

NURSING IN TAIWAN



TAIWAN NURSES ASSOCIATION

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Message from the President

On behalf of Taiwan Nurses Association (TWNA), I would like to extend our warmest wishes to you as we embark on a new year. May the upcoming months bring you an abundance of peace, health, joy, and prosperity. Happy Lunar New Year!

Since our return from the ICN Congress Montreal trip last July, the TWNA has been busy organizing and holding a series of splendid events. We are delighted to share that we had the honor of inviting several internationally renowned nurse experts and scholars to join us in our conferences and events in Taiwan, including ICN President Dr. Pamela Cipriano, ICN former Chief Nurse Dr. Michelle Acorn, American Academy of Nursing President Dr. Kenneth White, University of Kochi and Kobe City College of Nursing Professor Emeritus Dr. Hiroko Minami, and 2023 Templeton Prize winner, global leader, and human rights and gender issues activist Dr. Edna Adan Ismail. Highlights from major TWNA events during the second half of 2023 are presented below.

Reflecting on the past year, the TWNA has worked diligently to enhance professional development, nursing education quality, academic research, and international visibility as well as to advocate for policies. Our activities align with our commitment to the ICN’s call for investing in nursing and health. It was indeed a fruitful year for TWNA as a professional association to provide diversified services to our nursing colleagues.

Amidst the varying challenges all of us are facing during this post-pandemic recovery period, we recognize the importance of solidarity and support. We extend our heartfelt wishes for a brighter future and a New Year filled with hope, resilience, and positive change.

We wish you continued success and look forward to another year of progress and collaboration!

Dr. Kenneth White and Dr. Michelle Acorn speak at TWNA’s 39th Annual Nursing Research Conference, highlight the importance of unifying the voice of nursing and promoting leadership in policymaking

The 39th Annual Nursing Research Conference held on September 2 in Taichung City under the theme “Our Nurses, Our Future” attracted nearly 500 attendees to present their research outcomes. It was our great honor to have Dr. Kenneth White, President of American Academy of Nursing (AAN), and Dr. Michelle Acorn, former Chief Nurse of the International Council of Nurses (ICN), as the keynote speakers for the conference. Dr. White, in his talk entitled “Nursing Out Loud”, called for actions to improve practice environments for nurses.

Dr. White commented that despite the trauma experienced by US and Taiwan nurses during the COVID-19 pandemic, we must all seize this post-pandemic window to unify the



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voice of nursing to move effectively forward and shape the future of healthcare for the better. Dr. Acorn pointed out in her speech entitled “Intention to Lead Nursing - Local to Global” that, as women make up 70% of the world’s healthcare workforce, more female nurse leaders should be present at the policy table to positively impact and shape the development of the nursing profession.

A symposium entitled “Invest in Nursing, Invest in Health” was held in Taipei one day before the research conference. The two VIPs, Dr.



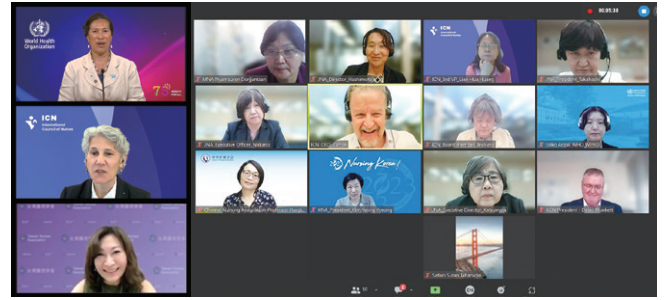
White and Dr. Acorn were also invited to share their experiences and insights on enhancing the impact of the nursing profession on policymaking and raising the profile and status of nurses around the world to improve the quality of care and health for all. In conclusion, TWNA President Ching-Min Chen highlighted that investments in nursing will not only improve healthcare but also promote gender equity and benefit the overall economy.



She also reiterated that only when the voices of nurses are well represented by policy makers can the goal of universal health coverage (UHC) be achieved.

TWNA President Chen shares TWNA’s experience soliciting support from both major political parties during the ICN Western Pacific Regional (WPR) Webinar

The Western Pacific Regional (WPR) Webinar co-hosted by JNA and ICN was held on September 19 under the theme “Strengthening Nursing Leadership in the WPR”. The WPR NNAs gathered to discuss strategies to strengthen nursing leadership in support of the Global Strategic Direction for Nursing and Midwifery (GSDNM) 2021-2025. TWNA President Chen shared our association’s strategy of soliciting support from the nation’s main political parties in the runup to Taiwan’s presidential and legislative elections. TWNA and the Taiwan Union of Nurses Association (TUNA) jointly submitted the document “Appeals of the Nursing Profession in the Election of National President and Legislators” to all political parties. These appeals included: (1) Investing more in nursing education - enhancing the education and professionalism of nurses to ensure patient safety; (2) Investing in positive work environments, in-



cluding pay raises and greater effort in setting standard nurse-patient ratios for nursing’s three work shifts; (3) Investing in nursing leadership, including ensuring that having a nursing background is a formal consideration for appointing / electing senior government officials such as Minister without Portfolio of the Examination Yuan, Ombudsman of the Control Yuan, Legislators, and National Policy Advisors; and (4) Investing in nursing services, including expanding the role and scope of independent practice for nurses and supporting the expanded roles of APNs.

TWNA continues to highlight awareness of the critical role of nurses in long-term care

The 3-day Cares Expo Taipei 2023 held its grand opening on September 7 at Taipei World Trade Center (TWTC). As a co-organizer along with Taiwan’s other nursing professional organizations, TWNA has participated actively in this expo over the past four years to emphasize to the public and other national stakeholders the important roles and functions of nurses in long-term care. During the expo, the TWNA hosted the Nursing Professional Forum “Creating a Co-living Community Care Life Circle”. TWNA was honored to have National President-elect (National Vice President) Dr. Ching-Te Lai visit our exhibit booth to show his support for nursing.



A gathering with Dr. Edna Adan Ismail – Mother of African Nursing and Midwifery

While the stories of African women and girls told during the 2023 ICN Congress tugged at the heartstrings of the audience, renowned nurse-midwife, politician, and women's rights activist Dr. Edna Adan Ismail also shared inspiring messages. Women and girls, Dr. Ismail said, hold so much potential to transform communities and increase economic prosperity. It was our great honor to invite Dr. Ismail for a gathering during her visit to Taiwan to receive the 26th Fervent Global Love of Lives Award. The gathering was held on September 20 at the TWNA History Museum and was also livestreamed to let more people learn from Dr. Ismail's sharing.

Dr. Ismail shared her stories of building a hospital and promoting women's rights in Somaliland.



She emphasized that empowerment through nursing education can allow women to contribute directly to improving the health policies, practice development, and research related to women's health and welfare and hence reverse the disadvantaged status that women have in society.

TWNA President Chen concluded in her closing remarks, saying "Dr. Ismail's stories are not only engaging but also motivating and uplifting with her key message: Nursing education can bring about gender equity and economic prosperity as well as transform communities." The message well echoed the theme of 2024 ICN International Nurses Day (IND) - "Our Nurses. Our Future. The economic power of care." The short gathering was filled with a warm ambience and ended with a book signing event with Dr. Ismail of her book "Love is Wide in Africa"



TWNA hosts the conference "Professional Nursing Development in the Post-Pandemic Era: Preparing the Next Public Health Challenge"

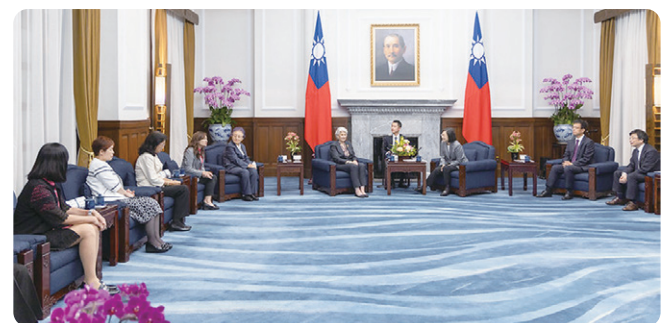
The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted all aspects of global public health. Now, in the post-pan-

demical era, changes in healthcare needs and care models are affecting the development of the nursing profession. In response, TWNA organized a hybrid conference on October 14-15 in Taipei to gather inspirational and insightful thoughts and strategies from experts, scholars, key leaders, and other attendees. ICN President Dr. Pamela Cipriano and expert in disaster nursing Dr. Hiroko Minami, and many others spoke at the conference. In addition, experts from industry, government, and academia also attended and shared their views and experiences.



President Cipriano emphasized the strong association between nurse safety and patient safety. She cited a finding reported in a study by Aiken that each "10% increase in bachelor's degree nurses was associated with a decrease in the likelihood of an inpatient dying within 30 days of admission by 7%". ICN also advocates investing in nursing leadership through the appointment of nurse leaders to key executive positions in government decision-making bodies to raise social and public recognition of the value of nurses.

Dr. Minami shared Japan's experience combating the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, Kobe City University of Nursing provided telephone counseling services to prefectural residents during the epidemic and set up vaccination stations throughout the city. The damage of the epidemic was significantly curtailed through active cooperation between nursing and local government organizations.



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Thirteen keynote speeches and an industry government-university combined panel discussion were given at the 2-day conference, which was attended by 650 in-person attendees and 100 online attendees from 15 countries.

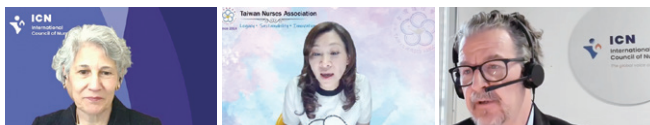
During Dr. Cipriano and Dr. Minami's stay in Taiwan, they also met with national government officials to express the wishes and aspirations of the nursing profession regarding public investment in nursing. During Dr. Cipriano's visit to the Legislative Yuan on October 12, she learned about its history and functions as well as about the practical involvement of nurses in politics and how nurse leaders have impacted Taiwan's legislative branch of government.

On October 13, Dr. Cipriano and Minami visited the Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW) and the Presidential Office. National President Ing-Wen Tsai met with the delegation led by TWNA President Chen and commended ICN's longstanding commitment to enhancing the nursing profession worldwide. President Tsai also thanked the TWNA for actively participating in international conferences and promoting exchanges between Taiwan and other countries.



TWNA President Chen shares Taiwan's action plans for nursing during ICN Webinar on the Central Role of Nurses in Primary Health Care (PHC) in Achieving the Goal of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by 2030

TWNA President Ching-Min Chen spoke at the Webinar held on October 30, sharing Taiwan's experience with upgrading primary healthcare and achieving universal health coverage (i.e., National Health Insurance) as well as information on the government's launch of the "3 Major Investments and 6 Actions for Healthcare" plan. The 3 Major Investments refer to investing in home health nursing, effective nursing, and smart nursing. The 6 Actions refer to practical measures such as reimbursing nursing services as part of long-term care payments, initiating community-based family NP systems, and offering telehealth care services to better serve residents of remote areas and offshore islands.



National Nursing Licensure Examination Refinement Project and Industry-Government-Academia Consensus Forum on Core Competencies for RNs



To continuously enhance the quality of national nursing licensure examinations, the TWNA collaborated with the Ministry of Examination on the "National Nursing Licensure Examination Refinement Project" in 2021-2022. The main purpose of this project was to provide policy advice to the government in 3 aspects: (1) refining the core competencies of Registered Nurses, (2) enriching the National Nursing Licensure Examination talent pool, and (3) improving the quality of multiple-choice questions included on nursing licensure examinations. The project also laid the groundwork for future industry-government-academia collaboration and partnerships.

The 6th Cross-Strait, Hong Kong and Macau Nursing Forum 2023

This year's forum was hosted by the College of Nursing, Hong Kong (CNHK) and attended by three other ICN NNAs, including the Taiwan Nurses Association (TWNA), Chinese Nurses Association (CNA), and Nurses Association of Macau (NAOM), on December 19-20 in Hong Kong. The theme of the forum echoed the theme of ICN International Nurses Day 2023: "Our Nurses, Our Future". TWNA Vice President Dr. Mei-Nan Liao delivered a speech on "Invest in Nursing for the Future Health of All in the Post-Pandemic Era", which shared Taiwan's strategies for improving the nursing profession in the four areas of education, employment, leadership, and service.

