



# Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats

Unit 410, 4/F La Fuerza Plaza 2, 2241 Don Chino Roces Ave. cor. Sabio St., 1231 Makati City, Philippines

Tel: (+632) 8113151 • Fax: (+632) 8101431 • Email: [info@cald.org](mailto:info@cald.org) • Website: [www.cald.org](http://www.cald.org)

1 December 2014

**Dr. Tsai Ing-wen**

Chairperson

Democratic Progressive Party of Taiwan

Dear Dr. Tsai:

On behalf of the Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats (CALD), let me extend our warmest congratulations to the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) of Taiwan for your resounding victory in the 9-in-1 local elections last 29 November 2014. With 47.5% of the total votes cast (against 40.7 for the Koumintang or KMT), and with electoral success in 13 special municipalities/counties/cities (the party's best showing to date), the Taiwanese people have undeniably heeded your call for change and for more people-centred governance.

CALD was pleased to witness these local elections first hand, as a delegation from our member-parties visited Taipei, Taichung and Tainan on 24-27 November to observe the campaigns of DPP candidates. The delegates were unanimous in expressing their appreciation for the experience, as it not only served as an opportunity to learn new campaign strategies and techniques, but it also reminded them that every campaign should start with a basic premise - heeding the voice of the people. Moreover, they were inspired to see how the message of hope espoused by DPP candidates resonated in the 3 special municipalities they visited. For them, this synergy between local politicians and their constituencies is the very essence of democratic governance and people participation that we liberals and democrats all aspire for.

In your speech on 29 November, you rightly described the election results as "a historical prologue for change". Indeed, the election, in more ways than one, is historic for its rejection of the KMT and for its acceptance of the alternatives proposed by the DPP. With this decisive victory, we trust that the DPP would be in a better position as it prepares to bring power back to the people in 2016.

We wish you and the DPP the very best. Long live Taiwan democracy!

Sincerely yours,

**Oyun Sanjaasuren, MP**

Chairperson