



## Taiwan Pacific allies support climate change

By Online Editor

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President of Kiribati, Anote Tong (left) and President Marcus Stephen (right)

Leaders of Taiwan's three allies in the Pacific have pledged their support for Taiwan's efforts to address climate change and raising awareness of environmental sustainability.

The Presidents of Kiribati, Nauru and Tuvalu were in Kaohsiung last week to show their support for Taiwan.

Kiribati President Anote Tong, Nauru President Marcus Stephen and Tuvalu Prime Minister Willy Telavi added their signatures to a declaration of cooperation signed by participants at the two-day event organized by Kaohsiung shipbuilder Ching Fu Group.

"Cooperation on this critical issue is of the greatest importance," ROC Foreign Minister Timothy Chin-tien Yang said.

"We value the contributions of our Pacific allies and thank them for speaking up for Taiwan in the international community."

During the summit, several Kaohsiung-based universities and hospitals presented research reports detailing environmental and public health issues affecting the three countries.

In response, Ching Fu CEO Chen Ching-nan promised to spend US\$1 million on upgrading Tuvalu's sewage system, building waste incinerators for Nauru and constructing public toilets in Kiribati.

"The company has benefited from the support of the three nations while conducting commercial activities in the area," Chen said. "It is our responsibility to give something back."

Yang thanked Ching Fu for its philanthropic largesse and said the company's support was integral in helping solve the public health problems of these ROC allies.

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