

**Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting**

**List of outstanding items for discussion**

(position as at 11 March 2011)

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

**1. Next Generation Government Wi-Fi Programme**

The Government Wi-Fi Programme was launched in 2007 to provide free Wi-Fi Internet services at about 390 Government premises of high public patronage. The current programme covers 5 years, and related service contract will expire by December 2012. The Administration is making preparations for the Next Generation Government Wi-Fi programme to succeed the present one. The new programme will adopt forward-looking technologies and enhance the delivery of government information and electronic services. The Administration will brief and seek the Panel's support on the proposed programme with a view to submitting a financial proposal to the Finance Committee in May 2011 for approval.

11 April 2011

**2. Progress report on the work of Hong Kong Design Centre**

The Administration will report to the Panel the progress of the work of the Hong Kong Design Centre and the relevant initiatives taken to promote design and innovation.

11 April 2011

**3. Report on Film Development Fund and Retention of the Non-Civil Service Position of Secretary-General of the Film Development Council**

The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress of the Film Development Fund and the proposal to retain the non-civil service position of Secretary-General of the Film Development Council for a period of two years after the expiry of the current term in November 2011.

9 May 2011

**4. Proposed creation of new civil service grade in Office of the Telecommunications Authority (OFTA)**

The Administration will brief the Panel on OFTA's proposal to create a new civil service grade in order to meet the long term

9 May 2011

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

service needs for regulatory staff in the required professional fields to perform the multifarious regulatory work of the telecommunications sector.

**5. Progress update on the E-Government development**

The Administration will update the Panel on the latest progress of E-government development. 13 June 2011

**6. Extension of existing Digital Entertainment Incubation-cum-Training (Incu-Train) Programme**

The Administration and The Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited will brief the Panel on the proposed extension of the Incu-Train Programme into a third phase. 13 June 2011

**7. Result of Sound Broadcasting Licences Mid-term Review**

The Administration will brief the Panel on the result of the sound broadcasting licences mid-term review. 13 June 2011 (tentative)

**8. Development of the New Broadcasting House in Tseung Kwan O**

At the Panel meeting held on 14 February 2011, the Panel was briefed on the comprehensive package to support the development in the next few years of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) as the public service broadcaster. The Panel agreed that the development of the New Broadcasting House in Tseung Kwan O should be discussed around the first half of 2011 pending completion of the relevant feasibility study. First half of 2011 (to be confirmed)

**9. Information security**

The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress of Government's information security enhancement initiatives since the last update on 12 July 2010. 11 July 2011

**10. Facilitating a digital economy, and promoting technological innovation, cooperation and trade**

The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress of the initiatives that facilitate a digital economy, and promote 11 July 2011

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

technological innovation, cooperation and trade.

**11. Customer Complaint Settlement Scheme**

At the Panel meeting held on 14 June 2010, the Panel was briefed on the outcome of the 18-month pilot programme for the Customer Complaint Settlement Scheme (CCSS) administered by OFTA. The Administration will propose a way forward for the CCSS with reference to the views collected in the public consultation and brief the Panel in due course.

To be confirmed

**12. Review of Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance – second round of public consultation**

The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress of the review of Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance.

To be confirmed

**13. Review on regulation of person-to-person telemarketing calls**

At the Panel meeting on 9 November 2009, the Administration briefed members on the findings of the two opinion surveys commissioned by the OFTA in respect of person-to-person (P2P) telemarketing calls and the actions to be taken in the light of the information collected from the surveys. Some members doubted whether voluntary self-regulation by the industry by way of the Code of Practice (CoP) would be effective in tackling the problems caused by P2P telemarketing calls and considered it necessary to introduce legislation to regulate such calls.

To be confirmed

After consultation with the industry, OFTA has finalised a benchmark CoP and circulated it to industry associations and major telecommunications operators in February 2010. The benchmark CoP includes guidelines requesting telemarketers to disclose identity and calling line identification information when making such calls. Telemarketers are also requested to maintain an in-house unsubscribe list for the public to make unsubscribe request.

According to the Administration, industry associations of four business sectors, namely finance, insurance, telecommunications service and call centre, have pledged support for the voluntary self-regulation scheme. Up to mid March 2011, the industry

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

associations of insurance companies, banks, restricted licence banks and deposit-taking companies; three major telecommunications operators; two telemarketing industry associations; and a major telecommunications industry association have implemented their own CoP. The Administration will update the Panel on the progress of the implementation of the voluntary CoP after it has operated for some time.

**14. Spectrum trading**

OFTA has appointed a consultant to study the feasibility of introducing radio spectrum trading in Hong Kong for facilitating economic and technically efficient use of this scarce public resource. The Administration is examining the recommendations made by the consultant. If it is considered justifiable to pursue the initiative, the Administration will draw up an implementation framework and consult the public. The Administration will brief the Panel on the subject when necessary.

To be confirmed

**15. Sponsored programme and advertising of a political nature on radio**

At the Panel meeting held on 14 June 2010, the Panel was briefed on the current regulatory regime governing advertisement of a political nature and sponsoring of programmes on radio. Subsequent to the Broadcasting Authority's ruling on the sponsorship of a radio programme by a certain political party and a paid radio announcement by a Legislative Council Member, Hon Emily LAU requested that a Panel meeting be held with the Administration, relevant statutory bodies and deputations to discuss the matter.

To be confirmed

**16. Mobile data charges**

In view of the increasing public concern about the rising problem of exorbitant mobile data charges, and the cap on mobile data charges that came into force recently in the European Union to protect consumers from "bill shock", members suggested that a Panel meeting should be held with the Administration to discuss the matter with a view to drawing up a long-term policy and time-table to regulate mobile data charges. At the Panel's request, the Research Division undertook to provide an information note on the preventive measures of mobile bill shock

To be confirmed

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

implemented in the European Union. The information note was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)1195/10-11 on 31 January 2011.

**17. Change of shareholdings of the Television and Broadcasts Limited**

At the Panel meeting held on 14 February 2011, members noted that the application for change of shareholdings of Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) was being considered by the Broadcasting Authority. Mr LEE Wing-tat suggested and the Chairman agreed that the Administration should report the matter to the Panel upon completion of the vetting process.

To be confirmed

**18. Community involvement in broadcasting**

At the Panel meeting held on 14 February 2011, the Panel was briefed on the comprehensive package to support the development in the next few years of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) as the public service broadcaster. The Panel noted that RTHK was working on the framework and possible ground rules for the initiative of community involvement in broadcasting taking into account public opinion. The Administration was requested to provide more information on the initiative and to brief Panel members before its commencement.

To be confirmed