



FOR RELEASE:
March 1, 2006

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Formosa Foundation Backs Taiwan President's Decision to Abolish National Unification Council

LOS ANGELES — Formosa Foundation Executive Director Terri Giles today issued a statement in response to Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian's action eliminating the National Unification Council.

Background

The National Unification Council was established in 1990 under the KMT in an attempt to convince the Chinese authorities that Taiwan was committed to reunification. However, current opinion polls show that only about 15 percent of the Taiwanese people favor unification.

Chen pledged in his May 2000 inauguration speech not to dissolve the council provided China renounced military force against Taiwan and maintained the status quo. Over the past few years China has dramatically undermined the basic premises of the status quo by deploying more than 700 missiles aimed at Taiwan and in 2005 passing the Anti-Secession Law authorizing war if China considers violence a necessary means to achieve unification with the self-governed island.

Statement of Terri Giles

President Chen's recent action is merely abolishing a government entity that in reality only existed on paper. The existence of the National Unification Council and unification guidelines created the impression that the Taiwan government was predisposed to unification. President Chen's decision has given the choice back to the people.

While Taiwan has evolved its democracy and the rule of law, China has chosen the path of suppression and threats of violence and has acted unilaterally to upset the status-quo. While the United States continues to praise Taiwan's democracy, we must also acknowledge that democracies do not exist under communist rule and need the support of the United States and the international community to flourish.

The Formosa Foundation (<http://www.formosafoundation.org/>) is a Los Angeles-based non-profit organization dedicated to promoting greater understanding of the relationship between Taiwan and the United States, and preserving and enhancing democracy, human rights and freedom for the people of Taiwan.

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美國福爾摩莎基金會支持台灣總統廢除國統會

[洛杉磯訊] 針對臺灣總統日前終止國統會及國統綱領，美國福爾摩莎基金會（以下簡稱基金會）今天發表以下聲明。

前提

國民黨於 1990 年設立國家統一委員會(簡稱國統會)及國統綱領，其主要原因是向中國當局表示台灣與中國將來統一的承諾。但是根據近年來多次的民意調查，目前只有百分之十五的台灣人民贊成統一。

陳總統在 2000 年五月的就職演講中提到，只要中國不對臺灣使用武力並維持現狀，他將不會廢除國統會。但是中國現在以七百多枚的飛彈瞄準臺灣並在 2005 年通過反分裂法以達成武力統一的目標，再再違反了維持現狀的前提。

基金會的聲明

陳總統日前終止的國統會，只有形式上的存在。國統會及國統綱領在表面上給人一個錯誤的印象，以為臺灣政府傾向統一。陳總統將之廢除是要讓人民有絕對的選擇權。

臺灣已實施民主制度多年，一切以法治為本。反過來看中國，還是一個壓迫人權的暴力政權，並一直在改變兩岸的現狀。我們必須認知，在共產主義統治下不可能有民主的存在。美國一向稱贊臺灣的民主化，臺灣的民主需要美國及國際社會的支持才能發揚光大。

於2001年立基於美國加州洛杉磯，美國福爾摩莎基金會是一非營利組織，旨在促進臺美間的相互了解及友好關係，並且追求提升臺灣的民主、人權、以及人民自由。

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