

3. Survey Findings

The questionnaire comprised a total of 12 opinion questions and ended by registering some basic demographics of the respondents. The key findings are highlighted in this section, please refer to the relevant frequency tables in Appendix II for details. It should be noted that figures reported herewith have been rounded up to the nearest integer. If the first decimal place is 5, the figure will be rounded up by considering the second decimal place. Thus, figures reported hereafter may not be the same as those listed in the frequency tables and this is not an error.

- 3.1 The survey began by reading out a paragraph of background information to all respondents: “Under the Basic Law of Macau, the Chief Executive (CE) of the Macau Special Administrative Region is selected by election or through consultations held locally and be appointed by the Central People's Government. Annex I of the Basic Law stipulates the CE is selected by a broadly representative Election Committee presently and the method for the selection could be amended in future”. Then all of them were asked how much they supported or opposed to the suggestion that “the election of the Macau Chief Executive should be elected by one-person-one-vote by the Macau people”. Results showed that 61% of the respondents said they were in favor of this proposal, 22% indicated “half-half” and 11% opposed to this suggestion (Table 3).
- 3.2 The next question asked only those who answered “support” in the first question (base=310), and starting which year they thought the Chief Executive should be elected by one-person-one-vote. Results revealed that 67% (accounted for 41% of the total sample) chose “2019 (i.e. the next election)” while 23% (accounted for 14% of the total sample) answered “2024 (i.e. the election after the next one)”. Besides, 6% (accounted for 4% of the total sample) opted for “2029 or later”. When further probed on whether they supported or opposed to the idea that Macau citizens should have the right to nominate CE candidates, 73% (accounted for 45% of the total sample) were supportive as contrast to 15% (accounted for 9% of the total sample) who opposed. At the same time, 7% said “half-half” and 5% did not have a view (accounted for 4% and 3% of the total sample respectively; Tables 4 & 5).
- 3.3 For those who “opposed” to the Chief Executive being returned by universal suffrage (base=57), their reasons of opposition were gauged, and multiple responses were allowed. Results revealed that 45% of this sub-sample (accounted for 5% of the total sample) said it was because they had “no confidence in the quality of Macau voters”. Meanwhile, 27% “did not want to change the current system”, where 15% wished “to maintain the political stability”. On the other hand, 9% each said “balanced participation” and

“concern over corruption”, whilst 2% each said they “did not want to displease the Central Government” and “the contribution of Election Committee should be recognized” (Table 6).

- 3.4 Regarding the Legislative Assembly, similar to the first set of questions, interviewers were instructed to read out some background information: “According to the Basic Law of Macau, the majority of the members of Legislative Assembly should be formed by election. The latest term of Legislative Assembly comprised of 14 directly elected legislators, 12 indirectly elected legislators and 7 appointed legislators”. Then respondents were asked whether they had an ideal number of seats for the directly elected, indirectly elected and appointed legislators, by using 0-100% to indicate the ratio, and the total of these three items should be 100%. Results showed that, on average, their preferred ratio was: **58% directly elected legislators** (standard error: 1.03; about 19 seats out of 33 seats), **26% indirectly elected legislators** (standard error: 0.74; about 9 seats) and **16% appointed legislators** (standard error: 0.60; about 5 seats; Table 7).
- 3.5 With regard to the suggestion that all members of Macau’s Legislative Assembly should be elected by Macau people one-person-one vote, results showed that as high as 71% of the respondents were supportive, 15% said “half-half” and 11% opposed to this suggestion (Table 8). The survey continued to ask starting from which year should all LA members be elected by one-person-one-vote (base=358). 68% (accounted for 48% of the total sample) believed that it should be implemented in “2017 (i.e. the next election)”, 19% (accounted for 13% of the total sample) chose “2021 (i.e. the election after the next one)”. While 7% opted for “2025 or later” and 6% said they had no view on this question (each accounted for 5% of the total sample; Table 9).
- 3.6 As regards the reasons for those who “opposed” to the Legislative Assembly being returned by one-person-one-vote (base=56), 37% of them (accounted for 4% of the total sample) said they had “no confidence in the quality of Macau voters”. The next tier was formed by the reasons “do not want to change the current system” (25%), “balanced participation” (23%) and “to maintain political stability” (18%; each accounted for less than 3% of the total sample; Table 10).
- 3.7 At the end of interview, all respondents were asked whether they had heard of the civil referendum on the election of the Macau Chief Executive held in August this year. Results showed that 62% of the respondents were aware of this civil referendum while 38% said they were unaware of it. In addition, 44% were supportive to this civil referendum, another 23% indicated “half-half” and 20% opposed to this activity (Tables 11 & 12).