

Panel on Commerce and Industry

CB(1)21/04-05(02)

List of follow-up actions
(position as at 12 October 2004)

Subject	Date of Meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
1. Government Electronic Trading Services (GETS) market	14.6.2004	The Administration was requested: (a) to consider developing some guidelines and codes of practice for compliance by the service providers on provision of GETS to avoid any anti-competitive behaviour; and (b) to report to the Panel the outcome of the one complaint received and dealt with by the Administration.	As regards (a), the Administration's reply issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)2383/03-04 on 12 July 2004 For (b), the Administration is investigating the complaint and will revert to the Panel upon completion of the investigation.
2. Creating an enabling environment for business	14.6.2004	A member suggested that on top of the existing institutional arrangement, the Administration should consider setting up a separate forum to tap creative ideas and new perspectives which might not be channeled through the existing consultative mechanism. Members were also concerned about the progress of the Government's initiatives for creating an enabling environment for business.	The Administration noted member's suggestion for consideration. An updated list of the Government's initiatives for creating an enabling environment for business provided by the Administration issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)2457/03-04 on 29 July 2004.

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<p>3. Issues related to Television Broadcasts Limited(TVB)'s acquisition of a site in the Tseung Kwan O Estate</p>	<p>6.7.2004</p>	<p>The Administration / Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation were requested to take the follow-up actions listed below:</p> <p>(a) if necessary, with the consent of TVB, to provide the "offer to lease" document issued by the Hong Kong Industrial Estates Corporation (HKIEC) to TVB concerning the land premium payable by the latter for acquisition of a site in Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate;</p> <p>(b) to provide a copy of the consultant's report commissioned in 1998 on the strategic review of the role and operation of HKIEC for members' inspection and if necessary, for making copies of parts of its contents;</p> <p>(c) to consider conducting a review on the policy and procedures concerning the admission of industries into the industrial estates and the measures to ensure a level playing field and equitable treatment for interested parties seeking entry into the industrial estates; and to provide a paper on the outcome of the review to the Panel in due course; and</p> <p>(d) to consider providing for members' reference the relevant parts of the government's files containing records of correspondences/ communications between the Chief Executive(CE)'s Office, the then Trade and Industry Bureau, Industry</p>	<p>The Administration's reply issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)2407/03-04 on 19 July 2004 and vide LC Paper No. CB(1)2516/03-04 on 13 September 2004.</p>

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		<p>Department and HKIEC concerning the land premium of a site applied by TVB in Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate during the period after the CE's Office had received TVB's letter dated 21 December 1998 up to the juncture when the HKIEC Board approved TVB's application.</p> <p>Members also agreed that the Panel should seek clarification from Mr Edward S.T.HO, OBE, SBS, JP, the former Chairman of HKIEC Board on whether he had discussed the matter with CE during the period 11 November 1998 to 6 February 1999 and if so, the details and outcome of the discussion.</p>	<p>In response to the Clerk's letter dated 8 July 2004, Mr HO has given his written reply which was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)2385/03-04(01) on 12 July 2004.</p>
<p>4. Information and analysis on the latest development of different places/regions</p>	<p>12.7.2004</p>	<p>A member suggested that the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices might be tasked to canvass information on the latest development of different places/regions and disseminate such information on a monthly basis together with an analysis to the Hong Kong community, in particular to the business sector, through the media.</p>	<p>The Administration noted the suggestion. It has subsequently advised that such information is available at the website of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (TDC), which contains profile reports and potential business opportunities on all major markets of interest to Hong Kong businessmen and trade/commercial bodies. These profile reports, which are updated by TDC regularly, give concise accounts of the recent economic and trade development in these markets and their trade ties with Hong Kong. The Administration considers that the</p>

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			business sector should find these reports useful.
5. Measures for monitoring the operation of the AsiaWorld-Expo (AWE)	12.7.2004	<p>Members were concerned about the measures in place for monitoring the operation of AWE and requested the Administration to provide the following information for reference:</p> <p>(a) the Management and Operating Agreement entered between Hong Kong IEC Ltd and AWE Management Ltd; and</p> <p>(b) the preferred rate of return for IEC Investments Ltd.</p> <p>A member suggested that the Panel should explore the subject further with the Administration in the next legislative session.</p>	The Administration's preliminary reply issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)2419/03-04 on 20 July 2004. The Administration will revert to the Panel in due course on its request after obtaining the views from the companies concerned and the advice from the Department of Justice.
6. Update on the operation of the Applied Research Fund (ARF)	11.12.2000	Members were briefed on the operation of ARF. It was agreed that the Administration would submit quarterly reports to the Panel to keep members informed of the latest development of ARF.	The Administration has issued 13 updates (LC Paper Nos. CB(1) 989/00-01, 1834/00-01, 939/01-02, 1232/01-02(04), 2185/01-02, 24/02-03, 582/02-03, 1415/02-03, 2008/02-03, 2522/02-03(01), 616/03-04(01), 1381/03-04(01) and 2431/03-04(01)) on the operation of ARF since January 2001. The next report will be due for December 2004.