

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

(August 16 to 19, 2012)

- 72.5 percent of the public support the continued handling of cross-strait exchange issues through institutionalized negotiations. 58.4 percent of the public believe that the eight "Chiang-Chen Talks" held and 18 cross-strait agreements signed are conducive to Taiwan's overall development.
- About 60 percent (60.5 percent) of the public believe that the 24-hour notification mechanism in the Cross-Strait Investment Protection and Promotion Agreement is conducive to protecting the personal safety of Taiwanese investors in the Mainland. 67.7 percent of the public believe that Cross-Strait Customs Cooperation Agreement is conducive to cross-strait trade cooperation.
- 70 percent (71.3 percent) of the public approve the establishment of reciprocal offices between the Straits Exchange Foundation (SEF) and the Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Straits (ARATS) to serve and assist the people on both sides.
- The overwhelming majority of the public (84.3 percent) still supports 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").

I. Survey Background and Methods

To understand Taiwanese 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 August 16 to 19, 2012. A total of 1,072

effective samples were collected, with a sampling error of 2.99 percent based on a 95 percent confidence level.

II. Major Findings

(1) Views on institutionalized cross-strait negotiations

72.5 percent of the public support the continued handling of issues related to cross-strait exchanges through institutionalized negotiations, while 14.5 percent do not support this. Moreover, 58.4 percent of the public believe that the holding of the eight "Chiang-Chen Talks" and signing of 18 agreements between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait have been conducive to Taiwan's overall development, while 27.8 percent believe this has been unproductive.

(2) Views on the results of the Eighth "Chiang-Chen Talks"

About 60 percent (60.5 percent) of the public believe that the provision in the Cross-Strait Investment Protection and Promotion Agreement requiring that family members be notified within 24 hours after the personal freedom of Taiwanese investors, employees or their dependents is limited is conducive to protecting Taiwanese investors in the Mainland, while nearly 30 percent (27.6 percent) of the public say this is unproductive. Furthermore, 67.7 percent of the public believe that the Cross-Strait Customs Cooperation Agreement signed between the two sides to streamline cross-strait customs clearance procedures and strengthen cross-strait cooperation on smuggling prevention is conducive to cross-strait trade cooperation, while 18.6 percent believe it is unproductive.

(3) Views on the establishment of reciprocal offices between the SEF and

the ARATS

Over 70 percent (71.3 percent) of the public approve the establishment of reciprocal offices between the SEF and the ARATS to serve and assist the people on both sides, while 15.8 percent disapprove of this.

(4) Views on unification vs. independence

The overwhelming majority of the public (84.3 percent) still supports 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 (31.9 percent), followed by "Maintaining the status quo indefinitely" (26.1 percent).

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

Regarding the current pace of cross-strait exchanges, 42.4 percent of the public believe the pace is "just right," while 28.8 percent believe it is "too fast" and 16.6 percent believe it is "too slow."

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

54.7 percent of the public believe that the Mainland government's attitude toward the ROC government is "unfriendly," higher than the percentage (26.9 percent) believing it is "friendly." Regarding the Mainland government's attitude toward Taiwanese people, 46.4 percent of the public believe it is unfriendly, while 36.7 percent of the public believe it is friendly.