Common Declaration of the Straits Exchange Foundation and Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Straits on the Protection of Personal Freedom and Safety under the “Cross-Strait Bilateral Investment Protection and Promotion Agreement”

In order to carry out the “Cross-Strait Bilateral Investment Protection and Promotion Agreement” and further reinforce the protection of personal freedom and safety of cross-strait investors and related personnel, the Straits Exchange Foundation and Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Straits have agreed that the competent authorities on each side of the Taiwan Strait will adopt the following concrete measures:

The Parties will, in accordance with its laws and regulations, notify the investors and related personnel of the other Party within 24 hours of the time that restrictions on personal freedom are imposed. In addition, through the contact mechanism established under the “Cross-Strait Joint Crime-Fighting and Judicial Mutual Assistance Agreement,” the Parties will give timely notification to the competent authority designated by the other Party, and will strive to shorten the notification period. If family members of the person involved inquire with the competent authority of the other Party through the competent
authority of the Party to which they belong, the other Party should provide the results of the inquiry in a timely fashion.

When the public security authorities of mainland China, in accordance with the law, impose compulsory restrictions on the personal freedom of Taiwanese investors and their accompanying family members, or members of the Taiwanese staff and accompanying family members of Taiwanese-invested enterprises, they should notify the involved person’s family members in mainland China within 24 hours. For persons whose family members are not in mainland China, the public security authorities of mainland China may notify the person’s Taiwanese-invested enterprise in mainland China.

When the Taiwanese judicial authority and police agencies, in accordance with the law, impose compulsory restrictions on the personal freedom of mainland Chinese investors or their accompanying family members, or the mainland Chinese staff members or accompanying family members of mainland Chinese-invested enterprises, they should notify either the involved person’s family members in Taiwan or the person’s mainland Chinese-invested company within 24 hours.
The Parties believe that since the implementation of the “Cross-Strait Joint Crime-Fighting and Judicial Mutual Assistance Agreement,” they have used the notification mechanism that has been established to notify each other, in a timely fashion, of important information on persons whose personal freedom has been restricted in accordance with the law, and have facilitated family and attorney visits in accordance with their respective regulations. On this foundation, the implementation of the “Cross-Strait Bilateral Investment Protection and Promotion Agreement” further reinforces protection of the personal freedom and safety of cross-strait investors and related personnel. Both Parties will, based on existing agreements, continue to improve the relevant mechanisms and enhance the effectiveness of the agreements in order to ensure the rights of people on both sides of the strait.