

**Legislative Council Bills Committee on
Legislative Council (Amendment) Bill 2003**

Information Technology Functional Constituency

Introduction

This paper explains the delineation of franchise in respect of the seven umbrella organizations proposed to be included in the information technology (IT) functional constituency (FC), in response to Members' questions raised at the meeting on 5 June 2003.

Adjustments to the IT FC

2. As explained in the Legislative Council (LegCo) Brief issued to Members in February 2003 (Ref. CAB C1/30/5) when we introduced the LegCo (Amendment) Bill 2003, our policy intention is that the number and composition of the existing FCs should remain basically unchanged for the 2004 LegCo elections, except for minor adjustments to the electorate of certain FCs. Such adjustments are to ensure that the composition of the FCs reflects the latest developments in the relevant sector.

3. We have followed the same principle in proposing adjustments to the IT FC. Having consulted relevant bureaux and departments, we have proposed to add the following seven umbrella organizations to the FC -

- a) Information and Software Industry Association Limited (ISIA);
- b) Hong Kong Wireless Technology Industry Association Limited (WTIA);
- c) The Society of Hong Kong External Telecommunications Services Providers Limited (ETS Society);
- d) Hong Kong & Mainland Software Industry Cooperation Association Limited (HMSICA);

- e) Information Systems Audit and Control Association Limited (HK Chapter) (ISACA);
- f) Professional Information Security Association (PISA);
and
- g) Internet Professionals Association Limited (iProA).

4. These seven umbrella organizations are representative bodies in the relevant trade. The delineation of franchise in respect of the seven organizations is explained below.

ISIA, WTIA and ETS Society

5. ISIA, WTIA and ETS Society are all trade associations composed of companies in the respective IT sectors. Full membership of the ISIA is open to local companies which are software developers, system integrators, solutions providers, and consultancy and training providers. A Full Member is entitled to vote at the Association's general meetings.

6. Corporate membership of WTIA is open to companies with business in Hong Kong in developing wireless technology. A Corporate Member of the Association is entitled to vote at the Association's general meetings.

7. As for ETS Society, it is a trade association composed of external telecommunication service providers. Its corporate membership is open to companies which are holders of relevant telecommunications licences. A Corporate Member of the Society is entitled to vote at the Society's general meetings.

8. Our proposal is that Full Members of ISIA, Corporate Members of WTIA and Corporate Members of ETS Society which have been members of the three organizations, and which have been operating for the 12 months immediately before making its application for registration as electors, should be eligible for registration as electors of the FC. The arrangement is similar to that for other umbrella organizations already included in the FC, which are also trade associations.

HMSICA

9. HMSICA is also a trade association. Its full membership is open to local companies with business as software developers, system integrators, solutions providers, content providers, and consultancy and training providers. A Full Member is entitled to vote at the Association's general meetings. HMSICA is active in promoting business integration between Hong Kong and the Mainland. However, it is a relatively new organization. Therefore, we propose that eligibility for registration as electors in the FC be given to its Council Members and Full Members which have been in the IT business for at least five years.

ISACA and PISA

10. Both ISACA and PISA aim at enhancing the recognition of information system security, audit and control, an area which is increasingly important in the IT industry. Given the specialist nature of the two organizations, we consider it appropriate that eligibility for registration as electors in the FC be given to experienced members who are holders of recognized certification. Thus, to be eligible as an FC elector, an ISACA member must have attained the Certified Information Systems Auditor Certification (CISA) for at least five years. Similarly, a member of PISA who wishes to register as an FC elector must have attained the Certified Information Systems Security Professional Certification (CISSP) for at least five years. Both CISA and CISSP are internationally recognized and well established certification in IT security. In addition, members of the governing bodies of the two associations are also eligible for registration as electors.

iProA

11. iProA is an organization with members from the IT field which has been actively promoting the use of internet over the past few years. As iProA is a relatively young organization, we propose including in the FC electorate its Council members and its Fellow Members. According to iProA's constitution, Fellow Members are members who have at least five years' working experience in a company with business mainly in the production, design and provision of IT products and services, or members who have at least five years' working experience in a IT-related technical department of a non-IT company.

Change in Potential Electorate Size

12. The existing potential electorate size of the IT FC is 7 827. Adding the seven umbrella organizations as proposed in paragraphs 5 to 11 will increase the electorate size by 5.62% to 8 267. The adjustment is in line with our policy intention. Incorporating these umbrella organisations into the FC will reflect the latest development of the IT industry and will not result in any drastic change in the size or nature of the electorate.

Constitutional Affairs Bureau
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