



積極求進 共創未來

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去年七月一日，香港回歸祖國，成立了香港特別行政區，由於正確實施了香港基本法，"一國兩制"得以在香港成功貫徹落實，產生了"率先垂範"的重大影響。澳門的回歸則是祖國統一大業的第二站，亦具有"承前啟後"的關鍵作用，同樣擔負著向世界及台灣進行宣示的重要使命，內在意義非比尋常。澳門雖小，但祖國對澳門回歸予以高度重視。個人認為，澳門回歸工作若能做得好，"一國兩制"、"澳人治澳"在澳門順利得到貫徹落實，對進一步確立世人對"一國兩制"的信心將提供更充份的佐證，這將使祖國和平統一的進程繼續向前跨出了一大步。

未來澳門社會模式之思考

根據基本法的規定，澳門特別行政區將保持原有的資本主義制度和生活方式五十年不變。同時，澳門特別行政區將實行澳人治澳，高度自治。這是澳門在未來能夠繼續保持穩定的法律保障。如前所述，香港特別行政區正是由於正確實施香港基本法，在回歸以來的九個月裡經受住亞洲金融風暴等嚴峻考驗，社會總體保持平穩。因此，為了實現澳門的平穩過渡，確保基本法在未來澳門特別行政區正確實施，顯然有必要切實做好基本法宣傳工作。在這裡，我想強調的是，"平穩過渡"是澳門居民的共同心願。然而平穩並不代表著固步自封、不思進取，更不可以同甘居落后劃等號。從澳門的現實來看，**通過"發展"去求取"平穩"**才是符合客觀實際的做法。相信，保持經濟低迷、治安不靖的平穩，殊非澳門人所願。另一方面，二十一世紀世界經濟將進入全球化競爭年代，在世界的鄰近地區的開放進步過程中，澳門不求進步，即如逆水行舟，不進則退。因此我們需要跳出原來固有的思想框架，用前所未有的廣闊視野，重新規劃澳門的未來。澳門若要發展成為一個安居樂業的好地方，就必須對社會架構進行革新，致力營造一個多元開放、講求法治、機會均等、公平競爭的優質生活和投資環境。

不少人士認為，澳門社會比較單一化，多元性、開放性不夠，能容納不同意見的空間相對狹窄，社會欠缺機會均等、相互制衡、公平競爭的機制。實踐證明，社會進步發展總是透過不同力量互動而產生推力，所以社會上有不同意見是正常和健康的。一個開放的社會應為社會各方提供公平參與的機會，讓不同界別、不同階層的人士都有施展才幹的空間，讓人人有機會憑著發奮向上取得成功，合力推動社會向前發展。看來，分析和優化社會結構，應是我們今後需認真考慮的問題。雖然，一個社會體制的轉變是一項極為複雜的系統重整工程，然而澳門許多長期存在而又得不到解決的社會、經濟問題，其真正的深層根源恰恰就在這裡，若要加速今後澳門社會的進步與發展，就應設法構建和強化競爭機制及監督制衡機制，以適應"澳人治澳"新時代的發展需要。

青年應增強對社會的承擔，發揮更大的作用

今天距離澳門回歸祖國只有六百多日，全國人民和澳門各界人士熱切期盼澳門的回歸。澳門回歸祖國，意味著澳門進入了"澳人治澳"的嶄新時代，也提供了優化澳門社會結構的良好契機，這是澳門發展史上一個偉大的里程碑，對我們每一個人，尤其是青年人，都會產生長遠和深刻的影響，作為中華炎黃子孫，都會為澳門即將回歸祖國感到無比振奮和自豪，同時亦會感受到在這個巨大的歷史轉變中所擔負的重大責任。

青年時期是人的一生中最富熱情、敏銳及創造力的階段，我們這一代青年有幸親身經歷澳門這個歷史性轉變，從這個意義上說，我們更應對國家和澳門社會多盡義務，多作承擔，以無負於這個大時代。

青年人有責任加深對澳門、國家和世界的認識和了解，努力把自己鍛鍊成為有理想抱負、敢承擔、有責任感及有創造活力的社會精英分子。要實現上述的目標，在知識經濟、科教興國的年代裡，我們需要孜孜不倦地學習，力爭與時代並進，使自身具備廣博的知識基礎、獨

立的思考能力及良好的社群人際關係。同時，我們應重視中國傳統優良的價值觀。應用新思維與發揚優良傳統兩者並不矛盾，新思維正是在吸取前人經驗的有益養分的基礎上建立起來的。當然，傳統經驗是我們前進的起點而非終結，與時俱進應是青年朋友繼續成長的座右銘。另一方面，青年人亦應有廣闊的胸懷，謙遜的態度，遠大的志向，避免落入自我膨脹或以自我為中心的黑洞，多關心澳門及祖國的發展，加深認識澳門回歸的重大意義，勇於接受挑戰，積極為澳門回歸和愛澳建澳多做實事。

在某些時候，一些青年人或許有懷才不遇，鬱鬱不得志的際遇，甚至所提出的合理意見得不到別人重視、認同及接受，但千萬不要因此而氣餒以至消沉下去。青年人應該把困難、挫折視為磨鍊自己的好機會，憑著百折不撓的堅毅意志，定可最終突破困阻。要把澳門建設好，確實需要一大批有理念、有勇氣、肯實幹、肯承擔的青年人。能夠經受困難、挫折考驗的青年人，將有機會成為社會未來的棟樑。

參與社會工作的青年人，當然要盡力肩負起其社會責任，關心和服務所屬社群，注意團結及推動身邊的青年朋友積極關心和參與澳門回歸以及澳人治澳的各項準備工作。同時，應注意增強青年社團關心社會、服務社會的功能，努力促進青年社團之間的相互協作與溝通，逐步提升參與社會事務的層次，爭取為澳門未來發展多作思考及出謀劃策，以積極投入的態度議事論政，充分發揮社會輿論的監督作用。

目前澳門在職的公務員許多是年青的一輩，隨著澳門特別行政區的成立，澳人治澳的管治職責有相當的一部分就是由這批年青公務員承擔起來，年青公務員必須擁有敬業樂業、持續學習、積極進取的精神，在各自的工作崗位上從我做起，努力確立廉潔奉公、敢於負責、辦事勤快及尊重民意的良好形象。

由於澳門基本法的保障，決定留澳生活和工作的葡裔青年朋友依然有發展的空間和機會，關鍵在於能否融入大眾，努力提升自身的能力

和水平。目前，一些葡裔青年朋友正在加緊學習，包括提升雙語能力和專業水平。他們現在的勤奮耕耘，他朝定能結出豐碩的成果。

誠然，主觀的努力還需要客觀環境的配合，為了幫助青年人在澳門後過渡期和回歸以後更好地發揮作用，確實需要整個社會給予更多的

關心和支持，讓青年人對自己和社會作出更大的承擔。一個開放的、能夠提供公平參與的社會，有助於促使青年人潛能的發揮；青年朋友的積極參與、自強不息，反過來亦將促進社會的開放和發展。

本人堅信，儘管澳門在回歸前後都將會遇上

不少的困難和挑戰，但只要澳門社會各界對未來抱有堅定的信心，實事求是，無懼困難與挑戰，同心協力，共同承擔創造澳門的未來，使“澳人治澳”在澳門得到貫徹和落實，澳門的前途一定是光明和美好的。

（作者為本中心會長）

深化思考層次 迎接美好未來

——基本法頒佈五周年感言

楊允中

一、一部令澳門歷史改寫的根本大法

a. 《澳門基本法》正式頒佈至今已整整五年，這既是深入推過渡期事務的五年又是逐漸向平穩過渡目標拉近的五年；既是全澳居民回歸意識逐步提高的五年，又是澳門受到前所未有的全面關注的五年。

b. 在距“九九”回歸僅餘六百多個日日夜夜、在推介基本法和促進過渡期事務同基本法相銜接已取得巨大進展情況下，深入探討一下如何盡速作好回歸的各項準備工作，進一步提升基本法意識和回歸意識，對確保高指標地實現平穩過渡目標，是具有必要性和迫切性的。

二、後過渡期各領域有待著重關注方方面面

- a. 經濟回升乏力，失業和就業不足率上升，中下階層生活素質下降，影響對前景的信心。
- b. 鄰近地區繼續偏離澳門，偏離區域合作、優勢互補原則，澳門面對來自內外兩個方向的壓力。
- c. 社會治安繼續失控或時好時壞，對外形象繼續受損構成對平穩過渡目標的威脅。
- d. 公務員本地化不到位，或質量與數量要求嚴重偏離，優選優化原則被扭曲，對未來特別行政區正常運作構成影響。
- e. 各施其謀、各顯神通的權錢交易繼續流行，社會是非標準繼續被扭曲。
- f. 科技立區、人才立區的觀念不能及時建立，令特別行政區難以高起點啟步。

三、寄厚望於特區籌委會

- a. 除基本法已規定的籌組特別行政區的三項直接任務外，籌委會應不失時機地就澳門社會面對的主要問題進行盡可能充分的論證，為特區正式啟步創造必要條件。
- b. 應通過各種渠道建立協助籌委會工作的諮詢系統，同時發動有條件的社團、機構建立後過渡期事務關注小組或回歸關注小組，群策群力，全方位參與，令各界居民進行一次前所未有的回歸意識的洗禮。
- c. 要加大對專業界，土生人士，宗教，公務員等特殊層面發動、團結、支持、鼓勵的力度。
- d. 對基本法已作規定，但社會現實屬另外一種情況的領域進行重點研究，並提出妥善銜接方案。

四、對未來發展思路的幾點思考

- a. 通過周密系統論證合理地解決澳門定位，不僅全澳居民要解決好，全國各地各級人士也要解決好。在確定澳門發展的定位座標時，應注意堅持強而不在大，堅持精而不在於多，堅持質而不在於量。
- b. 適應形勢發展需要及時組建效益得以系統

發揮的若干新型社團，並力求在堅持多元化和公平競爭下產生系統效應。

- c. 盡快通過政策引導促進社會結構的完善、優化，達至公開公平公正，合法合理合情，民意民主民導。
- d. 提倡開放性、兼容性，營造令每一社會成員都有合理生存空間，都有表達各種意願，訴求的機會。
- e. 提倡社會知識化和各級管理人員專業化，擴大專業人士的覆蓋面，提倡人才開發的精英化。
- f. 在各領域普遍提倡競爭機制與制衡機制，不埋沒人才，不浪費機遇。
- g. 要制定跨世紀的發展規劃並及時修訂完善，自由市場經濟與放任自流、管理低能不可以劃等號。

五、迎接美好明天

a. 澳門四百多年發展史上最大的一次轉變即將發生，這既是歷史演進的必然，又是走向新時代、開創新模式的需要。有“一國兩制”偉大構想的保障，有基本法各項原則性規定的保證，澳門明天的更大發展和繁榮是確定無疑的。在跨越“九九”和跨入21世紀的關鍵時刻，要堅持的一個不可動搖的信念是，歷史選中了澳門，使之可以在世紀之交的中國和世界大舞台上扮演一個極為突出的角色。

b. 總之澳門經濟基礎不算穩固，但獨具優勢；其產業結構有欠合理，但具較高適應性；其作用有限，但地位不可被取代；其面對的制約不少，但前景光明。澳門將迎來一個“一國兩制”偉大構想指導下的高度自治、澳人治澳的全新社會運行模式，同時也將開拓一個令各種社會因素和生產要素得以充分發揮、社會結構合理化程度得以不斷提高的嶄新時代。

（作者為本中心監事長）

建立一個高效率、有廣泛代表性和精英性相結合的特區籌委會

蕭志偉

基於澳門籌委會成立在即，而籌委會的組成將使籌組澳門特區政府工作進入實質性階段，對澳門的未來發展有著重要的啟導作用，所以我想在這里談談成立籌委會的問題。

我們近期在報導上看到了澳門各界人士紛紛表達對澳門籌委會能盡早成立的願望，對即將成立的籌委會有著相當高的期望值。特別是錢其琛副總理、王啟人社長及馬萬祺副主席在人大政協會議期間曾先後表示澳門籌委會在短期內將告成立，並會公佈籌委成員名單。在談澳門籌委會之前，我想先談談香港籌委會的成立。由於中英雙方在香港問題的爭拗，在雙方出現了較大分歧的前提下，故有預委會的成立，從93年7月起工作了兩年多時間，其中工作的重點是如何能夠保持香港平穩過渡，以及穩定港人和外商的信心，使他們繼續留港和在港進行投資，為香港籌委會的成立打下了良好的基礎。接著，香港籌委會於96年1月成立，並由推委選出眾望所歸的特別行政區行政長官。無論預委會或籌委會，均出色地完成了各項回歸事務的準備工作及穩定香港的任務，為特區政府的成立，港人治港的順利貫徹落實開了一個好頭。

對澳門來說，中葡的關係總的來說是友好的，雙方在有關澳門問題上的談判基本上是在融洽的氣氛下進行。從表面上看，澳門大部分商人不擔心因澳門的回歸而影響他們的商業活動，而澳門的外商並不多，所以在香港的問題好象在澳門不存在。那麼，澳門的問題是不是很容易就能順利解決？我可以肯定的說不可能。因為澳門存在了以下三方面的問題：

一、公務員的管理制度問題

目前，澳門行政系統由於在工作流程重疊及運轉不協調形成包括機構臃腫、公務員隊伍龐大、部門之間職責重迭不協調、行政效率較低、有貪污受賄現象、高級公務員本地化進程慢等等問題。這些問題已影響到外來投資、經濟發展及社會治安各個領域，成為澳門開拓新政治經濟局面的障礙因素。因此，澳門籌委會的當務之急是要研究政府架構的改革和公務員素質的提升。高級公務員的挑選，既不能操之過急，更不能安於現狀，這是籌委會面臨的一項相當艱巨的任務。

籌委會應制定一套供特區政府參考的政府架

構改革方案，分階段按循序漸進方式推進。中葡聯絡小組中方代表應加強與葡方的商討，將公務員本地化問題作為談判中的重要問題，為將來特區政府架構改革打好基礎。

由於澳門的公務員以往都是以葡人為數，而華人只是佔少數。在臨近澳門回歸的近幾年，政府的各部門開始吸納本地華人，讓他們擔任一些中高層職位。但一些重要部門如財政司、貨幣匯兌暨監理署、保安司、司警、水警、情報科等，本地華人仍未進入最高決策層。在政權移交只剩一年多的情況下，如要真正實現公務員本地化，並使政府架構有效、正常的連續運作，籌委會要迅速制訂一套方案來協助葡方加快解決公務員本地化問題。

二、現存的法律跟澳門發展不相適應

自十七世紀以來的200多年，澳門處於葡萄牙統治下，澳門的法律也沿用葡萄牙的法律制度。所有的決策者都是葡人，葡式法律一直沿用不變。即使在本世紀七十、八十年代，澳門的經濟迅速發展，澳門政府也沒有因經濟發展需要而修改那些不合理的法律制度，而一些在葡國已修改的法律，澳門仍在引用。這種情況阻礙了澳門經濟發展的步伐。一個地區經濟發展的好壞，與該地區的法律制度有關，要發展經濟，就必須有適應現代經濟發展的法律來配合輔助，兩者是緊密相連的。事實上，澳門長期存在著現存法律與經濟發展不相適應的問題。因此，除了要把現有的葡國法律翻譯成中文外，急需的是要因應環境變化進行修訂，制定適合現代澳門發展的法律。

三、經濟的發展過於倚靠旅遊博彩業

澳門經濟發展目前主要是靠旅遊博彩業為主，澳門每年的庫房收入總額中，博彩專營稅已佔了一半左右。近五年來，經濟出現下滑，澳門的出口加工業不斷萎縮，鄰近澳門的珠江三角洲較快的擁有發展工業優厚的條件即廉價的勞力和廠房，因此澳門的大部分廠商已把廠房搬移到中國內地，只剩下少數留在本澳。與此同時，其他新興行業的發展無法取代不斷下滑的出口加工業和近幾年來一直處於低谷的地產建築業，形成澳門依靠旅遊博彩業來帶動整體經濟發展的局面。

亞洲金融風暴發生後，暴露了不少東南亞國家對經濟管理不善，產業基礎脆弱的問題，與

此同時，也顯現了港澳“炒賣經濟”及純商業服務型經濟，易受外部環境影響而起落很大的弊端。就在澳門停步不前的時候，台灣及新加坡由於對高增值及以科技為基礎的產業起步很早，在政府產業政策有力的引導下發展很快，其後續競爭力現已比香港優勝，澳門暫時尚未有可以比較的條件。從澳門的長遠和整體利益考慮，澳門必須有清晰的發展定位，並有需要制定整體產業策略性的發展規劃。

目前，距離澳門回歸不到一年九個月，為實現平穩過渡、“澳人治澳”，有許多政治、經濟、法律、社會等問題急待解決，大量的準備工作必須動手去做。在時間緊迫、任務繁重，對澳門回歸的各項準備工作基礎相對薄弱，以及研究工作滯後的情況下，加上澳門回歸過程中的各項問題，如經濟問題、治安問題、公務員問題等日見複雜，要妥善解決這些問題難度不小。要確保特區政府籌組工作順利進行，在籌委會的組成問題上一定要方向正確，引導得力，必須要廣納本澳各方精英及專業人士的意見，以澳門過渡後的長期穩定發展為大前提，發揮實幹精神，為籌委會之組成出謀劃策，不失時機、有序、按時完成歷史賦予的神聖使命——為籌組成一個經得起歷史考驗的高效率、精英化及專業化的澳人治澳、高度自治的特区政府架構而努力。

考慮以上種種因素，個人認為籌委會並不是名譽或權力架構，實際上完全是一個工作架構。作為籌委會成員，必須是富有使命感及責任感，並實實在在肯為澳門作出承擔和貢獻的社會精英。故此，一方面籌委會成員要有各界的廣泛代表性，另方面籌委會也要有一批實幹的專業化的精英分子參加。只有這樣，才能適應未來特區籌組工作繁重任務的需要，並啟導澳門特區的未來命運。所以籌委會的成員愈是有一些有魄力、有見識的人士參與，才愈能體現澳門特區籌委會的廣泛代表性、兼容性和精英性相互結合的特徵，才能有助發揮澳門獨特的優勢和國際都市的功能，有利加強澳門與國際之間的聯繫。因此，在籌委會的組成過程中，有能力、有專長、肯承擔的人士按理是不應被忽視的。一個具有廣泛代表性，同時又具有高效率的籌委會，將對澳門特區政府的未來工作開展奠定一個良好的基礎。

關注澳門回歸事務 為平穩過渡獻策出力

劉本立

現在距離澳門回歸只剩下一年零八個月的時間，標誌着澳門過渡期已進入了最後的階段，相信澳門特區籌委會亦將於短期內便會正式成立。澳門特區籌委會的成立，是落實按照基本法憲制性法律籌組首屆特區政府的必經階段，這亦是後過渡期其中一項極為重要的工作。籌委會的主要任務是專責籌備成立特區的有關事宜，包括首屆特區政府、司法機關和立法會的具體產生辦法，並要籌組由澳門永久居民組成的推選委員會，推選特區首任行政長官，還有回歸慶典的籌備事宜。

最近在北京召開九屆人大、政協會議上，從各方面報導中都可以反映出國家對澳門回歸的高度重視，並把澳門的回歸看作為國家在本世紀將要完成的另一國家盛事。個人認為，繼香港的回歸，澳門回歸將發揮“承上啟下”的作用，這亦成為祖國統一大業必須處理好的及相

當重要的一個環節。隨著籌委會的成立，澳門為迎接回歸前的各項準備工作將會全面加速進行，一般認為籌委會的實際工作時間只有年半多一點，時間相當緊迫，面對當前澳門經濟持續放緩，治安環境欠佳，“三化”問題解決進度尚有距離，尤其是“三化”質量問題更令人有所擔憂，公務員架構職責重疊、運作不協調、行政效率低下、法治監督規範不嚴等問題累積嚴重，現時中葡雙語在行政領域“雙軌並行”的不適應性，有可能使政府的運作效率進一步下降。因此，籌委會成立後需要處理各項回歸事務是相當繁重和艱巨的。

要想使“一國兩制”的方針在澳門得到貫徹落實，籌委會的工作成效如何，對未來澳門特區的起步以至長遠發展影響巨大，社會各界人士普遍認為這是能否推動澳門進入一個發展新時期的關鍵契機。事實上，基本法只提供了總法制的框架，在執行的過程中，必須把基本法原則性的規定與澳門實際情況緊密融匯在一起，制定出更為詳細的法律規範及具體細則，籌委會必須按照基本法有關籌組特區政府指令性條文進行籌組工作。

目前澳門社會各界人士對即將成立的籌委會期望甚高，認為籌委會未來工作進展情況如何，將直接關係到“九九”能否順利回歸以及“澳人治澳”、“一國兩制”的方針政策能否順利在澳門貫徹實施。據消息報導，澳門籌委會很可能會於四月下旬至五月上旬期間宣告成立，儘管籌委會的澳方成員將超過半數，但澳門各界人士能直接參與籌委會工作的人數畢竟不多，故社會各界人士均希望籌委會成員既要具有代表性，也要注意平衡性，不應過於偏重某一界別，以廣泛吸納社會各個階層不同意見；與此同時，實幹性、專業化、知識化、年輕化亦是籌委人選考慮的重要前提。來自社會基層人士更指出，不應把澳門特區籌委會看做一個名譽組織，籌委會應是一個為籌組特區政府進行實質運作的工作架構，故參與籌委會工作的成員必須有肯為社會服務獻身的精神，全力以赴投入有關的工作。只有這樣，才能籌組成

一個具代表性、包容性、實幹性、高質素、高效率及公信力的籌委會。三月底國務院港澳辦陳滋英副主任曾明確表示，澳門籌委會一定會具有廣泛代表性，既是權力機構，又是工作機構，其運作一定符合民主原則，面向和依靠澳門居民，並具有應有的透明度。

對於將來未能直接參與籌委會工作的社會團體及社會人士，個人意見認為，可考慮設立回歸關注小組或籌委會工作關注小組，關心澳門回歸事務，支持、配合、監督籌委會做好回歸前各項準備工作。

有一點需要強調，根據澳門社會的特點，有關方面要注意發揮好傳媒輿論及社會民眾對籌委會運作及籌委成員工作應有的監督作用；另一方面，籌委會也需要設法廣泛調動全社會參與的積極性，注意加強與社會上各社團、研究機構建立密切聯繫，廣泛聽取、諮詢澳門各界人士的意見，這將有助於促使籌委會能有序按時並以高質量完成其歷史所賦予的重任。

對澳門社會而言，這是一個非常難得的推廣普及公民教育的好機會，並有助藉此強化澳門人當家作主、自強不息的意識。我們與其繼續自怨自艾或諉過別人，倒不如同心協力，實事求是，埋頭苦幹，努力克服及解決澳門回歸過程所遇到的各種困難和問題，勇於接受“澳人治澳”新時代的考驗。

“澳門發展策略研究中心”和其他社會團體、社會人士一樣，非常關心籌委會的成立和未來工作的開展，中心將本着高度的使命感和責任感，關心澳門回歸事務，并就如何達致平穩過渡的各項相關問題進行深入研究，發揮公眾智囊的作用，中心還將致力加強與本地及鄰近周邊地區研究機構的研究協作和互補，力求群策群力，集思廣益，為澳門社會未來發展提供有益的建議和意見，努力使有關研究可以達致多元性、前瞻性、包容性和務實性，為澳門順利回歸和平穩過渡，為“一國兩制”在澳門的成功實踐獻策出力。

(作者為本中心副會長兼行政總監)

編者語

《發展策略》是由“澳門發展策略研究中心”出版的不定期會刊。本中心將透過這份刊物向會員和朋友們介紹中心的近期動態，發表中心的部份研究成果和會員的論文，藉此啟發爭鳴，共同提高學術研究水平，同時，亦希望朋友們對於本中心工作上的不足之處，予以批評指正。

作為一個非牟利的民間研究機構，本中心以積極擁護澳門基本法，致力參與“一國兩制”的實踐為宗旨。我們希望以理性、客觀、持平的態度開展澳門發展策略的研究，從而達到推動澳門整體社會良性發展的目的。本中心的發展定位是，立足澳門，建設未來，扮演公眾智囊的角色，以服務整體社會為己任。我們認為，兼容開放的原則是符合澳門現代社會多元化的發展方向，因此，我們日後的研

究工作及本刊的出版方向，將努力貫徹此一原則。

澳門目前正進入後過渡期的最後階段，距離澳門回歸的日子只剩下六百多天，由於中葡雙方的合作，政治層面大致平穩。然而，“三化”問題的進展和經濟、治安的現況均是強差人意，澳門居民均希望在各方面的共同努力下，能切實把澳門的後過渡期工作做好，實現平穩過渡。當中，各界市民關注的焦點均集中於即將成立的“澳門特別行政區籌委會”，希望“籌委會”能發揮應有功能，引領澳門順利過渡九九。而本中心部份成員近期亦分別在不同的場合，就有關“籌委會”的組成及日後工作的開展等問題，發表了意見。在首期會刊裏，我們選取了其中幾位會員的有關發言，希望進一步促進各界人士的關注。由於編者的水平所限，或有錯謬之處，謹請讀者原諒，更期望大家對本刊提出寶貴意見。

Be Aggressive to Carve Out the Future

Leong Vai Tac, President of C.P.E.D.M.

On July 1 last year, Hong Kong returned to the motherland and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) was established. Thanks to the enforcement of the Basic Law of the HKSAR, the "one country, two systems" policy is being carried out successfully, which is a shining example to look up to. Macao's return to the motherland is the second step in her great reunification cause, which will serve as a link between the past and the future, give a demonstration to Taiwan and the world and be of great significance. Although Macao is a small place, the motherland puts a high value on her return. In my opinion, if the hand-over turns out to be a success and the principles of "one country, two systems" and "Macao people ruling Macao" are well observed, it will fully support people's confidence in "one country, two systems" and be a great step forward in the process of the motherland's peaceful reunification.

Deliberation on the future social pattern of Macao

According to the Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region (MSAR), Macao will maintain its capitalist system and way of life for 50 years. At the same time, the MSAR will enjoy a high degree of autonomy under the principle of "Macao people ruling Macao". This is a guarantee of Macao's continuous stability by law. As mentioned above, because of the enforcement of the Basic Law of the HKSAR, Hong Kong has been able to bear the severe test of the Asian financial turmoil and maintain the social stability. Therefore, to achieve a smooth transition and ensure the proper implementation of the Basic Law of the MSAR, obviously it is necessary to make earnest efforts to promote the Basic Law. I wish to emphasize that a smooth transition is what all Macao residents expect. Nevertheless, a smooth transition does not mean self-contentedness, inactiveness or willingness to lag behind. In view of the realities of Macao, it is practical to attain stability through development. I believe that the stability combined with an unfavorable economy and poor public security is not what local people want. On the other hand, the 21st century will be an era of globalized competition for the world economy. If Macao does not forge ahead, it will be driven back, just like a boat sailing against the current. So we have to free ourselves from the conventional ideology and replan Macao's future. If Macao is going to become a better place to live, it is necessary to reform the social structure and create a good living and investment environment where we enjoy pluralism, the rule of law, equal opportunities and fair competition.

Many people hold the view that the Macao society is not so open and pluralistic that there is little room for different opinions and there are not mechanisms for equal opportunities, check and balance, and fair competition. It has been proved that social advancement is made by the interaction of different forces so it is normal and healthy that there are

different views. An open society should provide equal opportunities for different groups so that people from different fields and classes can give full play to their talents, everyone has an opportunity to succeed through his or her own strenuous efforts thus contributing to social progress. Accordingly, we should carefully consider the analysis and optimization of the social structure in the future. The transformation of a social structure is a extremely complicated systems engineering but many of Macao's economic and social problems that have long existed and remained unsolved can be traced back to the social system. To speed up social progress and advancement and to adapt to a new era of "Macao people ruling Macao", we have to make every effort to set up a mechanism for competition and a mechanism for check and balance. **Young people should commit themselves more and play a more important role**

There are about 600 days to Macao's return to her motherland to which the Chinese people and local residents from all walks of life are looking forward longingly. The return will mean Macao's entrance into a new era of "Macao people ruling Macao" and provide a favourable opportunity to optimize her social structure. It will mark a great milestone in the history of Macao and have far-reaching influence on us everyone, especially young people. As Chinese people, we are greatly proud of and encouraged by the recovery of Macao and as the same time, we are aware of our immense responsibilities in the great historic change. Youth is a phase in life in which one is most enthusiastic, sharp-witted and creative. The youth of today have the honour of witnessing Macao's historic change. In this sense, we young people should work hard to fulfill our obligations and commit ourselves more so that we will not be unworthy of this great era.

The youth should have a deeper understanding of Macao, the nation and the world and steel themselves to be the elite who are ambitious, committed, responsible and creative. To attain this goal, in the age of strengthening our country by developing science and education, we have to learn diligently, go parallel with time and equip ourselves with comprehensive knowledge, independent thinking and good interpersonal skills. As the same time, we should appreciate the fine traditional Chinese values. There is no contradiction between the application of new thoughts and the upholding of fine traditions. New thoughts are nourished by the forerunners' experience. Tradition is where we start, not where we end so "go parallel with time" should be the motto of young people to grow up. On the other hand, young people should be broad-minded, modest and aspiring so as to avoid falling into the trap of self-importance or self-centredness. They should give more concern to the development of Macao and the motherland, be better aware of the significance of the recovery of Macao, be brave in accepting challenges and work

pragmatically for the recovery and betterment of Macao.

Some young people have not been able to achieve their ambitions because they have not had the opportunities to make use of their talents or there are some whose ideas are not appreciated, recognized or accepted. This can never be the reason to become dejected or depressed. Young people should treat difficulties and set-backs as opportunities to steel themselves. With an indomitable will, one can overcome difficulties and obstacles. To build up a better Macao, a large number of young people who are determined, courageous, committed, and willing to work pragmatically are needed. Those who can stand the test of difficulties and set-backs will have an opportunity to become pillars of the community.

The young people engaged in social work should certainly shoulder their responsibilities, devote themselves to serving the community. They should encourage other young people around them to support and participate in every task in preparation for the hand-over and "Macao people ruling Macao". Moreover, the function of youth organizations to support and serve the community should be strengthened; the cooperation and communication between these organizations should be enhanced; their participation in social affairs should be raised gradually to a higher level. In this way, young people can supply ideas for Macao's future development and actively take part in discussions of public and political affairs so as to give free rein to the supervisory function of public opinion.

Many of the civil servants in Macao are young people. Along with the establishment of the MSAR, many duties of the administration of "Macao people ruling Macao" will be performed by these young civil servants. They should pursue their career with devotion, be persistent in learning, work hard to advance themselves and build up an incorrupt, responsible, efficient and democratic image of the government.

As guaranteed by the Basic Law of MSAR, the young local Portuguese who are to continue to live and work in Macao will have room and opportunities for their success which is entirely depending on their own ability. Today, some of them are studying hard to improve, among others, their bilingual and professional skills. Their efforts will pay off handsomely in the future.

It is true that subjective efforts need the support of objective conditions. In order to help young people to play a more important role in the late transitional period and after the hand-over, the community as a whole has to give more concern and support to them so that they can commit themselves more to the community. A community which is open and able to offer equal opportunities will better develop the potential of young people while the initiative and self-improvement of young people will contribute to the openness and development of the community.

I strongly believe that although there are considerable difficulties and challenges before and after the hand-over, Macao will have a brilliant and prosperous future if local people from all walks of life have unshakable confidence, face up to the difficulties and challenges with courage, and join hands to implement "Macao people ruling Macao".

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To Set Up a Preparatory Committee of High Efficiency, Large Representation and the Elite

Siu Chi Wai, Director of C.P.E.D.M.

As the Preparatory Committee for the Macao Special Administrative Region (MSAR) is to be set up, which will mark the start of concrete work to establish the MSAR government and help to shape the future of Macao, I wish to discuss the issue of the Preparatory Committee.

As we have learned from the press, people from all walks of life in Macao have expressed their hope that the Preparatory Committee should be set up as soon as possible and they have high expectations of it. During the sessions of the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Vice Premier Qian Qichen, Director Wang Qiren and Vice Chairman Ma Man Kei disclosed respectively that in a short time the Committee will be formed and the names of the members will be announced. Before I discuss the Preparatory Committee for MSAR, I wish to talk about the Preparatory Committee for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR). The row over the question of Hong Kong between China and Britain resulted in the establishment of a Preparatory Working Committee (PWC) when the two countries had so many differences. Starting from July, 1993, the PWC worked for more than two years with its main tasks being to ensure a smooth transition of Hong Kong, to maintain the confidence of local residents and foreign investors in order that they would continue to stay and invest in Hong Kong, and to lay a good foundation for the formation of the Preparatory Committee for the HKSAR.

Later, the Preparatory Committee for the HKSAR was set up in January, 1996 and a Chief Executive who enjoyed popular confidence was elected by the Election Committee. Both the PWC and the Preparatory Committee accomplished satisfactorily every task in preparation for the hand-over and to maintain the stability of Hong Kong thus giving a favourable beginning to the HKSAR and the implementation of "Hong Kong people ruling Hong Kong".

As to Macao, generally speaking, the relationship between China and Portugal has been good and negotiations for the question of Macao have been conducted in a harmonious atmosphere. Superficially, most businessmen in Macao do not worry that their business activities will be affected by the hand-over. Because there are not many foreign investors in Macao, it seems that Macao does not have the problems that Hong Kong once had. Are the problems in Macao can be easily solved then? Definitely no. Macao has three hard nuts to crack:

1. Civil service

With overlapping work processes, the current public administration system is not functioning so well, which results in problems such as overstaffed government departments with overlapping responsibilities, low efficiency, corruption, a slow process of localization of high-ranking officials, etc. These problems have affected foreign investment, economic development and public safety and prevented Macao from making a new breakthrough in politics and economy. Therefore, a task of top priority of the Preparatory Committee for MSAR is to study government restructuring and ways to improve the quality of civil servants.

Another task of the Committee is the selection of high-ranking officials, which can neither be done in haste nor left out.

The Committee should prepare a proposal to the future MSAR government for streamlining of the government which can be carried out by stages. Chinese representatives in the Sino-Portuguese Joint Liaison Group should have more discussions with the Portuguese side with localization of civil servants as an important item on the agenda so as to lay a good foundation for the streamlining.

In the past, as the Portuguese dominated the civil service, only a small number of civil servants were Chinese. The public administration has recruited more local Chinese and let them to fill middle and high positions in recent years when the hand-over is drawing near. However, in such departments as Finance, Monetary Authority, Security, Judicial Police, Marine Police, etc., local Chinese have not been able to enter the top decision-making leadership. In less than two years time to the hand-over, if the localization of civil servants is to be virtually achieved and the government is to keep on operating normally and effectively, the Preparatory Committee has to draw up a plan for the Portuguese side to speed up the localization.

2. The existing laws do not fit in with Macao's development

As Portugal has ruled Macao since the 17th century, Macao has adopted the Portuguese legal system. With all the decision-makers being Portuguese, Portuguese laws have long been used. Even in the 1970s and 1980s when the territory's economy was developing rapidly, the Macao government did not revise the laws that were not suitable for economic development. Macao is still using some laws that have already been altered in Portugal. This has impeded the territory's economic development. The economic development of a region links closely with its laws. To boost up the economy, there must be laws that fit in with modern economic progress. In fact, for a long time, there has been the problem that the existing laws do not go well with economic development. Therefore, the existing Portuguese laws not only have to be translated into Chinese, but also have to be altered, as a matter of urgency, to adapt for changes in the environment and the territory's development in the modern age.

3. The economy relies largely on the tourism-gambling industry

Currently, the Macao economy relies largely on the tourism-gambling industry; half of the public revenue comes from gambling franchise tax. For the past five years, the economy has been slowing down and the processing and manufacturing industries have been shrinking. As the neighbouring Pearl River Delta has great advantages for developing industry: cheap labour and factory buildings, most factories in Macao have been moved to the inland China and only a small number of them remains. At the same time, the newly emerged industries have not been able to take the places of the ever shrinking processing and manufacturing industries, and the construction and real estate industries which have been at a low ebb for several years. As a result, Macao depends on the tourism-gambling

industry to push its economy forward.

The Asian financial turmoil unveiled problems of the Southeast countries in economic management and the fragility of their industrial foundations. At the same time, it revealed the weakness of the economies of Hong Kong and Macao characterized by speculation and pure commercial service — they will go up and down quickly because of the external environment. When Macao came to a standstill, Taiwan and Singapore, under the competent guidance of their governments' industrial policies, made one step ahead in developing high value-added industries supported by science and technology and achieved rapid growth. Today, they are more competitive than Hong Kong. Macao simply cannot compare with them for the time being. In view of its long-term and comprehensive interests, Macao has to position itself clearly and needs to do overall strategic planning for industrial development.

To date, there are one year and nine months to the hand-over. For a smooth transition and "Macao people ruling Macao", there are many political, economic, legal and social issues that need immediate attention; there are many preparations to make. It is not an easy job to settle these issues when time is pressing, the tasks are arduous, preparation for the hand-over is not adequate, no relevant studies have been completed and complicated problems concerning the economy, public safety and civil service are rising out during the run-up the hand-over. To ensure the successful creation of the MSAR government, the Preparatory Committee must be formed under competent direction. In view of Macao's long-term stability and development after the hand-over, the elite and professionals in the territory who are pragmatic and can offer advice should be consulted regarding the Composition of the Committee. In this way, the Committee will be able to accomplish the historical sacred mission in time and in good order — to establish an efficient, elite and professional MSAR government of "Macao people ruling Macao" and high autonomy that can stand the test of history.

Considering the above-mentioned factors, I think the Preparatory Committee is a working body instead of a honorary body or a body of power. A member of the committee must be an elite who has a sense of mission and responsibility and is willing to make commitments and contributions. Therefore, on the one hand the Committee should have a large representation, on the other hand it should include a certain members who are pragmatic and professional elite. Only in this way, can the Committee complete the great deal of work to set up the future MSAR and to open up prospects for it. The more experienced and knowledgeable people with plenty of guts are in the Committee, the more representative and compatible the committee will be. This will enable Macao take its advantages and to function as an international city. In the process of forming the Committee, competent people, specialists and those willing to commit themselves should not be ignored. A Preparatory Committee of large representation and high efficiency will lay down a sound foundation for the future MSAR government.

Think Deeper for a Bright Future

leong Wan Chong, Chairman of Supervisory Committee, C.P.E.D.M.

I. An underlying law making a change in the history of Macao

a. The Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region was promulgated five years ago. For the five years, transitional affairs have been vigorously pushed ahead, Macao has been moving towards a smooth transition, local residents have been more and more aware of the recovery and there has been the most concern than ever to all aspects of Macao.

b. There are fewer than 700 days and nights to the recovery of Macao. When great achievements in promoting the Basic Law and arrangement for things to be in conformity with the Basic Law have been made, it is urgent and necessary to discuss how to complete tasks in preparation for the hand-over and people's awareness of the Basic Law and the hand-over in order to attain the goal of smooth transition.

II. Problems in different fields needing special attention in the late transitional period

a. There is a lack of strength for the economy to recover; unemployment and underemployment are increasing; the living standard of the middle and lower classes is declining. As a result, people's confidence in the future is undermined.

b. Neighbouring regions continue to diverge from Macao and deviate from the principles of regional cooperation and mutual benefit; Macao is under pressure from both the inside and outside.

c. Crime and violence remain uncontrolled; public security condition is unstable; Macao's image is being damaged. This threatens the smooth transition.

d. Localization of civil servants has not been completed; quality and quantity are far from satisfactory; the principle of optimization have been twisted. This will affect the operation of the future MSAR government.

e. Corruption in various forms still prevails; the

criterion for judging the good and the bad has been twisted.

f. The idea of boosting the region through science, technology and talented people has not been adopted; the future MSAR will not be established on a sound foundation.

III. Great expectations of the Preparation Committee

a. Apart from accomplishing the three missions stated in the Basic Law, the Preparation Committee should make a thorough study of the main problems encounter the Macao community so as to offer essential conditions for the MSAR to start.

b. To set up an advisory system through different channels; at the same time, social organizations should be encouraged to form groups in concern with affairs in the late transitional period so as to make joint efforts to arouse local people's awareness of the recovery in the largest scale.

c. Give more support and encouragement to such special groups as the professional, the local Portuguese, the religious, the civil service in order to make a united effort.

d. To concentrate on the study of actual situations that is not in accordance with the Basic Law so as to put forward proposals for solving the problems.

IV. Views on the future development

a. To make a careful and systematic study of the positioning of Macao which is not only a matter of the local people but a matter of the Chinese people of different classes in different parts of the country. Efficiency, Effectiveness and quality should be emphasized during the process of positioning Macao for future development.

b. New social organizations should be set up timely to play their roles effectively in an environment of compatibility and fair competition.

c. To promote the optimization of the social structure under the guidance of the administration so that it will be open, fair, just, rational and to the will and interest of the people.

d. To create an open and compatible environment for every member of the community to develop and express his or her own opinion and appeal.

e. To advocate social intellectualization and professionalization of administrators at different levels, widen the coverage of professionals and promote elitism.

f. To build up mechanisms for fair competition and for check and balance in different sectors so as not to waste talents and opportunities.

g. To draw up a plan for cross-century development and adjust it as time goes. Market economy does not mean noninterference or poor management.

V. Looking forward to a bright future

a. The greatest change in Macao's history of more than 400 years is about to take place. It is the inevitable in historical development and a necessity for Macao to enter a new era to develop in a new pattern. With the great invention of "one country, two systems" and the guarantee by the Basic Law, Macao will certainly have a future of greater development and prosperity. At the important moment when we are striding towards 1999 and the 21st century, we have to hold a firm belief that the history has chosen Macao to play a prominent role on the great stages of China and the world at the turn of the century.

b. To sum up, the Macao economy does not have a good foundation but has its unique advantages; its industrial structure is not rational enough but is of comparatively higher adaptability; the economy may not be of great significance but is not replaceable; it is restricted by many factors but its future is optimistic. Macao welcomes in a new social pattern for it to operate and enter a new era in which all its components are given full play and its structure will ever improve, under the direction of "one country, two systems" and "Macao people ruling Macao".

BE CONCERNED ABOUT MACAO'S REVERSION AND CONTRIBUTE TO ITS SMOOTH TRANSITION

Lao Pun Lap, Vice President and Executive Director of C.P.E.D.M.

As of now, there are only eighteen months to go before Macao's reversion to the Motherland, which means that Macao's transition has entered the final phase. It is believed that the Preliminary Committee for the Macao SAR will soon be declared established, which is a necessary, unavoidable operational step towards the founding of the first SAR government by virtue of the constitutional Basic Law, a task of extreme import during the final phase of transition. The mission of the Committee is to take care of all that is involved in the institutional formation of the SAR, including devising the methods by which the first SAR

government, the judicial and the legislative institutions are to be generated. It will also undertake to form an Election Committee of permanent residents of Macao, so as to elect the first Chief Executive of the SAR, and in addition, to prepare for the Hand-over Ceremony.

Media reports on the Ninth National People's Congress and sessions of the Political Consultative Conference recently held in Beijing show that the state bestows very high priority on Macao's reversion to the motherland, and takes this reversion as yet another major national celebration to be achieved by the end of this century. In my

opinion, Macao's reversion, following that of Hong Kong, will have the effect of succeeding to what has gone before and initiating what follows afterwards, and will constitute a very important aspect that has to be tackled with success as part of the great cause of our country's unification. With the establishment of the Preliminary Committee, all sorts of preparative work undertaken by Macao for its reversion will be accelerated. While it is generally acknowledged that the actual time left for the Preliminary Committee to complete its mission is but eighteen months, the odds facing it include continuous deceleration of Macao's

economy, the poor public security conditions, the inadequate speed of the "three-localization", and especially the more worrying quality in that regard, in addition to the accumulative problems of overlapping of responsibilities and positions in the regime of civil service, its poorly coordinated operation, administrative inefficiency, loose check mechanism in the rule of law. Furthermore, the Chinese-Portuguese bilingual practice in the civil service is poorly accommodated to, which is likely to render the operative efficiency of the government to deteriorate further. Therefore, the various affairs related to the reversion that the Preliminary Committee will have to tackle are stupendous and far from being easy.

In the course of putting the policy of "one country, two systems" to practice in Macao, the effectiveness of the Preliminary Committee will have enormous bearings on the initial steps and the long-term growth of the Macao SAR. And it is widely held that this will by itself constitute a leverage and opportunity for Macao to be promoted to a new era of development. While the Basic Law has provided a general legal framework for Macao, its provisions of principle must be closely associated with the actual circumstances of Macao in the course of its implementation, so as to come up with more detailed rules and regulations. The Preliminary Committee shall have to go about forming the SAR government by the instructive provisions in that regard of the Basic Law.

As of now, expectations are rather high on the Preliminary Committee on the part of all circles of the Macao society. People are of the opinion that the progress to be made in the work of the Preliminary Committee will have direct bearings on whether the reversion in the year 99, and whether the policy of "leaving Macao to the rule of its people" and "one country, two systems" will be smoothly and successfully implemented in Macao. According to news report, the Preliminary Committee will probably be declared established between the end of April and the first half of May. Although its members from Macao will account for

more than half of the Preliminary Committee, those people from all walks of life of Macao who can be directly involved in the work of the Committee will not be many. Therefore, they hope that the Committee will be both representative and well balanced, without being overly hinged to any specific circle, so as to accommodate as wide a divergence of opinion as possible from all circles of the society. Meanwhile, the quality of being action-oriented, professionalized, knowledgeable and youthful should also be important prerequisites for the candidates for the Committee. People from the grass root levels of the society further point out that the Preliminary Committee for Macao SAR should not be viewed as an honorary organization, rather, it should be a working entity undertaking substantial work for the formation of the SAR government. Therefore those who take part in the Committee's work must be imbued with the spirit of dedication and service to the community, and must make the best of their effort in the work in which they are involved. Only by being such can we form a Preliminary Committee which is representative, comprehensive, action-oriented, highly qualified, highly efficient and of wide credibility. As was pointed out late March by Chen Ziying, Vice-Director of the Office of Hongkong-Macao Affairs of the State Council, that the Preliminary Committee for the Macao SAR will certainly be a widely representative institution as an authority as well as an operational entity, whose operation will certainly be in line with the principle of democracy, and whose work will be oriented for and in reliance of the people, and with a degree of transparency that it ought to have.

As for those social groups and individuals who are not directly involved in the work of the Preliminary Committee, I think it advisable to set up groups of concern or care for the reversion related affairs, rendering support, collaboration and supervision to the Committee, so that it may fulfil all of its work satisfactorily.

What needs to be emphasized is that in view of the characteristics of the Macao society, parties concerned should make sure that public opinion

and ordinary people play their part in supervising the operation of the Committee and the work of its members. On the other hand, the committee should likewise try to mobilize and activate the initiatives of all social sectors to participate, paying attention to nurturing the ties they already have with various social entities and research institutions, drawing on their opinions and counsel. This will be conducive to an orderly, timely and satisfactory fulfillment of its historic mission by the Preliminary Committee. And as far as Macao is concerned, this will provide a rare opportunity for popularizing civic education, and thereby strengthen the sense of being one's own master and self-motivation on the part of the Macao people. Instead of indulgence in self-pity and self-regret or incriminating others, we would rather try to be of one mind, facing whatever confronts us, strive strenuously to overcome and resolve whatever lies in the way of Macao's reversion, and be brave enough to meet the challenge of "self-autonomy by the Macao people", brought about by the new era.

Like other social entities and individuals, "Macao Development Strategy Research Centre" is very much concerned about the establishment of the Preliminary Committee and its future work. This Center shall keep itself concerned about the reversion of Macao with a strong sense of mission and responsibility. It will carry out in-depth study into issues relating to how a smooth reversion may be achieved, by drawing on collective wisdom. This Center will also engage itself in strengthening its ties with research institutes in the neighboring areas, so as to collaborate and exchange with them, and do its best in drawing on the public wisdom to come up with beneficial suggestions and opinions for the future development of Macao society. Effort will also be made to secure that related studies be inclusive, anticipative, comprehensive, action-oriented, and instrumental to Macao's successful reversion and smooth transition, and to the successful implementation of "one country, two systems" in Macao.

EDITOR'S NOTE

<<Development Strategy>> is an irregular bulletin published by the "Macao Development Strategy Research Centre". This Centre will make use of this Bulletin for giving news about the latest activities of the Centre, for publishing part of the results of its researches as well as for publishing thesis of members of this Centre, so as to have discussion together about the referred subject matter, to enhance the quality of academic studies. At the same time, we hope that our friends will give their criticism and advice with regard to the shortcomings eventually found in this Centre.

As a non-lucrative and non-governmental organization for researches, this Centre aims at defending actively the Macao Basic Law and at taking part in the practice of the principle "one country, two systems". We hope to carry on the studies of the Macao development strategy in an attitude of rationality, objectivity and impartiality, so as to attain the aim of impelling the benign development of the whole society of Macao. The stand point for the progress of this Centre is based on the real conditions of Macao. This Centre will play the role of wits for the Macao people in building up their own future and considers serving the whole society as its own duty. We think that the principle of tolerance and open-mind corresponds to the direction of evolution of the multipole Macao modern society. For this reason, from now on, we shall strive for applying this principle in our

studies and in publishing this bulletin.

At present, just a little bit more than 600 days before its return to China, Macao has entered into its final phase of transition. Due to the existence of the relations of cooperation between China and Portugal, the political situation in Macao is more or less stable. Nevertheless, the making of progress of the 3 questions of localization, the economic situation and the situation of public security are far from being desirable. All the residents of Macao hope that under the joint efforts of different sectors of Macao, the preparatory works of the final phase of transition shall be effectively well done, so that the smooth transition can really come true. At this moment, all the attention of the Macao people is concentrated upon the oncoming establishment of "the Preparatory Committee for the Macao Special Administrative Region". They hope that the Preparatory Committee can play its due role and can successfully lead Macao to bypass smoothly to the year of 1999. Recently, part of the members of this Centre made some speeches, on numerous occasions, with regard to the composition and to its future functioning of the Preparatory Committee. We selected some of the theses of the members of this Centre and publish them in the first number of the Bulletin of this Centre. We hope that this initiative may further attract the attention of the personalities of diverse sectors of Macao. Due to the limitation of the quality of its editors, perhaps they may make some mistakes in this Bulletin. We beg you pardon for this matter and we hope that you will give us your precious opinions upon the improvement of this Bulletin.