



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

(December 24 to 27, 2010)

- Over 60 percent (61.6 percent) of the public believe the Cross-Strait Agreement on Medical and Health Cooperation is conducive to the development of the medical and biotech industries.
- Over 70 percent (75.2 percent) of the public support the government in continuing negotiations with the other side on cross-strait investment protection issues.
- Over 70 percent (72.6 percent) of the public support institutionalized cross-strait negotiations.
- Over 50 percent (57.6 percent) of the public believe that cross-strait relations have become more relaxed since President Ma came into office.
- The great majority (87.3 percent) of the public support maintaining the status quo defined in a broader sense.

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 December 24 to 27. A total of 1,070 effective samples were collected, with a sampling error of 3 percent based on a 95 percent confidence level.

II. Major Findings

(1) Views on the Cross-Strait Agreement on Medical and Health Cooperation

61.6 percent of the public believe that the signing of the Cross-Strait Agreement on Medical and Health Cooperation at the Sixth Chiang-Chen Talks is conducive to the development of medical and biotech industries on both sides of the Strait, higher than the percentage (23.0 percent) believing it is not helpful.

(2) Views on institutionalized cross-strait negotiations

72.6 percent of the public support the handling of issues related to cross-strait exchanges through institutionalized negotiations, while 15.1 percent of the public do not support this. On the issue of cross-strait investment protection, 75.2 percent of the public support the government in continuing negotiations with the other side in order to safeguard the rights, interests and personal safety of Taiwan people investing in the Mainland.

(3) Views on overall cross-strait relations

Over 50 percent (57.6 percent) of the public believe that overall cross-strait relations have become "more relaxed" since President Ma came into office, higher than the percentages responding that relations have become "more tense" (10.2 percent) and are "unchanged" (26.0 percent).

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

Regarding the current pace of cross-strait exchanges, the largest percentage of the public (43.6 percent) believe the pace is "just right," while 35.8 percent of the public believe the pace is "too fast" and 12.2 percent believe it is "too slow."

(5) Views on unification or independence

The overwhelming majority of the public (87.3 percent) 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," and "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 (34.2 percent), followed by "Maintaining the status quo indefinitely" (28.4 percent).

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

51.6 percent of the public believe the Mainland government's attitude toward the ROC government is "unfriendly," higher than the percentage (34 percent) believing it is "friendly." Regarding the Mainland government's attitude toward the Taiwan people, 48.3 percent of the public believe it is "unfriendly," higher than the percentage (39.3 percent) believing it is friendly.