

**Excerpt of Draft Explanation concerning Cross-Strait Postal  
Service Agreement**  
**— The Results of the Second Chiang-Chen Meeting (Postal  
Service)**

Mainland Affairs Council  
November 4, 2008

**The Cross-Strait Postal Service Agreement signed between the SEF and ARATS on November 4 has achieved the following major progress on issues of cross-strait postal service cooperation:**

**1. Expansion of scope and greater convenience for the public**

In addition to the service already in operation for registered mail (including letters, postcards, aerogrammes, printed matter, newspapers, magazines, and mail for the blind), service in the future will be extended to include small packages, parcels, express mail, and postal remittances.

**2. Direct transportation and delivery, with addition of dispatch points**

(1) In line with direct cross-strait sea and air transport, the dispatch of cross-strait mail via a third territory will be changed to direct dispatch.

(2) Increasing the number of cross-strait mail dispatch offices:

- a. In Taiwan: Three new dispatch offices in Kaohsiung, Kinmen and Matsu will be added to the original two dispatch offices in Taipei and Keelung.
- b. The mainland: Three new dispatch offices in Nanjing, Xian and Chengdu will be added to the original five dispatch offices in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Xiamen and Fuzhou.
- c. Mail dispatch offices may in the future be augmented or adjusted in accordance with actual need.

### **3. Inquiry services, quality enhancement**

- (1) The two sides' mail processing centers will establish fast and convenient channels for mail inquiries, to conduct direct two-way liaison (currently all undertaken by the SEF).
- (2) In accordance with the Universal Postal Convention and commercial practice, registered mail and parcel inquiries shall be submitted within six months of the day after posting by the original poster; and express mail inquiries within three months.

### **4. Direct two-way normal operation**

- (1) In accordance with the Universal Postal Convention and international practice, the two sides' post companies will establish a system for the direct settlement of terminal dues.
- (2) Responsibility for compensation will also be clearly stipulated: When registered letters or parcels sent across the Taiwan Strait are lost, stolen or destroyed, the party responsible shall be liable for compensation, and settlement shall be reciprocal; when the same situation happens to express mail, the side from which it was sent shall assume responsibility for compensation.