

**Requests for further information raised at the special meeting of the
Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting on 2 February 2005**

Encl. No. (13) and Encl. No. (16) of the List of Correspondence/Documents between Government and the then Pacific Century Group (PCG) on the Cyberport project tabled at the meeting on 2 February 2005 and circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(1)852/04-05(01)

Members noted from encl. (13) that on 26 January 1999, the former Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau (ITBB) handed to PCG a “Mode of Implementation : Possible Framework” in which certain queries were raised under paragraph 2(a) to (e) on the fundamental issues to be addressed. Some 15 days later, on 11 February 1999, Mr K C KWONG, former Secretary for Information Technology and Broadcasting (SITB) sent a letter (encl. (16)) to PCG suggesting modifications to PCG’s proposed arrangements. Members would like to be provided with all relevant information, including any documents and records of internal deliberations, on what had transpired during this period that led to the Administration’s position on the proposed joint venture with PCG as contained in encl. (16), as well as whether and how the queries raised under paragraph 2(a) to (e) in encl. (13) had been addressed.

2. Members would also like to know who authorized the broad framework for the Cyberport project and the signing of the Letter of Intent (LOI) with PCG.

The Government’s decision to develop a Cyberport

3. Noting that the Government’s decision to build a Cyberport was announced by the Financial Secretary in March 1999, some two months after the Chief Executive’s visit to Israel with the top management of PCG, some members requested the Administration to

- (a) provide information (including documents/correspondences) on the exchanges of ideas and discussion, if any, between the Chief Executive and the top management of PCG on the proposed Cyberport project before March 1999; and
- (b) any relevant written information/papers documenting the Government’s decision to take forward the project in conjunction with PCG;

4. The Administration was requested to provide a schedule setting out the chronology of events and the stakeholders and decision-makers involved, starting from the initial discussion of the Cyberport project, progress of negotiation, consideration by the Executive Council up to the final decision on taking the project forward in conjunction with PCG.

Decision not to accept the offer proposed by a group of public listed companies

5. Members noted copy of a letter dated 21 April 1999 from Vincent T K CHEUNG, YAP & CO representing a group of public listed companies addressed to the Financial Secretary which suggested that the Government should put the residential part of the project up for tender while the group of companies were prepared to underwrite a minimum reserve price of HK\$8 billion. Members asked who was responsible for making the decision to reject the offer.

Decision to waive the take-up guarantee by PCG as originally specified in the LOI

6. Members questioned who was responsible for making the decision on waiving the take-up guarantee by PCG and the soundness of the decision.

Discussion of the Cyberport project by the Executive Council in 1998 and 1999

7. The Panel Chairman has requested the Administration to inform members the dates on which the Executive Council had considered the Cyberport project in 1998 and 1999, including the date on which the Executive Council approved the project in principle and the date on which it gave formal approval to the project.