

Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 7 January 2014)

Proposed timing
for discussion

1. Public consultation on the review of the regulation of editorial programmes and personal views programmes

The Communications Authority will brief the Panel on the public consultation on the review of the regulation of editorial programmes and personal views programmes which will last for two months from 17 December 2013 until 17 February 2014.

10 February 2014

2. Establishing a unified information and communications technology ("ICT") professional recognition framework in Hong Kong

The Administration will consult the Panel on the proposed arrangement to establish a unified ICT professional recognition framework in Hong Kong.

10 March 2014

3. Proposed creation of two supernumerary directorate posts in the Communications and Technology Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau

The Administration will consult the Panel on the proposed creation of one supernumerary Administrative Officer Staff Grade B post and one supernumerary Administrative Officer Staff Grade C post to lead a team in reviewing the Telecommunications Ordinance and the Broadcasting Ordinance.

1st quarter 2014

4. Renewal of the domestic free television programme service licences

The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress of processing the applications for renewal of the free TV licences of Asia Television Limited and Television Broadcasts Limited.

1st quarter 2014

5. Digital terrestrial television update

The Administration will update the Panel on the latest progress of implementation of the DTT services since February 2013.

1st quarter 2014

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

6. Annual report on Cyberport

The Administration and the Cyberport management will update the Panel on the progress of the Cyberport Project since March 2013.

To be confirmed

7. Progress report on digital inclusion

The Administration will update the Panel on the latest progress of the digital inclusion, including the progress of implementation of the Internet Learning Support Programme, since June 2013.

12 May 2014

8. Development of E-Learning

The Administration will brief the Panel on the initiatives and implementation measures to promote the development of E-Learning and the adoption of ICT in education.

To be confirmed

9. Progress update on the e-Government development

The Administration will update the Panel on the latest progress of e-Government development since June 2013.

9 June 2014

10. Update on the work of the Create Hong Kong

The Administration will update the Panel on the latest work of Create Hong Kong in promoting the development of creative industries since February 2013.

2nd quarter 2014

11. Progress report on the work of Hong Kong Design Centre

The Administration will update the Panel on the progress of the work of the Hong Kong Design Centre and the relevant initiatives taken to promote design since May 2013.

2nd quarter 2014

12. Progress update on digital economy

The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress of the initiatives that facilitate a digital economy since July 2013.

14 July 2014

13. Information security

The Administration will update the Panel on the latest progress of Government's information security programmes since July 2013.

14 July 2014

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

14. Progress update on the introduction of Customer Complaint Settlement Scheme

The trial operation of the Customer Complaint Settlement Scheme for the telecommunications industry has been launched on 1 November 2012, for a two-year trial period. The Administration will update the Panel on the latest progress when the Scheme has been operated for some time.

2nd/3rd quarter
2014

15. 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 former 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, the former OFTA issued a benchmark CoP with 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. The industry associations of insurance companies, banks, restricted licence banks and deposit-taking companies, all 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.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

16. Review of the Broadcasting Ordinance and the Telecommunications Ordinance

During the deliberation of the Bills Committee on Communications Authority Bill, the Administration advised that a staged approach would be adopted in modernizing the regulatory regime for the broadcasting and telecommunications sectors. The Administration would first establish CA through the structural merger of the former Telecommunications Authority ("TA") and the Broadcasting Authority ("BA") to enable CA to deal with increasing market convergence as soon as possible. Upon establishment, CA would take over the existing functions of the TA and the BA under the Telecommunications Ordinance ("TO"), the Broadcasting Ordinance ("BO") and other relevant ordinances applicable to the broadcasting and telecommunications sectors. The Administration and CA would then carry out a review of the existing regulatory regimes and introduce legislative changes to update and rationalize the TO and the BO.

To be confirmed

At the Panel meeting on 16 October 2012, Hon Charles Peter MOK requested that the Administration should brief the Panel on the progress of the matter.

17. Spectrum trading

The former Office of the Telecommunications Authority ("OFTA") (replaced by the Office of the Communications Authority ("OFCA") since 1 April 2012) 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, together with the latest international trend and the market situation in Hong Kong in detail to map out the way forward.

To be confirmed

On 24 January 2013, the Administration requested that discussion on the issue, originally scheduled for the meeting on 4 February 2013, be deferred. The Administration will brief the Panel on the next step of the work plan once ready.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

18. Review of Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance

At the Panel meeting on 14 January 2013, the Administration briefed the Panel on the views collected during the second round of public consultation on the review of Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance. The Panel noted that the Administration would study the views received and work with the concerned parties, including the Judiciary, with a view to mapping out the way forward. Members requested the Administration to brief the Panel on the way forward by July 2013 at the latest.

To be confirmed

19. Radio Television Hong Kong - establishment of 22 digital terrestrial television fill-in stations

At the Panel meeting on 9 December 2013, the Panel passed a motion urging the Administration to revert this issue to the Panel for discussion after the funding proposal for the construction of the new Broadcasting House for Radio Television Hong Kong had been approved by the Public Works Subcommittee and the Finance Committee. The Administration was requested to provide a written response to the motion.

To be confirmed