

商務及經濟發展局
通訊及創意產業科

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COMMUNICATIONS AND
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES BRANCH
COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

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BY FAX AND BY HAND

8 November 2016

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP
Chairman, Panel on Information Technology
and Broadcasting,
Legislative Council
Room 606, Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear *Chairman,*

**Application by
Metro Broadcast Corporation Limited
for Termination of Sound Broadcasting Licence
concerning Digital Audio Broadcasting**

Metro Broadcast Corporation Limited (Metro) was granted a sound broadcasting licence (the Licence) by the Chief Executive in Council on 22 March 2011 to provide digital audio broadcasting (DAB) services. On 12 September 2016, Metro wrote to the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, stating that Metro was seeking the approval of the Chief Executive in Council for the termination of the Licence.

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I write to inform you that, at the meeting of the Executive Council on 8 November 2016, the Council advised and the Chief Executive ordered that the termination of the Licence should be approved with effect from 12 November 2016. I enclose at Annex a bilingual copy of the relevant Legislative Council brief and press release for your reference. Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,



(Miss Susie HO)
Permanent Secretary
for Commerce and Economic Development
(Communications and Creative Industries)

Encls.

c.c. Clerk to Panel, Panel on Information Technology and
Broadcasting
Chairman, Communications Authority

Chief Executive in Council approves termination of digital audio broadcasting licence of Metro

The Government announced today (November 8) that the Chief Executive (CE) in Council has approved the termination of the sound broadcasting licence of Metro Broadcast Corporation Limited (Metro) for provision of its digital audio broadcasting (DAB) services with effect from November 12, 2016.

In accordance with CE in Council's decision, Metro's DAB licence has been amended to end on November 11, 2016.

The CE in Council also approved the revision of the licence fee to be paid by Metro for the licence year 2016/2017 of its DAB services. The fee will be charged on the basis of recovery of costs and expenses incurred by the Office of the Communications Authority in administering the licence for the period from the commencement of the licence year (i.e. September 19, 2016) to the revised end date of the licence (i.e. November 11, 2016), which amounts to \$517,145.

A spokesman for the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau said, "Metro wrote to the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development on September 12, 2016 to seek the approval of the CE in Council for the surrender of its DAB licence.

"Apart from the licence fee to be paid, the Communications Authority considered that there are no outstanding obligations and liabilities accrued under the licence. The CE in Council therefore approved the termination of the DAB licence of Metro."

The spokesman said that the review on the future of DAB services in Hong Kong is underway.

The CE in Council granted on March 22, 2011 a sound broadcasting licence to Metro to provide DAB services, originally for a period of 12 years.

Upon cessation of Metro's DAB services at late night of November 11, re-configuration and maintenance works of the DAB multiplex network has to be carried out from 2am to 6am on November 12 and the DAB services will be affected during that period. Radio Television Hong Kong will make suitable announcements

nearer the time. It is expected that the DAB services will resume normal before 6am on November 12.

Ends/Tuesday, November 8, 2016