

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

(November 26 to 30, 2011)

- Over 72 percent of the public believe that the government's policy of allowing visits to Taiwan by Mainland tourists is helpful to Taiwan's economy.
- Over 70 percent of the public are satisfied with the government's approach of opening direct cross-strait air transportation links and continuing to increase the number of flights and flight points.
- The great majority of the public (86.6 percent) still advocates 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," and "Maintaining the status quo and independence later," and "Maintaining the status quo indefinitely").

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 November 26 to 30, 2011. A total of 1,069 effective samples were collected, with a sampling error of 3 percent based on a 95 percent confidence level.

II. Major Findings

(1) Views on visits to Taiwan by Mainland tourists

72.3 percent of the public believe that the government's policy of allowing visits to Taiwan by Mainland tourists is conducive to Taiwan's economy, while 21.8 percent believe it is not conducive.

(2) Views on increasing the number of direct cross-strait flights and flight points

71.6 percent of the public are satisfied with the government's approach of opening direct cross-strait air transportation links and continuing to increase the number of flights and flight points, while 12.7 percent are not satisfied with this approach.

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

Regarding the current pace of cross-strait exchanges, 48.1 percent of the public feel the pace is "just right," while 25.7 percent believe it is "too fast" and 12.9 percent believe it is "too slow."

(4) Views on unification or independence

The overwhelming majority of the public (86.6 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" (26.5 percent).

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

45.5 percent of the public believe the Mainland government's attitude toward the ROC government is "unfriendly," higher than the percentage (32.6 percent) believing it is "friendly." Regarding the Mainland government's attitude toward the Taiwan people, 40.5 percent of the public believe it is friendly, while 40.8 percent believe it is unfriendly.