

Summarized Results of the Snap Poll on the "Public's View on the President's Inaugural Address and Cross-Strait Issues"

(June 2 to 4, 2016)

- Over 70% (74.4%) of the public support the government's handling of cross-Strait affairs according to the Republic of China Constitution, the Act Governing Relations between the People of Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area, and other relevant legislation. More than 80% of the public agree that the two sides should jointly maintain existing mechanisms, expand communication and dialogue, and handle cross-strait relations (85.2%).
- Over 90% of the public support the government's insistence on promoting cross-Strait policy in line with the democratic principle and prevalent will of the people of Taiwan (90.9%) and maintaining the status quo of cross-Strait peace and stability (92.8%).
- More than 80% of the public agree that the Legislative Yuan should complete legislation on Cross-Strait Agreement Supervisory Act (83.4%); and nearly 80% of the public support promoting talks on the trade in goods according to the adopted Cross-Strait Agreement Supervisory Act (77.5%).
- The great majority of the public support the government's insistence on professional, pragmatic, and dignified participation in the World Health Assembly (WHA) and the expression of Taiwan's solemn position on issues with political preconditions (78.9%). The great majority (75.2%) also endorse the statement that "Taiwan's international space should not be affected by changes in the cross-Strait situation."

I. Survey Background and Methods

To understand the public's views on the president's inaugural address and issues related to cross-Strait relations, the Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) commissioned Taiwan Real Survey Co., Ltd. to conduct a telephone survey of adults aged 20 and over in the Taiwan Area from June 2 to 4, 2016. A total of 1,084 valid samples were collected, with a sampling error of minus or plus 2.98% at a 95% level of confidence.

II. Major Findings

(1) Views on the president's inaugural address and related issues

67.5% of the public endorse the statement: "President Tsai expressed in her inaugural address that she will strive to maintain dialogue on peaceful and stable cross-Strait relations, handle cross-Strait affairs with pragmatism and determination, and show flexibility and goodwill." 74.4% of the public support President Tsai's handling of cross-Strait affairs based on the ROC Constitution, the Act Governing Relations between the People of Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area, and other relevant legislation; 74.6% of the public support President Tsai's position of respecting the historical fact of the joint acknowledgements and understandings reached between the Straits Exchange Foundation (SEF) and the Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Straits (ARATS) in 1992 based on the political thinking of mutual understanding and setting aside differences to seek common ground; 85.2% of the public support the government's belief that the two sides should jointly maintain existing mechanisms, expand communication and dialogue, and handle cross-Strait relations; and 90.9% of the public support the government's insistence on promoting cross-Strait policy in line with the democratic principle and prevalent will of the people of Taiwan, adherence to the principles of peace and shared benefits, and protection of the well-being and interests of the people of Taiwan. Additionally, 83.4% of the public agree that the Legislative Yuan should complete legislation on Cross-Strait Agreement Supervisory Act to increase openness, transparency, public participation, and congressional oversight in the process of institutionalized cross-strait negotiations.

(2) Views on cross-Strait economic, trade and regional economic cooperation and international participation

77.5% of the public support the government's promotion of negotiations on the Cross-Strait Trade in Goods Agreement according to the provisions of the adopted Cross-Strait Agreement Supervisory Act; 84.5% of the public support the exchange of views between the two sides on issues related to joint participation in regional development, and pursuit of various possibilities for cooperation and collaboration. Moreover, 78.9% of the public support the government's adherence to the principle of professional, pragmatic, dignified participation in this year's World Health Assembly (WHA) and the expression of Taiwan's solemn position on issues with political preconditions. Additionally, 75.2% of the public endorse the statement that "Taiwan's international space should not be affected by changes in the cross-strait situation."

(3) Expectations for the future development of cross-Strait relations

92.8% of the public support the government's insistence on maintaining the status quo of cross-Strait peace and stability, while 53.8% of the public have confidence that the stable development of cross-Strait relations will continue.