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<http://www.gvm.com.tw/gvsrc/eng/index.asp>

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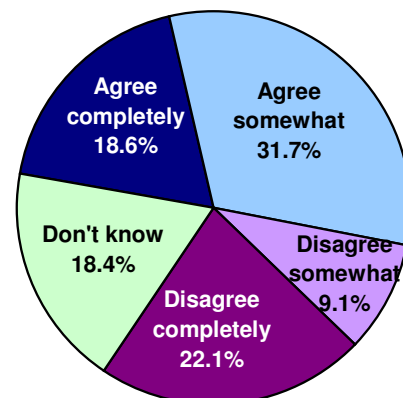
## **GVSRC Survey: Survey on senior Chinese envoy Chen Yunlin's upcoming visit to Taiwan and approval ratings for the Ma administration**

A. 50.3% of Taiwanese people support the government's decision to invite Chairman Chen Yunlin of China's semi-official Association for Relations across the Taiwan Strait to visit Taiwan and hold talks with his Taiwanese counterpart Chiang Pin-kung for the second time, while 31.2% do not support Chen's trip.

This year marks the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first-ever talks between Taiwan's semi-official Straits Exchange Foundation and its Chinese counterpart, the Association for Relations across the Taiwan Strait, held in Singapore. The two organizations resumed talks in June, within a month after the new administration came in power, after a hiatus of almost ten years. During the talks, Chiang invited Chen to visit Taiwan.

This GVSRC survey shows 50.3% of Taiwanese people support the government's decision to invite Chen to visit Taiwan to hold talks with Chiang. The majority of people who approve of the move either are mainlanders, or live in the northern Taiwanese regions of Taoyuan, Hsinchu, and Miaoli, or are 20-39 year-old, or have at least college degrees, or are pan-blue supporters. Over 60% of people in these groups support Chen's visit. 31.2% of Taiwanese people say they disapprove of Chen's visit. Among the groups of people who live in the southern Taiwanese regions of Yunlin, Chiayi, and Tainan, or have at most a middle school education, or are pan-green supporters, there is a higher percentage of disapproval than approval.

**Do you agree with the government's decision to invite Chairman Chen Yunlin of China's semi-official Association for Relations across the Taiwan Strait to visit Taiwan?**

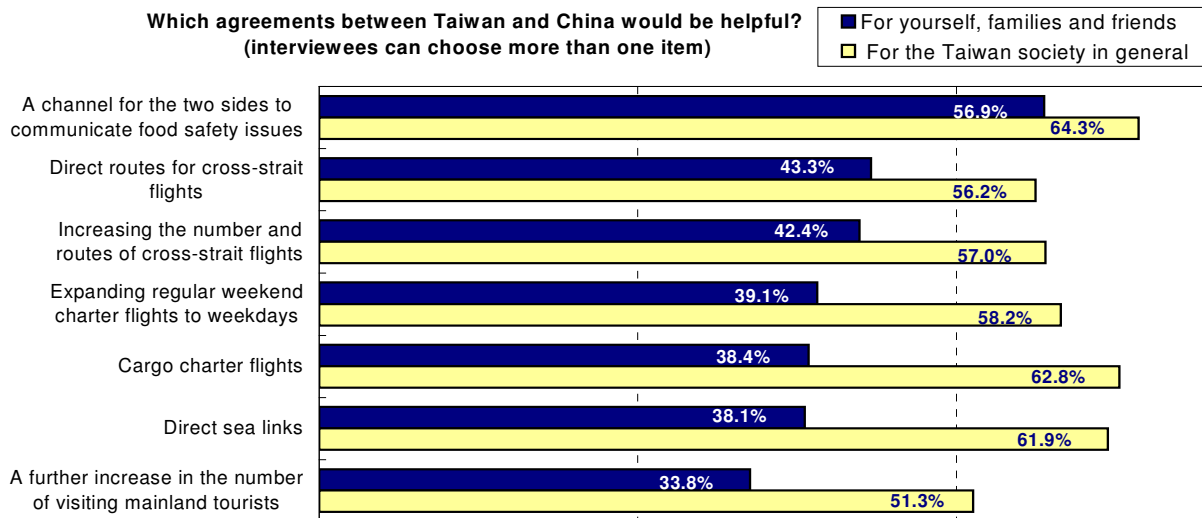


B. Among all agreements China and Taiwan may sign during Chen's visit, Taiwanese people think the most helpful item would be a channel for the two sides to communicate food safety issues.

This GVSRC survey shows that among all agreements that may be signed during the second round of Chiang-Chen talks, Taiwanese people think the most helpful item for themselves, their families and friends is a channel between Taiwan and China to communicate

food safety issues (56.9%). Next are direct routes for cross-strait flights (43.3%), and an increase in the number and routes of cross-strait flights (42.4%). Following these is expansion of regular weekend charter flights to weekdays (39.1%), and then cross-strait cargo charter flights (38.4%), direct sea links (38.1%) and a further increase in the number of visiting mainland tourists (33.8%).

Given the same conditions and choices, Taiwanese people think the item most helpful to the Taiwan society in general is also a channel for Taiwan and China to communicated food safety issues (64.3%). Next are cargo charter flights (62.8%), direct sea links (61.9%), expansion of regular weekend charter flights to weekdays (58.2%), an increase in the number and routes of cross-strait flights (57.0%), direct routes for cross-strait flights (56.2%), and a further increase in the number of visiting mainland tourists (51.3%).



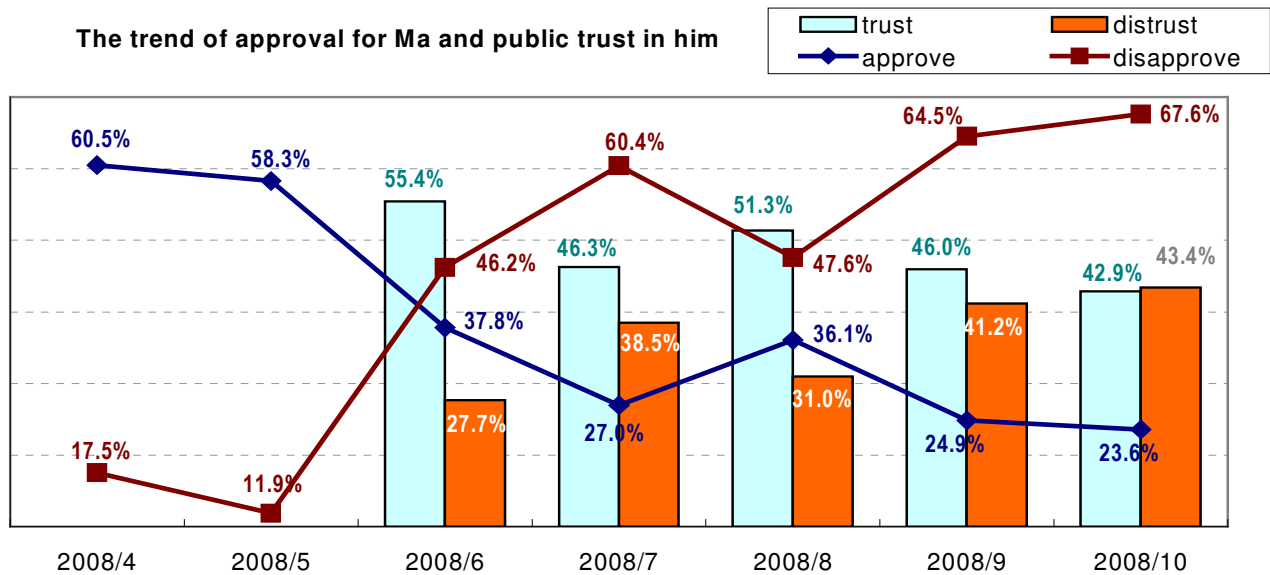
There has been increasing public concerns over food products and raw materials from China following the export of Chinese fake milk to Taiwan and international community. The survey results reflect Taiwanese people's eagerness to see the setup of a channel for communicating food issues between the island and the mainland under such circumstances. Taiwanese people think the channel will be most beneficial for their families and friends, and also for the society in general. Although the two sides have long planned to discuss direct transportation links during the second round of Chiang-Chen talks in Taiwan, right now Taiwanese people is more interested in a channel for communicating food safety issues. Whether the channel, closely related to public health issues, can be set up and how effective it will be will become a major element in Taiwanese people's assessments on China's apology and efforts to redeem the fake milk incident. It will also be a key factor in Taiwanese people's assessments on the outcome of the second round of Chiang-Chen talks.

Most Taiwanese people think the most important items related to their interests among all possible agreements to be signed during the upcoming Chiang-Chen talks is the safety of mainland food products, and convenience and lower cost in cross-strait transportation. For the Taiwan society in general, Taiwanese people think besides food safety, it is most important to allow cargo to travel between the island and the mainland freely and easily to boost the island's economic development.

**C. Approval for President Ma's governance over the past five months since taking office: 23.6% are satisfied with his performance while 67.6% are dissatisfied.**

This GVSRC survey shows 23.6% of Taiwanese people approve of Ma's performance in

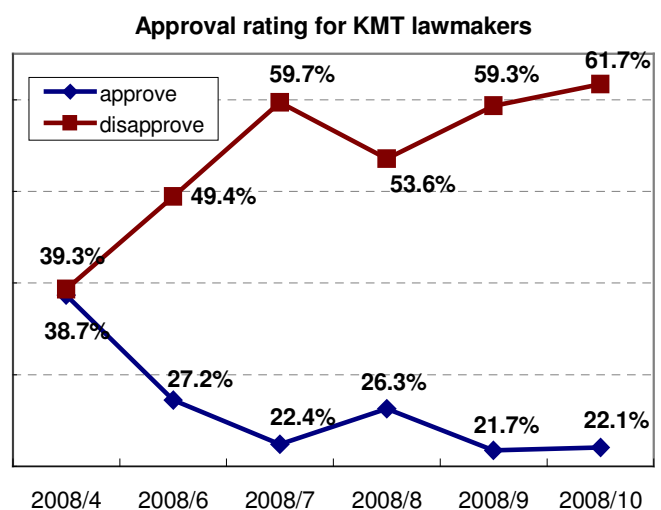
the past five months, while 67.6% say they are dissatisfied with him. Meanwhile, 42.9% of Taiwanese people say they trust Ma. It is the first time after the presidential poll that the level of public trust in Ma falls lower than 44.6%, the level during the presidential poll. The 44.6% level of trust comes from Ma's winning of 58.45% of all votes multiplying the 76.33% voter turnout. 43.4% of Taiwanese people say they don't trust Ma. In general, after Taiwan underwent the Chinese fake milk scare in the past month, Taiwanese people are feeling quite dissatisfied with Ma although his approval rating and level of public trust still fall within the range of margin of error from last month. Further, the gap between the percentage of people who trust and distrust Ma has been diminishing. This is a repeated warning reflected in public assessments of Ma.



**D. Approval rating for the KMT lawmakers: 22.1% of Taiwanese people approve of the KMT lawmakers' performance, and 61.7% don't.**

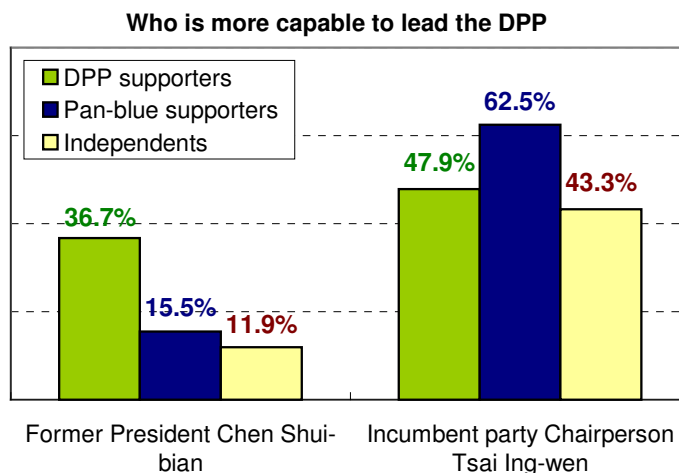
The lawmakers in the current legislature have been on job for over nine months, and the KMT enjoys an absolute majority with its control of over 70% of all seats. This GVSRC survey shows that 61.7% of Taiwanese people disapprove of the KMT lawmakers' performance in the legislature, and even 47.5% of pan-blue supporters say so. The disapproval rating is much higher than the approval rating of 22.1%.

The KMT has been enjoying an absolute majority in the legislature since the beginning of this year, yet it has failed to meet public expectations. The disapproval rating for the KMT lawmakers even surged after the KMT won the presidential poll in March. This shows that while the majority of Taiwanese people have given the KMT lawmakers full authorization to act, the public is disappointed by their performance and effectiveness. If the KMT cannot deliver some outstanding performance with its full control over the government and the legislature, this will have an impact on the results of the mayoral and magistral elections next year.



E. Between incumbent opposition Democratic Progressive Party Chairperson Tsai Ing-wen and former President Chen Shui-bian, 51.7% of Taiwanese people think Tsai is more capable to leading the party, while 18.4% say Chen is better fitted to lead the party.

It was revealed in mid August this year that the majority of Chen's family members were involved in an oversea money laundering scandal. Details have become clearer as time goes by, and it has been unveiled that several former senior officials in the Chen administration were involved in the scandal and, some have been arrested. To fight against the judiciary, Chen has made efforts to mobilize his supporters around Taiwan to secure his influence and even leadership in the party. Tsai, however, has been dealing with the situation in a low-key manner. At the moment there are conflicts within the DPP about whether to support Chen over the scandal.



This survey shows that 51.7% of Taiwanese people think Tsai is better equipped to lead the DPP, while 18.4% say Chen is more capable to be the party leader. 7.9% of Taiwanese people say both are not qualified. Among the DPP supporters, 47.9% say Tsai is more capable to lead the party, while 36.7% say Chen is better fitted to be the leader. The gap is small. This is exactly why Tsai dare not to ignore Chen's influence and why Chen will not give up securing a firm footing in the party.

This survey was conducted by the GVSRC from 6.20pm to 10.00pm on Oct 14-16, 2008. It is conducted with random-digit-dial sampling and computer-assisted telephone interviewing methods. 1005 people who are 20 or older completed the interview. One can say with 95% confidence that the theoretical margin of sampling error is  $\pm 3.1\%$ . Gender, living areas, ages, educational level and other features of the interviewees have undergone weighting procedure and test of the sample's representativeness in the survey results.