

**Upholding the Spirit of "Mutual Respect, Mutual Benefit, and Co-prosperity"
and Jointly Promoting Peaceful and Stable Development across the Taiwan
Strait**

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Regarding statements made at the international press conference held after the closing session of the Mainland's National People's Congress that mainland China has recently proposed several directions of reform covering administration, economy, people's livelihood, social equity and justice areas, the Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) hereby states (March 17, 2013) that the ROC government affirms these actions and hopes that, in the future, the two sides can cooperate and mutually advance in related reform and development directions, to further promote mutual trust and mutual benefit across the Taiwan Strait.

On the views proposed by the Mainland today regarding future cross-strait relations, the MAC states that the two sides should cherish the hard-won achievements of benign cross-strait interactions accumulated over the past five years. In the future, the ROC government will carry forward with the established policy objectives at the set pace of promotion, continue to advance institutionalized cross-strait negotiations, expand and deepen cross-strait exchanges and interaction in various fields, and strengthen mutual trust across the Strait. The MAC stresses that the Republic of China is our nation, and Taiwan is our home; both sides of the Strait should uphold the spirit of "mutual respect, mutual benefit, and co-prosperity" and jointly work for peace, stability, and the well-being of the people across the Strait.