



Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats

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H.E. Ing-wen Tsai

President, Taiwan

Chairperson, Democratic Progressive Party

Dear President Tsai:

On behalf of your CALD family, I would like to convey our sincere appreciation for the uplifting keynote message you shared during the Opening Panel of the 13th CALD General Assembly last 23 November 2020.

We are truly grateful that you took the time to share the effective and strategic decisions made by Taiwan, not only in terms of addressing the health crisis, but also in countering disinformation or influence operations during the 2020 Taiwan presidential elections and beyond.

Your inspiring message created waves of positive responses in the region and across the globe. Philippine Vice President Leni Robredo and the leadership of the Liberal Party of the Philippines, for one, are inspired to continue learning from the Taiwan model – particularly on how Taiwan harnessed the strengths and talents of various sectors to work in unity in addressing both the pandemic and the ‘infodemic.’

The Liberal Party of the Philippines is planning to convene soon to discuss how we could adapt Taiwan’s strategies in reaching out to the private sector, civil society and the general public to encourage them to be part of the solution in addressing the ongoing health crisis and the spread of ‘fake news.’

Moreover, the members of the CALD Executive Committee which met last 26 November have also expressed admiration for Taiwan’s success in rising above challenges amidst the struggles caused by the pandemic and the threats brought about by populism and authoritarianism. We are hopeful that, together as liberals and democrats, we can overcome the challenges ahead of us.

Again, thank you for rekindling the democratic spirit among Liberals and Democrats in the region. We wish your administration continuing success, and we hope to see you again in Taiwan when the pandemic is over.

Sincerely,

Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan

CALD Chairperson

Senator, Republic of the Philippines