

Summarized Results of the Public Opinion Survey

(May 4 to 6, 2007)

“The Public’s View on Issues Concerning China’s Holding of the 2008 Olympic Games and Cross-Strait Relations”

- 63.5 percent of the public cannot accept Beijing’s statement that the Olympic torch’s arrival in Taipei will be the first stop of the “domestic route” of the People’s Republic of China and that Taiwan should be called “China Taipei.”

- 61.1 percent of the public believe that if bringing the Olympic torch to Taiwan will result in dwarfing Taiwan’s sovereignty, Taiwan should not accept this type of arrangement for the route of the Olympic torch relay.

- Regarding the issue of the forum held by the Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) and the Communist Party of China (CPC), 59.2 percent of the public believe that even though the KMT and the CPC have reached some consensus at their forum, their consensus cannot be implemented without government-to-government negotiations.

- 84.7 percent of the public believe that it is unreasonable for the World Health Organization (WHO) to resolve not to process Taiwan’s application to join the WHO on the grounds that “Taiwan is not a sovereign country.” Moreover, 87.7 percent of the public approve of the government continuing to seek WHO membership under the name of “Taiwan.”

I. Survey Background and Methods

In order to gain an understanding of the public’s views on the arrangement of the route for bringing the Olympic torch to Taiwan, the holding of the “KMT-CPC Forum” by the Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) and the Communist Party of China (CPC), Taiwan’s application to join the World Health Organization (WHO) and other issues concerning cross-strait relations, the MAC commissioned Burke Marketing Research Ltd. to conduct a telephone survey of adults aged 20 to 69 in the Taiwan Area from May 4 to 6, 2007. A total of 1,067 effective samples were collected, with a sampling error of about 3 percent based on a 95 percent confidence level.

II. Main Findings

(1) Views on Bringing the Olympic torch to Taiwan

64.2 percent of the public say that they cannot accept Beijing's statement that the Olympic torch's arrival in Taipei will be the first stop of the "domestic route" of the People's Republic of China and that Taiwan will be called "China Taipei," while 16.3 percent of the respondents accept such position.

If bringing the Olympic torch to Taiwan will result in dwarfing Taiwan's sovereignty, 61.1 percent of the public believe that Taiwan should not accept this type of arrangement for the route of the Olympic torch relay, while 19.2 percent believe this arrangement should be accepted.

If China does not change its consistent practice of dwarfing Taiwan, 45.7 percent of the public believe Taiwan should not hold negotiations with China, while 42.7 percent believe negotiations should be continued.

(2) Views on cross-strait negotiations

59.2 percent of the public believe that even though the Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) and the Communist Party of China (CPC) have reached some consensus at the "KMT-CPC Forum," their consensus cannot be implemented without government-to-government negotiations, while 29 percent disagree with this position.

(3) Views on seeking to join the World Health Organization under the name of "Taiwan."

With regard to the World Health Organization (WHO) Secretariat's refusal to process Taiwan's application for membership on the grounds that "Taiwan is not a sovereign country," 84.7 percent of the public believe that the way the WHO has handled Taiwan's membership bid is unreasonable, while only 7 percent believe the WHO Secretariat's position is reasonable.

87.7 percent of the public approve of the government continuing to seek WHO membership under the name of "Taiwan," while only 5.6 percent disapprove.