

The Participation of the Republic of China on Taiwan in the United Nations

SUMMARY

The Republic of China(ROC), the first Republic established in 1912 in Asia, is an independent sovereign state. As a result of the Chinese civil war, however, the People's Republic of China(PRC) was founded on the Chinese mainland on Oct. 1, 1949, while the ROC continues to exist on its own territory - Taiwan and its adjacent islets. For almost half a century, the ROC and the PRC have not been subject to each other's rule. The PRC's claim that it represents all of China is obviously fictitious.

In 1971, the UN General Assembly adopted Resolution 2758(XXVI) and gave the China seat to the PRC. Consequently, the ROC, a founding member of the UN, was excluded from the UN system ever since. However, the said resolution only provides for the international representation of the Chinese people on the Chinese

mainland. In the meantime, it deprives the representation of the Chinese people under the jurisdiction of the ROC. As a result, the ROC on Taiwan and its 21 million people are prevented from leading a normal life in the international community. This is unreasonable and at variance with the spirit of justice.

The inclusion of the ROC in the United Nations is in keeping with the UN's principle of universality and will contribute to global cooperation on fields such as economic development, environmental and ecological protection, etc. It will also help promote international assistance programs by the UN related agencies to the developing countries.

The ROC launched the campaign for UN participation in accordance with the common aspirations of its 21 million people. The campaign does not seek to claim representation for all of China or challenge the UN seat currently held by the PRC. Nor does it preclude the eventual unification of China. The campaign only seeks for its 21 million people a proper and effective representation of their fundamental rights in the UN. As such, member States of the UN should seriously examine the exceptional situation of the ROC's

inability to participate normally in international activities, and actively search for a just solution.