Forum: GA4

Question of: Hong Kong

Main submitter: United Kingdom

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

*Acknowledging* the current ‘one country, two systems’ relationship between China and the Hong Kong special administrative region (HKSAR), in accordance with the Basic Law adopted in April 1990 that went into effect July 1997,

*Deeply concerned* by the current intervention of China into the internal affairs of the HKSAR against agreed legislation and against the principle of the HKSAR’s independent judicial power,

*Alarmed* by the ongoing mass protests and demonstrations by residents of the HKSAR against the intervention by China in the democratic system,

*Fully aware* of the potential issues of the HKSAR not being an autonomous democratic state, such as it becoming a less competitive economic regional hub, the potential loss of tourism, the potential for deeper economic weakness and the potential for China to redirect funds to the mainland instead of fairly investing in the HKSAR,

*Aware* of the strong economic ties between China and the HKSAR and many other member states and therefore not attempting to infringe on any previous good relations between any such countries and regions,

*Observing* that approximately 797 mainland Chinese companies, as of 2013, were listed in the Hong Kong stock exchange and therefore recognising that creating a mutual agreement will be beneficial to both parties,

1. Calls for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) to remain a part of China, to be referenced as ‘Hong Kong, China,’ and for its military defence and foreign affairs to be dealt with appropriately by China and not contravene the interests of the HKSAR;
2. Urges China to continue to allow unconditionally and without subject to withdrawal the HKSAR, as since 1997 and specified in the Basic Law to:
   1. Govern itself with its own Chief Executive, Legislative Council and judiciary,
   2. Have economic independence, including free markets and free port with separate customs control,
   3. Be responsible for maintaining its own public order, with citizens seen as equal before the law and the freedom of the person shall be inviolable, and China shall not take authority in arresting any HKSAR citizen nor send in military personnel to commit mass arrests on any occasion as the HKSAR is self-governed,
   4. Have its own currency,
   5. Have the freedom to participate in international agreements and organisations, and to set out its own trade policy,
   6. Follow the provisions of the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Labour Convention;
3. Recommends the creation of a UN committee named the United Nations Basic Law + Committee (UNBL+C) which would oversee the creation of a separate document, called Basic Law + focused on strengthening Hong Kong’s basic law to ensure that it is fully supported, and will no longer be violated, this committee would contain representative from:
   1. Central Government of China
   2. Members of the current Hong Kong Legco
   3. Representatives from Hong Kong citizens included but not limited to:
      1. Hong Kong based protest groups
      2. Political parties in Hong Kong
   4. A non-partisan group of UN members who would focus on:
      1. Making sure all parties interests are well represented
      2. Ensuring that the basic law incorporates all the basic human rights as outlined by the UN
      3. Strengthening HKSAR’s basic law so that all parties can agree to follow it;
4. Further urges China to ensure democracy in HKSAR through the UNBL+C by means including but not limited to:
   1. A Chief Executive elected by public vote who is the leader of the HKSAR in terms of 5 years, serving for a maximum of two consecutive terms,
   2. Using a system of proportional representation, with a secret ballot, in parliamentary democracy for a vote that is direct, free, equal and fair, preventing fraud and tampering,
   3. Ensuring the right of all permanent residents over the age of 18 to vote in elections in accordance with HKSAR domestic law,
   4. Ensuring candidates for election represent a wide range of political views, and are to be decided by HKSAR, to avoid corruption,
   5. Encouraging grassroots forces in the region to participate in democracy and stimulate discussion on relevant issues as well as initiating a wider range of contrasting political opinions which is beneficial to a democratic society,
   6. Training all government officials of the HKSAR on effective democratic decision making,
   7. Ensuring that residents of the HKSAR shall not be subject to Chinese national law except for those listed in Annex III in the Basic Laws;
5. Affirms the rights and self-autonomy of the residents of Hong Kong which include, among other things, freedom of speech, of the press and of publication; freedom of association, of assembly, of procession, of demonstration, of communication, of movement, of conscience, of religious belief, and of marriage; and the right and freedom to form and join trade unions, and to strike, this would be in support of the UN enforced treaty on International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
6. Requests that the HKSAR implements an education programme for children on the subject of promoting democracy for a fair society and make information on such a topic available to the whole public, as well as encouraging people from all classes and cultural backgrounds to seek education and employment in politics and civil society for diversity in the field;
7. Suggests the relaxation of the visa requirements from Chinese citizens travelling to Hong Kong and vice versa, to strengthen relationships between citizens of China and Hong Kong, this could be done buy for example:
   1. Making the process of obtaining a visa simpler
   2. Allows visa’s to remain valid for a longer period of time
8. Further Recommends the Chinese Central Government to provide visas to English Mp’s in order for them to be able to regulate and monitor violations of laws and agreements in Hong Kong;
9. Further requests a bilateral trading agreement with HKSAR to develop regional and economic integration between Cambodia and the HKSAR and further affirm sustainable economic growth in both regions, in keeping with the Cambodia Industrial Development Policy 2015 which pursues a diversified economy and a sustainable economic outlook;
10. Further suggests for more representation of the Hong Kong in various committees of the UN, using Dr. Margaret Chan, the current World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General, as a model and example of a Hong Kong citizen representing China as its country in the UN;
11. Asks that member nations reduce trade barriers and increase trade and investment with the People’s Republic of China if they show continued support of clauses 3 and 4, nations could also encourage their firms by means such as but not limited to:
    1. Reducing tariffs
    2. Increasing subsidies
    3. Support for China within the world trade organization
12. Further Calls upon the People’s Republic of China and other member nations to help Hong Kong with the issue of air pollution so as to strengthen ties between the two nations as well as reduce the protests, this could be done in a multitude of ways including:
    1. Encouraging firms to invest in the reduction of Hong Kong’s air pollution through campaigns which could include:
       1. Positive advertising towards firms to for example encourage them to use cleaner energy sources
       2. Tax cuts/subsidies for firms investing in the issue
    2. Sharing technological developments with Hong Kong which would not only help them combat air pollution but shared knowledge could help battle the overall global struggle;
13. Invites that the People’s Republic of China helps Hong Kong with its housing problems through means such as:
    1. Investing in the housing market in Hong Kong to support their subsidized housing efforts,
    2. Encouraging people to move to the mainland through subsidized housing and high chances of employment.