



# 探詢 人民的聲音

Sounding out the Views of the People  
The 6th Round of Chiang-Chen Talks

More than 70 percent of the public support the government's safeguarding of our citizens' health rights

March 2011

At the 6<sup>th</sup> round of Chiang-Chen talks, held in Taipei on December 21, 2010, the two sides successfully concluded the negotiation and signing of the Cross-Strait Agreement on Medical and Health Cooperation, and also reached an interim stage of consensus on the issue of cross-strait investment protection. Under the Cross-Strait Agreement on Medical and Health Cooperation, the competent authorities on each side will set up management mechanisms for preventing the spread of infectious diseases across the Taiwan Strait and collaborating to ensure the safety of medical products, and will work together to promote the development of biotechnology-related industries. Opinion polls conducted before and after the talks showed a very high level of public approval and support for the government's stand on these matters and for the outcome of the talks. In the future, the government will continue to adhere to "national needs, public support, and legislative oversight" in conducting cross-strait negotiations in a judicious and pragmatic manner, and in thoroughly carrying out the results of those negotiations.

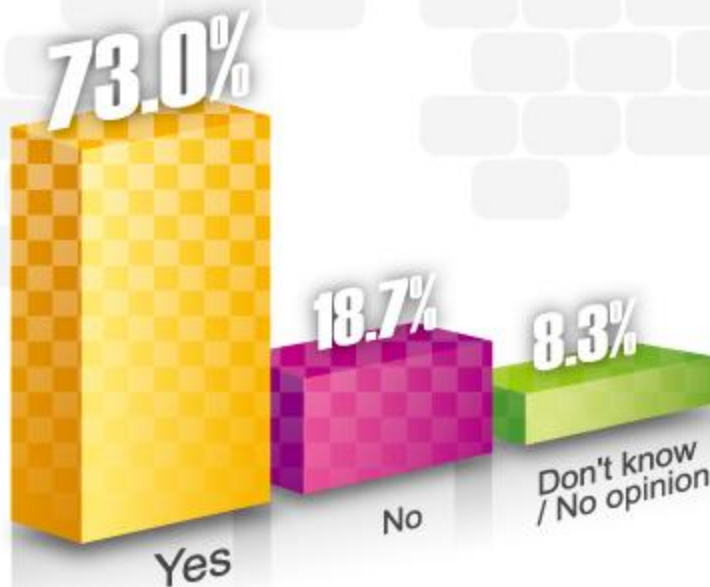


▲ SEF Chairman Chiang Pin-kung delivers the Cross-Strait Agreement on Medical and Health Cooperation to MAC Minister Lai Shin-yuan.

## 2

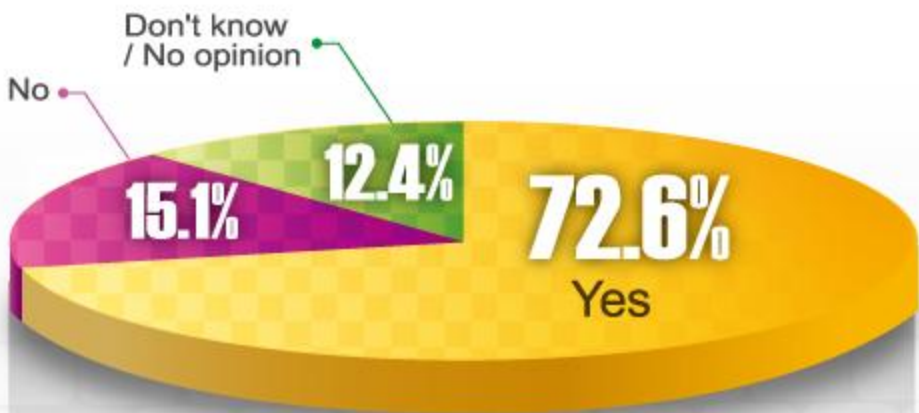
### Strong public support for institutionalized cross-strait negotiations

In six rounds of Chiang-Chen talks during the two and a half years of President Ma's administration, the two sides of the Taiwan Strait have concluded the signing of 15 agreements and reached one item of consensus. Public opinion surveys show that 73 percent of Taiwan's people believe that institutionalized cross-strait negotiations are conducive to peaceful and stable cross-strait relations, and approve the continuation of such negotiations to deal with problems arising from cross-strait contacts. It is evident that the government's policy of pursuing negotiation in place of confrontation, and seeking conciliation to avert conflict, has won the approval of the majority of our people.



#### Are institutionalized negotiations conducive to cross-strait peace and stability?

Source: Telephone interviews conducted by the TVBS Poll Center, under commission from the MAC, during December 15~16, 2010.



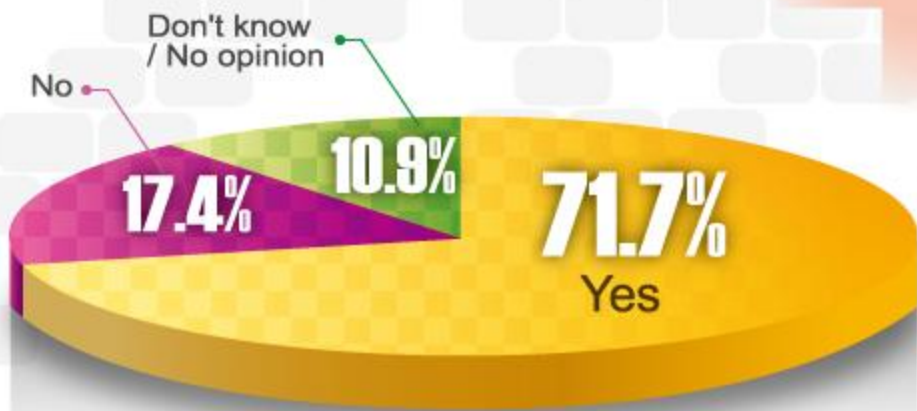
#### Do you support institutionalized negotiations for dealing with problems of cross-strait contacts?

Source: Telephone interviews conducted by National Chengchi University Election Study Center, under commission from the MAC, during December 24~27, 2010.

# 3

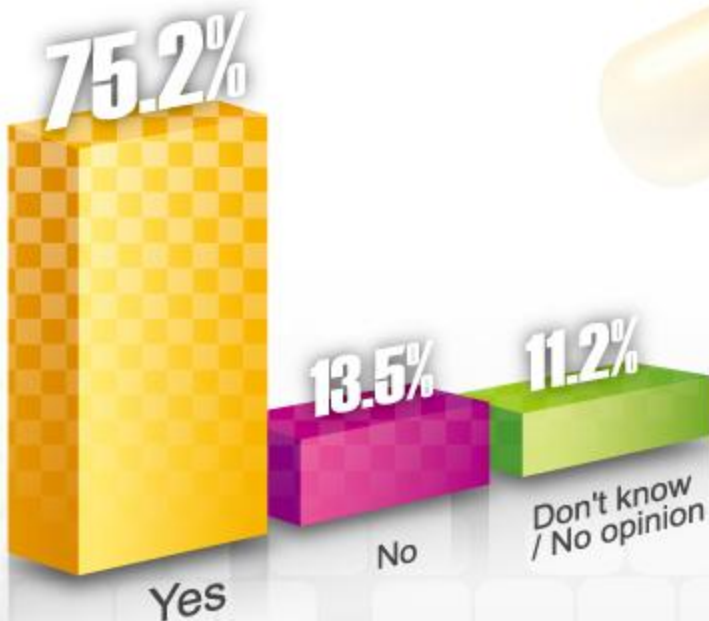
## Medical and health agreement safeguarding our people's rights and interests

When asked about the government's insistence during negotiation of the Cross-Strait Agreement on Medical and Health Cooperation that it would not accept allowing payments to mainland hospitals from Taiwan's national health insurance system, nearly 72 percent of respondents expressed approval of this stance. Also, more than 75 percent of respondents supported the government's position of not allowing mainland medical personnel to perform medical work in Taiwan, and not allowing mainland investment in setting up hospitals in Taiwan.



**Do you support not allowing mainland hospitals to receive payments from our health insurance system?**

Source: Telephone interviews conducted by the TVBS Poll Center, under commission from the MAC, during December 15-16, 2010.



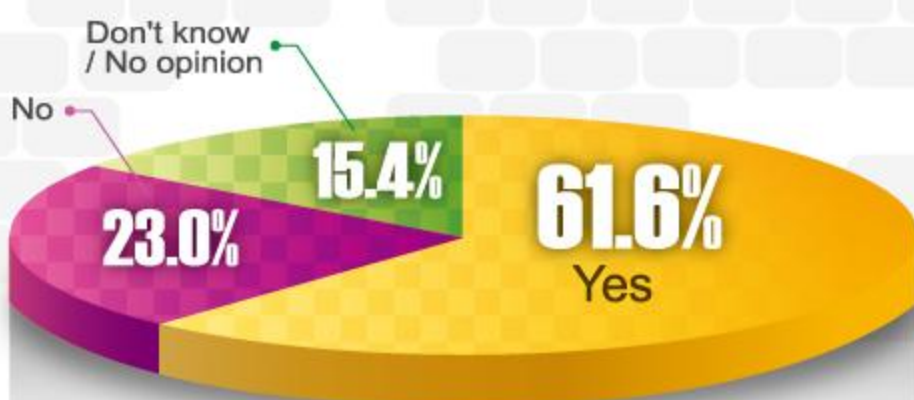
**Do you support not allowing mainland hospitals and medical personnel entry to Taiwan?**

Source: Telephone interviews conducted by the TVBS Poll Center, under commission from the MAC, during December 15-16, 2010.

# 4

## Cooperating in pharmaceutical R&D, to promote industrial development

Under the Cross-Strait Agreement on Medical and Health Cooperation, the two sides' health authorities will establish institutionalized cooperation mechanisms to effectively safeguard our peoples' health and promote cross-strait collaboration in conducting pharmaceutical R&D and clinical trials. Under drug administration rules that conform to internationally recognized standards, two sides will be able to combine their advantages to shorten the time needed for getting new medicines onto the market. Nearly 62 percent of the respondents considered that such terms of agreement would be beneficial to promoting the development of the biopharmaceutical industry on the two sides of the Taiwan Strait.



### Is the Cross-Strait Medical and Health Cooperation Agreement favorable to the biotech industry?

Source: Telephone interviews conducted by National Chengchi University Election Study Center, under commission from the MAC, during December 24-27, 2010.

In making the Cross-Strait Agreement on Medical and Health Cooperation, the government adhered firmly to the “five noes” principle, to ensure that the rights and interests of Taiwan’s people would not be harmed. The “five noes” are that the agreement would not:

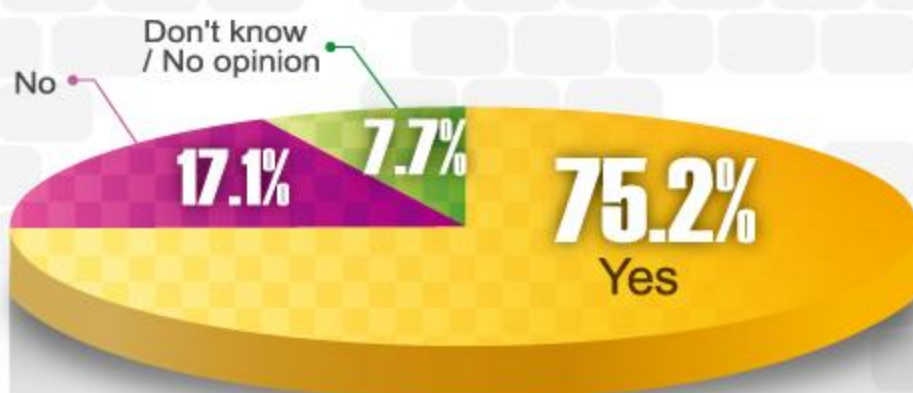
- 1. Touch on the training of medical professionals.**
- 2. Allow mainland medical personnel to take licensing exams in Taiwan.**
- 3. Allow mainland medical personnel to practice in Taiwan.**
- 4. Allow mainland investment in setting up hospitals in Taiwan.**
- 5. Allow mainland hospitals to receive payments under Taiwan’s national health insurance scheme.**



## 5

### Continuing to communicate and negotiate on an investment protection agreement

Owing to the greater complexity and breadth of content involved, the two sides were not able to conclude the signing of a cross-strait investment protection agreement at the 6th round of Chiang-Chen talks. However, two sides agreed to continue related conferral and discussion, and have listed this as a main item on the agenda for the 7th round of talks. A public opinion poll conducted after the conclusion of the talks showed that 75 percent of the people support the government's decision and accomplishment in this regard, and believe that an investment protection agreement will safeguard the rights, interests and personal security of Taiwanese investing in the mainland.



**Do you support continuing the negotiation of an investment protection agreement?**

*Source: Telephone interviews conducted by National Chengchi University Election Study Center, under commission from the MAC, during December 24-27, 2010.*

## 6

### Conclusion

In conducting cross-strait negotiations, the government has always adhered to the paramount principle of "putting Taiwan first for the benefit of the people," and has never made any concessions in respect of Taiwan's parity or dignity. Our efforts to improve cross-strait relations, promote stability in the Taiwan Strait and boost regional prosperity by engaging in institutionalized negotiations have drawn unanimous approval from the international community. The support of public opinion gives the government greater assurance that institutionalized negotiations are the right course for protecting Taiwan, creating benefits for our people, and safeguarding our national sovereignty. In the future, the government will continue to engage in institutionalized negotiations in accordance with our commitment to securing prosperity, security and dignity for Taiwan, to solve and deal with all kinds of issues in ways that bring benefit to our people's lives.

## **Appendix:** The Views of the People on the 6th Round of Chiang-Chen Talks

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1.</b> Under the Cross-Strait Agreement on Medical and Health Cooperation, the two sides will step up promoting cooperation in pharmaceutical R&amp;D and clinical trials, to shorten the time needed for getting products onto the market. Do you think this will be beneficial to promoting the development of the biopharmaceutical industry on the two sides of the Taiwan Strait?</p> | <p>Yes 61.6%<br/>No 23.0%<br/>Don't know / No opinion 15.4%</p> |
| <p><b>2.</b> Do you support the government continuing to negotiate with the other side on issues of cross-strait investment protection, to strengthen protection of the rights, interests and personal security of Taiwanese people investing in the mainland?</p>   | <p>Yes 75.2%<br/>No 17.1%<br/>Don't know / No opinion 7.7%</p>  |
| <p><b>3.</b> Do you support the conduct of institutionalized cross-strait negotiations as a means of dealing with problems arising from contacts across the Taiwan Strait?</p>   | <p>Yes 72.6%<br/>No 15.1%<br/>Don't know / No opinion 12.4%</p> |
| <p><b>4.</b> In the course of negotiating the Cross-Strait Agreement on Medical and Health Cooperation, the government insisted on not allowing mainland medical personnel to perform medical work in Taiwan, and not allowing mainland investment in setting up hospitals in Taiwan. Do you support this position?</p>  | <p>Yes 75.2%<br/>No 13.5%<br/>Don't know / No opinion 11.2%</p> |
| <p><b>5.</b> In the course of negotiating the Cross-Strait Agreement on Medical and Health Cooperation, the government also insisted on not allowing mainland hospitals to become recipients of payment under our national health insurance system. Do you support this position?</p>  | <p>Yes 71.7%<br/>No 17.4%<br/>Don't know / No opinion 10.9%</p> |
| <p><b>6.</b> Do you consider that institutionalized cross-strait negotiations are conducive to peace and stability in cross-strait relations?</p>  | <p>Yes 73.0%<br/>No 18.7%<br/>Don't know / No opinion 8.3%</p>  |

Survey dates: December 15~16, 2010  
December 24~27, 2010

Survey targets: Members of the public aged 20 or over in the Taiwan area

Commissioned by: Mainland Affairs Council,  
Executive Yuan  
Conducted by: TVBS Poll Center  
National Chengchi University  
Election Study Center

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