## **Press Release**

Date: 27th of October 2020 - Taipei / Amsterdam

## Ground-Breaking Initiative Leverages Marriage Equality in Taiwan

Government Ministries, Major Multinationals and Civil Society Move the Dial in LGBTI Workplace Inclusion Conference

"Taiwan - Trailblazing LGBTI Workplace Inclusion in Asia" is the title of this unique conference bringing together different stakeholders in a bi-national and multi-media event. With the sub-title: *Marriage equality in times of social change*", the timely gathering is being organised against the backdrop of ever greater diverse and inclusive societies and workplaces.

Same-sex marriage is now a fact in Taiwan. This has direct implications for employers and the country as a whole when it comes to the impact on workplaces. But are workplaces prepared when it comes to employee benefits, interaction with their markets/customers, and how marriage equality will effect recruitment and retention? Will married LGBTI employees feel comfortable to be themselves and how do employers prepare their organisation for the overall trend of greater diversity and inclusion that is increasingly prevalent around the world?

As the first country in Asia to implement marriage equality, Taiwan has both a great responsibility to get its impact on LGBTI workplace inclusion right and a great opportunity to set the tone in the region for years to come. And now, within the context of social and geo-political changes surrounding the global pandemic, the leadership role for Taiwan is even more needed.

"Forward thinking employers realise that marriage equality in Taiwan will require a different approach to interaction with employees, clients and society". Says **Michiel Kolman**, Co-Chair of Workplace Pride and speaker at the event, "This conference brings all stakeholders together and will set the tone for workplace diversity and inclusion in Asia for years to come".

## Top speakers include:

- Audrey Tang, Taiwan's Digital Minster
- Moriaki Kida, EY Regional COO
- Peter Bailliere, ASML EVP HR&O
- Ching-Yi Lin, Taiwan's Ambassador-at-large
- Hsin-Hsin Chen, Taiwan's Representative to the Netherlands
- Guido Tielman, Representative, Netherlands Office Taipei

The conference is free to registered participants and consists of both in-person (in Taipei) and live streaming elements (globally). It is being organised by Workplace Pride and is co-hosted by EY and ASML. Civil Society partners include Taiwan Equality Campaign and Hotline Association.

Requests for speaker interviews in Taiwan can be directed to <a href="mailto:michiel@workplacepride.org">michiel@workplacepride.org</a>, or to <a href="mailto:david@workplacepride.org">david@workplacepride.org</a> outside of Taiwan.

## REGISTER HERE BEFORE 25 OCT. FOR THE LIVE AND ONLINE EVENTS

**Editor's Note**: For more information regarding Workplace Pride contact: Workplace Pride Executive, Director David Pollard: Tel. +31 (0) 634 056604 e-mail: <a href="mailto:david@workplacepride.org">david@workplacepride.org</a>

Workplace Pride Foundation is the international platform dedicated to improving the lives of LGBTI people in workplaces around the globe. Initiated in 2006, its more than 70 members employ millions of people in almost every country in the world.