

2 Mutually Beneficial Economic and Trade Issues

Negotiations focused on economic and trade affairs. Over half of the public approve of the agreements, including the Cross-Strait Agreement on Cooperation in Respect of Standards, Metrology, Inspection and Accreditation, Cross-Strait Arrangement on Cooperation of Agricultural Product Quarantine and Inspection, and Cross-Strait Agreement on the Cooperation in Respect of Fishing Crew Affairs.



門打開·阮顧厝



Mainland Affairs Council, Executive Yuan

Address: F15-18, No.2-2, Chi-nan Road, Sec.1, Taipei, Taiwan, R.O.C

Tel: 02-23975589 Fax: 02-23975285

Web site: <http://www.mac.gov.tw>

1 Foreword

The needs of the people form the basis of the government's policy promotion. Cross-strait policy is highly affected by public opinion. The government has repeatedly emphasized that its cross-strait policy is aimed at "putting Taiwan first for the benefit of the people," with the core value of upholding sovereignty, respecting the will of the people, and meeting to the expectations of the people.

During the Fourth Chiang-Chen Talks, the two sides signed three agreements. In order to promote the institutionalized development of cross-strait economic and trade relations, this round of talks focused on economic and trade issues. Public opinion survey results indicate that the people affirm and have a favorable view of the negotiation results. The government will continue to promote institutionalized cross-strait negotiations, on the basis of information disclosure and transparency, to generate even broader public support.

65 percent the people of Taiwan support institutionalized cross-strait negotiations

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Reading Public Opinion

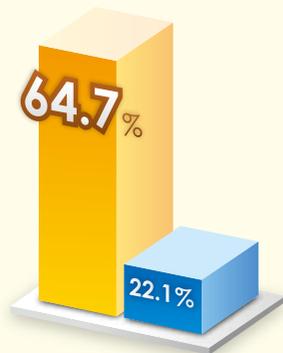
Public Opinion in Taiwan
on the Fourth Chiang-Chen Talks



MAC Minister Lai Shin-yuan called on Legislative Speaker Wang Jin-pyng to explain the status of the Chiang-Chen Talks.

3 Building Cross-strait Peace through Negotiations and Dialogue

Institutionalized cross-strait negotiations have had a major impact on easing tensions in the Taiwan Strait and enabling the two sides to move from "confrontation" to "dialogue." The public opinion supports that institutionalized negotiations are conducive to peaceful and stable cross-strait relations. The vast majority of the public also believe that institutionalized cross-strait negotiations should be continued.



● Support ● Don't support

Continuation of cross-strait institutionalized negotiations



Conduciveness of cross-strait institutionalized negotiations



Minister Lai met with ARATS President Chen and the negotiation delegation.

4 Mutual Non-denial, Establishing Mechanisms

During the negotiations, officials of the two sides were the actual negotiation principals. After signing the agreements, the competent administrative agencies of the two sides will establish operational contact channels for real-time reporting and prompt handling of exchange-related issues. The survey indicates that, over 60 percent of the public believe that the establishment of communication and negotiation channels between the cross-strait authorities is conducive to handling cross-strait exchange issues.



● Conducive ● Unconducive

Conduciveness of communication channels between the cross-strait authorities in handling cross-strait exchange issues

5 Delayed Signing of the Tax Agreement

Due to technical issues, the two sides were unable to sign an agreement on "avoidance of double taxation and strengthening tax cooperation" during this round of talks. Nearly 58 percent of the public approve the government's decision to delay the agreement signing. The two sides will sign the tax agreement in future after fully exchanging views and based on Taiwan's best interests.



● Support ● Don't support

Do you support the decision to delay the signing of the tax agreement

6 Negotiations on Intellectual Property Rights and ECFA at Next talks

The Taiwan side worked hard to gain inclusion of "intellectual property right protection" as one of the mutually agreed negotiation issues. The two sides also agreed to include the Cross-strait Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) as a focal negotiation issue. Surveys indicate that 73 percent and 55 percent of the public, respectively, approve the prioritization of negotiations on these two issues.



Intellectual property right protection

ECFA

7 Conclusion

Since the Ma administration came into office, Taiwan has worked hard through institutionalized negotiations to promote cross-strait and regional peace. These efforts have earned the support of the people of Taiwan and have been welcomed by the international community. In future, the government will continue to adhere to the sequential approach of handling "economic issues first and political issues later," in promoting cross-strait negotiations. It will also adhere to the principle of "national need, public support, and legislative oversight" in handling the agreements in the hope of actively capitalizing on Taiwan's advantages and promoting benign cross-strait interactions, prosperity and development.

Table Public Views on the Fourth Chiang-Chen Talks

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| 1 | Do you support or not support the signing of a cross-strait agreement on industrial product standards, inspection and certification and consumer product safety during the Fourth Chiang-Chen Talks? | Support: 65.3% Do not support: 17.2% Don't know /No opinion: 17.5% |
| 2 | Do you support or not support the signing of a Cross-Strait Agreement on the Cooperation in Respect of Fishing Crew Affairs during the Fourth Chiang-Chen Talks to resolve 15-year-old issues related to mainland fishing crews? | Support: 50.2% Do not support: 20.8% Don't know /No opinion: 29% |
| 3 | During the Fourth Chiang-Chen Talks, the two sides will sign an agreement on agricultural product quarantine and inspection and epidemic reporting. Do you believe this would be conducive to protecting the people's health? | Conducive: 61.3% Unconducive: 27.5% Don't know /No opinion: 11.3% |
| 4 | Do you believe that current institutionalized cross-strait negotiations are conducive or unconducive to peaceful and stable cross-strait relations? | Conducive: 68.3% Unconducive: 24.3% Don't know /No opinion: 7.4% |
| 5 | Do you support or not support the continuation of institutionalized cross-strait negotiations? | Support: 64.7% Do not support: 22.1% Don't know /No opinion: 13.2% |
| 6 | Do you believe that the communication and negotiation channels established between the operational competent authorities of the two sides through cross-strait consultations are conducive or unconducive to the handling of issues resulting from cross-strait exchanges? | Conducive: 63% Unconducive: 24.9% Don't know /No opinion: 12.1% |
| 7 | Due to a few technical issues, the two sides did not reach a consensus on the subject of "avoidance of double taxation" during the talks and the government has therefore decided to delay the signing of the agreement. Do you support or not support the decision to delay the agreement signing? | Support: 57.7% Do not support: 19% Don't know /No opinion: 23.3% |
| 8 | Do you approve or disapprove of discussions on the issue of intellectual property right protection during the next round of cross-strait negotiations? | Approve: 73.3% Disapprove: 14% Don't know /No opinion: 12.7% |
| 9 | Do you approve or disapprove of discussions on a Cross-strait Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) during the next round of cross-strait negotiations? | Disapprove: 54.6% Disapprove: 23.7% Don't know /No opinion: 21.7% |

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Survey Unit:

Election Study Center of National Chengchi University;

Center for Public Opinion and Policy, Taipei Municipal University of Education