



Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats

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

Tel: (+632) 8819-6071 • Email: info@cald.org • Website: www.cald.org

14 January 2024

H.E. William Lai

President-Elect of Taiwan

Taipei, Taiwan

Your Excellency:

On behalf of the Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats (CALD), I would like to congratulate you for winning the recently concluded elections. This is, indeed, an unprecedented victory for the people of Taiwan and the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), a founding member of CALD.

The election result is testament that the efforts of the DPP and President Tsai Ing-wen are on the right direction, and that your victory is a crucial next step towards the fulfillment of Taiwan's vision of achieving lasting peace and stability in the region.

We are optimistic that under your leadership, cross-Straits issues can be a subject of more constructive and meaningful dialogue, not just with China, but also with other neighboring nations.

We commend the courage of the Taiwanese people in protecting their political rights to freely choose their leaders. Despite the efforts of external forces to influence election results, your people have always chosen to be on the side of democracy, human rights and the rule of law – values which the DPP has consistently espoused throughout its existence. The election results show that the DPP is now reaping the harvest of upholding progressive principles. We are proud that DPP showed the world that running on a platform of safeguarding democracy can win elections too.

Mr. President, your determination as you rose from the ground up in your political career is an inspiration to the liberal family. You have proven -- time and again -- that hard work and heart for service can bear fruit in terms of people's trust. Your victory will continue to encourage us liberals, particularly the youth, in striving for our democratic aspirations.

We would like to thank the DPP for organizing and hosting the CALD Election Mission together with the Liberal International (LI). We believe that Taiwan and CALD will continue to play important roles in keeping democracy and peace in the region. This is a new chapter for democracy and rest assured CALD will always support your

administration. Our partnership will only get stronger as we face together the threats from undemocratic and illiberal forces.

The stage is now set for an even brighter future for Taiwan and we are excited to continue to work with you and support you in promoting freedom and democracy.

We believe this election victory will have profound positive implications and will continue to serve as an inspiration to Asia and the rest of the world. Again, congratulations and we hope to see you in future CALD events.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mardi Seng', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Mardi Seng
CALD Chairperson