The 2010 International Youth Culture and Study Tour to the Republic of China (Taiwan)

【OBJECTIVE】
This twelve-day tour, based on the theme Discovering Taiwan, aims to provide youth in Europe, Africa and Latin America with an opportunity to better understand Taiwan in terms of history, culture, ecology, environmental protection, technology, medical treatment, public health and cross-strait relations, among others. It also facilitates cultural exchange between the youth of Europe, Africa, Latin America and Taiwan.

【SPONSOR】
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Republic of China (Taiwan)

【DATES】 Group 1: July 5 to July 16, 2010
Group 2: August 16 to August 27, 2010

【PARTICIPANTS】
Each group will consist of 50 youths from Europe, Africa and Latin America, as well as 25 people from local universities and NGOs.

【ACTIVITIES】
Visits to government agencies and other institutions; fieldtrips to scenic areas, and historic and cultural sites; exchanges with local students. Please see the attached itinerary for more details.

【EXPENSES】
Lodging, local transportation and tuition fees will be paid for by MOFA.

【APPLICATIONS】
Please refer to the attached application guidelines and application form for details.
I. Objective: These guidelines were established to provide an open, impartial and consistent standard for the admission, assessment and management of both local and overseas participants, so as to ensure the success of the tour.

II. Scope: The guidelines apply to the admission process and participation in activities for both local and overseas participants.

III. Selection and Admission of Overseas Applicants
   A. Qualification: Applicants should be between 20 and 40 years old, unless otherwise approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), and hold positions as either government officials, assistant members of parliament, research assistants to think tanks, young leaders in political parties or opinion leaders from Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) concerned with international affairs from countries in Europe, Africa or Latin America. Applicants should be recommended by ROC embassies or representative offices.
   B. Selection: ROC embassies or representative offices in Europe, Africa and Latin America, will submit a list of nominees according to the allocated quotas (see attachment), along with a waitlist, to MOFA. Should a nominee withdraw, the vacancy will be filled from the waitlist of the corresponding embassy or representative office. However, MOFA reserves the right to a final decision, irrespective of the allocated quotas, for any vacancies that arise less than two months prior to the beginning of the tour (i.e. after May 5, 2010.)

IV. Selection and Admission of Local Applicants
   A. Qualification
      1. University Applicants:
         a. Applicants must be between 20 and 40 years old, and either students, faculty or staff of one of the seven universities that participate in the European Union Centre in Taiwan program.
         b. Applicants with either academic or employment backgrounds in international affairs are preferred.
         c. Applicants must hold a GEPT middle-high level (or equivalent) certificate. Favorable consideration will be given to applicants with abilities in
additional European languages.
d. Applicants must attend the training courses held by the tour organizer and sponsor, and will be recruited as assistants.
e. For each of the two tour groups, MOFA will admit 3 applicants from each of the seven universities.

2. NGO Applicants
   a. Applicants must be between 20 and 40 years old, and serve as officers in NGOs, recommended by MOFA’s NGO Affairs Committee, that specialize in areas similar to the tour theme (humanities and history, humanitarian medical aid, ecology and environmental protection).
   b. Applicants must hold a GEPT middle level (or equivalent) certificate.
   c. Applicants must attend the training courses held by the tour organizer and sponsor, and will be recruited as assistants.

B. Selection Criteria
   1. University Applicants: For each of the two tour groups, each university can recommend 3 applicants for admission and a further 3 applicants to be put on the waitlist. At least one scholar from each university will be admitted to act as a mentor to local participants from the corresponding university. MOFA reserves the right to decide. In cases of withdrawal, vacancies will be filled from the waitlist according to the above selection criteria.
   2. NGO Applicants: For each of the two tour groups, 4 applicants from suitable NGOs will be recommended to MOFA for admission, with a further 4 applicants being put on the waitlist. Each NGO can have no more than 1 applicant admitted. In cases of withdrawal, vacancies will be filled from the waitlist.

V. Groupings: For administrative purposes and to ensure the tour’s success, the 75 participants will be divided into 7 smaller groups (teams) for assembly and dining purposes, as well as for the Taiwan Discovery Presentation.

VI. Expenses
   A. Overseas Applicants
      1. MOFA will cover all itinerary-related costs, including board and lodging, as well as transportation in Taiwan.
      2. In cases where, due to flight issues, overseas participants need to arrive a day earlier or leave a day later than dictated by the tour itinerary, MOFA will provide free lodging (at a place of its choosing). The event organizer and sponsor are not responsible for any costs associated with extended lodging for non-flight related issues.

B. Local Applicants
1. MOFA cover itinerary-related costs, including board and lodging, as well as transportation in Taiwan for the duration of the tour.
2. The organizer will reimburse transportation costs for participants who do not reside in Taipei.
3. The organizer and sponsor are not responsible for any fees associated with pre- or post-tour stays.
   C. The above costs are covered by the tour budget, which is managed by the organizer.

VII. Award & Discipline
   A. Assessment and Awards
      1. MOFA will award a certificate of participation to overseas participants unless they are absent twice or more during the tour, or leave the tour before it ends.
      2. Each team should prepare an 8-minute program for the Taiwan Discovery Presentation. A prize will be awarded to the top three teams.
   B. Discipline: Participants who violate the tour rules (announced at the orientation and agreed to by all participants) will be disciplined.

VIII. Other: The event organizer reserves the right to amend the terms and conditions.