

Views and Opinion for Upcoming Focus Group Discussion on 23 August 2004
(submitted by Shirley Ha)

Key issues:

1. The opinions and aspirations of the people of HK must be duly respected and taken into account. The 2 marches on July 1 reflected the strong aspirations of the local residents.
2. Simultaneously, the wishes and opinions of the Central Government need to be respected in order to maintain a favourable and amicable long-term relationship. The perspective that "HK is part of China" has not often been given due regard.
3. A clear timetable for direct elections and public election of the CE needs to be worked out and key milestones be adhered to. Such constitutional reform programme should be implemented in an orderly and progressive manner. Whilst 07/08 universal suffrage is obviously not possible, the option of 2012 should be closely examined and progress monitored.
4. The SAR Government should be seen as taking the lead to drive for a clearly spelt-out timetable and orderly implementation. This is important in winning back the support from the people of HK and to avoid future marches on July 1. Alongside, our people need to be instilled with a strong sense of civic education in order to make full and meaningful use of the constitutional rights bestowed on all of us.

13 August, 2004