

## **MAC Expresses Solemn Position on Malicious Verbal Attacks Made by the Taiwan Affairs Office against Taiwan's Presidential Candidates to Intensify Election Interference**

MAC Press Release No. 047

The Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) responded to the malicious remarks made today (November 29, 2023) by mainland China's Taiwan Affairs Office (TAO) against Taiwan's presidential candidates. The MAC stated that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has revealed its anxiety and apprehension in the face of growing mainstream public support in Taiwan for the "Four Commitments." It therefore seeks to intensify election interference through verbal attacks against specific presidential candidates in Taiwan and other means of political and military intimidation. However, such actions have only increased the resentment of the Taiwanese people and exposed the CCP's obsolete and ossified approach to its Taiwan work. This is deeply disappointing.

Regarding the TAO's recent election interference operations, the MAC emphasized that, over the past 30 years, the Republic of China (Taiwan) has undergone three ruling party alternation and held seven direct presidential elections. It has become a mature democracy. The people of Taiwan have clearly shown their commitment to a free and democratic constitutional system and a way of life in which the people are in charge. As the presidential election approaches in Taiwan, we call again on mainland China to acknowledge the systemic differences across the Taiwan Strait. The CCP claims that it respects Taiwan's system, and it must act accordingly. This is the only way for the stability of cross-Strait relations to endure. We will monitor the CCP's subsequent moves by listening to its words and watching its actions.