

**Statement by Alexander Yakovenko, the Spokesman of
Russia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Concerning the Adoption
of an Anti-Secession Law by the Chinese Parliament
March 14, 2005**

On March 14, 2005, a session of the National People's Congress passed a Law Against Activities to Split the Country, dedicated, to judge by its contents, to ways and means for solving the "Taiwan question."

Russia has been invariably adhering to a principled position in this matter. We consider that there exists in the world only one China, of which Taiwan is an integral part. Based on this, we are opposed to Taiwan's independence in any form, and do not accept the concepts of "two Chinas" or "one China and one Taiwan."

The Russian side regards the "Taiwan question" as an internal matter of China. We treat with understanding the motives which induced the National People's Congress to adopt the law in question. It is very important that the law confirms the main assumption of the PRC government - the absolute priority of peaceful unification methods within the framework of the "one country, two systems" policy - and declares readiness to show the utmost goodwill for the sake of this.

An early arrival by the sides at a mutually acceptable solution of the "Taiwan problem" would correspond both to the basic interests of the Chinese living on both sides of the Taiwan Strait and to the aims of strengthening peace and stability throughout the Asia-Pacific region.