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## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### ***The US-Taiwan Business Council Welcomed TAITRA Chairman Francis Liang to the U.S.-Taiwan Business Forum***

The US-Taiwan Business Council today thanks Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) Chairman Francis Kuo-Hsin Liang and a delegation of senior Taiwan business leaders for their participation in the U.S.-Taiwan Business Forum on June 21, 2016 in Washington, D.C. The Forum brought together business leaders from Taiwan and the United States to examine the future of our bilateral economic relationship, and to promote closer business and commercial ties.

More than 30 high-level business representatives from U.S. companies and national trade and industry associations attended the Forum. The participants exchanged views on issues central to the U.S.-Taiwan commercial and economic relationship, including supply chain connectivity, challenges and opportunities posed by standards for Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) protection in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement, and trade and investment priorities in the context of regional economic integration.

The Council also welcomed Acting Assistant Secretary of State Susan Thornton as a speaker at the Forum. Ms. Thornton stressed the strong economic ties between the U.S. and Taiwan, highlighting Taiwan's rank as the 9th largest U.S. trading partner in 2015. The extensive cooperation between Taiwan and U.S. companies in the supply chain also demonstrates the fact that bilateral ties extend far beyond trade figures.

Council President Rupert Hammond-Chambers noted, *"This bilateral Forum is evidence of the close and long-standing relationship between the U.S. and Taiwan business communities, along with the important role that Taiwan plays in the global economy. We look forward to working with all interested parties in these communities to champion the areas of reform and liberalization that are so important for securing Taiwan participation in the next round of TPP negotiations, as well as to safeguard the future health of the Taiwan economy."*

#### **About the US-Taiwan Business Council:**

The US-Taiwan Business Council ([www.us-taiwan.org](http://www.us-taiwan.org)) is a membership-based non-profit association, founded in 1976 to foster trade and business relations between the United States and Taiwan. The Council provides its members with business intelligence, offers access to an extensive network of relationships, and serves as a vital and effective representative in dealing with business, trade, and investment matters.

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