

## **Summarized Results of the Snap Survey on "Public Views on the President's National Day Address and Cross-Strait Issues"**

(October 21-23, 2016)

■ More than 80% of the public support the government's position on developing benign interaction with mainland China based on respecting historical facts and the existing political foundation (81.2%) and believe that the mainland Chinese authorities should face up to the reality that the Republic of China (R.O.C.) exists (85.2%).

■ Over 70% of the public support the president's position that "Our pledges will not change, and our goodwill will not change. But we will not bow to pressure, and we will of course not revert to the old path of confrontation" (74.6%). Nearly 90% of the public believe that maintaining peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait is the common responsibility of both sides and that the two sides should continue to show mutual goodwill and dedicate to promoting positive interaction between them (89%)

■ Nearly 80% of the public agree that "maintaining the status quo" means promoting constructive cross-Strait exchanges and dialogue and building peaceful and stable relations across the Taiwan Strait on the basis of deepening democratic mechanisms (78.4%). More than 80% of the public support the president's position that anything can be included for discussion between the two sides, as long as it is conducive to the development of cross-Strait peace and the welfare of people on both sides" (82.6%).

■ Over 70% of the public agree with the statement that "Cross-Strait interactions involving political issues and government authority should be handled by the government to maintain the overall interests of Taiwan" (72.9%), while 80% of the public agree with the statement that "Officials on the two sides should negotiate and implement agreements to safeguard the rights and interests of the people" (80.7%).

### **I. Survey Background and Methods**

In order to understand the views of the public on the president's National Day Address and cross-Strait issues, the Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) commissioned the Taiwan Real Survey Co., Ltd., to conduct a telephone survey of adults aged 20 and over in Taiwan from October 21 to 23, 2016. A total

of 1,069 effective samples were collected, with a sampling error of 3.00% based on a 95% confidence level.

## **II. Major Findings**

### **(1) Views on the content of the president's National Day Address and cross-Strait policy**

81.2% of the public support the government's position on developing benign interaction with mainland China based on respecting historical facts and the existing political foundation. 43.7% of the public support the president's position of "respecting the historical fact of various joint acknowledgements and understandings achieved during the meeting between the Straits Exchange Foundation (SEF) and the Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Straits (ARATS) in 1992"; 59.4% of the public support the president's approach of "handling of cross-Strait affairs based on the Republic of China Constitution, the Act Governing Relations between the public of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area, and other relevant legislation"; 74.6% of the public support the president's position that, "Our pledges will not change, and our goodwill will not change. But we will not bow to pressure, and we will of course not revert to the old path of confrontation"; and 85.2% of the public agree that the mainland Chinese authorities should face up to the reality that the Republic of China (R.O.C.) exists.

### **(2) Views on cross-Strait dialogue, communication, and negotiation**

78.4% of the public approve the statement that "'Maintaining the status quo' means promoting constructive cross-Strait exchanges and dialogue and building peaceful and stable relations across the Taiwan Strait on the basis of deepening democratic mechanisms"; 82.6% of the public support the president's position that "the two sides can talk about any issues conducive to the development of cross-Strait peace and the welfare of people on both sides"; 72.9% of the public agree with the statement that "Cross-Strait interactions involving political issues and government authority should be handled by the government to maintain the overall interests of Taiwan"; and 80.7% of the public agree with the statement that "Officials on the two sides should negotiate and implement agreements to safeguard the rights and interests of the people."

### **(3) Views on cross-Strait exchanges and interaction and international participation**

67% of the public believe that political preconditions should not be set for cross-Strait exchanges (e.g.: tourism, economic, trade, cultural, social and local government exchanges); 86.3% of the public agree with the view that "Taiwan's international participation should not be subject to political

interference and Taiwan should be allowed to participate in a dignified and meaningful way"; and 89% of the public agree with the statement that "maintaining peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait is the common responsibility of the two sides, the two sides should continue to show mutual goodwill and dedicate to promoting positive interaction between the two sides."