



Picture 1: Minister Hsu Ming-chun led a labor inspection team on a spot inspection tour and declared 2021 as the “Year of Strengthening Prevention of Occupational Disasters in the Construction Industry.”



Picture 2: Vice Minister of Labor Lin San-quei and Shih Chen-Yang, Director General of the Workforce Development Agency, Ministry of Labor in group photo with representatives from TDA (Australia) and TGI (Thailand), present and online delegations during the “Taiwan-Australia/Thailand-MOU Exchange Ceremony and Skills Transformation for Post-Pandemic Workforce International Forum.”

Highlights for the First Quarter of 2021 (January to March)

01.01.2021 The minimum monthly wage in Taiwan increased from NT\$23,800 to NT\$24,000 effective from January 1 onwards. The “Table of Grades of Insured Salary” and the “Monthly Contribution Classification Table of Labor Pension” took effect on the same day. The 1st Grade of monthly insured wages for labor insurance was revised to NT\$24,000. To protect the rights and interests of the insured, the insured person whose monthly insured wage was NT\$23,800 in December 2020 (including full-time work, partial working hours, and low-income members of professional unions, persons with disabilities in sheltered employment, and insured persons trained by vocational training institutions), had their monthly wage adjusted to NT\$24,000. This is expected to benefit more than 2.82 million workers. The monthly insured wage for labor pensions of workers, which was originally NT\$23,800, has also been adjusted to NT\$24,000, in total benefiting more than 1.11 million people.

01.01.2021 Since January 2021, labor insurance premiums (including employment insurance premiums, wage arrears payment fund withholding fees), labor pensions, and National Pension insurance premiums can be paid at the four major convenience stores, including 7-11, FamilyMart, Hi-Life, OK-Mart, etc. The maximum amount of each payment has been increased from NT\$20,000 to

NT\$30,000.

- 04.01.2021 By official announcement issued by the Ministry of Labor on December 23, 2020, interest rates for relief loans taken by the insured under the “Relief Loans for Workers” Program during 2018, 2019, and 2020 shall adopt an annual interest rate of 1.28% starting from the first business day of January 2021.
- 04.01.2021 In view of the high risk of occupational disasters in the construction industry, the Minister of Labor Hsu Ming-chun led a team to a large-scale construction site in Linkou District, New Taipei City to conduct spot labor inspections. During the inspection, Minister Hsu also declared 2021 as the “Year of Strengthening Prevention of Occupational Disasters in the Construction Industry,” requiring institutions to implement construction safety management and other disaster reduction measures.
- 08-22.01.2021 Implemented the “2021 Insured Person Hardship Loan Program under Labor Insurance,” benefiting 72,000 workers with total loans amounting to NT\$7.5bn.
- 14.01.2021 Amendment of Article 2 of the “Organizational Regulations for the Management Committee of the Wage Arrears Payment Fund of the Ministry of Labor”.
- 14.01.2021 Notice is given that “Practitioners Engaged in the Supply of International Marine Supplies” Are Approved as the Type of Workers Specified in Article 84-1 of the Labor Standards Act.
- 18.01.2021 To reinforce the safety of year-end operations, the Ministry of Labor implemented a “Spring Festival Simultaneous Joint Safety Inspection,” urging the industry to strengthen disaster prevention measures for high-risk operations and comply with relevant regulations on overwork prevention. The inspection period lasted from January 18 to February 26, 2021. A total of 8,865 institutions were inspected, 274 work suspension orders were issued, and 945 fines were imposed. The fine amounted to NT\$47.38mn.
- 18.01.2021 To enforce Chapter 3 of the “Regulations Governing Employment Enhancement of Unemployed Middle-Aged Persons and Elderly Persons” the

Ministry of Labor gave notice that the “Key Points of Business Loans and Interest Subsidies for Unemployed Middle-aged and Senior Citizens” shall be issued to assist unemployed middle-aged and senior citizens in micro-entrepreneurship and promote employment.

20.01.2021 Notice given of amendments to partial provisions of the “Regulations on Technician Skills Certification and Issuance of Certificates” to revise the relevant provisions such as the training qualifications of supervisors, the qualifications and conditions for participating in supervisory evaluation seminars, the upper limit of the number of experts recruited for creating question banks, and the extension of the qualification period of test supervisors due to non-human factors, so as to recruit talents to participate in skills verification supervision, evaluation, and question bank editing work.

20.01.2021 Notice is given of the amendments to partial provisions of the “Regulations for Technician Skills Certification Administration and Test Site,” mainly to amend the upper limit of the number of standard-setting personnel to recruit so as to expand industry participation. Further amendments were also made on relevant regulations on the refund of academic test fees to protect the rights of examinees who cannot participate due to certain reasons. The addition of supervisors and assessors in the Regulations allows them to monitor fieldwork and revise the relevant provisions of field rules for technical tests to match the adjustment of the technical test methods so that the skills certification can be synchronized with the industry needs.

03.02.2021 The 3rd Taiwan-EU Labor Consultation was held by video conference, focusing on occupational safety and health issues. It was jointly opened by Joost Korte, Director-General of the EU Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion Directorate, Taiwan Minister of Labor Hsu Ming-chun, and diplomatic representatives of both parties - Filip Grzegorzewski, the EU Representative in Taiwan and Head of European Economic and Trade Office and Ambassador Tsai Ming-yen of the Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium.



Picture 3: Minister Hsu Ming-chun led a delegation of officials from the Ministry of Labor to attend the 3rd Taiwan-EU Labor Consultation.

08.02.2021 Convened the “2021 1st Quarter National Public Enterprise Disaster Reduction Inter-Ministerial Platform Meeting.” Members of the Ministry of Transportation, the Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of National Defense, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Finance, the Council of Agriculture of the Executive Yuan, and the Public Construction Commission of the Executive Yuan were invited to review the implementation status of disaster prevention work in public enterprises and public projects. Through inter-ministerial cooperation, it is hoped that the energy and momentum of disaster reduction work can be accelerated to effectively protect workers' workplace safety and well-being.

09.02.2021 Notice is given on amendments to “Scope of Application of Proviso Clauses Article 34, Paragraph 2, of the Labor Standards Act,” which took effect on February 9, 2021.

20.02.2021 Revised and promulgated the “Technical Guidelines for Maternity Health Protection in the Workplace,” in line with the amendments to the “Regulations of the Maternity Health Protection at the Workplace ” in September 2020, to expand the scope of application and specify that institutions with more than 100 workers should provide for maternity health protection plans and

strengthen tiered management measures.

22.02.2021 Notice given on “Subsidy Program for Reemployment Assistance Measures for Middle-aged and Senior Citizens after Retirement,” “Subsidy Program for Hiring Retired Senior Citizens to Pass on Professional Skills and Experience,” “Subsidy for Local Governments to Set up Talent Service Base Program for Senior Citizens,” “Subsidy for Continued Employment of Senior Citizens” to implement measures related to the Middle-aged and Elderly Employment Promotion Act , and strengthen the use of human resources of middle-aged and senior citizens.

22.02.2021 Announcement of the “Pilot Plan for Job Redesign Service for Unilateral Hearing Impaired Persons” that provides redesigned job opportunities for hearing impaired persons who have not obtained a certificate of disability and who have a hearing threshold of 40 decibels or more on the impaired ear and a difference of more than 25 decibels from the hearing threshold of the normal ear. The pilot project will run until December 10, 2021.

23.02.2021 In accordance with Point 4 of the Ministry of Labor’s “Standard Operating Procedures for the Designated Safety Inspection of Imported Dangerous Machines and Equipment” and the Institute of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health of the Ministry of Labor’s “Operational Specifications of the Working Group for Technical Assessment of the Appropriateness of Foreign Standards for Hazardous Machinery or Equipment,” a working group meeting was convened to discuss and analyze the suitability of the “designated international standard ISO 11515 type II as the inspection standard for high-pressure gas containers.”

26.02.2021 The Ministry of Labor allocated NT\$22bn to supplement the labor insurance fund and increase its income flow.

01.03.2021 The Institute of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health of the Ministry of Labor obtained a Taiwan utility model patent for its self-developed the “Intelligent Image Security Identification System.”

- 09.03.2021 Amendment of “Article 45 of the Labor Standards Act regarding the determination criteria, review procedures, and other measures for determining the nature and environment of the work that will not do any harm to the worker’s mental and physical health, as well as work application forms for review of applicable subjects and corresponding review procedures.”
- 11.03.2021 Amendment to the “Common Principle of Calculation of Fines for Violations of Labor Standards Act ” by expanding the scope of applicable persons and organizations subject to increased penalties and other important provisions. The amendments shall come into effect on May 1, 2021.
- 16.03.2021 Convened the “Disaster Mitigation Meeting for Senior Executives of the Taiwan Railways Administration,” co-chaired by Chi Wen-Jong, Administrative Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications and Acting Director of the Taiwan Railway Administration, and Tzou Tzu-lien, Director-general of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration of the Ministry of Labor, and invited senior supervisors of relevant departments of the Taiwan Railways Administration to attend and discuss relevant disaster reduction strategies and improvement actions.
- 20-21.03.2021 The Institute of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health (ILOSH) of the Ministry of Labor and Ergonomics Society of Taiwan jointly organized the “28th Ergonomics Society of Taiwan Annual Meeting and Conference”, where ILOSH presented 9 papers, including “Ergonomics and Interdisciplinary Worksite Musculoskeletal Hazard Prevention and Control” and “Ergonomics in Medicine.” The positive outcomes include improving the evaluation and improvement strategies of human and physical hazards in the workplace and promoting the research and development results of ILOSH.
- 22.03.2021 Notice given on amendments made to Article 19 of the “Labor Union Act” in line with the lowering of the majority age in the Civil Law to 18, and amended the current requirement that union members who can be elected as union directors and supervisors must be “20 years old” to “be of majority age.” The amendments shall take effect on January 1, 2023.

22-25.03.2021 Workshop on Working and Living Conditions for Fishers - Phase 3 Planning and Expert Meeting was held through video conference and was organized by Andriana Sukova, Deputy Director-General of the European Commission's Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion Directorate and Filip Grzegorzewski, the EU Representative in Taiwan and Head of European Economic and Trade Office. Vice Minister of Labor Lin San-quei and Chen Tien-Shou, Deputy Minister of the Council of Agriculture of the Executive Yuan, jointly opened the ceremony.

25.03.2021 To celebrate the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Vocational Education and Training between Workforce Development Agency (WDA) of Ministry of Labor, and TAFE Directors Australia (TDA) and Thai-German Institute (TGI), the "Taiwan-Australia/Thailand -MOU Exchange Ceremony and Skills Transformation for Post-Pandemic Workforce International Forum" was organized by WDA on March 25 2021, to continue to drive digital transformation and the establishment of international cooperation and exchange platforms to promote the high-quality growth of vocational training systems in the Asia-Pacific region.

29.03.2021 In order to provide youth with diverse career assistance channels, the "Youth Career" employment consulting platform has been launched to serve 18- to 29-year-old youths since March 29, 2021. Professional employment consultants have been introduced and combined with a digital website to enable youths to receive answers to career and employment questions through video, text, voice, audio, and video content on their mobile devices.

31.03.2021 In conjunction with the online operation of the Data Exchange Platform run by the Administrative Enforcement Agency of the Ministry of Justice, the data required for enforcement action on the insured organization, or on those who are members of professional unions and fishermen's unions and who have accumulated personal arrears, are now transmitted and handled through the Platform.

31.03.2021 Amendment and promulgation of the "Foreigners Change of Workplace Determination Standards for Foreigners Undertaking the Jobs Specified under

Items 8-10, Paragraph 1, Article 46 of the Employment Service Act.” In order to coordinate with the “Qualifications and Criteria Standards for Foreigners Undertaking the Jobs Specified under Items 8-11, Paragraph 1, Article 46 of the Employment Service Act” and to promote major national public infrastructure projects, projects approved by the Executive Yuan can apply for hiring foreigners based on the approved ratio with regulations amended on the off-site deployment of foreign construction workers.



Image 1: Minister of Labor Hsu Ming-Chun, Director of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration Tzou Tzu-lien, Chairperson of the Institute of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Ho Jiune-Jye, former President of the Control Yuan Chang Po-Ya, and guests at the “National Workplace Safety and Health Week Kick-Off Event”.



Image 2: The Workforce Development Agency organized the “Workshop on Skills Enhancement for Asian Pacific Health Care Workers” and invited top experts from the industry, government, academia and research sectors to build consensus through the workshop.

Highlights for the Second Quarter of 2021 (04 to 06)

- 12.04.2021 Organized the 1st meeting of the “2021 Children and Youth Occupational Safety and Health Rights Task Force” and invited experts and representatives of relevant agencies to review a survey on the current labor situation, and requested the relevant ministries to expand the scope of the target population and revise the content of the survey.
- 13.04.2021 The Institute of Labor and Occupational Safety and Health of the Ministry of Labor assisted the Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection of the Ministry of Economic Affairs to hold the 11th meeting of the “National Technical Committee on Civil Engineering and Construction” in 2021. The topics discussed include: “Public comments say that as scaffolding in Taiwan is too low, raising the possibility of labor injuries. It is suggested that CNS 4750 steel pipe construction frames should be amended to a height of more than 185cm.”
- 23.04.2021 The Ministry defined “Special Vehicle Driver of the Judicial Yuan” as a worker under Article 84-1 of the Labor Standards Act.
- 23.04.2021 “Real estate appraisers employed by the market credit industry” are defined as workers under Article 84-1 of the Labor Standards Act.

- 23.04.2021 In conjunction with the “2021 International Conference on Occupational Health and Occupational Medicine”, the “National Workplace Safety and Health Week” was held simultaneously, inviting top experts and scholars from the Ministry of Health and Welfare, occupational health and medical fields, and international experts from Japan, Korea, the United States, and Australia to join the event by video conference, and encouraging business units to actively create a friendly working environment and jointly improve the standard of occupational safety and health in Taiwan.
- 28.04.2021 The Workforce Development Agency of the Ministry of Labor held the “Asia-Pacific Health Care Worker Skills Enhancement Workshop” under the theme “Innovation and Cross-Disciplinary Grasp of New Trends in Health Care Services”, by utilizing international video conferences and domestic physical participation. Experts and scholars from home and abroad were invited to discuss the cross-disciplinary integration of technology innovation in health care services, the use of digital skills, and education on the functions of using technological aids for vocational education. The purpose is to promote the internationalization of workforce development and strengthen the exchange and cooperation of vocational training and health care industry talents.
- 28.04.2021 The Ministry amended and promulgated changes to Article 29 of the “Labor Insurance Act”, which allows the opening of a special account for either labor insurance annuity or various other lump-sum benefits, which will not be subject to seizure, guarantee or enforcement, and can strengthen the protection of the basic economic security of disadvantaged workers or beneficiaries. The amendments came into effect on 04 30, 2021.
- 28.04.2021 In order to facilitate the participation of workers or labor unions in the investigation procedures of labor misconduct cases, the Ministry has promulgated the “Trial Guidelines for Investigation Procedures of Labor Misconduct Judgments by Video Conference”, and will conduct the investigation procedures of judgment cases by video conference from 05 1 to December 31, 2021.

29.04.2021 To commemorate Labor Day, the Ministry held the “2021 Labor Day and National Model Worker Award Ceremony” at the Regent Hotel in Taipei on 04 29, 2021, to recognize the efforts and contributions of workers and foreign workers to national development and social economy.



Image 3: Premier Su Tseng-Chang of the Executive Yuan attended the “2021 Labor Day and National Model Worker Award Ceremony”.

30 04, 2021 The “Labor Occupational Accident Insurance and Protection Act” was enacted and promulgated to integrate the provisions of the Occupational Accident Insurance Act and the Occupational Accident Labor Protection Act in the form of a special law, and to expand the coverage, enhance the benefits, and integrate the occupational accident prevention and reconstruction business, so as to improve the overall occupational accident protection system. The date of implementation shall be determined by the Executive Yuan.

30.04.2021 The Ministry clarified that “Construction projects with approved incentives for private investment” in “Article 17-1, Paragraph 1, Paragraph 2 of Article 46, Paragraph 1, Paragraphs 8 to 11” of the Employment Service Act refers to the construction projects with approved incentives for private investment that can

promote social welfare, provide public use or create national employment after completion, and are approved by the competent authority for the purpose.

03.05.2021 Amended Article 2 of the “Regulations for the Deliberation of Basic Wage”, with immediate effect, to specify that the ratio of either gender of the members of the Basic Wage Deliberation Committee shall not be less than one-third, so as to implement the concept of gender equality.

04.05.2021 The Institute of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health of the Ministry of Labor convened a meeting of the “Working Group on Technical Evaluation of the Appropriateness of the Crane Manufacturers Association of America CMAA 70-2020 for Fixed Crane Inspection Standards” to compare and evaluate the relevant norms and standards, make recommendations on the conclusions, and submitted the study report to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration of the Ministry for reference.

06.05.2021 The Occupational Safety and Health Administration of Taiwan and the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) held the 1st Taiwan-EU Occupational Safety and Health Cooperation Meeting via video conference. This opened a new chapter of strategy and technology exchange, focusing on “Workplace Safety and Health Protection for Workers in the Platform Economy” and “Worker Protection and Reconstruction Services System in Occupational Disasters”.



Image 4: Director Tzou Tzu-lien of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration chaired the 1st EU-Taiwan Occupational Safety and Health Cooperation Meeting via video conference.



Image 5: Minister of Labor Hsu Ming-Chun took a group photo with VIPs at the opening ceremony of the “Workplace Reintegration Service Management Center” and the signing ceremony for the “Memorandum of Understanding for the Trial Project of Workplace Rehabilitation Assistance for Workers Affected by Occupational Accidents”.

- 11.05.2021 The Ministry held a ceremony to inaugurate the “Workplace Reintegration Service Management Center” and to sign the “Memorandum of Understanding for the Trial Project of Workplace Rehabilitation Assistance for Workers Affected by Occupational Accidents”, inviting senior officials and representatives of labor unions from CPC Corporation and Taiwan Power Company to participate in the ceremony to help integrate workplace rehabilitation services and establish related service guidelines.
- 14.05.2021 The Ministry amended and promulgated Article 13-1 of the “Guidelines for the Organization Regulations on Employee Welfare Committee” to add that the Employee Welfare Committee 05 handle home-based child care services to encourage companies to provide child care services according to the needs of their employees.
- 17.05.2021 In response to the elevation of the national epidemic alert to Level 3, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) launched a workplace epidemic prevention and inspection program for high-risk business establishments, targeting high-risk industries such as hi-tech manufacturing plants, long-term care facilities, chain stores, large food franchises, cleaning services, waste removal, food delivery platforms, warehousing and logistics, and businesses that employ foreign workers (including foreign workers' dormitories) to strengthen inspection and supervision and to protect the health and safety of workers.
- 19.05.2021 In view of the escalation of the COVID-19 pandemic situation both internationally and domestically, the validity period of the permission letters for the introduction of foreign workers held by employers were automatically extended for three months without requiring an additional application, provided that they expire between December 16, 2020 and March 16, 2021 and between 05 19, 2021 and September 30, 2021.



Image 6: Director General Shih Chen Yang of the Workforce Development Agency, MOL signed the Memorandum of Understanding with WorldSkills UK.



Image 7: Neil Bentley-Gockmann, Chief Executive of WorldSkills UK, signs a Memorandum of Understanding with the Workforce Development Agency, MOL.

20.05.2021 The Workforce Development Agency and WorldSkills UK signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Our country will work together with WorldSkills UK to deepen technical vocational education and pursue the development of skills excellence.

20.05.2021 The Ministry announced amendments to “the scope of application of the second proviso of Article 34 of the Labor Standards Act”, which became effective on 05 20, 2021.

20.05.2021 The Ministry announced amendments to “Industries as Defined under Article 36, Paragraph 4 of the Labor Standards Act”, which became effective on 05 20, 2021.

20 ~ 27.05. 2021 The 46th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Human Resources Development Working Group (HRDWG) meeting and the Labor and Social Protection Network (LSPN) meeting were held by video conference. The topics discussed included amendments to the HRDWG document, updates on the progress of labor and social security in each economy, descriptions of advocacy activities, and policy discussions on the impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable groups and corresponding response measures. The Ministry of Labor explained the legislative highlights of the Labor Occupational Accident Insurance and Protection Act, the results of the 2020 Initiative, and the 2021 Initiative Plan.

20.05 ~ 19.06.2021 The 109th International Labour Conference (ILC) was held in three

stages by video, the first being the opening session on 05 20, 2021, and the second being the plenary session of the Conference from 05 28 to 06 19, 2021, including committee breakout sessions, the International Day Against Child Labor Forum, and the World of Work Summit, which released a number of documents and reports. The conference focused on the work-related impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, emphasizing the concept of the ILO Centennial Declaration “Putting People First” and calling for sustainable and inclusive global responses to the epidemic to reduce global economic and social harm in the long term.

21.05.2021 The proposed amendment to Article 19-2 of the Employment Insurance Act was submitted to the Executive Yuan for review, removing the requirement that parents who are both insured cannot apply for parental leave without pay at the same time, so that the application method for the allowance can better meet the actual needs of the insured and encourage both parents to share the responsibility of caring for their children. The Executive Yuan submitted the draft to the Legislative Yuan for consideration on July 2, 2021.

24.05.2021 The Ministry has reported to the Executive Yuan on the draft amendments to some of the provisions of the “Act of Gender Equality in Employment”. The main points of the amendment include the extension of pregnancy checkup leave from 5 days to 7 days, and the addition of 2 days of salary, which will be borne by the government; workers employed in units staffed by under 30 personnel can also negotiate with their employers to apply flexible working hours; and the relaxation of the regulations on parental leave without pay so that parents can apply for parental leave without pay at the same time.

27.05.2021 The Occupational Safety and Health Administration of the Ministry of Labor, in consultation with the Taiwan Centers for Disease Control of the Ministry of Health and Welfare, amended the “Food Delivery Platform Delivery Staff (pick-up and delivery) Epidemic Prevention Measures” to require platform operators to improve epidemic prevention and control measures, provide sufficient epidemic prevention materials to delivery staff, and urge delivery staff themselves and consumers ordering food to cooperate in implementing

epidemic prevention measures.

28.05.2021 In order to assist the insured units and the insured belonging to professional unions who are affected by the Severe Pneumonia with Novel Pathogens (COVID-19) epidemic, the Bureau of Labor Insurance of the Ministry of Labor will implement a 6-month deferment period for labor employment insurance premiums and labor pension contribution payments from 05 28, 2021 to November 30 of the same year, with the deferment months being from 04 to September 2021. Payment 05 be deferred for six months from the date of expiration of the grace period (limited payment), and the late payment fee is waived during the deferment period. The relevant application forms and Q&A are available on the Bureau's website for downloading, filling out, and referencing insured units and occupational union insured persons.

31.05.2021 The Ministry amended the “Implementation Guidelines for Legal Assistance to Administrative Agencies in Handling Labor Dispute Mediation” to expand the scope of subsidies to include cases in which workers have disputes with employers over unpaid wages or pensions, termination of labor contracts, and requests for mediation to restore employment relations. It is estimated that 300 cases of labor dispute mediation will be subsidized each year to help workers fight for their labor rights through legal assistance measures.

03.06.2021 In view of the increasing severity of Severe Pneumonia with Novel Pathogens (COVID-19), in order to stabilize labor-employee relations and reduce the impact of the epidemic on the livelihood of workers, the Ministry has actively planned and promoted new relief measures and, in accordance with Article 9, Paragraph 3 of the “Special Act for Prevention, Relief and Revitalization Measures for Severe Pneumonia with Novel Pathogens”, amended and promulgated the “Regulations of the Ministry of Labor for Relief of Workers Affected by Severe Pneumonia with Novel Pathogens” to strengthen the care for workers.

04.06.2021 The Ministry announced amendments to “The Scope of Application of the Second Proviso of Article 34 of the Labor Standards Act” which became effective on 06 4, 2021.

- 04.06.2021 The “Pregnancy Checkup Leave Salary Subsidy Guidelines” and the “Parental Leave Salary Subsidy Guidelines” were promulgated and took effect on July 1.
- 04.06.2021 The “Regulations on the Implementation of Childcare Leave without Pay” were amended and promulgated and became effective on July 1. The amendments relaxed the flexibility of the application period for childcare leave without pay, whereby the employed person can apply for childcare leave without pay for up to 6 months before the child reaches the age of 3. Still, each application cannot be less than 30 days, and the application for childcare leave without pay for less than 6 months is limited to 2 times.
- 04.06.2021 The 2021 “Livelihood Subsidy Program for Self-employed Workers and Workers without a Certain Employer” was implemented to assist self-employed workers or workers without a certain employer who are affected by the epidemic and meet the eligibility criteria for the subsidy. A subsidy of NT\$30,000 per person is available to workers whose monthly insured salary does not exceed NT\$24,000 (inclusive). For workers whose monthly insured salary exceeds NT\$24,000 (i.e., monthly insured salary of NT\$25,200 or more), qualifying applicants will receive a subsidy of NT\$10,000. In order to implement the principle of simplifying subsidies and speeding up the approval process as instructed by Su Tseng-chang, Premier of the Executive Yuan, and to avoid clustering, those who already have dedicated accounts shall receive the subsidies directly through their designated bank accounts, and the review process should be simplified for new applicants. The Bureau of Labor Insurance of the Ministry of Labor Affairs uses the information of labor insurance to compare with the information from other government agencies. If the Bureau of Labor Insurance determines the applicant to qualify for the foregoing subsidy, it will be approved, and the workers do not need to apply for it.
- 08.06.2021 Amended and promulgated the “Enforcement Rules of the Labor Insurance Law” to amend the documents to be attached to the employer's establishment of an insured unit, to relax the requirement that the English documents related to the application for benefits can be exempted from the Chinese translation,

and to simplify the documents to be attached to the application for injury and illness benefits, in order to improve the labor insurance rights of workers.

09.06.2021 Amended and promulgated the “Peace of Mind Employment Program” to coincide with the extension of the implementation period of the “Special Act for Prevention, Relief and Revitalization Measures for Severe Pneumonia with Novel Pathogens”, and amend the implementation period of this program to the effective duration of the Special Act, and extend the number of months of subsidy from 12 months to 24 months.

10.06.2021 The “Legal Aid for Gender Equality Lawsuits” was amended and promulgated, adding the requirement of examining the applicant's qualification status and specifying that the proportion of members of the review panel shall be composed of no less than one-third of either gender in accordance with the gender equality policy framework, in order to enhance the opportunities for female participation.

15.06. 2021 The Occupational Safety and Health Administration of the Ministry of Labor assisted the Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection (BSMI) of the Ministry of Economic Affairs in providing advice on the “slip resistance” of five draft national standards for safety, including “safety shoes with a chainsaw cutting resistance”.

15.06. 2021 In order to assist the workers affected by the COVID-19 epidemic, the “Labor Relief Loan” was introduced, with a quota of 500,000 beneficiaries. The Ministry of Labor coordinated with participating consortium banks to provide funding for the loans and the Small & Medium Enterprise Credit Guarantee Fund of Taiwan (SMEG) to provide a 10% credit guarantee. The maximum loan amount is \$100,000 per person with a loan term of 3 years and a loan interest rate of 1.845%, with the Ministry subsidizing the interest of the first year of the loan. Since the total number of applicants reached more than 1.17 million, the loan application criteria were relaxed to include all workers who submitted their applications before 06 19 and were approved by their respective banks.

18.06.2021 Amended and promulgated the “Peace of Mind Immediate Work Program” to

relax the eligibility criteria for workers to participate in the program to nationals aged 15 or older, foreigners who have obtained permanent residency, or Mainland spouses. The working hours are revised to a maximum of 960 hours per person, and the monthly epidemic prevention allowance has been increased to a maximum of NT\$2,000 depending on the work content.

21.06.2021 The “2021 Youth Employment Incentive Program” was established to encourage youth to actively seek gainful employment and stabilize employment rates. Youths aged 15-29 who are employed before September 30, 2021, or discharged from military service before 06 30, 2022, will be given an employment incentive of \$20,000 by the Ministry for finding a job within 90 days after completing military service and retaining the job for at least 90 days thereafter, and another \$10,000 for those who have been employed for 180 days, for a total of up to \$30,000 in employment incentives.

21.06.2021 Revision of the “Guidelines for Employers Employing Foreign Workers during the COVID-19 epidemic: Notes for Foreign Workers on Work, Life and Travel Management.” Because of the clustered infection case in a certain electronics factory in Miaoli County, in order to promote the implementation of epidemic prevention work in the business establishments employing foreign workers, guidelines have been revised to include additional management standards for foreign workers’ dormitories, visits to potential high-risk enterprises, make it mandatory to segregate foreign workers, specify that foreign workers from different employers are not allowed to live in mixed dormitories, and assist the management of the target business establishments in strengthening counseling and awareness to lower risk of an epidemic outbreak. The measures to be taken by employers and the proposed measures to be taken by employers are detailed and communicated to local governments, employers' organizations, labor agency associations and representative offices of the foreign workers’ countries.

23.06.2021 The Occupational Safety and Health Administration of the Ministry of Labor formulated the “Reference Guidelines on Occupational Safety and Health for Work From Home” to provide the safety and health precautions for work at

home in response to the epidemic situation for business units and workers and to adjust the application of the reference guidelines according to the practical circumstances.

24.06.2021 The “Ministry of Labor's Livelihood Subsidy Program for Workers Employed for Part-time Work in Response to COVID-19” was announced and applications were accepted starting from 06 28, 2021.