

# **Central Emergency Operations Center (CEOC) for the Project of Barrier Lake at Mataian Creek in Hualien, and the Barrier Lake at Liwu Creek in Hualien**

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Press Release

11:00, 2025/10/21

**The monitoring and recovery work for the barrier lakes in Hualien continued.**

**Torrential rain disaster was getting more serious in northern Taiwan, cross-ministry and -council vigilance and preparedness had been fully rolled out.**

At 09:00 today (2025/10/21), the #46 Work Briefing for the Project of Barrier Lake at Mataian Creek in Hualien, as well as the #5 Work Briefing for the Barrier Lake at Liwu Creek in Hualien, was convened at the Central Emergency Operations Center (CEOC). Deputy Commander HU Choung-yi, a Political Deputy Minister of Agriculture (MOA) instructed that under the dual influence of the northeast monsoon and the peripheral circulation of the typhoon, rainfall in northern and northeastern Taiwan had increased significantly in recent days, with some areas experiencing torrential rain disasters. To prevent secondary disasters such as mudslides and the breach of barrier lakes, all ministries and councils were requested to strengthen their vigilance and maintain close contact with local governments, to ensure the smooth implementation of disaster prevention, relief, and recovery efforts.

Instructed by Director WANG Yi-Wen of the Office of Disaster Management (ODM) of the Executive Yuan, currently, the Yilan County Government had activated a Level-1 Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for the flood, whereas 4 counties and cities, namely Taipei City, New Taipei City, Keelung City, and Hsinchu County had also activated Level-2 Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for the flood. Subsequently, the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) was requested to continue its study and formulation of the mechanism for activating the Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) for floods, where the response level

of the EOC must be timely adjustable depending on the development of the disaster, to ensure seamless connection between cross-ministry and -council disaster prevention and preparedness and local response operations. The Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW) was also requested to continue supervising local governments in grasping the planning and operations for activating shelters, to ensure that disaster victims could obtain immediate safe resettlement and necessary living assistance, and to implement post-disaster shelter management and epidemic prevention measures. In addition, regarding false information appearing in online public opinion and media reports, all ministries and councils were requested to clarify and respond immediately in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *Disaster Prevention and Protection (DPP) Act*, to prevent the spread of false information; furthermore, public opinions must be handled with caution to ensure transparency and correctness of that disaster information.

Reminded by Deputy Commander HSIAO Huang-Chang, effective immediately, the Forward Coordination Post (FCP) formerly activated in Hualien, was adjusted as "Central Coordination Committee (CCC) for Post-Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction for the Barrier Lake at Mataian Creek" which would continue to promote subsequent recovery and reconstruction work. The Forward Coordination Post (FCP) would also simultaneously conduct task handovers and downsizing operations, whereas relevant ministries and councils would take over the tasks, continuing to monitor the safety of the local barrier lake and the stability of the surrounding environment. The Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) was requested to quickly develop relevant planning and operations for activating the Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) for floods, based on the heavy rainfall disaster in this typhoon, while strengthening cross-ministry and -council coordination mechanisms.

As per Deputy Commander, currently, monitoring and recovery work remained for the barrier lakes at Mataian Creek and Liwu Creek in Hualien County. The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) was requested to continue carrying out real-time monitoring and disaster reduction work with respect to the barrier lake dam body and the lake water changes, while reviewing and updating maps of warning zones covering protected households on a rolling basis, as well as issuing real-time warnings through multiple channels to remind downstream related units and the populaces to pay attention to disaster risks. In the meantime, the disaster reduction work and on-site monitoring operations must also be carried out for the barrier lake at Liwu Creek. The Forestry & Natural Conservation Agency (FNCA) of the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) was requested to urge construction contractors to fully adhere to the

provisions of occupational safety and to remind monitoring personnel on-site to pay attention to their own safety to ensure the safety of personnel.

Pointed out by Deputy Commander HU, the Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC) was requested to implement rainfall monitoring measures for the transportation facilities (including the access road at Mataian Bridge, Jinwen Bridge, and Taroko Bridge) downstream of the Swallow Grotto barrier lake at the Liwu Creek and downstream of the barrier lake at Mataian Creek. If necessary, advance control measures must be activated and alternative roads must be planned, to maintain road safety and clearance for disaster prevention and response. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) was requested to pre-deploy and flexibly dispatch pumping equipment in areas prone to flooding. Where the criteria for activating the Central Emergency Operations Center (CEOC) for floods were met, relevant provisions must be adhered to for such activation, while relevant agencies and units must be notified for stationing in the CEOC. Currently, a red warning for creeks and rivers with potential mudslides had been issued in Taipei City, New Taipei City, and Yilan County, whereas an amber warning for large-scale landslides had been issued in the Fuxing area of Taoyuan City and the Jianshi area of Hsinchu. According to data from the Central Weather Administration (CWA), in the next 2 days, rainfall in the northern and northeastern mountainous areas would continue being accumulated, and the soil moisture content might reach saturation, thus making successive mud and sand disasters highly probably. As per Deputy Commander HU, the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA), the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), the Ministry of the Interior (MOI), and the Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC) should jointly respond to such disasters, while maintaining close contact with local governments to grasp the immediate disaster situations.

Lastly, regarding road traffic and bridge safety, currently, traffic control was in effect in the section between 167.7k and 184.5k (i.e., the section between Tienxiang and Taroko) on Highway Provincial Highway #8, i.e., the main line of Central Cross-Island Highway. Road users were advised to comply with the traffic control on-site, avoiding entering the closed section. In addition, traffic control had not implemented for the Taroko Bridge yet, where the criteria for applying the precautionary closure of the bridge were determined as follows: Value for warning = 1.5-meter clearance off the water level from the bottom of the beam; and value for action = 1-meter clearance off the water level from the bottom of the beam. Populaces were requested to always pay attention to relevant traffic control and safety information.

Reminded by Deputy Commander HU, The Department of Civil Affairs is requested to oversee local governments in implementing preventive evacuations in areas under alert, particularly arranging proper accommodations for those with limited mobility, chronic illnesses (such as dialysis patients), pregnant women, and people with disabilities. Furthermore, the Ministry of Health and Welfare, in conjunction with the Council of Indigenous Peoples, is requested to oversee local governments in strengthening disaster preparedness awareness campaigns for indigenous tribes prone to becoming isolated islands or at high risk of disasters, and to remind the public to prepare at least 10 days' worth of daily necessities and food supplies to prevent road disruptions and the inability to transport supplies. According to the Central Weather Administration, Taiwan is experiencing continued high levels of moisture and continues to move in today, influenced by the northeast monsoon and the outer typhoon circulation. Taipei City, New Taipei City, Keelung City, and Hsinchu County have already opened Level 2 flood disaster response centers, and the Yilan County government has opened a Level 1 response center, meeting the central government's opening criteria. Deputy Commander Hu has instructed the Ministry of Economic Affairs to immediately upgrade the Central Flood Disaster Response Center to a Level 1 level, coordinating and integrating inter-agency disaster preparedness resources to fully support local governments' disaster prevention and relief efforts. In addition, residents in the northern and northeastern regions should pay close attention to weather and disaster prevention information. Residents in mountainous areas and riverside areas should be vigilant against disasters such as landslides, landslides, and bursting of barrier lakes. Avoid traveling to dangerous areas unless necessary to protect life and property.

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/](http://www.facebook.com/NFA999/) and download e-APP "READINESS TW" for easy inquiry.

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