

Summarized Results of Public Opinion Survey on the "Public's View on Current Cross-Strait Relations"

(April 29 to May 2, 2010)

- **Nearly 70 percent (69%) of the public believe institutionalized cross-strait negotiations are conducive to the peace and stability of cross-strait relations.**
- **Nearly 60 percent (58.9%) of the public believe the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) will be conducive to Taiwan's economic development. 57.4% also believe that cross-strait economic and trade exchanges and negotiations are conducive to Taiwan's economic development in Asia and in the world.**
- **Over half (53.1%) of the public support the government in signing the ECFA with mainland China.**
- **Over 50 percent (54.1%) of the public believe that cross-strait relations have become more relaxed since the Ma administration came into office.**
- **The great majority of the public (88%) support maintaining the status quo broadly defined.**

I. Survey Background and Methods

To understand the Taiwan people's views on issues related to cross-strait relations, the MAC commissioned the Election Study Center of National Chengchi University to conduct a telephone survey of adults aged 20 and over in the Taiwan Area from April 29 to May 2. A total of 1,087 effective samples were collected, with a sampling error of 2.97 percent based on a 95 percent confidence level.

II. Major Findings

(1) Views on institutionalized cross-strait negotiations

69 percent of the public believe that institutionalized cross-strait negotiations are conducive to the peace and stability of cross-strait relations, while only 17.5 percent say they are not helpful; and 57.4 percent of the public agree that "cross-strait economic and trade exchanges and negotiations are

conducive to Taiwan's economic development in Asia and in the world," while 27.8 percent of the public disagree.

(2) Views on the ECFA

58.9 percent of the public believe that the government's signing of the ECFA with mainland China will be conducive to Taiwan's economic development, while 26.4 percent of the public believe it will not be helpful. Over half of the public (53.1%) support the government in signing the ECFA with mainland China, higher than the percentage not supporting it (33.4%).

(3) Views on overall cross-strait relations

As to the views on overall cross-strait relations since the Ma administration came into office, over 50 percent (54.1%) of the public believe cross-strait relations have become "more relaxed," higher than the percentages answering "more tense" (14.3%) and "unchanged" (25.1%).

(4) Views on the pace of cross-strait exchanges

The largest percentage of the public (40.9%) believe that the current pace of cross-strait exchanges is "just right," while 37.7 percent believe the pace is "too fast" and 12.2 percent "too slow."

(5) Views on unification or independence

The great majority of the public (88%) support maintaining the status quo defined in a broader sense (including "Maintaining the status quo and deciding on independence or unification later," "Maintaining the status quo and unification later," "Maintaining the status quo and independence later," "Maintaining the status quo indefinitely"). Of the six possible positions on this issue, "maintaining the status quo and deciding on independence or unification later" enjoys the highest level of support (38.7%), followed by "maintaining the status quo indefinitely" (25%).

(6) Public perception on the attitude of the Mainland government toward Taiwan

43.4% of the public believe the Mainland government is friendly toward the ROC government, higher than the percentage (37.3%) believing it is unfriendly; and 41.4% of the public believe the Mainland government is unfriendly toward the people of Taiwan, close to the percentage (41.2%) believing it is friendly.

