

## **Summarized Results of the Public Opinion Survey on the "Memorandum of Understanding on Cross-Strait Financial Supervision"**

(October 16 and 18, 2009)

**Over half of the public (52.1 percent) think that Taiwan needs to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on cross-strait financial supervision with mainland China.**

**60 percent of the public believe that the signing of an MOU on cross-strait financial supervision will be conducive to improving the order of cross-strait financial exchanges. Additionally, over 50 percent (53.2 percent) of the public say such an MOU will have a "positive influence" on Taiwan's financial industry.**

**56.1 percent of the public endorse the view that after signing an MOU on cross-strait financial supervision, both sides across the Strait should further discuss the issue of opening their markets to each other in the future. Moreover, 69.5 percent of the public think that Taiwan should impose stricter restrictions on Mainland banks than on foreign banks.**

### **I. Survey Background and Methods**

To understand the Taiwan public's views on the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on cross-strait financial supervision, the MAC commissioned the TVBS Poll Center to conduct a telephone survey of adults aged 20 and over in the Taiwan Area on October 16 and 18, 2009. A total of 1,084 effective samples were collected, with a sampling error of about 3.0 percent based on a 95 percent confidence level.

### **II. Major Findings**

#### **(1) Views on signing an MOU on cross-strait financial supervision**

The memorandum of understanding (MOU) on cross-strait financial supervision will be a basic document of cooperation signed between the authorities responsible for the financial industry on both sides of the Taiwan Strait regarding information exchange, information privacy, supervision methods, and liaison mechanisms. 46.3 percent of the public endorse the signing of this MOU, while 29.6 percent of the public disapprove. Taiwan has signed financial supervision MOUs with 32 countries and areas. 52.1 percent of the public believe it is also necessary to sign a

financial supervision MOU with mainland China, while 29.5 percent of the public disagree.

**(2) Views on the benefits of an MOU on cross-strait financial supervision**

60 percent of the public think the signing of an MOU on cross-strait financial supervision will be conducive to improving the order of cross-strait financial exchanges, higher than the percentage responding that it will be unconducive (24.1 percent). In addition, 53.2 percent of the public believe that the MOU will have a positive influence on the development of Taiwan's financial industry, higher than the percentages saying it will have a "negative influence" (25.7 percent) and "no influence" (1.7 percent).

**(3) Views on future opening of cross-strait financial markets**

56.1 percent of the public endorse the view that after signing an MOU on cross-strait financial supervision, both sides across the Strait should further discuss the issue of opening their financial markets to each other in the future. However, 32.6 percent of the public disapprove. Moreover, about 70 percent of the public (69.5 percent) think that when the government negotiates with mainland China on opening their respective financial markets in the future, Taiwan should impose stricter restrictions on Mainland banks than on foreign banks, while 17.9 percent of the public say stricter restrictions should not be imposed.