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## CHF 20 million returned to Taiwan

Press Release, OAG, 07.12.2010

**Bern. The Attorney General of Switzerland (OAG) has returned some CHF 20 million to the Supreme Prosecutors Office of Taiwan, part of the money that was deposited in Switzerland by the former Taiwanese President, Chen Shui-bian, who was recently convicted of corruption in his homeland. This move once again demonstrates Switzerland's resolve to take action against those who use its financial centre for criminal purposes and its intention to restore assets of criminal origin to their rightful owners. Proceedings here are continuing in order to establish the origin of the remainder of assets currently frozen in Switzerland.**

The OAG has since 7 January 2008 been conducting criminal proceedings against Chen Shui-bian's son and daughter-in-law on suspicion of money laundering. The former Taiwanese President and his wife were recently sentenced by the Taiwanese courts to a total of 19 years imprisonment for corruption.

As part of the proceedings conducted in Switzerland and in response to a request for mutual assistance filed by the Taiwanese authorities, some CHF 37 million has been seized.

Thanks to close and effective collaboration between the Taiwanese Supreme Prosecutors Office and the OAG, part of the funds deposited in Switzerland that are presumed to have originated from the criminal activities of the former Taiwanese President have been returned to the Taiwanese authorities as an anticipated handover. No objection was raised by any of the parties to the proceedings to the return of the sum of around CHF 20 million.

The investigation in Switzerland to determine the origin of the remainder of the assets is continuing.

### Contact / questions

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