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Views on Hong Kong's Constitutional Development

Replies to Questions A 1 - 3

A 1 (1) Hong Kong's constitutional development is hindered only to the extent that it must adhere to local issues and exclude persons (in the Legislature or government departments) who aim at changing the one-country-two systems to only one political system and to interfere with or seek to overthrow the one country system (the CPG).

With this principle adhered to, Hong Kong can develop into full local democracy.

This is the basic principle upon which the SAR was given autonomy, and failure to keep it could result in losing that autonomy.

Unless political parties exclude the aim in their constitution of changing China's political system, no progress in constitutional development seems possible.

Any political changes in China are the sole right of the Chinese people living under their present system and not under Hong Kong's system.

A 1 (2) Yes, this is the Agreement, except in purely local affairs, in which Hong Kong has autonomy. Progress has been slowed down by the failure of some to accept China's necessary security laws, even when amendments are made.

A 1 (3) Yes, the CE is accountable to both systems. He must ensure that Hong Kong both enjoys the privileges given to the Hong Kong system, and that Hong abides by national laws essential to one country. This bridge between Hong Kong does not breach any national laws affecting the whole country, but the bridge between Hong Kong and the CPG is possible if both sides keep their rightful positions and do not interfere with each other.

A 2 (1) The 'actual situation' surely refers to whether or not Hong Kong is observing the agreement with regard to one-country-two-systems, and also whether there are signs of resistance to the one country. It may also refer to how much interest is shown in more democracy. For example: to be truly democratic should require huge participation in using the vote. In some countries claiming to be democratic, less than half the potential voters register to vote, and less than half cast their votes. I believe that automatic registration of voters should be carried out, and that no candidate with less than fifty per cent of the voters' support should be considered as representative of their constituencies. This system operates in some countries, and I think should be universal. In Hong Kong, no one knows the number of potential voters, and some are elected with only a small fraction of voter support. That is not democracy, not representative.

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A 2 (2) Consequently, I believe that 'gradual' should mean, until we can be sure of a Legislature/Council being truly representative of over half the voters, with all eligible adults registered to vote.

A 3 (1) I agree with Mr. Ji's statement. Since Hong Kong has only two real assets Capital and Labour, I think it is essential that voting should give equal rights to both these sectors; otherwise the votes of Labour would far outweigh the votes of Capital, and that could damage Hong Kong's economy upon which workers depend for a living. The functional constituencies could be adapted by some fine-tuning so that no one is excluded and no one has more than one vote.

A 3 (2) I think what I suggest in A 3 (1) above would facilitate the development of the capitalist system and also serve workers' interests, provided there were laws to safeguard both sides, capitalists from unreasonable worker demands, and workers from exploitation by capitalists. (The corruption developing in western democracies is due to the imbalance of Labour and Capitalist voting power. Capitalists therefore 'buy' power by corrupt donations to candidates.)

Replies to Questions B1- 5

- B1 I think the first question should be to decide whether amendments are necessary and if necessary, to consult both the public and the Central Government (the latter, to see if they breach any national laws). The question itself is not very clear.
- B 2 If the proposed amendments differ widely from those already in effect, and if they are likely to contravene the basic policies of the one-country-two-systems concept or any other basic policy of the PRC, then yes, Article 159 would have to be followed.
- B 3 Probably a consultative paper for public comment as well as discussion with the Central government would first have to take place.
- B 4 It is uncertain whether the method of the formation of the third term could be used in the fourth term. That would depend upon the reasons why no consensus was reached during the third term. If there was no consensus, it would be wrong to accept it in the following term.
- B 5 It appears that 'subsequent' refers to the end of the second term of office of the CE. That would mean, any time after 30 June 2007.

(Signed)

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