

UNCLASSIFIED  
FM PEKING  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELNO 769

OF 190921Z SEPTEMBER 95

INFO IMMEDIATE HONG KONG, BTC HONG KONG, UKREP JLG HONG KONG

MIPT:

SUBJECT: LEGCO ELECTIONS: CHINESE SPOKESMAN'S COMMENTS

SUMMARY

[REDACTED]

DETAIL

2. Asked to comment on the results of the Hong Kong Legislative Council elections at his regular press conference, the Chinese MFA spokesman said on 19 September that China had always made it clear that the LegCo elected in 1995 would end in 1997. The Governor's constitutional reforms had violated the JD. The Chinese Government's view on this point would never change.

3. The spokesman was asked if China would recognise the newly elected legislators or, failing that, recognise the contributions to Hong Kong made by them in the past. He was also asked how China would treat LegCo members seen as subversive by the CPG, including Martin Lee. The spokesman replied that China hoped that by 1997 all Hong Kong legislators would support the "one country two systems" policy. He advised his questioner to refer to the HKMO for more detail on Martin Lee. He also stated that Hong Kong civil servants should work to maintain stability in Hong Kong before announcing that he himself had nothing more to add.

4. The spokesman was put on the spot by a questioner who pointed out that although the Chinese had described the elections as unfair and illegal, Chinese representatives in Hong Kong had publicly supported pro-China candidates. The spokesman commented [REDACTED] in reply that as it was the Chinese view that the elections did not really reflect the views of Hong Kong people, there was little to lose in backing supporters of China. He then again referred his questioner to other relevant departments for more details.

APPLEYARD

[REDACTED]  
FM HONG KONG  
TO DESKBY 191300Z FCO  
TELNO 828  
OF 191110Z SEPTEMBER 95  
INFO IMMEDIATE PEKING, UKREP JLG HONG KONG

[REDACTED]	
DISK OFFICER	PROF
INDEX	FA
WF	

TOP COPY  
Q DIST ?

SUBJECT : ExCo Meeting (19 September 1995): LegCo Elections

Summary

Non-official 'ExCo members' clear view is that we should work closely with the new LegCo. Suggested that we should review a channel for regular communication between Government/ExCo and LegCo. Substantive policy issues of concern to the political parties would need to be examined through such communication.

Detail

2. At today's ExCo meeting, we briefed Members on the conducting of the LegCo elections and the outcome. Non-official members were invited to express their views on the composition of the new LegCo and implications for the management of Government's business in the new session.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

PAGE REDACTED

[REDACTED]

11. In response, I indicated that the Government certainly shared Members' views that we should work together with the new LegCo returned by open and fair elections. I would be meeting the political parties separately incoming weeks to assess the main issues of interest they wished to pursue in the coming session. Now that the Democrats had a more significant presence in LegCo, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The Chief Secretary added that she and her colleagues would be reviewing how the Government agenda should be managed in LegCo. It was important that the business community should establish a dialogue with the Democrats. I indicated that a dialogue between the Democrats and the business community and cooperation with the Administration would be of lasting value - going beyond the final phase of the transition.

12. The Political Adviser briefed ExCo Members on the Chinese response so far to the LegCo results. Both the State Council Hong Kong and Macao Office and NCNA had reiterated China's line that there was no through train for LegCo Members. NCNA had criticised the elections as unfair and unreasonable. But the communist newspapers in Hong Kong, particularly Wen Wei Po had pointed out how well the pro-China candidates had done. Overall the Chinese response, so far, was measured. It might remain so. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Comment

13. The initial response of Non-official ExCo Members to the elections reflects a clear and well balanced appreciation of current political realities. We will have to consider carefully in coming weeks the channels of communication between ExCo/Government and LegCo. More importantly, we will have to explore with the political parties the main interests which they wish to pursue in the new session, so as to enlarge the potential common ground for cooperation. I will be telegraphing separately on the management of the new LegCo.

PATTEN

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]