



Rotary International Convention in Taipei concludes with inspiration and a call to action

From powerful performances and speakers to global service commitments, more than 38,000 people celebrate Rotary's global spirit

by Wen Huang | Photos by Monika Lozinska and Kristen Wei

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The Rotary International Convention in Taipei, Taiwan, ended on a high note as singer Leona Lewis brought thousands of attendees to their feet with a stirring performance that included the resilience anthem “Fire Under My Feet” during the closing ceremony on 17 June.

Taipei's warm hospitality was on full display as hundreds of Rotary volunteers formed a human corridor outside the venue, greeting departing attendees with cheers and celebratory gestures. Many people stopped to take selfies and exchange farewells before heading home.

The four-day event attracted more than 38,000 people from 140 countries and regions, making it one of Rotary's largest conventions in recent years.

“This year, I spoke often about uniting for good,” said Rotary International President Francesco Arezzo, a member of the Rotary Club of Ragusa, Italy. “These past days, we have seen what that means. Rotary is a meeting place — where strangers become friends, friendship becomes trust, where trust becomes action.”

Inspirational speakers

The convention featured impressive speakers, led by Malala Yousafzai, the youngest-ever Nobel Peace Prize laureate and a leading advocate for girls' education.

Yousafzai, whose father was a Rotary member, began advocating for education in Pakistan before she was a teenager. At age 15, she survived a Taliban attack aimed at silencing her activism. Following months of surgery and rehabilitation in the United Kingdom, she co-founded the Malala

Fund to continue her campaign for girls' education worldwide. In 2014, at age 17, she received the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of her efforts to advance education and equality. She graduated from Oxford University in 2020 with a degree in philosophy, politics, and economics.

"I started my campaign for education at 11 years old," Yousafzai said during the second general session on 16 June. "At first, it was just me and my father speaking out for girls' right to go to school. But it is the people who have come alongside us, our collective work, that gives me hope."

While acknowledging progress, she noted that about 120 million girls worldwide remain out of school, and she urged attendees to support girls as leaders. "Girls understand the problems best, and they understand the solutions best," Yousafzai said.

She also encouraged Rotary members to help ensure that every girl has access to quality education.

"Over the years, I've learned that one person cannot change the world alone, that every movement in history was built by many hands," Yousafzai said. "When you go home, look for girls in your community who are at risk of dropping out. Ask teachers what you can do to support their work. We need your bold and ambitious vision to build a better future for girls."

Yousafzai also received a warm response when discussing mental health and her recovery from the attack.

"I initially focused only on physical recovery, but later I realized the importance of mental health," she said. "Therapy helped me recognize that asking for help is strength, not weakness. I chose to be open about my struggles because young people around the world need to know they are not alone."

Another challenge for the future came in the closing session from Salome Agbaroji, the 2023-24 National Youth Poet Laureate of the United States, who performed her poem "HOPE."

"When you change hope from an attitude into an action, we get much closer to building the world we aspire to," she said after performing the poem. "You, Rotary members, are the scientists and engineers of the small social revolutions that achieve great and measurable good."

Expanding Rotary's global impact

Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair Holger Knaack highlighted the global reach of Rotary's humanitarian work and introduced the newest Programs of Scale grant recipient: Collaboration for Sustainable Water and Sanitation Systems in Haiti.

The initiative, led by Haitian Rotarians, builds on work with Haitian organizations and the national water agency. It aims to reduce waterborne disease by strengthening local capacity and by training

community leaders, water operators, and municipal officials.

“It answers a question that matters to every Rotarian in this room: Can we deliver lasting change in places where change is hardest?” Knaack said. “This program is going to prove we can.”

Knaack also announced an expansion of the Rotary Healthy Communities Challenge to add Papua New Guinea. The program will train an additional 2,100 community volunteers in more than 1,000 villages, aiming to cut malaria deaths in half.

Michael K. McGovern and Valarie Wafer of the International PolioPlus Committee highlighted both the progress and challenges in Rotary’s effort to eradicate polio. Although Afghanistan and Pakistan remain the only countries with ongoing transmission of wild poliovirus, variant outbreaks continue to be a challenge in parts of Africa, including Nigeria.

Supported annually by US\$50 million from The Rotary Foundation and US\$100 million from the Gates Foundation, Rotary and its partners continue to integrate polio vaccination campaigns with broader health initiatives that strengthen health systems and improve community well-being.

[House of Friendship showcases global fellowship](#)

The House of Friendship featured more than 200 exhibits from Rotary and Rotaract clubs, districts, and vendors around the world.

A highlight was the Taipei Village, sponsored by the Host Organization Committee, which recreated a section of Taipei’s historic old town. Visitors immersed themselves in Taiwanese culture through Chinese calligraphy, tea ceremonies, Indigenous traditions, and other participatory experiences.

“It is thrilling to see the internationality of our organization in one place,” says Brenda Waugh, a district governor-elect from Scotland, a member of the Rotary Club of Annan & District, and a first-time convention attendee. “I enjoyed the fun and fellowship, and I’m proud to be part of this massive international organization.”

The convention’s opening and closing ceremonies dazzled audiences with large-scale productions combining traditional Taiwanese dance, drumming, and acrobatics with contemporary staging. Italian singers and musicians also captivated attendees with spectacular operatic arias and beloved classics, including “Caruso.”

With large Rotary promotional billboards at Taoyuan airport and in Taipei’s subway stations, short TV clips in taxis, and extensive daily media coverage, the convention has enabled Rotary to raise awareness of its global and local impact in Taiwan, where membership has grown exponentially.

Looking ahead

The convention also set up Rotary's annual leadership transition. On 1 July, Olayinka H. Babalola will begin his term as Rotary International president for 2026-27, while Larry A. Lunsford will serve as president-elect.

Nearing the end of his year of service, Arezzo emphasized the importance of continuity in Rotary leadership.

"I like the image of a relay race," he said. "No runner owns the race. The most important moment is not the running — it is the passing.

"Rotary is a relay. We receive. We carry forward. We pass it on. And every generation of Rotarians must leave the organization stronger, kinder, and more hopeful for the generation that follows."

- *Gundula Miethke contributed to this story.*

Photo Gallery



Lorenzo Licitra (center) and Peppe Arezzo perform onstage at the closing general session of the Rotary International Convention.



Malala Yousafzai, the youngest-ever Nobel Peace Prize laureate, speaking at a lectern while holding a microphone on a stage with colorful illuminated panels.



Taiwan Acrobatic Troupe performs balancing upside down on handstand canes during a stage performance while performers hold translucent fabric panels.



Salome Agbaroji, the 2023-24 National Youth Poet Laureate of the U.S., speaking on stage with arms raised beside a professional video camera in the foreground.



Convention attendees wave Italian flags at the convention



*Two attendees posing together at the convention,
wearing lanyards with a stage and audience in the background.*





RI PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Francesco Arezzo

14 June 2026

Dear friends, dear Rotary family, it is wonderful to be with you here in Taipei.

I know the Rotary members of Taiwan have waited patiently and worked generously for many years to welcome the Rotary world to Taipei. And now here we are, in this beautiful new stadium. Five years ago, this stadium didn't exist. It seems like every time a visitor arrives in Taipei, you have something new to show off.

And if you had held this convention in 2021, you wouldn't have me as your president. But I have even better news: You have not missed a speech from the 2021 Rotary International President Holger Knaack, because he is speaking on Tuesday morning. So I'm expecting to see all of you right back here.

To everyone in Taiwan: *Xièxiè!*

Thank you to the people of Taiwan, to our hosts here in Taipei, to the Host Organization Committee, and to every Rotarian who worked for so many years to welcome the Rotary world to this beautiful city.

May I also extend a warm Rotary welcome to the president of Lions International, A.P. Singh from Kolkata, India, who has joined us at our convention?

My friends, when I began this year as president of Rotary International, I will be honest with you: I was a little nervous. This role came to me very suddenly, and no one is ever fully prepared for it.

But in a sense, I was prepared, as a Rotarian. I had served in my club, my district, my zone, and on the Board. I had seen what happens when people of goodwill decide they can do something useful with their lives — and then they do it.

So I began with nerves, yes — but also with trust. And today, standing here with you, I can say this year has been a success. Not because of one person, not because of one office, but because we were a team.

A team on the Board. A team with Rotary Foundation Chair Holger. A team with our staff. A team with governors and Rotary leaders around the world, who improved membership, supported The Rotary Foundation, and carried Rotary's message with energy and conviction.

And I especially want to thank the district governors of this year, and particularly send my greetings to the Italian governors.

A team with John, my aide, who stood beside me through so many journeys, so many airports, so many surprises — some beautiful, some difficult, some very funny.

A team with my wife, Anna, whose love and presence have meant more to me than I can ever say properly from a stage.

And above all, a team with the Rotary members I met around the world — the most beautiful part of this year.

Everywhere I went, I found the same spirit. Different languages, different food, different ways of welcoming a guest — but always the same Rotary heart.

In Chennai, 50 Rotaractors met me at the airport at five in the morning, each wearing a mask of my face. I do not recommend this as a universal Rotary practice. But I admit it made me very happy.

In Korea, I tried to keep my birthday a secret. This was not successful. I was dressed as a Korean emperor, carried into a venue of 5,000 people, and serenaded with “Happy Birthday” in Korean — beneath an eight-meter balloon, plastered with my face. It was all a reminder that we Rotarians are terrible at keeping secrets from one another.

In Nigeria, Yinka and I beat the drums with our hosts on a train ride with the governors.

In Uganda, I visited the blood bank Past President John Germ helped open. In Ethiopia, I met children waiting for heart surgery, whose lives depend on whether help reaches them in time.

These are not just memories. They remind me that Rotary is a hand on a shoulder, a child helped in time. Rotary is friendship made useful.

I came into this year with three priorities: membership, peace, and polio eradication. On membership, after years of decline, we appear to be ending this year with a small increase. It means our message still speaks to people.

On peace, we opened a new Rotary Peace Center in Pune, India, marked the 80th anniversary of the United Nations in San Francisco, and planted olive trees and peace poles in nearly every country I visited. Some say these are only symbols. Peace is not built only through symbols and diplomacy. It is built when communities become healthier, better educated, more stable, and more hopeful.

I am pleased that Rotary is making peacebuilding a part of all we do. We like to say that everything we do helps build peace. Now, we will demonstrate how our service projects create conditions for lasting peace.

And on polio — this year was difficult. Funding became harder. Governments faced new pressures. But our efforts on polio do not disappear because the world grows tired of hearing about it. We have to keep our promise to the world’s children.

On one of my first trips as president, I went to Pakistan to see the work on polio with my own eyes. In Islamabad, I visited the National Emergencies Operation Center. As I walked up the stairs, I noticed photographs on the wall. They were vaccinators, volunteers, and security personnel who had lost their lives bringing two drops of vaccine

to children just in a 10-year period. Sixty-eight names on that one staircase. In Pakistan alone, the total is more than 365. Across the world, closer to 1,500.

Later that trip, in Rawalpindi, after helping with an immunization, the children ran to gather under a tree for a photograph. All except for a small girl, maybe three years old, who slowly dragged herself with her hands to join the group. She looked up at me but still smiled. She had been paralyzed by polio.

And in that moment, all the numbers disappeared. I thought: If only we had reached her sooner. If only we had reached her in time. Her life would have been different. That little girl is why we cannot stop. We must finish because the next child is still waiting. We must finish because the sacrifice of those vaccinators must have its full meaning. And we will finish — because it has been the great dream of this organization for decades.

There are two old films I have been thinking about this year that say something about dreams.

In “High Noon,” a marshal named Will Kane could leave town, but he stays. He stays to face a group of bandits who want to take over the town. He goes door to door, asking his neighbors to stand with him, speaking about law and duty and what the town owes itself. One by one, they refuse. At noon, the marshal walks the empty street alone. A community that would not stand up for itself.

In “The Magnificent Seven” — and in “Seven Samurai,” the Akira Kurosawa film that inspired it — a village under attack by bandits sends for help, and seven strangers come. The seven do not save the village by themselves. They stand beside the villagers and train them. Their leader sells them on a dream — that they can rise up and save their own community. When the bandits attack, the farmers fight, too. Because someone stood beside them, and because they believed in a dream.

That, my friends, is Rotary.

We are not Will Kane, alone in the street. We arrive. We stand beside the community. We help it find what it can do for itself. Then we move on to the next village, the next child, the next dream.

Rotary needs dreams. Not as an escape from reality, but as a force that moves people to act and to keep hope even in the most difficult times.

This year has changed me. I began it with uncertainty. And like everyone in the Rotary world, I grieved the loss of our good friend SangKoo Yun. He was a great leader and a wonderful man, and we all miss him.

I also made more new friends than I could possibly imagine in one year. And so, I end it with gratitude. Gratitude for the fellowship. Gratitude for service. Gratitude for the extraordinary privilege of seeing Rotary at work in every corner of the world.

So, as we begin this convention, enjoy this city and this magical island. Enjoy the rain. Enjoy this fellowship. Enjoy our speakers. Celebrate what we have done. And dream of what Rotary can still become.

Have a wonderful convention.



GENERAL SECRETARY AND CEO'S REMARKS TO THE CONVENTION

John Hewko
16 June 2026

Good morning. Good morning, everyone.

We're now more than halfway through this year's international convention, and I want to thank Rotary members across Taiwan who have come to this convention. You've been wonderful ambassadors for this exciting global city of Taipei, and for the very special island of Taiwan.

Now, when I began writing this speech, I was looking for a little Taiwanese inspiration. And I found it and posted a video about it on our social media channels.

So one of my colleagues took me to try my first bubble tea. And on these screens, you can see clips of our visit. Taiwan has put inspiration in a colorful cup called bubble tea. Evanston has about a dozen bubble tea shops, including one right across the street from One Rotary Center. And you know what? It was instant inspiration, and I loved it. And it all started with someone handing me a cup and saying, "Try this."

Try this. That's the simplest, most direct form of marketing.

Bubble tea began in Taiwan in the 1980s and reached Evanston in the United States the same way it reached everywhere else. It didn't spread through a marketing campaign or a corporate strategy. It spread one person at a time — one person handing something to another and saying, "Try this." That approach is so simple and friendly, and it's surprising we don't use it more often.

Now, the world at times seems afraid to be friendly. People look down at their phones, and they rarely use them to call others. And I know because it's a miracle if my daughter ever calls me back. And because of that, many people have never felt more alone. In fact, loneliness has become a serious global problem. Because loneliness is not just the absence of people. It's the feeling that your presence does not register, does not matter. That you could come or go, and no one would really notice.

In fact, the crisis has become such that the World Health Organization has declared loneliness a global public health priority. Japan has appointed a minister for loneliness and passed legislation to track it. The pattern looks similar in Taipei, in Seoul, in any

city where people order their coffee on a phone and walk through the world with headphones, oblivious to their surroundings.

The good news is that you here in Taipei have found a way to beat those global trends. You have traveled across oceans and time zones to be with people who care about what you care about. You have prioritized belonging.

Now, the happy people you see behind me are all Rotary members. We took these pictures for a recent issue of *Rotary* magazine, which focused on happiness. One story in the magazine focused on the longest-running study of happiness in human history at Harvard, 85 years and counting. That study found that the strongest predictor of long-term well-being is not wealth. It's not your job. It's not even your genetics. It's the quality of your relationships. The science around loneliness is telling us what Rotary members have been telling each other for more than a century.

So how do we extend what is happening in this room to people who could benefit from Rotary? Well, let's start by being honest about why members stay engaged. They stay because they like the people they spend time with and can't wait to see them again. They stay because they find a shared purpose. Rotary is a place — maybe *the* place — where meaning and joy can be combined without apology. You don't just believe in something in Rotary. You work beside others who believe just as much.

Here's an example. Bill Feldt is a Rotary member near Seattle. He was one of the original champions of Rotary's malaria initiative in Zambia. That program became The Rotary Foundation's first program of scale. US\$2 million from us — 4 million more from partners — and a huge impact in reducing malaria across Zambia.

But that's not how Bill talks about the project. When you ask him about it, he talks about a doctor and a friend. Mwangala Muyendekwa was a physician in Zambia. Sadly, Mwangala passed away a couple months ago. He and Bill got to know each other through their joint work. Bill stayed in Mwangala's home four times. Mwangala stayed with Bill and his wife in Washington. They emailed. They called each other.

In Bill's words, "It's very personal, this work." That is why people stay in Rotary. It's not just the project. It's the friendship inside the project.

Now, that kind of meaningful belonging is what the world is hungry for and often does not know how to find. In fact, doctors in some countries are now writing what they call "social prescriptions." They tell patients to volunteer, or take a group hike, or join a club. They are prescribing what Rotary has been offering for more than a century. And, unfortunately, too often we keep this prescription to ourselves. Because to share, we first have to listen.

We need to listen to current members about what sustains them. To former members about why they left. And especially to potential members who share our values but find that traditional weekly meetings don't always work for them.

Of course, there are some things about Rotary that we wouldn't want to change. The Four-Way Test. Our focus on ethics, service, and fellowship. Because some things about Rotary should never change.

But for Rotary to thrive, we have to adapt, because in some parts of the world, the forms Rotary has relied on — our meeting structures, our membership models, the culture of the club itself — were designed for a different era than the one we are living in today. And so new club models are not a retreat. They are a way of breaking down barriers we didn't mean to build, so more people can find the heart of Rotary.

Because the heart of Rotary is not the day of the week we meet. It is not the meal. It is not the format. The heart of Rotary is belonging through purpose. And the people we have just been describing — the ones whose presence does not register, the ones eating dinner alone — they are not always coming through our current door.

So what does reaching those people look like? It looks like creating new clubs that they find interesting and appealing. It looks like clubs experimenting with service-only meetings. Hybrid meetings. Clubs built around networking, or around families, or around a shared single cause. And even small adaptations on the standard club model can have a big impact.

A great example is a club just a few kilometers from here. The Rotary Club of Formosa Happiness was founded in 2014 by Roger Chin-Wei Tung. Two sister clubs chartered at the same time named themselves Elite and Excellent. Tung chose another name: Happiness. Because happy members create stronger clubs.

Under the current president, Ryan Yu-Tsung Chiang, the club has rebuilt itself around families, not as decoration, but as structure. Roughly 30% of the club's budget goes to social activity, 40% to community service — and the two are integrated, not run as separate categories. When a member can't make an event, their spouse can come in their place. Members' children volunteer alongside their parents. The club's flagship project, an after-school tutoring program for underprivileged children, is run primarily by spouses and children. Chiang's wife chairs it. His children volunteer as tutors.

In Chiang's words, "At a time when our society faces a loneliness epidemic, we're creating happiness and connection not just for members, but for their families. It's multilayered." And the results are not theoretical. Per-event participation has tripled. Membership is up 10% this year. They're already preparing to charter a sister club, Formosa Harmony, on the same model.

A club that asked what its community needed, named itself accordingly, and built itself around the answer. This is something we can do everywhere. If we are willing to change, we become more durable, not less.

You know, in Rotary, *no two clubs are alike*. No two projects are alike. No two members are alike. That variety — the sheer range of ways someone can show up and serve and

belong — is not incidental. It is the product. It is what we are offering the world. Our job is to make sure people know it.

Everyone in this room knows what the world needs. The only real question is whether we take with us what we have captured here and put it to work.

So, I want to leave you with three asks.

The first request: Share Rotary with someone. That means more than recruiting — it means sharing your experience. If you come across a story in *Rotary* magazine or on social media that might resonate with someone you know, share it. Or just tell them a story about why you keep showing up. Word of mouth is our number one driver of new members. And word of mouth begins with putting Rotary in the conversation. Maybe they join us. Maybe they tell someone else or just understand why you love Rotary. Both outcomes are worth the effort.

The next call to action: When you ask people to try Rotary, make sure you're offering a product that might interest them. The old rules don't always need to apply. Rotary clubs don't need to meet at the same times or follow the same formats. Experiment. In the House of Friendship and in breakouts, you've heard some new ideas. Some of what you hear might not sound like the Rotary you love or are used to. Don't take it personally, but do take it seriously. Remember our mission. That mission is belonging through purpose and the joy of being together while we pursue it. That is our *real* legacy.

And my third ask: Make the most of this convention. Listen and then lead. Use what you learn to increase member engagement. Our research shows that most of our member attrition happens in the first two years of membership. So, when a new member joins your club, give them an assignment. Make sure they are involved in something meaningful and appealing from day one. Because if we can engage and retain these members, we can grow exponentially. Most of these new members and unengaged members haven't attended a convention and maybe never will. So, think about how you can use what you learn here to educate and energize them. Listen to the great ideas all around you. Build new connections.

Then go home and, regardless of your role in your club, feel empowered to apply what you have learned. Let every member of your club share your eyes and ears. The more we see and the better we listen, the more we can do to help Rotary thrive.

You know, we have a great product to share. And we don't need permission to be proud of it. This is our opportunity, our future, our moment. So, let's seize it. Bubble tea didn't ask for permission — it found people who wanted to share and traveled on the strength of that alone. Rotary has been organizing that same human instinct for more than a century, across more than two hundred countries and geographic regions.

So, before you leave, remember a few things. We can be the people who notice the person eating dinner alone. We can be the people who ask the quiet or new member

what they need. We can be the people who carry the joy of Rotary out of this hall and into the places where loneliness has taken root.

And we can do what bubble tea did. Find someone, hand it to them, and say, “*Try this.*”

Thank you, and enjoy the convention.



President Lai attends opening of 2026 Rotary International Convention

2026-06-14

On the morning of June 14, President Lai Ching-te attended the opening ceremony of the 2026 Rotary International Convention. In remarks, President Lai stated that Taipei is hosting this convention for the first time in 32 years, and that the event affirms that the international community sees Taiwan as an enduring force for humanitarian care, public welfare, and world peace. He noted that Taiwan’s 12 Rotary districts and more than 36,000 members have partnered with Rotarians worldwide to make significant contributions across all seven of the organization's areas of focus, including peacebuilding and conflict prevention, as well as disease prevention and treatment. The president pointed out that peace and stability are the greatest hope of people everywhere, and stated that in the future, Taiwan will continue to walk hand in hand with Rotarians worldwide in our commitment to peace, public health, environmental sustainability, humanitarian aid, and beyond, fostering a more connected world through goodwill and shaping the future through action.



A transcript of President Lai's remarks follows:

The Rotary International Convention is one of the most influential global NGO events. On behalf of the government and people of Taiwan, I want to welcome [Rotary International] President [Francesco] Arezzo and Mrs. Arezzo, and Rotarians from around the world.

Taipei is hosting this convention for the first time in 32 years. Rotary members from over 140 countries are joining us today, making it a truly momentous occasion.

Special thanks go to Taiwan Rotary members for bringing the world to Taiwan, and to Rotary International leaders for their support. This event affirms that the international community sees Taiwan as an enduring force for humanitarian care, public [welfare], and world peace.

The theme for this general session, "Planting Peace, Growing Hope," captures the spirit of Taiwan's Rotarians. For many years, Taiwan's 12 Rotary districts and more than 36,000 members have partnered with Rotarians worldwide. Together, they have brought change and hope to communities across all seven areas of focus, including peacebuilding and conflict prevention, and disease prevention and treatment.

Through Rotary International's more than 40 years of efforts, polio cases worldwide have been reduced by 99.9 percent. Yesterday, many people took part in the End Polio Now 3K and 12.5K Run in Taipei, united in the push toward zero cases.

We will achieve this goal. I can say this with confidence because of Taiwan's outstanding track record. Taiwan successfully met the WHO's 2030 target for eliminating hepatitis C – five years ahead of schedule. This is thanks in part to the support of our Rotary clubs. I want to extend my deepest appreciation to everyone for making this possible.

This is another new milestone for Taiwan in global public health. It follows the COVID-19 outbreak, when our successful prevention strategies enabled us to help others around the world. I'm confident that in the future, cooperation between Taiwan and Rotary International will lead to even more achievements.

Another goal we share is to strive for peace. At the convention in Calgary last year, President Arezzo noted that Rotary International is a great, immense machine. It has been working for peace for more than a century.

Everything Rotarians do worldwide is in the name of peace. This includes promoting cultural understanding, improving living environments, and providing economic aid.

Today's global community faces many challenges, from geopolitical changes to extreme climate events and supply chain restructuring. At this very moment, peace and stability are the greatest hope of people everywhere.

Taiwan stands on the frontlines of defense against authoritarian expansion. As a cornerstone of global supply chain security, Taiwan will shoulder its responsibility, and will maintain the status quo across the Taiwan Strait. With our strength in technology, we will also expand cooperation with our democratic partners. Together, we will boost supply chain and economic resilience. We will uphold regional peace and stability, and promote global prosperity and development.

Early this month, tech companies from around the world gathered for COMPUTEX. Today, the Rotary International Convention celebrates another grand opening. Both of these events prove that democratic Taiwan is an important platform for global exchange. They also show that Taiwan is a force for good in the world's development.

Let's work together to "Do Good in the World!" In our commitment to peace, public health, environmental sustainability, humanitarian aid, and beyond, Taiwan will continue to walk hand in hand with Rotarians worldwide. Together, we will foster a more connected world through goodwill, and shape the future through action.

Once again, welcome to everyone who has traveled from afar. I invite you to take this opportunity to explore Taiwan. I hope you can personally experience what makes Taiwan so free, open, and diverse. I wish this convention great success, and hope you all make lasting memories. Thank you.

Also in attendance at the event were Rotary Foundation Chair Holger Knaack and Rotary International Convention Committee Chair Andreas von Möller.

