

May 7, 2004

Dr. Chang Ly-Yun  
Chairman  
Taiwan Health Reform Foundation  
4/F, 235-7 Chunghsiao E. Road, Sec. 3  
Taipei, TAIWAN  
Fax: 886-2-2741-5013

Dear Dr. Chang:

The Asia Foundation is supporting the Taiwan Health Reform Foundation's (THRF) efforts to investigate and advocate for patients' rights and improved healthcare in Taiwan because of THRF's nonpartisan, focused practical objectives, and its positive strategy to include all stakeholders. When the Pfizer Foundation first asked The Asia Foundation to identify and support organizations that effectively promote patients' rights in Asia. For Taiwan, The Asia Foundation chose to assist the fledgling THRF because of these qualities.

Over the last two years, the THRF has demonstrated that its programs have produced results leading to better healthcare and improved promotion of patients' rights in Taiwan. Most notable has been THRF's success in promoting better drug bag labeling. THRF's networking and cooperation with other groups in society, including medical professionals, to promote issues of mutual concern has been a key factor in its success.

A strong civil society requires organizations like the Taiwan health Reform Foundation that can effectively represent constituent interests, while acting inclusively and cooperatively. The Asia Foundation hopes THRF will continue to play that role with as much impact as it has thus far.

Sincerely,

Allen C. Choate  
Director of Program Development  
The Asia Foundation

親愛的張苙雲教授：

台灣醫療改革基金會（醫改會）是一個超越黨派團體的民間倡議組織，致力於檢視及倡導病人權益、改善台灣健康照護環境。當美國輝瑞基金會首次請求美國亞洲基金會，在亞洲地區尋求能有效促進病人權益之組織時，美國亞洲基金會以醫改會同時具備明確的工作目標，與具體可行的倡議策略等特質，而選擇支持剛成立不久的醫改會在台灣推動相關方案。

過去二年來，醫改會在提升台灣健康照護品質與促進病人權益方面，已展現若干具體成效，尤其是藥袋標示用藥安全的提倡。而醫改會積極與其他社會團體及醫療專業組織，建立的網絡與合作機制，也是促使各界關注病人權益之議題，能成功獲得改善的主要因素。

一個強而有力的公民社會，必須有像醫改會這樣的組織，能透過具涵括力與協調性的行動，確切代表社會成員爭取整體權益，而美國亞洲基金會期許醫改會繼續扮演具影響力的關鍵角色。

美國亞洲基金會 業務發展總監 邱越倫