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By Fax
(Fax: 2978 7569)

24 August 2012

Ms Yue Tin-po
Clerk to Panel on
Information Technology and Broadcasting
Legislative Council
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Yue

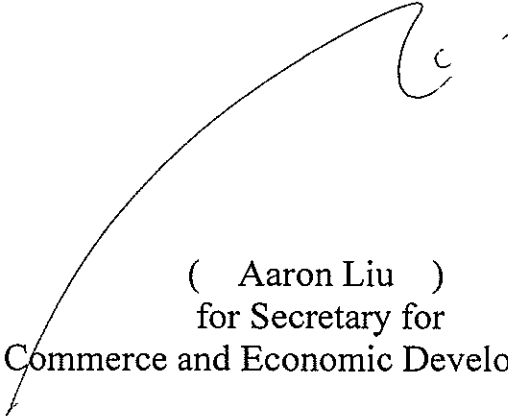
**Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting Meeting
on 11 June 2012 (“Panel Meeting”)**

We refer to the letter from Television Broadcasts Limited (“TVB”) on the captioned subject dated 25 June 2012 (“the Letter”), which seems to suggest that this Bureau has the responsibility to correct the alleged “patently flawed and erroneous submissions and figures” put forward in the CTI’s submission to the Panel at its meeting on 11 June 2012. For the avoidance of any misunderstandings, we are writing to clarify the respective roles of the Communications Authority (“CA”) and this Bureau in the processing of the domestic free television programme service licence applications (“free TV licence applications”).

We wish to point out that while this Bureau is processing the free TV licence applications on behalf of the Chief Executive (CE) in Council, we are not in a position to disclose or comment on any details in relation to the applications (including the alleged size of free TV advertising market). We have stated our position clearly and publicly on a number

of occasions, including at the Panel meeting held on 11 June 2012. Moreover, we wish to clarify that the Administration's delegation in the said meeting did not represent the CA, which is an independent statutory body responsible for making recommendations to the CE in Council on the free TV licence applications. If TVB, being one of the parties invited to attend the said meeting, is concerned with the public submission of any other parties, we believe that it is incumbent upon TVB, not the Administration, to raise counter-arguments, as TVB has now done so through its letter to the Panel of 25 June 2012.

We have separately written to TVB about this Bureau's position on the matter. We trust the above clarifications would have dispelled any misunderstandings.



(Aaron Liu)
for Secretary for
Commerce and Economic Development

cc TVB (Attn: Mr Mark P. O. Lee,
Executive Director and Group General Manager)