

## Consular Information Sheet

### Crisis Preparedness

Natural disasters may occur in Taiwan, including earthquakes and typhoons. It is not possible to obtain 100% protection from such disasters; however you can prepare yourself and thus lessen the danger for you and your family. The present information sheet intends to provide some tips you might want to consider in drawing up a personal reaction plan in case of an earthquake.

#### Prepare your home

- Secure your furniture to the wall by using special devices to prevent them from toppling over
- Don't place any heavy items from the top of shelves and cupboards
- Make sure you know where to switch off the gas supply of your apartment
- Know the emergency exits in your building and make sure they are not obstructed in any way
- Stock up at least 3 days of food and water supply
- Prepare an escape bag with radio, flash lights, spare batteries, solid fuel for a cooker, candles, toilet articles, a set of underwear, money (including coins) and ID documents.

#### Prepare at office

- Blanket
- Lamp
- Helmet
- Medical Box
- Water stock

#### Prepare with your family

- Make certain everyone, including children, knows where to meet after an earthquake or tsunami, Parents will want to consult school officials for special guidelines in this regard
- Evacuation: Evacuations must be carried out when fires are spreading or buildings are in danger of being destroyed by landslides, etc. City police and fire authorities will issue evacuation advice. Just in case you must evacuate from your office or apartment building, take a walking pre-survey of the designated place of evacuation nearest your home and office.

#### During a quake

Inside a building:

- Never use an elevator during or immediately after an earthquake
- Stay away from objects which may easily fall or break
- Find shelter under a table or some other solid object
- Cover your head
- Turn off the gas
- Open all doors as soon as possible in order to have a free escape route

Outside:

- Watch for falling objects and keep away from narrow alleys
- Try to hide behind a stone or a concrete wall. This may protect you from flying glass
- Walk in the middle of the road and observe the houses; watch out for falling power lines
- If you notice a fire, check the wind direction, then walk in the opposite direction

While driving a car:

- Stop your car
- Leave the key in the car and do not lock the doors
- Walk to the nearest evacuation site

**The role of the Trade Office of Swiss Industries**

Telephone services will probably be severely overloaded. Swiss citizens should cooperate with Taiwanese authorities at evacuation sites and clearly identify themselves as Swiss. Those connected with larger organizations such as companies, schools or church groups should try to let these organizations know of their well-being and whereabouts if possible.

The Trade Office of Swiss Industries will be in touch with the Taiwanese Government and other organizations to attempt to identify as many Swiss citizens as possible and determine their well-being. Most importantly, our office will forward as much information as possible about the situation as well as the status of Swiss citizens to the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, who will contact relatives in Switzerland and answer their inquiries.

**How to get in touch with the Trade Office of Swiss Industries**

Address	31F, International Trade Building 333 Keelung Road, Sec. 1, Taipei 11012, Taiwan, R.O.C.
Email	<a href="mailto:tai.vertretung@eda.admin.ch">tai.vertretung@eda.admin.ch</a>
General Telephone Number	886-2-2720-1001
In case of a disaster your call may be diverted to the FDFA (EDA) Helpline	+41 (0)800 24-7-365 <a href="mailto:helpline@eda.admin.ch">helpline@eda.admin.ch</a> Skype: helpline-eda