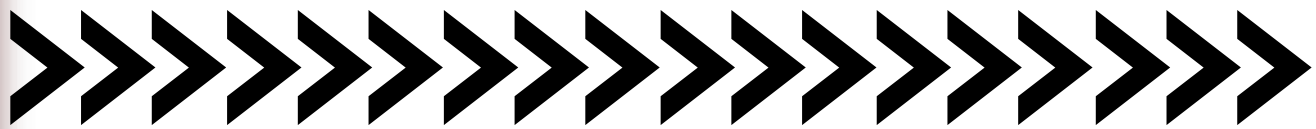


1. Businesses Support Disaster Preparedness, Building a New Force for Resilience National Association of Commerce Holds “2026 Disaster Prevention Specialist Training”



2. ROCCOC Holds Exchange Forum on the Implementation of the “Mandatory Membership in Business Associations” Policy



中華民國全國商業總會

General Chamber of Commerce of the Republic of China

Businesses Support Disaster Preparedness, Building a New Force for Resilience National Association of Commerce Holds “2026 Disaster Prevention Specialist Training”

The General Chamber of Commerce of the Republic of China (ROCCOC) held its “2026 Disaster Prevention Specialist Training” at Conference Room 2 of the Chinese National Federation of Industries on May 25–26, 2026.

The purpose of the training was to support the development of whole-of-society defense resilience and align with the Ministry of the Interior’ s major policy of promoting Disaster Prevention Specialist training. The program aimed to enhance public awareness of risks and encourage greater public participation in disaster prevention and response efforts, channeling the capacities of self-help, mutual assistance, and public assistance into communities and, in turn, strengthening local disaster resilience.

The training program was designed in accordance with the Ministry of the Interior’ s Disaster Prevention Specialist training system and balanced theoretical knowledge with practical exercises. It covered a range of core subjects, including first-aid skills, disaster preparedness knowledge, community disaster prevention, and scenario-based drills. Participants first received basic emergency response training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), automated external defibrillator (AED) operation, bleeding control and wound dressing, casualty transportation, and assistance for persons with disabilities.

Through hands-on practice and practical skills assessments, participants developed the ability to provide immediate assistance and conduct first-response operations at disaster sites. The program also introduced the roles and responsibilities of Disaster Prevention Specialists, the operation of Taiwan’ s disaster prevention and response system, and case studies of major disasters in recent years, helping participants understand the characteristics of common disasters in Taiwan and key concepts of disaster management.

In addition, the program placed particular emphasis on the collection and application of disaster information, including the interpretation of disaster preparedness maps, disaster risk and hazard analysis, the dissemination and communication of disaster information, and the identification and clarification of disaster-related rumors.

Participants also further learned about personal and household protective measures, gaining an understanding of evacuation principles and emergency response measures in the event of earthquakes, typhoons, floods, and fires. Through scenario-based exercises, they practiced evacuation procedures, fire escape, and disaster response processes.

The program also introduced approaches to promoting community-based disaster preparedness, the development of disaster preparedness maps, the operational mechanisms of emergency shelters, and the important role played by Disaster Prevention Specialists during the sheltering phase.

Finally, disaster map-based exercises and comprehensive scenario simulations enabled participants to develop their abilities in information assessment, resource coordination, communication, coordination, decision-making, and emergency response in environments closely resembling actual disaster situations, thereby validating what they had learned and strengthening their practical application skills.

Chairman Hsu Shu-po stated in his remarks that disaster preparedness is by no means solely the responsibility of government agencies; it is a shared responsibility of society as a whole and an indispensable part of sustainable business operations.

In the past, corporate discussions of ESG largely focused on environmental protection, social responsibility, and corporate governance. However, in recent years, intensifying global climate change, increasingly frequent extreme weather events, as well as earthquakes, fires, and various public safety incidents, have significantly expanded the scope of corporate risk management. Disaster preparedness has therefore gradually become an important issue in corporate governance and sustainable development.

Chairman Hsu pointed out that business associations have unique advantages in promoting disaster preparedness education. If an industry association can effectively promote sound disaster preparedness concepts, its impact extends far beyond a single company to an entire industrial supply chain.

From upstream suppliers and midstream manufacturers to downstream service providers, advocacy and training conducted through industry and business associations can help more enterprises develop disaster preparedness awareness and response capabilities.

Taiwan is particularly dependent on small and medium-sized enterprises, many of which are occupied with day-to-day business management and may not have sufficient manpower or resources to establish comprehensive disaster preparedness systems. In such circumstances, business associations can serve as bridges and catalysts, helping enterprises strengthen their disaster preparedness knowledge and enhancing the resilience of industries as a whole.

Chairman Hsu further noted that businesses today must contend not only with concerns over orders, raw materials, and the political and economic environment, but also with earthquakes, fires, extreme weather, labor shortages, an aging workforce, energy risks, and even major public safety incidents.

Therefore, Disaster Prevention Specialist training is highly meaningful. It is not simply about attending classes and obtaining a certificate, but about establishing a mindset of self-help, mutual assistance, and public assistance in response to today's "era of compound risks." Chairman Hsu emphasized that while the government's resources are limited, the strength of the private sector is immense. As long as the government and business associations work hand in hand, Taiwan's overall disaster resilience will continue to grow stronger. He encouraged participants to bring disaster preparedness concepts back to their associations, industries, and communities and become important seeds for disaster preparedness.

Minister of the Interior Liu, Shyh-Fang stated in her remarks that just as businesses place great importance on risk management, so too should families and communities. Only by establishing proper evacuation and emergency response concepts in ordinary times can people remain calm and respond effectively when disasters occur. The core concepts of Disaster Prevention Specialist training are self-help and mutual assistance. Disaster preparedness education is also not limited by age, and everyone from children to older adults can participate in Disaster Prevention Specialist training.

Since efforts to expand the training program began in full force, more than 139,000 people nationwide have obtained certification. With this first dedicated training program for members of business associations, the total is expected to surpass 140,000 in the near future. Taiwan is located in a region frequently affected by natural disasters such as earthquakes and typhoons. Coupled with the compound disasters brought about by climate change in recent years, strengthening public awareness of disaster preparedness and emergency response capabilities has become an important priority alongside government efforts.

This event was the first Disaster Prevention Specialist training program organized by a business association in 2026. By helping members of business associations develop fundamental disaster preparedness knowledge and self-help and mutual assistance capabilities, participants who complete the program will become “safety ambassadors” within their respective enterprises.

They will be able to play a critical role in emergency response when disasters strike, quickly activate self-help mechanisms, and help ensure the stable operation of society and the economy.

Notably, the Disaster Prevention Specialist system emphasizes not only response after a disaster occurs but also preparedness and prevention in everyday life.

When employees possess basic disaster preparedness knowledge and emergency response capabilities, they can protect themselves and their colleagues during disasters while also helping their companies resume operations quickly and reduce the risks of work stoppages and losses.

For businesses, disaster preparedness is not merely a cost but an investment in risk management; for society, every additional Disaster Prevention Specialist represents another source of strength safeguarding the safety of communities and families.

Members of business associations participated enthusiastically in this event. The 30 participants came from a wide range of industries, including finance and insurance, traditional Chinese medicine, security services, eel and shrimp, import and export, transportation, lighting, surveying and mapping, petrochemicals, horticulture and floriculture, and fire safety equipment inspection and maintenance. All 30 participants successfully completed the training, achieving fruitful results.

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ROCCOC Holds Exchange Forum on the Implementation of the “Mandatory Membership in Business Associations” Policy

The General Chamber of Commerce of the Republic of China (ROCCOC) convened the “Exchange Forum on the Implementation of the ‘Mandatory Membership in Business Associations’ Policy” on the afternoon of May 18, 2026, at its conference room.

The purpose of the training was to support the development of whole-of-society defense resilience and align with the Ministry of the Interior’s major policy of promoting Disaster Prevention Specialist training. The program aimed to enhance public awareness of risks and encourage greater public participation in disaster prevention and response efforts, channeling the capacities of self-help, mutual assistance, and public assistance into communities and, in turn, strengthening local disaster resilience.

The forum was chaired by ROCCOC Secretary-General Liu Shou-ren and attended by 12 representatives from 11 commercial associations, including the Taiwan Provincial Chamber of Commerce, New Taipei City Chamber of Commerce, Taoyuan City Chamber of Commerce, Hsinchu City Chamber of Commerce, Hsinchu County Chamber of Commerce, Taichung City Chamber of Commerce, Greater Taichung Chamber of Commerce, Changhua County Chamber of Commerce, Kaohsiung City Chamber of Commerce, Pingtung County Chamber of Commerce, and Lienchiang County Chamber of Commerce.

This forum followed up on the preliminary discussions held during the Ministry of the Interior’s “Business Association Affairs Exchange Forum” on January 21, 2026, which focused on the challenges encountered by commercial associations in cities and counties when promoting the “Mandatory Membership in Business Associations” policy, as well as possible directions for improvement. To continue advancing the relevant work and explore feasible approaches, ROCCOC hoped to facilitate the exchange of views and sharing of experiences among commercial associations across cities and counties, thereby developing concrete measures to further strengthen the institutional development of Taiwan’s commercial associations.

Most of the participating commercial associations expressed appreciation for the Ministry of the Interior's convening of the "Business Association Affairs Exchange Forum" and its subsequent official communication to commercial associations in cities and counties.

These efforts have provided the associations with updated policy arguments and reference points when addressing businesses' concerns about joining associations, and some cities and counties reported that tangible results had indeed been achieved. In addition, during the forum, commercial associations shared the difficulties they encountered in implementing the policy.

For example, with the promotion of the "Mandatory Membership in Business Associations" policy facing challenges, most commercial associations in cities and counties have long suffered from insufficient manpower and financial resources, placing considerable pressure on their operations and the promotion of association affairs.

In response, many associations proposed ways to establish stable self-generated sources of revenue, including providing labor insurance administrative services, undertaking government projects and contracts, and organizing training courses.

Another association representative pointed out that, in some cities and counties, the existence of two commercial associations has resulted in complicated issues concerning the implementation of their respective responsibilities and the delineation of duties. It was therefore suggested that local governments play a coordinating role in such cases.

In conclusion, the following recommendations were put forward during the forum:

I. Regulatory Recommendations

1. Government procurement projects should uniformly require bidders to submit a Business Association Membership Certificate as part of the eligibility review requirements.

2. Association membership should be established as a statutory prerequisite for commercial registration in order to achieve the most effective form of management at the source.

II. Institutional and Operational Recommendations

1. Efforts should be made to allow commercial associations to sell invoices on behalf of the government.
2. When commercial associations organize seminars on labor rights and interests, the government should provide financial subsidies. Such programs should preferably be conducted in person to facilitate face-to-face interaction and communication with businesses.
3. Commercial registration services could be delegated to commercial associations for implementation.
4. Within the scope permitted by law, local competent authorities should proactively provide commercial associations with information on businesses' primary business activities, as well as complete company and business information, such as addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers, for reference and follow-up contact.
5. The Ministry of the Interior should hold more exchange meetings on the "Mandatory Membership in Business Associations" policy and provide more detailed explanations of related issues.

