Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting

List of outstanding items for discussion

(position as at 6 May 2004)

Proposed timing for discussion*

Broadcasting

1. Licensing and distribution of the content produced by Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK)

June 2004

At the meeting on 19 April 2004, members agreed to discuss with relevant bureaux and department (namely, the Commerce, Industry and Technology Bureau, the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau and RTHK) on licensing and distribution of the programme content produced by RTHK at a meeting to be held in June 2004. The Chairman has advised that members of the Panel on Financial Affairs will be invited to attend the meeting.

2. Domestic/private pirated viewing of subscription television programmes

To be confirmed

As undertaken at the Bills Committee meeting of the Broadcasting (Amendment) Bill 2003 on 2 April 2004, the Administration would review one year after the commencement of the Bill the effectiveness or otherwise of digitization, the implementation of the new provisions and enforcement actions in containing the problem of domestic/private pirated viewing of subscription television programmes. The Administration has also been requested to consider reviewing the level of penalty imposed by courts on decoder-related offences and take any follow-up action as appropriate. The Administration has agreed to report the outcome of its reviews to the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting for its consideration of the way forward in dealing with the problem.

IT-related issues

3. Progress update on E-government programme

July 2004

Last discussed on 12 January 2004. The next progress report will be submitted to the Panel in about July 2004.

^{*} The meeting where the item will be discussed will be subject to confirmation nearer the time.

Proposed timing for discussion*

4. Progress of Cyberport Project

To be considered

Last discussed on 12 January 2004. The Administration was requested to report as much further information as practicable on the Cyberport project before the end of the current LegCo term in July 2004 and to provide a comprehensive report on the project by end 2004/early 2005. The Panel will pay a visit to the Cyberport on 15 June 2004.

Telecommunications

5. Licensing of mobile services on expiry of existing licences for second generation mobile services

To be confirmed

The Administration has issued the first consultation paper in August 2003 to solicit views from the industry and interested parties on the future licensing arrangements after the licences for second generation mobile services (2G licences) expire. A second consultation paper has been issued by the Administration on 19 March 2004 circulated to members (vide LC Paper No. CB(1)1349/03-04). At the request of the telecommunications operators, the Office of the Telecommunications Authority has extended the deadline of consultation from 30 April 2004 to 19 June 2004.

6. Second consultation paper on the review of the regulatory policy for Type II interconnection

To be confirmed

Last discussed on 25 February 2004. The Administration was requested to brief the Panel on the way forward after it has studied submissions in detail and made a decision in the first half of 2004.

7. Issues related to the regulation of pornographic and violent materials transmitted through the mass media

To be confirmed

In response to the letter from the "Anti-Pornographic & Violence Media Campaign" requesting to discuss the subject with the Panel, members has been consulted (vide LC Paper No. CB(1)1400/03-04) and agreed that the Panel should post a general notice on the website of the Council to invite written views on the subject. The Panel will consider the subject at a Panel meeting in due course.

^{*} The meeting where the item will be discussed will be subject to confirmation nearer the time.

Proposed timing for discussion*

Film Development

8. Operation of Film Guarantee Fund

2005

At the meeting on 25 March 2004, the Administration has undertaken to brief the Panel on the way forward for the Film Guarantee Fund in 2005, after reviewing its operation.

Council Business Division 1 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 6 May 2004

^{*} The meeting where the item will be discussed will be subject to confirmation nearer the time.