

Typhoon Soulik Press Release from Central Emergency Operation Center

Cabinet Strategy Group

Central Emergency Operation Center Stays Vigilant as Typhoon Soulik Moves Away from Taiwan

According to the Central Weather Bureau (CWB), the center of Typhoon Soulik headed out to sea from Hsinchu in the northwest direction at 08:00 this morning (7/13). It is now 20 km south-southwest of Mazu and moving northwest by north-northwest. The typhoon center has weakened and the storm circle shows signs of shrinking as well. Taiwan proper was clear of the storm circle by evening but wind and rain is continuing to strengthen in Mazu. Central and southern Taiwan is continuing to rain as well. To accelerate post-disaster recovery and support the local government, the Central Emergency Operation Center (CEOC) is continuing to maintain its vigil.

The CEOC went operational at 9:30 on July 10 in response to Typhoon Soulik. As of 17:00 on July 13, the typhoon has caused 2 deaths, 1 missing and 54 injured. For transportation, 19 preventive road closures still remain in place and roads are blocked at 13 locations. There are currently 121,679 households without power and power is expected to be fully restored by 23:00 today. The number of households without tap water is 27,250. In terms of school damage, a total of 168 schools were damaged by the typhoon and initial estimates place total

damage at around NT\$ 7.74 million. Initial estimates place agricultural damage at NT\$ 64 million. For evacuations and emergency shelters, 10,124 people have been evacuated as of 16:00 today. A total of 110 shelters were established and housed 3,284 people in total.

Minister of the Interior Dr. Lee Hong-yuan, the commander of the CEOC, thanked all ministries and councils as well as personnel assigned to the CEOC for their full cooperation and coordination over the past few days. Even though the typhoon is now moving away from Taiwan proper, there is still a chance of torrential rains in the mountain areas. All ministries have therefore been directed to continue monitoring weather reports from the Central Weather Bureau and carry out their assigned roles in disaster prevention and emergency response. Information about debris flow-prone regions, road sections under preventive closure and roads affected by landslides must continue to be updated and published to keep the general public informed so they can take appropriate action. Effort should also be made to keep evacuees at shelters calm. Once their road home has been determined to be safe the evacuees can be allowed to go home. On power and water outages, the Ministry of Economic Affairs has been asked to carry out emergency repairs as quickly as possible. The price of domestic goods as well as the price of fruits and vegetables should continue to be monitored as well. Prize stabilization measures should be activated when necessary to prevent extreme price fluctuations that impact on general livelihood.