

Outline of speech 26/4/2014 Holden Chow Chairman, YoungDAB

Universal Suffrage for the Chief Executive in 2017

- Basic Law:

Article 43

The Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall be the head of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and shall represent the Region.

The Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall be accountable to the Central People's Government and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in accordance with the provisions of this law.

Article 45

The Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall be selected by election or through consultations held locally and be appointed by the Central People's Government.

The method for selecting the Chief Executive shall be specified in the light of the actual situation in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and in accordance with the principle of gradual and orderly progress. The ultimate aim is the selection of the Chief Executive by universal suffrage upon nomination by a broadly representative nominating committee in accordance with democratic procedures.

The specific method for selecting the Chief Executive is prescribed in Annex I: "Method for the Selection of the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region".

Dispute – Role of Nominating Committee

Right to nominate candidates to stand for the election in 2017;
Do not bypass or undermine its power

Civic nomination – bypassing the nominating committee
Civic recommendation – leave the final decision to the nominating committee

Article 31 of The Constitution of The People's Republic of China

“The state may establish special administrative regions when necessary. The systems to be instituted in special administrative regions shall be prescribed by law enacted by the National People's Congress in the light of the specific conditions. “

Article 158 of Basic Law

“The power of interpretation of this Law shall be vested in the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.”

Decision given by the Standing Committee of National People's Congress in December 2007

- Universal suffrage for CE can be implemented in 2017.
- Universal suffrage for Legco shall be carried out after universal suffrage for CE is successfully implemented, namely in 2020.
- Formation of Nominating Committee - Refer to the current Election Committee

5 steps to carry out universal suffrage for CE

Step 1 - CE makes a report to the NPCSC inviting them to decide whether it is necessary to amend the method of election;

Step 2 The NPCSC (Standing Committee of National People's Congress) decides whether amendment to method of election is necessary;

Step 3 - if the NPCSC agrees to amend the method of election, the HKSAR Government would introduce a resolution on the amendments to the method for electing CE to the Legco, to be passed by a two-thirds majority of all Legco Members;

Step 4 - CE approves the resolution as passed by the Legco; and

Step 5 - CE lodges the relevant bill to the NPCSC for approval.

Universal Suffrage shall be carried out in accordance with the Basic Law and relevant decisions given by the Standing Committee of National People's Congress