

## **Major Government Achievements of the Environmental Protection Administration, the Executive Yuan in December 2020 (Toxic and Chemical Substances Bureau)**

- I. On December 2, the “Inter-Ministerial Conference on the Implementation of the United Nations Minamata Convention on Mercury Promotion Plan” and the "Inter-Ministerial Press Conference on Toward a Mercury-Free Home" were held at the GIS NTU Convention Center. Since the United Nations Minamata Convention on Mercury bans the manufacturing and import of nine types of mercury-containing products beginning January 1, 2021, including batteries, switches and relays, general lighting compact fluorescent lamps, general lighting straight tubular fluorescent lamps, general lighting high-pressure mercury lamps, electronic display fluorescent lamps, cosmetics, insecticides/bactericides/topical antimicrobial agents, and non-electronic measuring instruments, Taiwan has followed suit and banned the manufacturing and import of these nine types of mercury-containing products from 2021 with the joint efforts of government agencies to amend the relevant regulations to be in line with the schedule of the Convention.
- II. In order to implement the control, counseling and checking the compliance of operators and operation sites with the management regulations, the "2020 Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas) Joint Inspection (Audit) Plan" was established. From November 1 to December 20, 2020, the TCSB, together with the Industrial Development Bureau of MOEA, Taiwan Food and Drug Administration of MOHW, National Police Agency of MOI, and other relevant agencies, launched a joint inspection operation, completing the inspection on 53 operators.

III. On December 19, to promote green living for all people and the concept of toxic disaster prevention, and to let the public know about the newly established Mailiao squad of the Central Region Environmental Incident Response Specialist Team, the Environmental Protection Administration held the 2020 Green Life and Toxic Disaster Prevention Education Promotion and Family Activities in Mailiao, Yunlin, to raise awareness of toxic disaster prevention through cooperation between government agencies and NGOs.