

Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 2 December 2014)

Proposed timing
for discussion

1. Review on regulation of person-to-person telemarketing calls ("P2P 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 P2P 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.

12 January 2015

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 report to members on the progress of the self-regulatory scheme on P2P calls and to brief members on its plan to conduct a review on the regulation on P2P calls.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

On 12 September 2014, Hon Charles Peter MOK wrote to the Panel Chairman requesting the Panel to discuss issues relating to the regulation of P2P telemarketing calls. The letter was issued to Panel members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)1092/13-14(01) on 30 September 2014. At the Panel meeting on 9 October 2014, Hon Charles Peter MOK requested that the Administration should brief the Panel on the progress of the matter.

2. Digital terrestrial television ("DTT") update

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

9 February 2015

3. Review of the Film Development Fund and the Film Guarantee Fund

The Administration will brief the Panel on the findings and the recommendations of the review on the Film Development Fund and the Film Guarantee Fund.

9 February 2015

4. 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. The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress of the matter.

March/April 2015

5. 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.

April/May 2015

6. Annual report on Cyberport

The Administration and the Cyberport management will update the Panel on progress of the Cyberport Project. 11 May 2015

7. Progress report on digital inclusion

The Administration will update the Panel on the latest progress of various digital inclusion initiatives, including the Internet Learning Support Programme. 8 June 2015

8. Progress update on the e-Government development

The Administration will update the Panel on the latest progress of e-Government development since June 2014, and initiatives to support bureaux/departments to achieve their policy objectives and initiatives through wider and better adoption of information technology. 8 June 2015

9. Progress update on digital economy

The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress of the initiatives that facilitate the development of a digital economy. 13 July 2015

10. Information security

The Administration will update the Panel on the progress and development of Government's information security programmes since July 2014. 13 July 2015

11. Update on the work of 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 2014. To be confirmed

12. 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 the Communications Authority ("CA") through the structural merger of the former Telecommunications Authority ("TA") and the Broadcasting Authority ("BA") to enable the CA to deal with increasing market convergence as soon as possible. Upon establishment, the 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 the 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.

13. 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 TO and the BO.

To be confirmed

14. 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.

15. Consultation on the review of conditions in carrier licences (other than exclusive licences) issued under the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106)

The Administration will brief the Panel on the results of the consultation on the review of conditions in carrier licences (other than exclusive licences) issued under the TO and the way forward.

To be confirmed