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- Since 1997, Taiwan has requested to become an observer to the World Health Assembly, an annual conference held by the World Health Organization. Taiwan has not yet succeeded after trying 8 times. This year Taiwan will continue to try for the 9th time.
- Taiwan is the 15th largest trading nation in the world. However, being a hub of trade may also serve as a hub of epidemics and diseases. In 2003, Taiwan registered 5.92 million outbound travelers and 2.25 million inbound visitors. Between March and July 2003, Taiwan was hit by the SARS epidemic. The WHO exclusion of Taiwan constitutes a loophole in its global disease prevention network. Not only the 23 million people of Taiwan suffer from this health apartheid, but also the rest of the world community is paying a high cost.
- The Holy See, Palestine, the Order of Malta and the International Committee of the Red Cross are observers of the WHA. Puerto Rico is an associate member of the WHO, and 192 countries are members of the WHO. But for Taiwan, its humble request for observer status was refused 8 times.
- The United States is a strong supporter of Taiwan participation in the WHO. Every year, the US Congress and many state legislatures pass bills to express their support. The Bush Administration has also made it clear that it fully supports Taiwan WHO bid. President George W. Bush, in a statement released on June 14, 2004, when signing into law an act (S. 2092) concerning participation of Taiwan in the WHO, said, he United States fully supports the participation of Taiwan in the work of the World Health Organization, including observer status. The United States has expressed publicly its firm support for Taiwan's observer status and will continue to do so. On April 21, 2004, at a hearing on Taiwan held by the US House International Relations Committee, James Kelly, the then Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, testified, We actively support observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization. We want to find a way forward for Taiwan participation in the World Health Assembly that will receive broad support among WHO Member States Taiwan can certainly count on the United States to vote in favor of including the Taiwan observership issue on the World Health Assembly agenda should the issue come to a vote.
- As Taiwan has not yet succeeded in obtaining the WHA observer status, and is trying again this May for the 9th time, Taiwan calls on her friends to continue to show their support and stand by Taiwan in her pursuit for justice.

