

Central Emergency Operations Center (CEOC) for Typhoon KRATHON

Press Release

11:00, 2024/10/02

**With the approaching of Typhoon KRATHON,
Central Emergency Operations Center (CEOC) called on:
Avoid going out or engaging in activities in mountainous areas, rivers,
and seaside during the typhoon**

At 09:30 today (on 2024/10/02), Premiere ZHUO Rong-Tai of the Executive Yuan (EY) visited the Central Emergency Operations Center (CEOC) to inspect and give instructions at the #10 Work Briefing convened, who met with governments of Pingtung County, Kaohsiung City, and Tainan City, on a video conference call to learn about local governments' actions on typhoon prevention, relief, and response. As per Premiere ZHUO, Typhoon KRATHON has been moving extremely slowly, prolonging the duration of damage to Taiwan. Moreover, with the relative rarity of the typhoon path, the center of the typhoon may make its landfall in southern Taiwan. Therefore, southern Taiwan facing the wind front and eastern Taiwan affected by the rainfall in recent days must stay more vigilant. Since Monday (2024/09/30), affected by the peripheral circulation of the typhoon, disasters have escalated, extensively and intensively. All agencies and fellows involved in the disaster prevention and relief were requested to continue to faithfully execute the various disaster preparedness, prevention, relief, and response measures as planned.

As stressed by Premiere ZHOU, we should consistently uphold the three key principles highlighted by President LAI yesterday (2024/10/01) at the Central Emergency Operations Center (CEOC), namely the principles of: 1) Upholding the spirit of "*Disaster relief makes second to disaster prevention, and disaster prevention makes second to disaster avoidance*"; 2) "Maintaining close contact and cooperation between the central and local governments"; and 3) "Timely grasping the disaster situations and actively provide assistance", in implementing the disaster preparedness, prevention, relief, and response measures.

Yesterday (on 2024/10/02), Commander LIU has also supervised all agencies (units) stationed in the CEOC to take inventory of important public utilities and critical infrastructure in southern region. Since the southern region is facing the wind front and bearing the brunt of severe storm and wave surges, the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA), the Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC), the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), and the Ministry of National Defense (MND) must maintain facility operations to sustain the operational resilience of reservoirs, power supply, transmission and distribution facilities, military and civilian airports, ports, and other state-owned enterprises, so as to ensure the support to disaster relief and people's livelihood needs.

As reminded by Premiere ZHOU, according to the cumulative rainfall estimated by the Central Weather Administration (CWA), the threat of slope disasters and flooding threats cannot be ignored. The Ministry of the Interior (MOI), Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), and Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) were requested again to continue to implement rainfall monitoring and grasp early warning information, and to supervise local governments in ensuring the completion of their evacuation and disaster avoidance operations for areas with disaster potentials. The strong winds and heavy rains brought by the typhoon during the landfall may quickly accumulate more disaster cases. All ministries and councils were requested to actively dispatch manpower and machinery resources for disaster relief and emergency repair. The Ministry of National Defense (MND) was also requested to provide supporting forces according to the needs of local governments.

Especially emphasized by Premiere ZHOU, work call-offs and class call-offs were effective today (2024/10/02) for the entire Taiwan under the influence of the typhoon. The populaces should be advocated, through diverse channels, to avoid going out, unless necessary, during the typhoon, as well as avoid activities in mountainous areas, rivers and seaside. As for the Barbadian-flagged freighter stranded off Orchid Island, the Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC) and the Ocean Affairs Council (OAC) were requested to actively respond to the subsequent fuel pollution caused by the stranded freighter, so as to mitigate any impact on the ecology of Taiwan's sea areas. Especially, Premiere ZHOU gave his thanks to all disaster prevention fellows for their full efforts in safeguarding the safety of the people, especially for their efforts in pre-disaster prevention and preparedness and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction, as such efforts help maintaining the resilience in the normal operation of public utilities and critical infrastructure.

As per Commander LIU Shyh-Fang, Minister of the Interior (MOI), according to the intelligence and information, the rainfall of Typhoon KRATHON would be quite alarming. The Ministry of Agriculture (MOI) is to issue red warnings and amber warnings for mudslides and large-scale landslides accordingly. And all municipal and county (city) governments were requested to respond prudently and fully implement precautionary evacuation and sheltering, resettlement work. The Ministry of National Defense (MND) was requested to assist local governments in implementing precautionary evacuation and sheltering work, with priority given to those with special needs such as chronically ill patients (e.g. patients of kidney dialysis), pregnant women, and the disabled. Now, work call-offs and class call-offs have been effective in all municipalities and counties (cities), the media was requested to help the government in advocating typhoon precautions, calling on the public to better their typhoon prevention measures, as well as try to reduce unnecessary outings or try not to engage in outdoor activities such as wave watching, mountaineering, etc. to ultimately avoid danger.

As emphasized by Commander LIU, the storm circle has entered the land of Taiwan, which would bring about subsequent strong winds and heavy rains. The CEOC and local EOCs were requested to strengthen disaster inquiry and reporting operations, and all disaster cases should be immediately reported to the CEOC by fully filling out and uploading report forms to the EMIC system. Where there are any casualties or disasters covered by the media, the responsible agency should take the initiative to respond to the public by explaining the government's positive actions in a timely manner. In addition, each local EOC was requested to communicate regularly with the outlying islands or remote township (town, city, district) offices under its jurisdiction to grasp disaster information, ensure smooth communication, and pre-plan alternative measures and response strategies in case of communications disruption.

A final reminder from Commander LIU: The strong winds and heavy rains brought by the typhoon are expected to cause damage to water and electricity lifeline systems, and telecommunications system, and lead to traffic disruptions. Supporting repair personnel should, as permitted by the safety conditions, make every effort for emergency repairs to restore people's normal life as soon as possible. The Ministry of Labor (MOL) was also requested to assist in reporting the situations of foreign migrant workers/ laborers and advocating the importance of not to go to dangerous or coastal areas. Specially instructed by Commander LIU, the Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC) and the

Ocean Affairs Council (OAC) were requested to maintain a high alert on risks associated with the possible fuel pollution or vessel breakage related to the stranded ship, and make monitoring, control, and response measures accordingly.

For the latest typhoon updates and disaster situations, please visit the Facebook fan page of the National Fire Agency (NFA) of the Ministry of the Interior (MOI) at www.facebook.com/NFA999/ and download the e-APP "*All-Out Disaster Prevention and Protection*" for easy inquiry of disaster situations.

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