

Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting

List of follow-up actions

(position as at 24 January 2008)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
1. Implementation on Digital 21 Strategy and the e-procurement programme	11.12.06	<p>The Administration has agreed to :</p> <p>(a) consider members' suggestions that e-invoice be considered for the pilot programme to drive supplier adoption, and assess and apprise the Panel of the increase in percentage, if any, of SME suppliers having Internet connection as a result of the implementation of e-Procurement, and SMEs' response to and their degree of participation in the e-Procurement programme; and</p> <p>(b) assess the actual benefits of the e-Procurement pilot programme against the benefits listed in paragraph 12 of the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(1)435/06-07(03)) and the extent to which green procurement is adopted.</p>	<p>(a) The Administration considers that the proposed scope for the pilot programme encompassing four e-Procurement initiatives with an estimated non-recurrent expenditure of \$49.2 million is a prudent and pragmatic way to proceed. However, the Administration will keep in view opportunities for trying out the e-invoice function when circumstances are conducive.</p> <p>(b) The Administration will assess the actual benefits of the e-Procurement pilot programme at the review stage.</p>
2. Further discussion on issues relating to change in shareholding in PCCW Limited and cross-media ownership	11.1.07	The Administration has been requested to provide an explanation for members' information if the BA decides not to take any action after the investigation.	The Administration to revert to the Panel for detailed explanation where necessary.

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<p>3. Issues relating to Internet disruptions caused by earthquake damage to undersea cables</p>	<p>17.4.07</p>	<p>The Administration has been requested to provide detailed information relating to:</p> <p>(a) OFTA's contingency plan in response to emergency and its mechanism for disseminating information to consumers in the event of disruptions in IDD and Internet services; and</p> <p>(b) the damage and losses suffered by SMEs as a result of the Internet disruptions caused by earthquake damage to undersea cables on 26 and 27 December 2006 (the Incident).</p>	<p>OFTA will brief the panel at its meeting of 14 April 2008.</p>
<p>4. Issues relating to the editorial independence of Radio Television Hong Kong and the yardsticks of the Broadcasting Authority in imposing sanctions</p>	<p>12.3.07</p>	<p>The Administration has been requested to review:</p> <p>(a) the mechanism for appointing members to BA (or the new unified regulator, i.e. the Communications Authority (CA)), including the criteria for appointment and composition of membership, with a view to bringing in more talents with different backgrounds to enhance representativeness; and</p> <p>(b) the yardsticks of BA in imposing sanctions.</p>	<p>The Administration to take note and follow up.</p>

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5. Progress in the implementation of digital terrestrial television broadcasting in Hong Kong	11.6.07 12.11.07	The Administration has been requested to provide an estimate on the economic benefits arising from the analogue switch-off in due course. The Administration was requested to provide information on the possible health risks of DTT with reference to international study, if any.	The Administration to provide the information at a later stage when it has conducted further market and technical studies to plan for the analogue switch-off. Desktop research reveals that while there are reports released by the medical profession that watching TV or computer screen for prolonged periods might impair human eye sight, they do not specifically associate this problem with DTT programmes.
6. Radio reception	16.10.07	The Administration undertook to further study the issue of poor radio reception and to furnish the Panel with supplementary information setting out its plan and time-table for improving AM and FM broadcasting transmission and reception.	The Administration to take note and follow up.
7. Capital Works Reserve Fund (CWRP) Head 710 Computerization Subhead A007GX – New administrative computer systems	12.11.07	The Administration agreed to provide information on the present in-house IT manpower resources within the Government, and make an analysis of the present IT manpower situation in the Government in comparison with other governments and advanced countries.	The requisite information is not readily available on public resources. The Administration will continue to look for relevant sources and will update the Panel on the outcome in due course.

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<p>8. Provision of radio frequency spectrum for the introduction of broadband wireless access (BWA)</p>	<p>10.12.07</p>	<p>The Administration has been requested to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) provide supplementary details on the BWA licensing conditions and the regulatory regime; (b) keep the Panel posted of the outcome of frequency coordination with the Guangdong authorities; and (c) provide statistics on service-related complaints received by TA with breakdowns including the number received, investigated and/or satisfactorily resolved etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) BWA will be licensed under the Unified Carrier Licence (UCL) to be created. The Administration briefed Members of the proposal on the creation of UCL to the ITB Panel during the meeting on 14 January 2008. (b) The Administration will keep the ITB Panel informed of the outcome of frequency coordination with the Guangdong authorities. (c) The Administration will provide the information in due course.
<p>9. Survey results on broadcasting services and complaint handling mechanism of Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority</p>	<p>10.12.07</p>	<p>The Broadcasting Authority (BA) has been requested to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) consider consulting the broadcasting industry on discouraging the use of lazy pronunciation in BA's code of practice; (b) consider surveying on respondents' listening habits for and before 2004 in the 2009 broadcasting services survey; (c) provide the relevant statistics in the 2007 	<p>The information provided by BA has been circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)671/07-08 on 24 January 2008.</p>

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		broadcasting services survey in support of the survey observation that BA was considered as "effective, fair, independent and reliable" in dealing with broadcasting complaints; and (d) provide detailed information on the complaint cases and the sanctions imposed by BA during the period 1 September 2006 to 31 August 2007.	
10. Public consultation on the proposed Unified Carrier Licences	14.1.08	The Administration was requested to provide detailed information on the total number of telecommunications numbers available for allocation in the 8-digit numbering plan; the actual number allocated to telecommunications network operators/service providers; and the number assigned by network operators/service providers to end users and customers.	The Administration to provide information in due course.