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INTERNATIONAL CP DEVELOPMENTS ACTIVITY UPDATE

CONSUMER PROTECTION COMMITTEE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SUMMARIES

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TAIWAN

A. TFTC warned telecom service providers not to reach a mutual consensus for concerted actions by releasing announcements in the media

On February 14, 2017, the Taiwan Fair Trade Commission ("TFTC") warned telecom service providers not to reach a mutual consensus for concerted actions by releasing announcements in the media. Taiwan Mobile, the second largest telecom service provider in Taiwan, told local media that the company is very likely to phase out its NT\$699 unlimited internet plans (4G) by the end of February 2017 and hopes that telecom service providers could compete in a rational manner. After Taiwan Mobile's announcement, Chunghwa Telecom, the largest Taiwanese telecom service provider, also told the media that it plans to discontinue offering its NT\$699 unlimited internet plans (4G) at the end of February 2017. The TFTC indicated that if the two companies and/or other telecom service providers use the media as a platform to communicate their consensus on their future 4G service plan and then cease low-priced package plans accordingly, the companies would be deemed to violate the concerted action (cartel regulations) under the *Fair Trade Act*. The TFTC indicated that it will keep monitoring the ensuing action taken by each telecom company to ensure no illegal cartel scheme is adopted in this regard.

[Press Release \(Traditional Chinese Version ONLY\)](#)

B. MOTC amended the Mandatory and Prohibited Provisions of Standard Contract for Hotel Bookings made by Individual Visitors

On January 24, 2017, the Ministry of Transportation & Communications ("MOTC") amended the Mandatory and Prohibited Provisions of Standard Contract for Hotel Bookings made by Individual Visitors, which took effect in the same month. The new law increases the deposit limit up to 50% of the room price to reserve a room during consecutive public holidays of no less than three days, and allows hotel operators to collect 100% of the room price as deposit in advance, provided that hotel operators must refund 100% of the deposit if the visitors cancel the reservation within three days before the arrival date. Alternatively, hotel operators may keep the deposit from visitors as a prepaid amount to be offset against a future reservation made within one year.

[Press Release \(Traditional Chinese Version ONLY\)](#)