

Urgent by fax : 2338 4247

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14 July 2005

Ms Clarice CHIU
Director of External Affairs
Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Company Limited
3 Broadcast Drive
Kowloon

Dear Ms CHIU,

**Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting
Special meeting to be held on 21 July 2005**

The Panel will hold a special meeting on **Thursday, 21 July 2005, at 4:30 pm in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**. A copy of the tentative agenda is attached for your information. On behalf of Hon SIN Chung-kai, Panel Chairman, I write to cordially invite representative(s) of your corporation to attend the special meeting in connection with **agenda item II**.

Arising from the contract termination of Mr WONG Yuk-man with Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Company Limited, the Panel has expressed concern about the implications, if any, on the freedom of expression in the broadcasting industry. Some Members are concerned whether the incident is indicative of a growing trend for sound broadcasters to adopt a more restrictive approach in dealing with programmes airing critical views. The Panel would very much like to hear the views of your corporation on the matter. You may wish to note that the Panel has also invited the Administration and the Broadcasting Authority to give their views, if any, from the policy and the regulatory perspectives, and to attend the special meeting to exchange views with the Panel.

If you have any written information for the Panel, please provide it (in both Chinese and English and with softcopy to slchan@legco.gov.hk) **on or before 18 July 2005** for timely circulation to members. In line with our usual practice, the written material provided to the Panel will be made available to the media and the public, and uploaded to the Website of this Council on the Internet, unless you have advised otherwise.

To facilitate meeting arrangements, we would appreciate it very much if you would confirm whether your representative(s) will be attending the special meeting **on or before 18 July 2005**.

In this connection, kindly note that when addressing the Panel at the meeting, your representatives are not covered by the protection and immunity under the Legislative Council (Powers and Privileges) Ordinance (Cap. 382). The written information provided by your corporation will also not be covered by the aforesaid Ordinance.

Meanwhile, if there is any question, please feel free to contact me or Ms Debbie YAU at 2509 4417.

Looking forward to your early reply and with best regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Polly YEUNG)
Clerk to Panel

Encl.

c.c. Hon SIN Chung-kai, JP, Panel Chairman

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Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting
Special meeting on
Thursday, 21 July 2005, at 4:30 pm
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building

Agenda

- *I Broadcasting services of Radio Television Hong Kong**
(4:30 pm – 5:30 pm)

- *II Freedom of expression and other issues related to personal view programmes of sound broadcasting licensees**
(5:30 pm – 6:55 pm)

- III Any other business**
(6:55 pm – 7:00 pm)

* All other Hon Members of the Legislative Council are invited to take part in the discussion of items I and II.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
14 July 2005