

MAC appeals to Beijing to recognize Taiwan's good will

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CNA

TAIPEI -- Taiwan hopes China can understand that its recognition of the historical fact that understandings were reached between the two sides in 1992 is an important and friendly declaration, a Taiwanese official said Friday.

“Since May 20 when the government led by the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) took office, it has reiterated that it respects the historical fact that several joint acknowledgments and understanding were reached between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait in 1992,” said Chiu Chui-cheng (邱垂正), a deputy minister of the Mainland Affairs Council.

“The government will handle cross-strait affairs in line with the Constitution and the Act Governing Relations between Peoples of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area,” he told CNA.

“It is the joint responsibility of the two sides to maintain cross-strait peace and stability, and both sides should have the wisdom and patience to achieve the goal through dialogue.”

Chiu said the keeping the mechanisms that already exist will be conducive to developing positive relations. “So our doors will always be wide open for cross-strait consultations,” he said.

Chiu was responded to comments by Ma Xiaoguang, spokesman for China's Taiwan Affairs Office (TAO), who said earlier Friday that “only by upholding the 1992 Consensus as the political foundation could the peaceful development of cross-strait ties be maintained.”

He also stressed that communication mechanisms between the MAC and TAO or negotiation mechanisms between the Taipei-based Straits Exchange Foundation and Beijing-based Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Straits must be based on that political foundation.

Ma's remarks came after President Tsai Ing-wen (蔡英文) said in an interview earlier this week with the Washington Post that she has done her best to narrow her government's differences with China and rejected a supposed deadline for Taiwan to accept a precondition laid out by Beijing for the continuation of relatively warm ties.

In the interview, Tsai was asked if it was true, as some academics have suggested, that mainland Chinese leader Xi Jinping (习近平) has set a deadline by which he wants her to agree to the so-called 1992 Consensus.

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