

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)16/06-07

Ref. : CB1/PL/ITB

Paper for the House Committee meeting on 13 October 2006

**Report on the Study of
Public Service Broadcasting for Hong Kong
by the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting**

Purpose

This paper invites members to note the Panel's Report on the Study of Public Service Broadcasting for Hong Kong; and seeks the agreement of the House Committee to allocate a debate slot under House Rule 14A(h) to Hon SIN Chung-kai, Deputy Chairman of the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting, to move a motion on public service broadcasting (PSB) for Hong Kong at the Council meeting on 1 November 2006.

The Panel's study

2. On 17 January 2006, the Administration announced the appointment of the Committee on Review of Public Service Broadcasting in Hong Kong (the Review Committee) to undertake a fundamental and critical review of PSB. Currently, there is no clear policy on PSB in Hong Kong. As the outcome of the review will have important implications for Hong Kong, the Panel considered it necessary to conduct a study into the subject with a view to identifying the key issues which would need to be properly addressed when mapping out the way forward.

3. To acquire first-hand understanding into the development experience of leading overseas PSB systems, the Panel visited Canada, United States and United Kingdom in April 2006 and published a report on its findings and observations (LC Paper No. CB(1)1393/05-06) in late April 2006. It has also held special meetings to exchange views with the Administration, the Review Committee, Radio Television Hong Kong and various deputations in March and August 2006. The Panel has posted a Consultation Note on the Council's website to solicit public views on PSB and made reference to research studies conducted by the Secretariat on the PSB systems in Australia and Germany. Based on the information it has obtained and its analysis of relevant issues, the Panel has published a report on its study on 9 October 2006, copies of which were distributed to all Members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)2308/05-06.

4. The findings of the Panel's report are primarily pointers for future deliberation and a reminder of the key issues that need to be properly addressed when formulating a policy on PSB. The Panel will continue to follow up the development of PSB in Hong Kong with the Administration and the Review Committee.

Motion debate

5. At the meeting held on 25 September 2006, the Panel considered that to provide an opportunity for Members of this Council to express their views on the subject and for the Administration to provide its response, a motion on the Panel's report should be moved for debate at the Council meeting on 1 November 2006. In this connection, House Rule 14A provides for the allocation of slots for debates to chairmen of committees of the Council. However, there is no requirement that only the chairman of a committee may move a motion on behalf of the committee. Pursuant to members' deliberation at the House Committee meeting on 6 December 2002, a committee (including a Panel) may consider designating one of its members to move a motion on its behalf. As the Panel's study on PSB, including the overseas duty visit, meetings with deputations and the preparation of the report, have taken place from January to September 2006 in the 2005-06 session under the chairmanship of Hon SIN Chung-kai, the Panel, with the consent of the Chairman, has agreed that the motion should be moved by Mr SIN who has been elected Deputy Panel Chairman for the 2006-07 session. The wording of the motion, as endorsed by the Panel, is in the **Appendix**. Panel members further note that under House Rule 14A(h), should the House Committee accede to the Panel's request to allocate a debate slot to Hon SIN Chung-kai to move the motion at the Council meeting on 1 November 2006, the debate slot would not be counted as Mr SIN's own slot.

6. It has also been suggested by a Panel member that if the House Committee agrees to the proposed motion debate on the Panel's report, then there should only be one other debate on a Member's motion for the Council meeting on 1 November 2006. Other Panel members support the suggestion.

Advice sought

7. The House Committee's agreement is sought for the Panel's request in paragraphs 5 and 6 above.

**Motion on "Public Service Broadcasting for Hong Kong"
to be moved by
Hon SIN Chung-kai,
Deputy Chairman of the
Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting
at the Legislative Council meeting
on Wednesday, 1 November 2006**

Wording of the Motion

"That this Council notes the Report on the Study of Public Service Broadcasting for Hong Kong and urges the Government to consider the findings therein."