

NOTE FOR FINANCE COMMITTEE

Annual Report on the Implementation of Government Computer Systems

At the Finance Committee meeting held on 20 November 1992, the Secretary for the Treasury undertook to provide Members with an annual progress report on the implementation of approved computerisation projects. This is the sixth such report and it shows the position as at 31 March 1998.

2. This report covers the progress of major computer projects funded under the Capital Works Reserve Fund Head 710 Computerisation and Head 708 Capital Subventions and Major Systems and Equipment -

Head 710

- (a) departmental Information Systems Strategy (ISS) plans;
- (b) other major administrative computer systems (i.e. those costing over \$5 million approved prior to 1 April 1995, those costing over \$8 million approved between 1 April 1995 and 24 October 1996 and those costing over \$10 million approved after 24 October 1996); and

Head 708

- (c) non-administrative computer systems costing over \$2 million.

3. Projects completed prior to 1 April 1997, having been covered fully in previous reports, have not been included in this report.

4. As a direct result of the findings in the Director of Audit's report on 'The implementation of the Second Generation Command and Control System and the provision of the 999 emergency call service', we have provided additional information in the annual report by including the non-recurrent staff cost approved for system development/implementation vis- -vis the actual expenditure.

Departmental Information Systems Strategy Plans

----- 5. Appendix 1 gives details of seven departmental ISS plans. In 1997-98, Education Department completed the implementation of all computer applications under its ISS plan. Benefits are expected to be realised in phases including the saving of 12 posts in 1998-99. The remaining projects are, in general, progressing satisfactorily.

Major Administrative Computer Systems

----- 6. Appendix 2 gives details of 30 major administrative computer systems.

7. We completed the following 17 projects in 1997-98 -

- (a) The Computer Equipment for 1996 Population By-census of Census and Statistics Department, which supported the operation of and processed the data for the 1996 Population By-census;
- (b) Computer System for Warehouse Operations, Stock Management and Stores Requisition (GOODSMAN) of Government Supplies Department, which is a new computer-based system for warehouse operations, stock management and stores requisition;
- (c) Residential Care Services Delivery System for the Elderly of Health and Welfare Bureau, which has established a computerised, integrated waitlisting system for all types of residential care services;
- (d) Turnkey Contract for Computerised Utility Management System of Highways Department, which has improved the co-ordination and control of the large volume of road excavation activities carried out by utility operators and for other public purposes;

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- (e) Integrated Housing Information System of Housing Bureau, which is an integrated computerised housing information system on land supply, housing production and the property market;
- (f) Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Travel Document Information System of Immigration Department, which supports the issuance of HKSAR passports in a format and design that meet the international security and facilitation standards;
- (g) Enhancement of Central Bureau Mainframe Computer of Information Technology Services Department, which has increased the capacity of the central bureau mainframe computer to meet increasing requirements;
- (h) Automated Communication, Technical Information and Operation Network (ACTION) of Information Technology Services Department, which is a part of the project - Replacement of Central Bureau Computer;
- (i) Computerisation of the Patent Registration System of Intellectual Property Department, which processes patent and short-term patent applications and grants, maintains an electronic register of patents granted and records subsequent changes to the register;
- (j) Provision of Digital Audio Recording and Transcription Services (DARTS) in Courts of the Judiciary, which has extended court reporting services to District Courts, Magistrates' Courts and Tribunals by the introduction of digital audio recording and transcription services;
- (k) Re-development of Case and Summons Management System (CASEMAN) for Judiciary, which has re-developed the previous CASEMAN to provide bilingual support capability at magistracies and facilitate the electronic exchange of bilingual documents between magistracies and 35 prosecution agencies;
- (l) Provision of DARTS in the High Court, which has replaced the leased digital audio recording equipment in the 12 pilot courts;
- (m) Replacement of the Employee's Compensation Computer System (ECSR) of Labour Department, which has replaced the existing small and fragmented computer systems by a new and integrated network;

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- (n) Computer system for Providing Employment Services of Labour Department, which is to cope with the demand for expanded and enhanced employment services;
- (o) Computer System for Prudential Supervision of Insurance Companies and Regulation of Occupational Pension Schemes of Commissioner of Insurance, which consists of the Occupational Retirement Schemes System and the Insurance System;
- (p) Terminals for New Payroll System of Treasury, which has provided on-line data input facilities to government departments to speed up the payroll process and to improve data accuracy; and
- (q) Replacement of ICL Mainframe Computer of Treasury, which has enhanced system performance and facilitated Year 2000 compliance.

8. We are developing or performing minor enhancements to the remaining 13 projects.

Non-administrative Computer Systems

9. Appendix 3 gives details of nine non-administrative computer systems. In 1997-98, Architectural Services Department, Civil Aviation Department, Environmental Protection Department and Lands Department completed a total of four projects within their approved budgets.