” and the “1955 real-time text message service”, which proactively delivered updates on labor rights in migrant workers’ native languages and provided real-time text-based assistance as well as FAQs related to labor conditions and employment applications. Also, the “1955 hotline” Facebook page for migrant workers was set up to provide migrant workers with information on employment rights, which is synchronized with the Taiwan Workforce Development Agency Information Site of Foreign Worker Rights Defense. In 2024, “LINE@1955” pushed out 360 themed messages, served 16,736 users through live text chat, handled 153,133 FAQ-based automated service queries, and the “1955hotline” Facebook page reached 153,313 users.
- (4) The MOL commissioned five radio stations to produce and broadcast 13 radio programs in Mandarin,

English, Indonesian, Vietnamese, and Thai. The programs addressed topics such as the prevention of human trafficking and the protection of migrant workers' personal safety, as well as guidance on how to access the 1955 Labor Consultation and Complaint Hotline. These broadcasts also served to disseminate government policies and relevant laws in a timely manner, while promoting public engagement and enhancing legal awareness among employers, employment agencies, and migrant workers. In 2024, the programs recorded a total estimated listenership of 4,884,900.

2. Ministry of Justice (MOJ): During the “Judicial Protection Month” from April to September 2024, the MOJ launched the “Judicial Protection Month” campaign to promote anti-human trafficking awareness among members of its affiliated agencies and the general public through e-newsletter advertisements.
3. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)
  - (1) A bilingual website on the Working Holiday Program (available in Chinese and English) has been established to educate and remind Taiwanese youth about safety and rights-related issues when engaging in working holidays abroad. The page includes key information and real case examples to help prevent incidents of human trafficking. Since its launch in 2016, the site has received 827,000 visits, with total page views exceeding 2.194 million.
  - (2) In response to cases of Taiwanese nationals being lured

into job scams in Southeast Asia, the MOFA created a dedicated “Overseas Job Scam Prevention” section on its official website in August 2022 to expand access to up-to-date information, with cumulative page views exceeding 67,000. In addition, warning posters have been placed in the consular lobbies and at the counters of the Bureau of Consular Affairs (BOCA), Central, Yunlin-Chiayi-Tainan, Southern, and Eastern offices of MOFA, and BOCA’s Taoyuan Airport Office. The MOFA also produced “Anti-Overseas Job Scam” awareness cards that are inserted into newly issued passports for public awareness.

- (3) Since July 2024, Thai authorities have granted visa-free entry to Taiwanese travelers for stays of up to 60 days per visit. The MOFA has observed a rise in cases of nationals traveling through Thailand to engage in illegal work or falling victims to human trafficking in Cambodia or Myanmar. In response to this concerning trend, the MOFA has issued press releases and travel advisories to continuously remind the public not to risk involvement in illegal overseas activities—such as telecom fraud—which may lead to arrest or confinement in scam compounds.
- (4) In 2024, the MOFA published 34 reports related to human trafficking prevention on both the “New Southbound Policy Portal” and the “Portal of Embassies and Missions Abroad.” Additionally, six awareness posts on human trafficking prevention—

including warnings about job scams in Southeast Asia—were published across MOFA’s Facebook, Instagram, and Threads platforms.

#### 4. Ministry of Education (MOE)

- (1) In January 2024, the MOE held the National Conference for the University Presidents in Taiwan, followed by the National Conference of Academic Affairs Directors of Vocational and Technological Colleges and Universities in September. Colleges and Universities were encouraged to offer courses on human rights and the rule of law, including topics such as human trafficking. In addition, a total of 3,693 participants attended human rights and rule of law-related courses or events held at community colleges.
- (2) From October to November 2024, the MOE hosted four Overseas Student Workshops for overseas students aimed at raising awareness of anti-exploitation and human rights issues. These workshops invited 641 overseas and international students and representatives from 102 universities, colleges, and high schools, along with guests from the MOL, the MOI, and other relevant agencies.
- (3) In 2024, the MOE commissioned the National Educational Radio to produce the weekly program “Super Citizen GO” , which aired every Saturday for a total of 52 episodes. The program invited experts and scholars with practical experience to discuss issues related to human rights protection, campus bullying, and human trafficking, aiming to enhance



citizens' legal literacy and promote legal education for parents.

5. Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC)

- (1) Land Transportation: In August 2024, the Highway Bureau instructed all highway authorities to promote human trafficking prevention awareness among taxi service operators within their jurisdiction by encouraging them to visit the NIA's website and review related outreach materials. In addition, the state-owned Taiwan Railways Corporation Ltd. continued to display anti-human trafficking messages via scrolling displays, which were also included in the pre-shift briefings for train service personnel.
- (2) Air Transportation: All airports under the Civil Aviation Administration, including Taoyuan International Airport, use multimedia equipment (electronic billboards, scrolling displays) to broadcast various promotional materials on "human trafficking prevention." In 2024, promotional videos were played more than 85,611 times, and promotional slogans were displayed 43,593 times.
- (3) Maritime Transportation: The Taiwan International Ports Corporation, Ltd. (TIPC) consistently displays anti-trafficking slogans on electronic billboards and scrolling displays throughout its ports. These efforts reached approximately 2.29 million people in 2024. Additionally, from January to September 2024, the Maritime and Port Bureau intermittently broadcast the importance of combating human trafficking

through ticker displays at its affiliated maritime affairs centers.

- (4) Hospitality Industry Collaboration: The MOTC also incorporated anti-human trafficking promotion into written inspections of tourist hotels, general assemblies of tourist hotels, and hotel associations, and training workshops for hotel industry personnel. In 2024, outreach was conducted with 87 tourist hotels, and nine training sessions for hotel industry personnel were held, with a total of 452 participants.
6. Ministry of National Defense: The Military Police Command developed teaching materials for regular legal education sessions, covering such topics as “Key Amendments to the Human Trafficking Prevention Act” and “Forms and Case Studies of Human Trafficking Prevention.” In total, 54 sessions were conducted with 9,591 participants.
7. Veterans Affairs Council: In 2024, posters promoting human trafficking prevention were displayed at Veterans Service Offices across all counties and cities. Additionally, 19 sessions of the “New Residents’ Life Adaptation Counseling and Happy Family Recognition and Meet Activities” were held, during which government personnel delivered lectures on anti-human trafficking policies and regulations. A total of 991 individuals attended.
8. Council of Indigenous Peoples (CIP): In 2024, the CIP held 213 lectures and workshops at the Indigenous Peoples Family Service Centers, reaching a total of 6,290

participants. These events focused on the welfare of indigenous people and included integrated promotions on the control and prevention of human trafficking.

9. Public Construction Commission, Executive Yuan (PCC):

The PCC used the Government e-Procurement System (GEPS) to promote provisions of Article 41 of the Human Trafficking Prevention Act related to public procurement. It also published the Ministry of the Interior's list of suppliers convicted of human trafficking offenses, as finalized by court rulings, on the GEPS' "blacklisted suppliers" inquiry page. These suppliers are barred from being awarded contracts or acting as subcontractors for five years. In 2024, there were over 997,183 inquiries related to blacklisted suppliers on the platform.

10. National Police Agency (NPA): Local police departments conducted awareness campaigns on anti-human trafficking laws during community policing meetings under their jurisdiction. They showed educational videos and encouraged public participation in prevention efforts. In 2024, a total of 1,125 meetings were held, attended by 60,264 individuals. Additionally, information on reporting suspected trafficking cases was promoted via official websites, LED displays, and scrolling banners at affiliated agencies and organizations. Brochures and pamphlets on human trafficking prevention were also made available at public service counters.

11. National Immigration Agency (NIA)

- (1) In 2024, the NIA intensified its outreach through display equipment at various service centers. It also leveraged opportunities such as mobile service units, family education programs, and relevant legal awareness activities to promote human trafficking prevention. In total, 446 events were held with 4,797 participants. Furthermore, multilingual posters were displayed in public areas of all service centers, and electronic platforms were used to broadcast anti-human trafficking awareness videos. In 2024, these efforts are estimated to have reached approximately 12,953 people.
- (2) In October 2024, the NIA cooperated with the local social welfare department to organize a “Foreign Fishing Crew Recreation and Legal Awareness Event” at Fugang Fishing Port, providing Indonesian and Filipino crew members with information on human trafficking prevention and labor exploitation awareness. A total of 52 participants attended. The NIA also joined local government events such as Eid al-Fitr carnivals, Immigration Festival and International Migrants Day, setting up booths to distribute multilingual educational materials and raise awareness of human trafficking prevention.
- (3) While conducting outreach sessions at universities to explain residence (stay) regulations for international students at universities and colleges, the NIA also promoted awareness of human trafficking prevention and warned against job scam risks targeting foreign

students.

#### 12. Fishing Agency (FA)

- (1) Every two years, the FA prints and distributes over 10,000 multilingual cards (in Chinese, English, Vietnamese, and Indonesian) containing information on basic rights to crew members. Crew members' living quarters are also required to display information on hotline numbers for filing complaints.
- (2) In 2024, the FA conducted 27 human rights education sessions, which included not only checking on the well-being of foreign crew members but also informing them of their rights and protections.

13. Coast Guard Administration (CGA): The CGA instructed its units to make appropriate use of the text and video materials available on the “Amendments to the Human Trafficking Prevention Act” section on the official website of the National Immigration Agency of the Ministry of the Interior.

## **5. Strengthening Domestic and Foreign Partnerships**

### **5.1 Participation in International Exchanges and Activities**

#### **1. Ministry of Justice (MOJ)**

- (1) In January 2024, the MOJ nominated two prosecutors from the Taiwan Taipei District Prosecutors Office to attend the California Crypto Conference hosted by the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office in San Jose, California, USA. The conference brought together prosecutors, law enforcement officers, and private-sector representatives from countries

including the United States, Germany, and Canada. U.S. speakers shared insights and experiences regarding cross-border enforcement cooperation in combating human trafficking involving money laundering through virtual currencies, particularly in Southeast Asian countries such as Cambodia. Through this conference, Taiwanese prosecutors were able to exchange investigative techniques and experiences with foreign law enforcement agencies, thereby enhancing future cooperation in the enforcement of human trafficking-related cases.

- (2) In March 2024, Tsai Pi-Chung, former Deputy Minister of Justice, hosted a roundtable meeting with a visiting delegation from the Los Angeles County Bar Association (LACBA). The delegation was led by board member Michael Fern, a prosecutor with the Digital Crimes Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. The delegation, consisting of over 30 members, engaged in discussions with the Ministry of Justice on topics such as national security and anti-corruption. Prosecutor Fern specializes in investigating fraud (including cross-border telecom scam operations involving human trafficking), identity theft, and computer crimes. The exchange facilitated closer judicial cooperation between Taiwan and the United States and enhanced the sharing of criminal investigation techniques.
- (3) In April 2024, the U.S. Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) attaché in Taiwan invited the

MOJ to attend the 2024 International Conference on Transnational Organized Crime & Terrorism (ICTOCT). Two prosecutors from the Taiwan High Prosecutors Office represented Taiwan at the event. The conference focused on various types of transnational organized crimes, including human trafficking linked to cross-border telecom fraud. Participation in the event enabled Taiwan's prosecutors to exchange insights with judicial and law enforcement personnel from the United States and other countries on crime trends and investigative practices, thereby strengthening international networks to jointly combat human trafficking.

- (4) In May 2024, representatives were sent to Seoul, South Korea to participate in the 9th Training Session of the Asset Recovery Interagency Network – Asia Pacific (ARIN-AP). This session provided an opportunity to learn about asset recovery laws, procedures, and experiences from other countries, while also sharing Taiwan's legal reforms and enforcement achievements. This exchange helped enhance future international law enforcement cooperation in human trafficking asset recovery.
- (5) In June 2024, Taiwan hosted the “2024 Mutual Legal Assistance International Conference,” inviting prosecutors, lawyers, and coordinators from the United States, Canada, Estonia, Germany, and the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (EUROJUST) to share their legal

practices. Discussions focused on key issues such as national security, trade secrets, artificial intelligence, cross-border fraud, human trafficking, and asset recovery. This event strengthened Taiwan's judicial cooperation with other countries and improved Taiwan's international visibility.

- (6) In June and November 2024, representatives were sent to attend the European Judicial Network (EJN) Contact Points Meetings in Antwerp, Belgium, and Budapest, Hungary. In November, they also visited EUROJUST to establish communication channels with European countries, facilitating future cooperation in combating human trafficking.
- (7) In July 2024, at the invitation of the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), two prosecutors were selected to attend the "Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation" course at the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Bangkok, Thailand. The course focused on investigative techniques for labor exploitation, including cases where victims were deceived by fraud syndicates into working in transnational telecom scam operations. This exchange strengthened cooperation between Taiwan and foreign prosecutors and investigators, improving case-handling efficiency.
- (8) In September 2024, Michael B. Redmann, Acting Deputy Chief of the International Unit, Money Laundering and Asset Recovery Section (MLARS) of the U.S. Department of Justice Criminal Division,



and Dan Simmons, FBI Attaché to Thailand, invited Taiwan's Agency Against Corruption and a Taipei District Prosecutor stationed at the Agency Against Corruption to exchange views on asset recovery and international cooperation related to corruption and fraud crimes in both public and private sectors—including transnational telecom fraud operations linked to human trafficking.

- (9) In September 2024, EUROJUST and the Dutch National Police paid a visit to Taiwan. The Netherlands outlined the criteria its central authority uses to evaluate foreign requests for mutual legal assistance (MLA) and shared its experience in asset sharing with other countries. This exchange enhanced both sides' understanding of each other's MLA systems and practices, laying a stronger foundation for future law enforcement cooperation in human trafficking cases.
- (10) From late September to October 2024, the Ministry of Justice, together with a delegation from the Prosecutors Association, ROC (Taiwan), attended the 29th Annual Conference of the International Association of Prosecutors (IAP) in Azerbaijan. Prosecutors from around the world exchanged views on key topics, including transnational telecom fraud, human trafficking, digital crime, and victim and witness protection. The conference enabled Taiwan to establish liaison channels with prosecutorial and central authorities responsible for mutual legal

assistance, strengthening the potential for future cooperation.

(11) In November 2024, American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) Security Officer Mr. Burska and other representatives visited the MOJ. The two sides discussed extradition of fugitives, intelligence sharing, and training for prosecutors and law enforcement officers. These discussions helped contributed to strengthen U.S.–Taiwan judicial cooperation, including in investigating cross-border human trafficking cases.

(12) In December 2024, Deputy Minister of Justice Hsi-Hsiang Hsu led a delegation to visit U.S. agencies including the Department of Justice, the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), and the HSI New York El Dorado Task Force. Discussions focused on using advanced investigative technologies to improve enforcement and investigative capabilities in human trafficking and cross-border fraud cases, further strengthening Taiwan’s cooperation with foreign judicial and law enforcement agencies.

2. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA): In March 2024, the Executive Yuan’s Anti-Fraud Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), the Ministry of Digital Affairs, the National Communications Commission (NCC), the Financial Supervisory Commission (FSC), and the National Police

Agency (NPA), in cooperation with the representative offices of the United States, Japan, Australia, and the United Kingdom, co-hosted the “Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF) International Workshop on Combating Transnational Fraud.” The event gathered nearly 40 officials, scholars, and experts from 24 countries to exchange views with domestic agencies, with approximately 270 participants. Through training sessions and site visits, the workshop enhanced interactions between international and domestic participants and strengthened cross-border cooperation mechanisms to jointly combat transnational fraud and prevent human trafficking.

### 3. National Police Agency

- (1) In September 2024, the Ministry of the Interior (MOI), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), and the Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) co-hosted the “2024 International Forum on Police Cooperation—Combating Transnational Crime.” The forum addressed topics including “Cyber and Telecom Crime”, “Human Trafficking and Fraud”, “Illicit Financial Flows and Money Laundering”, and “Emerging Crypto-Related Crimes.” Serving as a platform for international exchange and sharing of crime prevention strategies, it strengthened Taiwan’s ties with foreign law enforcement agencies, analyzed current challenges in transnational fraud, and promoted future cooperation in intelligence sharing, technical exchange, cross-border legal coordination,

and the apprehension of overseas fugitives— helping safeguarding lives and property worldwide.

- (2) Police liaison officers were stationed in 14 countries—including Australia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Thailand, the Philippines, the Netherlands, the United States, Turkey, and Vietnam—to establish and maintain close cooperation and liaison with local law enforcement bodies, in hopes of promptly obtaining intelligence and jointly investigating transnational human trafficking crimes.

#### 4. National Immigration Agency (NIA)

- (1) In August 2024, the NIA hosted the 2024 International Workshop on Strategies for Combating Human Trafficking. The opening ceremony was officiated by Deputy Minister of the Interior Ma Shi-Yuan, and attended by ambassadors to Taiwan as well as other distinguished guests. Approximately 300 participants—including representatives from various countries, government agencies, and NGOs—attended to discuss key topics such as: “A typical Victims of Human Trafficking under Forced Criminality”, “Strategies for Preventing Transnational Human Trafficking Crimes”, “Key Strategies for Preventing Forced Labor and Organ Harvesting”, and “Protection and Challenges of Rights of Victims of Sexual Exploitation.” The workshop provided international exchange of expertise, strengthened prevention efforts, and

enhanced comprehensive protection of fundamental human rights.

- (2) In November 2024, the Immigration Attaché of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Auckland visited the International Services Group of New Zealand Police Headquarters (including its INTERPOL team) to exchange views on human trafficking patterns, trends, and enforcement practices in New Zealand. The visit also established communication channels to strengthen future cooperation in combating human trafficking.
  - (3) Throughout 2024, the Immigration Attaché of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Los Angeles maintained close communication with local U.S. agencies, including Customs and Border Protection (CBP), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). These exchanges focused on human trafficking prevention and aimed to enhance substantive bilateral cooperation.
  - (4) In 2024, the Immigration Attaché of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Thailand conducted multiple visits to the Thai Immigration Bureau and the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Division (ATPD) to enhance bilateral intelligence sharing and cooperation.
5. Fisheries Agency: In April 2024, the FA co-hosted the “International Forum on Fisheries and Human Rights” with National Chung Cheng University. Experts and

scholars from Taiwan and abroad, together with industry representatives, civil society groups, and officials from the home and market countries of migrant fishers in Taiwan, were invited to share their perspectives. The forum addressed three main themes: “Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights”, “Promoting the ILO C188 Convention: Reform Experiences and Policy Actions”, and “Implementation and Challenges of ILO C188.”

## 5.2 Signing or Other Efforts to Promote Substantive Cooperation with the International Community

### 1. Ministry of Labor (MOL)

- (1) In February 2024, the MOL signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with India on bilateral labor cooperation. Both parties agreed to exchange intelligence to prevent migrant workers from being exploited or trafficked, to promote anti-trafficking awareness, and to cooperate in providing victims with the travel documents needed for safe return to their home countries.
- (2) The MOL produced a 30-minute pre-employment orientation video in five languages—Mandarin, English, Vietnamese, Indonesian, and Thai. The video, which covers essential information for working in Taiwan, including relevant laws and local customs, was sent via the representative offices of migrant workers’ home countries in Taiwan to their vocational training centers for use in pre-entry training, thereby strengthening the pre-employment training mechanism.

## 2. Ministry of Justice (MOJ)

(1) In March 2024, former Minister of Justice Tsai Ching-hsiang received a delegation from the Taiwan Friendship Group of the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies, led by Chairperson Geraldo Junio do Amaral, along with Ives Gandra da Silva Martins Filho, Justice of Brazil's Superior Labor Court. The parties exchanged views on Taiwan-Brazil judicial cooperation, including judicial personnel training, promoting the signing of a criminal mutual legal assistance agreement, and respective judicial systems. These discussions helped strengthen bilateral criminal justice cooperation and joint efforts against transnational crimes, including human trafficking.

(2) In March 2024, the sixth working meeting on the Taiwan–Philippines Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters was held. Both sides confirmed future contact points, urged the Philippines to deport Taiwanese fugitives, and jointly reviewed progress on recent mutual legal assistance cases. Constructive conclusions were reached to enhance future judicial cooperation effectiveness.

3. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA): In response to the continued focus in the U.S. annual Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report on labor rights in Taiwan's distant water fisheries, the MOFA has actively engaged with the U.S. through various channels. Taiwan's overseas missions have explained the content and progress of Taiwan's

Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights to U.S. counterparts when appropriate. Additionally, during the second phase of substantive negotiations under the “U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade” launched in April 2024, both sides continued exchanging views on labor issues, including those concerning crew members on distant water fishing vessels.

4. The National Immigration Agency (NIA): To promote international cooperation on immigration and combat human trafficking, Taiwan had signed Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) by the end of 2024 with 22 countries: Australia, Belgium, Belize, El Salvador, Eswatini, Gambia, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Japan, the Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Nauru, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, the Philippines, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Solomon Islands, the United States, and Vietnam. These MOUs have significantly enhanced cooperation on immigration affairs, cross-border crime prevention, and anti-trafficking efforts.

### 5.3 Sponsoring or Participating in Events Organized by Domestic NGO

1. Ministry of Labor (MOL): The MOL continued subsidizing NGOs to organize training for employers, migrant workers, and agents, as well as cultural exchanges, festivals, and Chinese/ foreign language courses. These activities promoted awareness of human trafficking prevention, emphasized employers’ responsibility for migrant workers’ personal safety and



privacy, encouraged proper care for migrant workers' well-being and publicized the 1955 hotline for consultation and complaints. In 2024, a total of 8 events were held with 8,383 participants.

2. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA): In April and October 2024, the MOFA supported ECPAT Taiwan's participation in the "2024 INHOPE Warsaw Members Meeting and Hotline Training Program" in Poland and the "2024 INHOPE Summit" in the United States. These events enabled engagement with international experts and practitioners, sharing Taiwan's anti-human trafficking practices, and strengthening Taiwan's global visibility and professional reputation.
3. Fisheries Agency (FA): In 2024, the FA funded fishing industry associations and NGOs, and cooperated with official agencies from migrant crew members' home countries to hold 48 care events for foreign crew. These events raised awareness of human trafficking prevention, underscored employers' responsibility to safeguard foreign crew members' safety and labor rights, and introduced support services such as counseling and interactive platforms for crew members.

## **IV. Future Work**

### **1. Strengthening the Screening of Vulnerable Foreign Populations to Reduce the Risk of Human Trafficking**

#### **1.1 Enhancing Measures for the Protection of Crew Members' Rights and Interests**

## 1. Fisheries Agency (FA)

- (1) Continuing labor inspections and rights awareness to enforce laws: The FA will continue labor inspections and interviews on distant water fishing vessels, to ensure that vessel operators and senior crew comply with fisheries regulations and to identify potential labor exploitation. The inspections also aim to promote occupational safety and labor rights awareness.
- (2) Conducting victim-centered interviews: The FA provides at least four hours of annual training for interviewers and inspectors. Following standardized procedures, crew members are assured confidentiality, and interviews are conducted separately from vessel owners or senior crew to ensure a safe environment. When necessary, interviews may be conducted alongside judicial police during vessel inspections at ports or at sea, focusing on victim-centered approaches. Assessments are conducted using the “Checklist of Suspected Labor Exploitation of Foreign Crew Members” to identify signs of forced labor.
- (3) Establishing mechanisms to prevent and expedite the handling of wage arrears: To protect crew members’ rights from potential wage arrears by distant water fishing vessel operators, which could lead to human trafficking concerns, the FA is currently developing a systematic mechanism to safeguard crew wages. This includes measures like wage reporting, dedicated

accounts, and a mutual compensation fund. The FA plans to consult with major distant water fisheries industry associations in 2025. They will also present these plans to industry, crew members, and civil society organizations to gain broad consensus. Following this, the FA will design accompanying regulations based on the input received from all stakeholders.

- (4) Strengthening oversight of Flag of Convenience (FOC) vessels: The FA will continue interagency joint inspections of FOC vessels entering Taiwan's ports to ensure compliance with labor standards and will regularly review enforcement practices.
- (5) Promoting diverse complaint mechanisms for crew members: Beyond the existing "Taiwan Foreign Crew Interactive Service Platform" for handling complaints, employers are now required to show a rights awareness video when signing employment contracts with crew members. Information on crew rights must also be prominently displayed on board vessels. Furthermore, the FA will engage in monthly discussions with key members of the Pingtung Migrant Fishermen Union (FOSPI-PMFU) to actively understand crew needs and help resolve issues.
- (6) Promoting legal compliance and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) among vessel operators and senior crew: The FA organizes regular refresher training for operators and senior crew members to

reinforce awareness of legal obligations and CSR. It will also continue to support, guide, and promote fisheries associations and seafood buyers to collectively participate in CSR programs, such as joining the Fisheries Improvement Project (FIP) and obtaining Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) eco-certifications.

## 2. Ministry of Labor (MOL)

- (1) Taiwanese vessel owners may employ foreign crew members to engage in ocean fishing work. Based on the demand of fishing operations, employment types are categorized into domestic employment (for offshore fishing vessels) and overseas employment (for distant water fishing vessels). The MOL is responsible for the approval and regulation of foreign crew members employed domestically, under the Employment Service Act and related laws. In contrast, the Ministry of Agriculture oversees the approval and regulation of foreign crew members employed overseas.
- (2) Regardless of whether foreign crew members are employed domestically or overseas, they may file complaints in cases involving labor disputes, unfair treatment, or personal harm. In Taiwan, they may access the toll-free 1955 Hotline, which operates 24/7. While abroad, they may call +886-2-8073-3141 to lodge complaints. Upon receiving a case, the 1955 Hotline will forward matters concerning foreign crew members employed overseas to the Fisheries Agency

for investigation and response. For cases involving foreign crew members employed domestically, the hotline will assign the case to the appropriate local government for handling.

3. National Immigration Agency (NIA): In line with the requirements of international fisheries conventions and with reference to Article 14, Paragraph 1 of the Work in Fishing Convention (C188), which stipulates that, to prevent fatigue, competent authorities shall set minimum rest periods for fishers—such as no less than 77 hours of rest in any 7-day period—and Paragraph 2, which allows competent authorities to grant temporary exceptions to minimum rest periods for limited and specific reasons, the NIA plans to amend, in 2025, the “Checklist of the Suspected Case of Labor Exploitation of Foreign Crew Members”, specifically the section related to excessive overtime, to be used as a preliminary indicator for identifying potential labor exploitation.

#### 1.2 Deepening the Protection of Migrant Workers’ Rights

1. The government will continue to review and develop protective measures for domestic migrant workers, including the division of responsibilities and regulatory review related to the International Labour Organization (ILO) Domestic Workers Convention 189 (C189).
2. Comprehensive protection measures are continuously provided to migrant workers prior to entry, post-arrival, and before departure:
  - (1) Prior to Entry:
    - A. A written labor contract and an affidavit detailing the

foreign worker's entry-related expenses and wage arrangements are required. These documents serve as a basis for future inspections conducted by local labor authorities to determine compliance with relevant regulations.

B. Pre-employment briefings for employers are conducted to help them and their families understand relevant laws and regulations, potential challenges that migrant workers may encounter after arrival, and available government support resources, with the aim of preventing legal violations.

C. Orientation videos for migrant workers are produced and delivered to vocational training centers in their home countries via their respective representative offices in Taiwan, to be used as part of the pre-departure training program.

(2) Post-Arrival: Through a variety of multilingual communication channels including airport service stations, the 1955 Hotline, Line@1955, the Foreign National Labor Rights Portal, and multilingual radio broadcasts—migrant workers are informed about relevant labor regulations, dispute resolution mechanisms, and legal aid referral services. Additional support is provided for placement services and assistance with employer transfer, with the current success rate of transfers exceeding 90%.

(3) Before Departure (i.e., migrant workers departing for a third country or returning to their home country):

A. Verification Mechanism for Contract Termination:

To prevent the improper repatriation of migrant workers, a verification mechanism has been established. Employers and their employed migrant workers who mutually agree to terminate employment relationship before the expiration of the contract are required to undergo a verification process at the local competent authority. This process aims to ensure the genuine intent of both parties in terminating the contract. In 2024, a total of 52,022 verifications were conducted.

B. Airport Complaint Service: To safeguard migrant workers' rights, those who wish to file a complaint at the time of departure may do so at the Migrant Worker Service Center located at the airport.

### 1.3 Enhancing the Protection of Rights for International Students

#### 1. Ministry of Labor (MOL)

- (1) To prevent the illegal recruitment of international students under the pretense of “internships” that in fact constitute unauthorized employment, any intermediary found to have arranged such employment for foreign students in violation of the Employment Service Act may be subject to a fine, imprisoned, detention, or a combination thereof.
- (2) International students who come to Taiwan for study and participate in internships are considered to be engaging in academic activities as an extension of their coursework and are therefore not classified as employment. However, in recognition of the financial

and living needs of overseas compatriot students and other foreign students, Article 50 of the Employment Service Act stipulates that foreign students are allowed to engage in part-time work outside of class hours, with the weekly working hours not exceeding 20. Employers who violate this provision may be fined up to NT\$300,000.

- (3) Upon receiving reports of suspected violations of labor rights involving international students, the MOL will simultaneously notify local governments and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to conduct labor inspections. In addition, the MOL has requested the Ministry of Education to instruct all colleges and universities to conduct thorough reviews of students' financial situations and language proficiency before approving part-time work permits for international students. Schools are also expected to keep track of students' part-time work status and locations, and to conduct regular follow-ups to provide timely and appropriate assistance.
2. Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC): The “Directions Governing the Application of Foreign Students to the ROC in the Capacity of Interns in Tourist Hotel Enterprises and Hotel Enterprises” shall come into force from 1st, January 2025. The Tourism Administration has implemented a rigorous review process covering students' background information, the business scale of hotel enterprises and home stay facilities, and internship programs, so as to



prevent instances of “sham internships as a cover for unauthorized employment.” Hotel operators are also required to provide adequate insurance coverage, as well as benefits such as scholarships, accommodation, and meals, to ensure that students intern in a safe and secure environment. In line with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ policy, the Tourism Administration also conducts strict reviews of the accreditation status of the students’ home institutions to prevent human trafficking and exploitation.

### 3. Ministry of Education (MOE)

- (1) The MOE strengthening the implementation of the “Audit Program for the Protection of Foreign Students’ Educational Rights at Junior Colleges and Institutions of Higher Education” to safeguard the educational rights of foreign students. In addition, the MOE will continue to strengthen its oversight of colleges and universities, ensuring that they conduct thorough reviews of foreign students’ financial capacity and language proficiency during the admissions process.
- (2) MOE will continue to promote awareness of regulations regarding part-time employment and the reporting of missing foreign students. It will also further implement targeted inspections (site visits) to ensure that colleges and universities clearly distinguish between internship programs and part-time work activities. In cases where there are is suspicions of violations of foreign students’ labor

rights or potential human trafficking, the matter will be referred to the Ministry of Labor, which will forward it to relevant local governments or to the judicial police for investigation. The Ministry of Labor and relevant agencies will report their findings to the MOE for appropriate follow-up action, so as to safeguard the rights and interests of foreign students in Taiwan.

4. Overseas Community Affairs Council (OCAC): Since 2014, the OCAC has expanded implementation of the “3+4 Vocational Education Program for Overseas Compatriot Students” (the Program), providing opportunities for overseas compatriot students to study and intern in Taiwan. Students enrolled in the Program follow the same cooperative education model as domestic technical and vocational students and are not in Taiwan for employment purposes. They may also engage in limited part-time work outside of class and internships, in accordance with labor laws and regulations. To safeguard the rights for overseas compatriot students, the OCAC has adopted the following measures:

- (1) Establishing a visitation mechanism to safeguard student rights: To protect the rights of overseas Chinese students and prevent them from becoming victims after arriving in Taiwan, the OCAC, in coordination with the competent educational authorities, conducts annual visits to schools (and internship institutions) between May and June. In

addition, schools participating in the Program are required to assign staff to visit students at their internship sites every two weeks to check on their well-being and ascertain whether they have been subjected to any improper treatment so that appropriate actions can be taken and relevant authorities can be promptly notified.

- (2) Strict scrutiny of intermediary involvement in recruitment and promotion of partnership programs for mutual cooperation: To prevent intermediary involvement in student recruitment, the OCAC has strengthened coordination with overseas missions, sponsoring organizations, and related networks to jointly prevent illegal intermediary recruitment practices. Overseas missions are instructed to closely monitor local intermediate agencies, while rigorous screening is required during the application and interview stages. Schools found to have collaborated with intermediaries or agents for recruitment purposes will face penalties, including suspension of enrollment privileges.

## **2. Raising Public Awareness on Human Trafficking**

### **2.1 Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)**

1. The Bureau of Consular Affairs will continue to strengthen public awareness of overseas travel safety and emergency assistance mechanisms. This will be carried out through multiple channels, including travel safety promotion activities (such as setting up information

booths at international travel fairs and Lunar New Year travel safety campaigns), printed materials, and digital tools. These efforts aim to enhance citizens' understanding of essential precautions before traveling abroad and available assistance channels in case of emergencies overseas, such as calling the 24-hour emergency hotlines of Taiwan's overseas missions and the MOFA Emergency Contact Center (0800-085-095).

2. The MOFA will strengthen anti-fraud awareness efforts related to overseas employment. Measures include producing and distributing anti-employment fraud information cards at passport application counters and periodically pushing awareness messages through the official LINE account (@boca.tw), including downloadable and shareable graphic cards. In addition, citizens who complete the "Overseas Travel Registration" will receive reminder messages to help prevent overseas job fraud.

3. Citizens are encouraged to download and use the MOFA "Travel Safety Guidance" app and enable its location-based push notification feature. This enables them to receive timely local travel safety information and anti-fraud alerts while abroad, thereby enhancing public awareness of the risks of becoming victims of human trafficking.

## 2.2 Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC)

1. The Civil Aeronautics Administration (CAA) has revised the "Assistance Mechanism for R.O.C. (Taiwan) Nationals Lured to Southeast Asian Countries to Seek

Help on Board Aircraft” and issued it to airlines. Under this mechanism, airlines are instructed to provide full assistance to passengers (victims) who seek help while onboard. In addition, Taoyuan International Airport Corporation utilizes multimedia devices (e.g., electronic display boards) to broadcast various anti-human trafficking awareness messages aimed at preventing trafficking incidents. Furthermore, the CAA has coordinated with airlines and the Aviation Police Bureau of the National Police Agency to distribute anti-overseas fraud alert cards at airline check-in counters. Public notices and reminders are prominently displayed at check-in counters and boarding gates to alert travelers and reduce the risk of victimization.

2. Travel agencies are urged to remind travelers during domestic and international tours to avoid approaching or engaging in conversation with strangers, refrain from traveling alone, and not accept items from unknown sources. They are also encouraged to inform travelers about the various forms and dangers of human trafficking a suspected trafficking case is identified, it should be reported immediately to the police to prevent individuals from becoming victims.

### 2.3 National Police Agency (NPA)

1. The NPA continues to direct all police authorities to make full use of diverse communication channels to enhance public awareness of human trafficking prevention and increase vigilance against victimization. These efforts aim to encourage the public to report suspected cases to

the police, thereby facilitating investigations and the timely rescue of victims.

2. In 2025, the NPA plans to install 163 anti-fraud display boards (with five sets of images) at Taoyuan, Songshan, Taichung, Tainan, and Kaohsiung airports. A total of 680,000 anti-fraud pamphlets (also with five sets of images) will be printed. Four domestic airlines and 19 foreign airlines will be requested to distribute these materials at check-in counters to passengers traveling to Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar, and Laos. Additionally, efforts will continue at airports to dissuade individuals targeted by overseas employment scams from departing the country.
3. The NPA will continue to raise public awareness through the dissemination of anti-fraud videos and images via multiple platforms. In collaboration with Taoyuan International Airport Corporation, these messages will be displayed at terminal check-in counters and on digital advertising screens, as well as promoted via the corporation's official Facebook and Instagram accounts. Ever Rich Duty Free Shop and Tasa Meng Duty Free Shop have also been requested to broadcast anti-fraud short videos on their electronic screens at appropriate high-traffic locations during business hours. Additionally, with the assistance of the Taipei and Kaohsiung precincts of the Aviation Police Bureau, similar broadcasts will be arranged at airport terminals to further strengthen public vigilance against fraud.
4. A link to the "165 Anti-Fraud Dashboard" has been added

to the NPA's official website. The dashboard displays daily statistics on reported fraud cases and financial losses to enhance public awareness of common fraud techniques and strengthen fraud detection capabilities.

2.4 National Immigration Agency (NIA): The NIA strengthens local collaborative networks by having its specialized operations brigades actively engage in activities within their respective jurisdictions. In addition, NIA's local service centers utilize diverse communication channels—such as family education services for new immigrants, legal information seminars, and opportunities provided when processing residency permit applications for migrant workers and employers—to raise awareness of human trafficking, promote victim protection measures, and expand prevention efforts among both citizens and new immigrants.

### **3. Promoting the Prevention of Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation (Involving Human Trafficking)**

Efforts to prevent child and youth sexual exploitation are advanced through a three-tiered approach of primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention measures. The key components are summarized as follows:

3.1 Primary Prevention: In accordance with Article 4 of the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act, elementary, junior high, and senior high schools are required to organize educational courses or campaigns on the prevention of sexual exploitation of children and youth

for at least two hours each semester.

3.2 Secondary Prevention: This stage focuses on strengthening interagency cooperation, including reinforced efforts by judicial authorities in criminal investigation and recidivism prevention. In addition, mechanisms for mandatory reporting are reinforced, and public awareness campaigns are conducted to improve the ability of citizens to identify and report suspected cases, thereby enabling the timely rescue of victims.

3.3 Tertiary Prevention:

1. Providing Protection and Assistance Measures to Victims:

Local governments are required to, under the law, provide victims with a range of protection and assistance measures, including emergency rescue, medical care and forensic examination, evidence collection, emergency placement, psychological treatment, and legal consultation. Additional support, such as assistance with school enrollment, employment, independent living, or other necessary aid, should also be provided. For individuals who are not officially designated as protection cases, referrals to relevant service resources should be made based on their needs, and appropriate protection and services should be offered in accordance with the best interests of the child and youth.

2. Implementing the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) for Cases in Placement: The Ministry of Health and Welfare has drafted a checklist for the rights of child and youth sexual exploitation victims in placement. This checklist assists local government leads



social workers and placement institutions in regularly reviewing and implementing protections for victims' legal rights, privacy rights, right to education, right to express views, and right to information during their placement. This ensures that their related rights are fully protected throughout the placement period.

#### **4. Implementing a Nationwide Action Plan, Conducting Relevant Research, or Undertaking Legislative Procedures Related to Associated Regulations**

##### **4.1 Active Revision of the Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights (2026–2029)**

1. Fisheries Agency (FA): The FA is currently drafting the “Fisheries and Human Rights Action Plan (2026-2029)” . This plan considers the severe impact of fisheries human rights issues, Taiwan's national circumstances, the status of the industry, and a review of the 2022-2025 Fisheries and Human Rights Action Plan's implementation. In developing the new plan, the Fisheries Agency has consulted relevant international conventions, regulations from key market countries, and reports and recommendations from international organizations and non-governmental organizations. They have also sought input from fishing crew associations, industry groups, NGOs, and the National Human Rights Commission of the Control Yuan. After these consultations, the draft plan will be submitted to the Executive Yuan for approval in 2025, and

subsequently promulgated, with the aim of enhancing relevant policies and implementation measures.

2. National Immigration Agency (NIA): In view of the frequent occurrence of forced labor incidents at sea, and to protect the rights and interests of distant-water fishery workers and to ensure the effective implement the Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights, the NIA convened a coordination meeting with relevant agencies in November 2024 to discuss the “Cooperative Mechanism for Strengthening Combat against Human Trafficking at Sea”. The NIA proposed that the Fisheries Agency incorporate this mechanism into the draft of the Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights (2026–2029) to enhance the capacity of frontline personnel from administrative and judicial police agencies to receive and respond to complaints or reports from foreign crew members and to identify suspected labor exploitation in fishing operations at sea in a timely manner.

#### 4.2 Drafting of the “2025–2026 Anti-Exploitation Action Plan” Underway

1. Led and coordinated by the MOI, the draft Action Plan addresses 24 human trafficking issues raised by various sectors and the NIA, which serves as the Secretariat, including the exploitation of foreign and overseas Chinese students engaged in part-time work or internships in Taiwan. A total of 120 corresponding concrete strategies have been formulated for consideration.
2. In November 2024, the NIA convened a working-level

meeting with relevant agencies to discuss the Action Plan. Upon approval by the Executive Yuan in 2025, the Plan will be formally promulgated and implemented.

3. Through the inter-ministerial coordination mechanism established under the Coordination Committee, resources and capacities of various agencies will continue to be integrated. Rolling reviews of the effectiveness of anti-human trafficking awareness campaigns and educational training implemented by government entities for various target groups (including Taiwanese nationals, foreign nationals, central and local government agencies, private enterprises, and NGOs), will be conducted on a rolling basis, with the goal to strengthening the ability of both the public and private sectors, as well as civil society, to prevent and identify human trafficking and to uphold human rights fully.

#### 4.3 Drafting of “Taiwan National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (Draft)”

1. In 2020, Taiwan released the first Taiwan National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, led by the Ministry of Economic Affairs. The plan was formulated in accordance with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), promoting collaboration between the public and private sectors to outline key future directions and measures related to human rights protection in business operations. It is built on three pillars: the State’s duty to protect human rights, the corporate responsibility to respect human rights, and access to effective remedies. A total of 30 action items

were proposed to strengthen human rights protections in business, including banning the import of goods produced through forced labor and promoting human rights in government procurement.

2. The purpose of the National Action Plan is to provide a platform that highlights good practices in all sectors and businesses, creates more opportunities for public-private cooperation, and better responds to the complex challenges in the field of business and human rights. The Ministry of Economic Affairs is currently updating and reviewing the plan. From December 2024, a series of workshops and stakeholder consultation meetings have been held. The updated draft is expected to be submitted to the Executive Yuan for review in 2025, after incorporating input from a wide range of stakeholders.

#### 4.4 Related Legislative processes and research planning

1. Ministry of Labor (MOL): In 2025, the MOL plans to amend the Directions for Providing Placement Services and Advancing Expenses for Victims and Suspected Victims of Human Trafficking Holding Work Visas. These directions are formulated with reference to the Regulations for the Assistance of Victims or Suspected Victims of Human Trafficking. The planned amendments include the introduction of community-based placement services, an increase in funding for shelter services, and the addition of new subsidy items—such as fees for residence permits, temporary accommodation, rental subsidies, and grants for contracted civil society organizations. These changes

aim to strengthen the protection of rights for trafficking victims and suspected victims.

2. Ministry of Education (MOE): The MOE is planning to draft the Act for Off-Campus Internship Education at Junior Colleges and Institutions of Higher Education. Prior to the enactment of the Act, relevant matters will be handled in accordance with the Regulations Governing the Implementation of Industry-Academia Cooperation at Junior Colleges and Institutions of Higher Education. In response to inadequacies in current regulations, the MOE also plans to complete the pre-announcement of amendments to the aforementioned Regulations in 2025 to improve relevant internship legislation and enhance protections for interns' rights and interests.
3. National Immigration Agency (NIA): To advance the "Prohibition of Imports Produced with Forced Labor" mechanism under the US-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade, Taiwan has pledged to amend relevant laws to prohibit the import of forced labor goods once the trade agreement takes effect. This commitment aims to align with international trends and regulations. From May to December 2024, the NIA commissioned a research project on the above mechanism. It also plans to convene interagency working-level meetings in 2025 to conduct a comprehensive inventory review and strategic planning, thereby supporting the Executive Yuan in its comprehensive policy assessment regarding Taiwan's "Prohibition of Imports Produced with Forced Labor"

mechanism.

## V. Conclusion

In 2024, as the COVID-19 pandemic eased and border restrictions were gradually lifted worldwide, the movement of people across borders steadily returned to pre-pandemic levels. Unfortunately, this resurgence has also brought a surge in crime. According to the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons released by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in December 2024, factors such as poverty, conflict, climate disasters, and global crises have significantly fueled the increase in human trafficking worldwide. An increasing number of traffickers are forcing victims into labor exploitation, including involvement in complex cyber scams and online fraud. Meanwhile, women and girls face heightened risks of sexual exploitation and gender-based violence. Plus, human trafficking remains an extremely lucrative criminal enterprise—low-cost and high profitable—with an estimated USD 150 billion in illegal annual revenue. Consequently, the UNODC has urged countries to strengthen criminal and related judicial measures to hold top-tier offenders accountable.

Although Taiwan has made notable progress in its anti-trafficking efforts and the newly enacted Human Trafficking Prevention Act has expanded the scope of combating trafficking—criminalizing both the exploitation of victims by criminal syndicates and the act of trafficking itself—incidents of labor or sexual exploitation involving foreign students, interns, migrant workers, and even Taiwanese citizens still occasionally occur. Furthermore, the United States once again

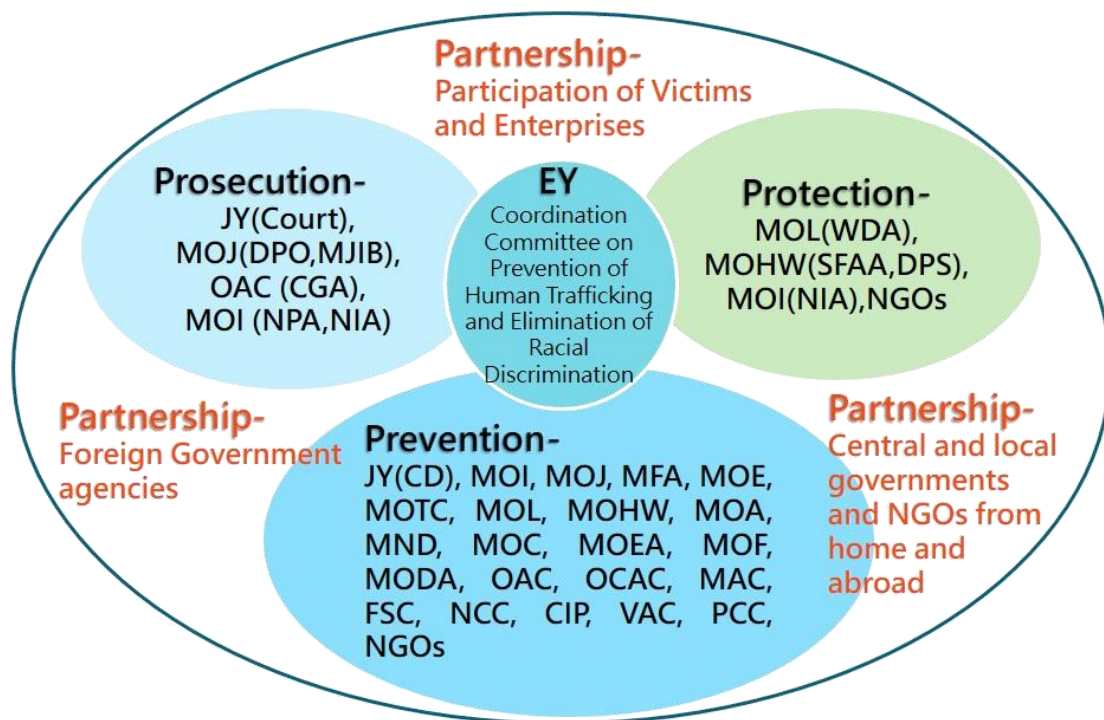
listed Taiwan's distant-water fisheries in its list of goods produced by child or forced labor for the third consecutive time in 2024. These factors underscore the need for Taiwan to more actively eradicate human trafficking offenses and prevent future incidents.

Human trafficking remains a significant global human rights challenge. In 2024, Taiwan's prevention measures not only adhere to the 4Ps prevention strategy (Prosecution, Protection, Prevention, and Partnership) but also involve the Executive Yuan supervising various agencies to fully implement crucial integrated measures like the Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights and the 2023-2024 Anti-Exploitation Action Plan. In addition, the newly enacted Human Trafficking Prevention Act and its subsidiary regulations have further enhanced Taiwan's anti-trafficking system through both practical and legal reforms in collaboration with public and private sectors. To align with international trends and strengthen the prevention of forced labor, Taiwan has also initiated efforts to establish a forced labor prohibition mechanism. Corresponding measures and legislative work are being planned in tandem with the progress of the US-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade, thereby expanding the scope of human rights protection.

Recognizing that the implementation of new laws requires a period of adaptation and public awareness, Taiwan must continue to collaborate with allied agencies to build communication networks, which involves sharing investigation experiences and techniques. In addition, Taiwan also needs to raise awareness among multinational



enterprises about their corporate social responsibility, and encourage multinational enterprises to increase their promotional efforts. These expanded prevention measures will enable a dual approach of combating human trafficking and protecting victims, thereby enhancing Taiwan's capacity to prevent human trafficking and demonstrating Taiwan's commitment to upholding human rights as a national priority.



**Figure 1 : Taiwan's 4P Policy and Partnership Mechanism for Combating Human Trafficking**

**Table 1 : Number of Human Trafficking Cases  
Referred by Judicial Police Authorities from  
2009 to 2024**

<b>Cases Year</b>	<b>Total cases referred to the District prosecutors' offices</b>	<b>Types of Cases</b>		
		<b>Labor Exploitation</b>	<b>Sexual Exploitation</b>	<b>Organ Harvesting</b>
2009	88	46	42	0
2010	123	77	46	0
2011	126	73	53	0
2012	148	86	62	0
2013	166	84	82	0
2014	138	51	87	0
2015	141	44	97	0
2016	134	40	94	0
2017	145	37	108	0
2018	133	38	95	0
2019	143	32	111	0
2020	159	29	130	0
2021	107	21	86	0
2022	161	75	85	1
2023	148	63	80	5
2024	125	41	83	1

(Statistics provided by the judicial police agencies; compiled by the NIA)

**Table 2 : Number of Human Trafficking Cases  
Prosecuted by Local Prosecutor's Offices  
from 2009 to 2024**

Year	Cases Prosecuted	Persons Indicted	Types of Cases							
			Labor Exploitation		Sexual Exploitation		Organ harvesting		Abortion treatment	
			Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
2009	118	335	35	102	83	233				
2010	115	441	41	110	76	346				
2011	151	437	72	179	80	259				
2012	169	458	34	57	136	408				
2013	127	355	84	246	46	103				
2014	102	184	21	52	88	153				
2015	63	148	12	25	52	127				
2016	64	166	17	44	50	128				
2017	87	248	19	66	68	182				
2018	71	113	24	40	47	73				
2019	71	122	14	22	57	100				
2020	78	132	18	31	63	105				
2021	58	78	14	26	44	52				
2022	153	325	78	175	68	138	7	12		
2023	231	404	124	231	83	143	26	44	11	20

Note :

1. Since June 2009, certain cases were registered under more than one type, which may result in a discrepancy between the total number of cases and the sum of classified numbers.
2. Starting from April 2024, the Ministry of Justice has established a new category titled “Abortion treatment” . This category uses plural statistics for the original three types of exploitation.

( Statistics provided by the MOJ; compiled by the NIA )

**Table 3 : Sentences Imposed for Tip-Related Crimes  
from 2009 to 2024**

Unit: Person(s)

<b>Sentence Year</b>	<b>&lt; 6 months</b>	<b>6-12 months</b>	<b>1-2 years</b>	<b>2-3 years</b>	<b>3-5 years</b>	<b>5-7 years</b>	<b>7-10 years</b>	<b>10-15 years</b>	<b>Short detention</b>	<b>Fine</b>	<b>No sanction</b>	<b>Total</b>
2009	256	50	30	4	7	1	13	0	6	1	0	368
2010	192	37	34	4	19	0	1	1	8	4	0	300
2011	98	15	27	5	17	2	1	0	6	2	1	174
2012	144	16	27	3	32	2	3	0	11	62	0	300
2013	155	21	36	5	41	4	2	0	4	1	1	270
2014	97	10	20	6	30	2	1	3	5	1	0	175
2015	103	10	14	1	29	1	0	1	2	2	0	163
2016	96	13	23	4	21	0	3	1	1	0	0	162
2017	18	4	10	3	23	0	0	2	2	0	0	62
2018	9	2	14	2	21	0	2	0	0	0	0	50
2019	7	2	15	5	18	2	1	0	0	0	0	50
2020	5	4	12	1	26	1	5	1	0	0	0	55
2021	3	5	22	9	23	3	7	0	1	0	0	73
2022	4	6	21	9	29	0	3	0	0	0	0	72
2023	5	1	23	4	22	0	1	0	0	0	0	56
2024	2	4	18	2	35	12	3	0	0	0	0	76

(Statistics provided by the MOJ; compiled by the NIA)

**Table 4 : Statistics of Complaints Filed via the Taiwan Foreign (Fishing) Crew Interactive Service Platform in 2024**

Year	Total	Processing Status					
		Administrative Sanctions	Transfer to Judicial Authorities	No Concrete Evidence Yet		Under Investigation	Not Accepting the Investigation *
				Administrative Guidance	Case Closed		
2024	41	0	0	4	23	13	1

\*Note : The reasons for not accepting the investigation include: unclear information in the complaint received by the Fisheries Agency, vague and non-specific accusations, duplicate cases, foreign fishing vessels operated by non-national investors, and matters beyond the jurisdiction of the Fisheries Agency.

(Statistics provided by the Fisheries Agency; compiled by the NIA )

**Table 5 : Statistics of 1955 Hotline Complaints Filed by Overseas Foreign (Fishing) Crew Members from 2019 to 2024**

1955 Complaints						Case Status		
Year	Cases closed	under Processing	No. of complaints by foreign crew members	Incomplete or absent vessel information	Total	Wages recovered (US\$)	Guarantee bonds recovered(US\$) (prior to the enforcement of new regulations)	Passport recovered
2019	35	7	7		49	30,713	8,759	25
2020	44	4	27		75	31,138	3,600	19
2021	20	20	18		58	32,237	1,400	14
2022	42	13	8	1	64	11,324	0	13
2023	74	5			79	80,043	897	51
2024	46	4	5	2	57	48,045	0	13

(Statistics provided by the Fisheries Agency; compiled by the NIA)

**Table 6 : Statistics on Foreign TIP Victims Placed in Shelters from 2009 to 2024**

Year	Exploitation Type	No. of Newly Admitted Victims	Gender		Nationality								
			Male	Female	Indonesian	Vietnamese	Thai	Filipino	Mainland Chinese	Cambodian	Bangladesh	Indian	Others
2009	Sexual Exploitation	85	0	85	45	12	1	0	27	0	0	0	0
	Labor Exploitation	244	71	173	120	73	6	14	0	9	22	0	0
	Total	329	71	258	165	85	7	14	27	9	22	0	0
2010	Sexual Exploitation	45	5	40	14	4	6	2	19	0	0	0	0
	Labor Exploitation	279	61	218	147	71	6	37	2	13	2	1	0
	Total	324	66	258	161	75	12	39	21	13	2	1	0
2011	Sexual Exploitation	56	0	56	20	1	1	1	33	0	0	0	0
	Labor Exploitation	263	90	173	155	83	9	13	0	0	3	0	0
	Total	319	90	229	175	84	10	14	33	0	3	0	0
2012	Sexual Exploitation	152	0	152	131	1	0	0	20	0	0	0	0
	Labor Exploitation	310	66	244	225	59	1	23	0	2	0	0	0
	Total	462	66	396	356	60	1	23	20	2	0	0	0
2013	Sexual Exploitation	121	0	121	110	1	0	1	9	0	0	0	0
	Labor Exploitation	245	47	198	166	64	6	7	0	0	0	0	2
	Total	366	47	319	276	65	6	8	9	0	0	0	2
2014	Sexual Exploitation	86	0	86	67	4	2	0	13	0	0	0	0
	Labor Exploitation	206	52	154	95	61	4	43	2	1	0	0	0
	Total	292	52	240	162	65	6	43	15	1	0	0	0
2015	Sexual Exploitation	64	0	64	53	4	0	1	6	0	0	0	0
	Labor Exploitation	122	64	58	83	29	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	186	64	122	136	33	0	11	6	0	0	0	0



Year	Exploitation Type	No. of Newly Admitted Victims	Gender		Nationality								
			Male	Female	Indonesian	Vietnamese	Thai	Filipino	Mainland Chinese	Cambodian	Bangladesh	Indian	Others
2016	Sexual Exploitation	40	5	35	21	0	10	3	6	0	0	0	0
	Labor Exploitation	116	64	52	55	30	0	30	0	0	0	0	1
	Total	156	69	87	76	30	10	33	6	0	0	0	1
2017	Sexual Exploitation	61	9	52	14	5	39	3	0	0	0	0	0
	Labor Exploitation	135	53	82	94	14	6	18	0	0	3	0	0
	Sexual and Labor	12	0	12	1	1	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	208	62	146	109	20	45	31	0	0	3	0	0
2018	Sexual Exploitation	29	1	28	15	8	4	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Labor Exploitation	79	35	44	59	15	0	4	0	0	1	0	0
	Sexual and Labor	12	0	12	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	120	36	84	85	24	4	4	0	0	1	0	2
2019	Sexual Exploitation	30	0	30	11	8	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Labor Exploitation	61	24	37	43	11	0	4	0	0	0	0	3
	Sexual and Labor	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	92	24	68	55	19	11	4	0	0	0	0	3
2020	Sexual Exploitation	38	0	38	11	4	23	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Labor Exploitation	64	32	32	24	30	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
	Sexual and Labor	6	0	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	108	32	76	41	34	23	10	0	0	0	0	0
2021	Sexual Exploitation	36	0	36	20	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Labor Exploitation	70	51	19	28	41	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Sexual and Labor	15	0	15	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	121	51	70	62	58	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

Year	Exploitation Type	No. of Newly Admitted Victims	Gender		Nationality								
			Male	Female	Indonesian	Vietnamese	Thai	Filipino	Mainland Chinese	Cambodian	Bangladesh	Indian	Others
2022	Sexual Exploitation	16	0	16	4	9	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Labor Exploitation	32	17	15	7	4	0	5	0	0	0	0	16
	Sexual and Labor	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	49	17	32	11	14	3	5	0	0	0	0	16
2023	Sexual Exploitation	17	0	17	3	13	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Labor Exploitation	77	52	25	10	58	7	2	0	0	0	0	0
	Sexual and Labor	15	0	15	2	11	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	109	52	57	15	82	10	2	0	0	0	0	0
2024	Sexual Exploitation	28	0	28	5	3	18	0	0	0	0	0	4
	Labor Exploitation	66	43	23	14	22	14	9	0	0	0	0	5
	Sexual and Labor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	94	43	51	19	25	32	9	0	0	0	0	9

( Statistics provided by the WDA and the NIA; compiled by the NIA )

Note : Since 2017, statistics on dual exploitation (sexual exploitation and labor exploitation) has been added.

**Table 7 : Inspection Visits for Overseas Employment of Foreign (Fishing) Crew Members from 2019 to 2024**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Statistics</b>	<b>Port(s) in R.O.C.</b>	<b>Foreign port(s)</b>	<b>High seas boarding and inspection/ phone interview</b>	<b>Total</b>
2019	Fishing workers	468	193	59	720
	Fishing vessels	82	75	43	200
2020	Fishing workers	560	95	3	658
	Fishing vessels	102	20	2	124
2021	Fishing workers	550	55	0	605
	Fishing vessels	98	12	0	110
2022	Fishing workers	1,371	50	21	1,442
	Fishing vessels	351	9	13	373
2023	Fishing workers	2,832	920	1,237	4,989
	Fishing vessels	448	192	36	676
2024	Fishing workers	4,225	1,940	2,202	8,367
	Fishing vessels	550	189	26	765

( Statistics provided by the Fisheries Agency; compiled by the NIA )

**Table 8 : Punishments Imposed for Ship Owner  
Violations from 2019 to 2024**

<b>Violation Type</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>No. of Violations</b>	<b>Cumulative Penalty Amount (NT\$10,000)</b>	<b>Duration of License Suspension (Months)</b>
Employment without permission	2019	98	1,259	24
	2020	126	1,234	
	2021	33	349	
	2022	17	115	
	2023	1	40	
	2024	15	119	
Wage violations	2019	5	110	3
	2020	7	155	6
	2021	7	155	6
	2022	2	45	
	2023	4	95	4
	2024	8	136	18
Working hour violations	2019	1		3
Payroll roster not kept	2019	1	5	
	2020	2	10	
	2021	2	10	
	2022			
	2023	3	15	
Labor not related to fishing	2020	1	5	
Failure to fulfill the obligations to supervise and manage foreign crew members in accordance with the regulations	2020	3	35	
	2021	4	40	
	2022	3	40	1

Failure to promptly notify relevant agencies in case of injury, casualty or another serious emergency of any foreign crew member	2020	4	100	8
	2021	1	25	
Failure to renew the contract after expiration	2020	1	5	
Violation of regulations on living conditions	2021	1	9	
Failure to ensure foreign crew members enjoy the same welfare and labour protection as others of the same position	2021	1	10	
Failure to use a template of the employment contract	2021	1	17	
Others	2023	3	30	4
	2024	3	55	4

( Statistics provided by the Fisheries Agency; compiled by the NIA )

**Table 9 : Cases Involving (Fishing) Brokers' Violations  
and Fines Imposed from 2019 to 2024**

<b>Violation Type</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>No. of Violations</b>	<b>Penalty Amount (NT\$ 10,000)</b>
Employment without permission	2019	1	200
	2020	0	
	2021	0	
Illegal brokerage	2019	1	400
	2020	0	
	2021	0	
Wage violations	2019	4	420
	2020	3	300
	2021	0	
	2022	1	200
	2023	1	100
	2024	0	

( Statistics provided by the Fisheries Agency; compiled by the NIA )