

**Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members  
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09**

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
Session No. : 3**

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)001**

Question Serial No.

2030

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:            (1) Broadcasting, Film Services and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    The public will be engaged in the review of the provisions of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance in 2008-09. What are the details of such plans and what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by:    Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:        The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau is conducting a comprehensive review of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance. Our plan is to consult the public at the second half of the year. District forums, focus group discussions etc. will be organised to widely engage various sectors of the community and relevant organisations. The Communications and Technology Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau and the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority will undertake the work arising from the public consultation exercise through redeployment of existing resources.

Name in block letters      Mrs Rita Lau

Post Title                      Permanent Secretary for Commerce  
and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Date                              20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)002**

Question Serial No.

2031

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting, Film Services and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: In respect of broadcasting, will there be any improvement measures for digital audio broadcasting in 2008-09 and what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply: Digital audio broadcasting (DAB) technology has been available for some while, technical trials have been conducted in Hong Kong and proved to be technically feasible. The Government has been adopting a market-led policy for the development of DAB and spectrum has been reserved for the development of digital radio service since 2000. Companies interested in DAB can apply to the Telecommunications Authority to carry out technical trials. However, the experience in other places of the world in the launching of digital radio services is not very encouraging, some countries in Northern Europe have even decided to terminate such service. So far no application has been received for the provision of digital radio services in Hong Kong.

With the latest technological development and the converging trend of video and audio services, DAB and television broadcasting can be provided on the same platform. In this connection, the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau and the Office of the Telecommunications Authority are now conducting a public consultation on the development of mobile television services. A flexible approach is proposed where operators, alongside the development of mobile television services, are allowed to use a maximum of 50% of the transmission capacity for the provision of DAB and other ancillary services. We hope that the proposal can facilitate the development of digital radio broadcasting in Hong Kong. The public consultation exercise will be completed in April 2008. The work will be absorbed by the existing manpower of the Communication and Technology Branch and no additional resources are needed.

Name in block letters Mrs Rita Lau  
Post Title Permanent Secretary for Commerce  
and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)  
Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)003**

Question Serial No.

2425

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:            (1) Broadcasting, Film Services and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    In respect of broadcasting, will resources be allocated in 2008-09 for the improvement of the application procedures for using AM/FM channels so that more people can be able to apply for setting up radio stations? If so, what are the details and the expenditure incurred? If not, why?

Asked by:    Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:        Applicants wishing to operate a sound broadcasting service are required to apply to the Broadcasting Authority (BA) for a sound broadcasting licence under the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106), regardless of whether AM, FM or other frequency bands are to be used. To enable the applicants to have a thorough understanding of the application procedures, the BA has issued guidelines setting out all the necessary information required for the processing of the application.

Among the existing spectrum suitable for sound broadcasting, all AM and FM channels with territory-wide coverage, except one AM channel, have been allocated. Recently, an application for the use of this remaining AM channel to provide broadcasting service for territory-wide reception has been received. The application is now being processed in accordance with the Telecommunications Ordinance and established procedures.

Apart from AM and FM broadcast, the Government has reserved spectrum in L-Band and Band III for the development of digital radio broadcasting since 2000. Interested operators can apply to the Telecommunications Authority for technical trials.

The legislation on sound broadcasting, the licensing regime and the spectrum allocation policy will be reviewed from time to time so as to cope with the latest technological and market development as well as social needs. These reviews will be undertaken by the existing staff of the Communications and Technology Branch of Commerce and Economic Development Bureau.

Name in block letters      Mrs Rita Lau

Post Title      Permanent Secretary for Commerce  
and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Date      20.3.2008



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)004**

Question Serial No.

2536

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch) Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting, Film Services and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: In his Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary states that there are more than 170 000 people working in the local creative industries with total value-added exceeding \$53 billion a year, and that the potential of the creative economy is immense. In this regard, will the Administration inform the Committee of the following:

- (a) What types of creative industries are these 170 000 people working in? Please provide a breakdown of the workforce by type of the creative industries.
- (b) From what types of creative industries does the gross output of \$53 billion come from? Please provide a breakdown of the output by type of the creative industries.
- (c) What percentage of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in this year will the creative economy account for?
- (d) What percentage of GDP will the creative economy account for in the next ten years?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply: (a) According to the data provided by the Census and Statistics Department, the and  
(b) breakdown of the number of workforce and the gross output of the creative industries by type of industry in 2006 are as follows:

Type of the creative industry	Number of workforce	Gross output (\$ million)
Art, antiques and crafts	22 640	741
Advertising	19 790	3,786
Architecture	6 710	9,095
Design	6 690	982
Software and computing	33 850	17,935
Film and video	10 990	1,930

Type of the creative industry	Number of workforce	Gross output (\$ million)
Publishing	49 410	11,955
Performing arts, television and radio	11 760	6,710
Digital entertainment	8 210	195
<b>Total</b>	<b>170 050</b>	<b>53,329</b>

- (c) In the past few years, the creative economy accounted for about 3.7% to 3.8% of the GDP of Hong Kong. It is anticipated that the creative industries will have a similar share of the GDP this year.
- (d) We are now studying and formulating an overall strategy for accelerating the development of our creative industries. In the next few years, we will implement a number of major projects (e.g. the development of the West Kowloon Cultural District) as well as take part in and host a number of large-scale international events (e.g. 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, 2009 East Asian Games, the World Exposition 2010 in Shanghai, etc.). These projects will provide our creative industries with new business opportunities and room for further development. Therefore, it is anticipated that the creative economy will have an increasing share of the GDP in the coming years. Nevertheless, in a free economy like Hong Kong, different segments of the economy will develop in different paces. We are unable to have an estimate of the percentage of GDP that the creative economy will account for in the next ten years.

Name in block letters Mrs Rita Lau

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Commerce  
and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)005**

Question Serial No.

0357

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding the studies (including in-house studies or those commissioned to consultants) conducted by the Bureau for the purposes of formulating and assessing policies, please provide the relevant information in the following format:

- (1) For the projects with provision allocated for conducting consultancy studies in 2007-08, please provide information in the following format:

Name of Consultant (if any)	Content	Revised Estimate (\$)	Progress of Studies (under planning / in progress / completed)	Follow-up actions on the studies taken by the Administration and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been published to the public? If so, through which channels? If not, what are the reasons?

- (2) Is there any project for which provision has been allocated for conducting consultancy study in 2008-09? If so, please provide the following information:

Name of Consultant (if any)	Content	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of Studies (under planning / in progress / completed)	Will the studies be published to the public if they are expected to be completed in the 2008-09 financial year? If so, through which channels? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply: In 2007-08, no financial provision was allocated for conducting any consultancy studies. We are now planning the consultancy study shown in the table below and anticipate to start work in 2008-09 for the implementation of the Radio Spectrum Policy Framework.

Name of Consultant (if any)	Content	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of Studies (under planning / in progress / completed)	Will the studies be released to the public if they are expected to be completed in the 2008-09 financial year? If yes, through which channels? If no, what are the reasons?
Not available	Consultancy Study on Radio Spectrum Pricing System	Tender exercise is in progress and it is not appropriate to disclose the estimated expenditure	under planning	The study results will be used as an internal reference in determining the appropriate pricing system for radio spectrum auction / assignment exercises.

Name in block letters Mrs Rita Lau

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Technology)

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)006**

Question Serial No.

2351

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch) Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting, Film Services and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: In 2007-08, what initiatives had been taken to support the development of the film industry and what were the financial resources involved? How was the effectiveness of the initiatives? In 2008-09, what additional measures are expected to take in order to strengthen the support for the development of the film industry and what are the financial resources involved?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply: The SAR Government has been supporting the sustainable development of the local film industry. In 2007-08, we commenced two major initiatives including the establishment of the Hong Kong Film Development Council (FDC) in April 2007 to advise the Government on the policy and strategy for the promotion and development of the film industry in both short and long run; and the injection of a total of \$300 m into the Film Development Fund (FDF) in July 2007 with an enlarged scope to finance the production of small-to-medium budget films. In 2007-08, two funding applications for small-to-medium budget film productions were approved by the FDC and the total amount so incurred was \$5.2 m. In 2008-09, the Government will continue its support and the FDC will keep up its efforts to promote and support the development of the industry, including assessing funding applications under the FDF. The total expenditure for the Film Services Office of the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority in 2008-09 is \$77.6 m, representing an increase of \$41.1 m over the revised estimate in 2007-08. The increased provision is mainly for financing small-to-medium budget film productions, supporting projects and activities conducive to the long-term development of the local film industry as well as covering the emoluments for the post of Secretary-General of the FDC as approved by the Legislative Council in July 2007.

Name in block letters Mrs Rita Lau

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Commerce  
and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)007**

Question Serial No.

1168

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:            (1) Broadcasting, Film Services and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    It is mentioned in Paragraph 107 of the Budget that the potential of the creative economy is immense and we must expand the market abroad in order to accelerate its growth.

- (a)    How much provision will be earmarked for local education, promotion and research on the development of creative industries which the community still knows little about?
- (b)    Will there be any locally-based innovative measures or new initiatives to assist the local creative industries? In particular, what support will be given to young talents or community groups to develop their creative businesses?

Asked by:    Hon. LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie

- Reply:
- (a)    In 2008-09, we will continue to support various activities to promote the local creative industries to the public, such as the Entertainment Expo Hong Kong organised by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council to showcase the achievements of Hong Kong's film, television, music and digital entertainment services. We will also support the local comics and animation sector to hold a roving exhibition this year to showcase their developments and achievements. The exhibition will be held in various venues across the territory during the year. Moreover, through the Innovation and Technology Commission, we will step up our promotional efforts at the community level, targeting at teenagers and students, with the aim to enhancing the culture of innovation in Hong Kong and nurturing talents for participating in and supporting the development of the creative industries. The expenditure so incurred will be met by deployment of our existing resources.
  - (b)    We are studying and formulating an overall strategy to drive the development of our creative economy, and nurturing creative talents and supporting the development of community groups will be a key element of the strategy. The Financial Secretary and the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development have met the representatives of the local creative industries to listen to their views on the development of creative economy in Hong Kong. We will carefully consider their valuable advice in the formulation of the development strategy.

Name in block letters Mrs Rita Lau

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Commerce  
and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)008**

Question Serial No.

1262

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting, Film Services and Creative

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: With regard to “engaging the public in the review of the provisions of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance, please inform this Committee:

- (a) What are the details of various consultation plans to engage the public in the review?
- (b) What steps will be undertaken to engage the stakeholders in the consultation process?
- (c) What are the expenditures involved in the above mentioned plans/programmes?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply: (a) and (b) The Communications and Technology Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CTB) and the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority (TELA) are conducting a comprehensive review of the provisions of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance. We aim to widely consult the public in the second half of the year. We plan to conduct public discussion forums, focus group discussions, and will actively engage all stakeholders, including the information technology industry, to seek their views. Details of the various engagement activities will be announced nearer the time.

(c) CTB and TELA will absorb the work and related expenditure within our existing resources.

Name in block letters      Mrs Rita Lau

Post Title      Permanent Secretary for Commerce  
and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Date      20.3.2008



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)009**

Question Serial No.

1263

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:      With regard to “developing implementation plans and conducting the necessary follow-up studies arising from the spectrum policy framework”, please inform this Committee:

- (a)      What are the details of various plans/programmes to achieve this goal?      What is the expenditure involved?
- (b)      In particular, what are the areas of which follow-up studies will be undertaken?      Do the areas include feasibility study on opening up the radio spectrum?      What is the expenditure for these studies?

Asked by:      Hon. SIN Chung-kai

- Reply:
- (a)      The Spectrum Policy Framework (“the Framework”) promulgated in April 2007 provides guidance for the Telecommunications Authority (“the Authority”) to formulate spectrum strategy and management arrangements. The Authority will under the Framework publish the Spectrum Release Plan annually to advise the telecommunications industry of the spectrum that might be made available to the market in the next three years through open bidding or tendering, and the potential uses of the spectrum. In 2008-09, the Authority will release spectrum by auction for the provision of Broadband Wireless Access services and for expansion of public mobile services. The Office of the Telecommunications Authority, which operates as a trading fund, would absorb the expenditure incurred for the implementation of the Framework.
  - (b)      The only follow-up consultancy study we are planning to conduct in 2008-09 is spectrum pricing system. Radio spectrum usage is not included in the study. As the tender exercise is in progress, it is not appropriate to disclose the estimated expenditure.

Name in block letters Mrs Rita Lau

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Commerce  
and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)010**

Question Serial No.

1392

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:            (1) Broadcasting, Film Services and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    With regard to “continuing to oversee the further implementation of digital terrestrial television broadcasting”, please inform this Committee:

- i.     What are the details of the implementation plans that will be commenced this year? What is the expenditure involved?
- ii.    Will there be plans to subsidize low income groups to upgrade the facilities to receive the digital broadcasting signals? If no, why? If yes, what is the expenditure involved?
- iii.   Will there be plans to help recycling and/or reusing of the replaced TV sets arising from the transformation to digital broadcasting? If no, why? If yes, what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by:    Hon. SIN Chung-kai

- Reply:
- i.     In 2008-09, we will continue to oversee the implementation of digital terrestrial television (DTT). We will work closely with the two domestic free television programme services licencees on network construction in order to achieve the committed target of 75% digital coverage by August 2008. We will also keep up the publicity and consumer education efforts, e.g. providing the most up-to-date information through our dedicated website, conducting briefings for all 18 District Councils, and collecting public feedback and opinions on DTT and working together with the Consumer Council on promotion and public education, etc. CTB will absorb the expenditure involved within its approved allocation.
  - ii.    DTT will bring various benefits to viewers, e.g., better reception, more TV channels and programming choices, high-definition TV, etc. Viewers may choose to upgrade/purchase facilities for DTT reception at their own pace and cost. Presently, we have no plan to provide subsidy for the reception of DTT services.
  - iii.   In conjunction with the Environmental Protection Department, trade associations of consumer electronics products and concerned voluntary organizations, we have been disseminating green messages to the public on the use and disposal of old television sets, including the territory-wide recovery programme aiming to channel waste electrical and electronic equipment for reuse and recycling. CTB will continue with the work and will meet the necessary additional expenditure within its approved allocation.

Name in block letters Mrs Rita Lau

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Commerce  
and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)011**

Question Serial No.

1543

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting, Film Service and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: With regard to “mapping out an overall strategy for developing creative industries and implementing related support measures”, please inform this Committee:

- (i) What plans/programmes has the Administration done last year in relation to this objective? How was the effect/outcome of those plans/programmes? What is the expenditure involved?
- (ii) What are the details of the plans/programmes that will be done this year? In particular, will there be plans/programmes targeting the fields of
  - (a) Software Development; and
  - (b) Digital Entertainment?What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

- Reply:
- (i) In formulating an overall strategy to promote creative industries, we will seek to build on our existing strength and at the same time develop new initiatives to develop Hong Kong into a creative capital. Support measures which we have implemented in 2007-08 include:
    - (a) injecting \$300 m into the Film Development Fund for the purpose of encouraging and supporting the production of small to medium scale films. As at end-February 2008, a total of nine film related projects which amounts to \$15 m and two film projects involving the release of \$5.2 m have been approved by the Film Development Council;
    - (b) \$100 m was allocated to support the operation of the Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC) in order to strengthen the brand and status of Hong Kong as a world-renowned centre of design and creativity. Some \$18.8 m has been disbursed for HKDC in 2007-08;
    - (c) implementation of the \$250 m DesignSmart Initiative (DSI) to strengthen the support for promotion of design by providing resource support for projects in design and branding-related research, design and business collaboration, professional continuing education and promotion of a design culture. Since its inception in 2004, DSI has provided funding support to 154 projects. Some \$29.5 m has been disbursed in 2007-08;

- (d) through the operation of the InnoCentre, provides a one-stop shop and a focal point for support and services to the design industry. As at end February 2008, 28 design companies have been admitted as tenants, and 31 incubatees are being nurtured. We have expended some \$2.7 m for the Design Incubation Programme in 2007-08; and
- (e) facilitating the development of the local software development and digital entertainment industries through the Office of the Chief Government Information Officer (OGCIO) which provides funding and other appropriate forms of support to worthwhile projects undertaken by the industry. Special emphasis has mainly been placed on expanding local business opportunities; exploring Mainland and overseas markets; nurturing development of professional talents and enterprises; improving quality of service and building capability; promoting excellence and quality; and providing funding and infrastructure support. In 2007-08, we have provided about \$5.5 m in funding assistance to initiatives undertaken by industry bodies.

In addition to the above support measures, we also participated in the Shanghai International Creative Industry Week exhibition in November 2007 where the achievements of our creative industries were showcased and exploration of Mainland market undertaken. The expenditure involved is around \$3.3 m which was met by internal deployment of resources. We have also started preparation work for our participation in the Shanghai Expo 2010.

- (ii) In 2008-09, the Administration will formulate an overall strategy in speeding up the development of our creative industries with a view to building Hong Kong into a creative capital. Meanwhile, we will continue with our measures in support of the creative industries as stated in (i) above.

To promote our creative industries outside Hong Kong, we plan to participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> China (Shenzhen) International Cultural Industries Fair to be held in May 2008. We will also support the organisation of roving exhibitions for the “Project 9707” which features Hong Kong’s top local designers and showcases Hong Kong’s creativity and quality in design. The exhibitions will be staged in four major cities in Europe and the US. In addition, we will continue to prepare for our participation in the Shanghai Expo 2010.

As regards measures in support of our software development and digital entertainment industries in 2008-09, OGCIO will continue with the work as set out in (i)(e) above and will respond to requests from the industry and provide funding and other appropriate forms of support to worthwhile projects initiated by the industry. The expenditure involved will be met by internal deployment of resources.

Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Rita Lau</u>
Post Title	<u>Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Technology)</u>
Date	<u>20.3.2008</u>

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)012**

Question Serial No.

1848

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting, Film Services and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: With regard to “following up on the outcome of the consultation on the implementation framework for mobile television” and “assessing the impact of technological and market convergence in order to facilitate the development of broadcasting, telecommunications and information technology”, please inform this Committee:

- (i) What are the details of the related consultations, researches or studies to assess “the impact of technological and market convergence”? In particular, how are the stakeholders involved in the due process? What is the expenditure involved?
- (ii) What are the follow up plans/programmes that will be done this year? What is the expenditure involved?
- (iii) Will there be assessment on the impact of implementing mobile television has on the “technological and market convergence” that is already taking place? If yes, what are the details of the plans? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply: (i) and (ii) Technological convergence has been blurring the boundary of broadcasting, telecommunications and information technology, and gradually transforming conventional sector-based markets into a cross-sector multimedia market. To cope with this challenge, the Government has been carrying out studies on the regulatory regime of the electronic communications sector in Hong Kong, including conducting desktop researches on overseas practice and development, attending international conferences and other major industry conventions organized by international organizations such as International Telecommunication Union, etc. Views from the local industry and the general public will also be collected through consultation exercises on various subjects such as the proposed introduction of a Unified Carrier Licence as a new licensing regime for fixed-mobile convergence in the telecommunications sector and the provision of mobile television services. The work involved is undertaken by the Communications and Technology Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau and the relevant Departments as part of their normal duties and the expenditures absorbed within their existing resources.

(iii) Mobile television or multi-media service is itself a marked phenomenon of technological and media convergence, allowing video and audio contents to be delivered digitally and simultaneously in the same frequency spectrum for

reception by handheld devices. To capture the new technology, the Government is conducting a public consultation to facilitate the introduction of broadcast-type mobile television services which also allows for flexibility for the introduction of digital audio broadcasting services. Subject to the outcome of consultation and favourable market response, the Telecommunications Authority will auction the relevant frequency spectrum in early 2009. The expenditure involved in the public consultation exercise will be met within existing allocation.

Name in block letters Mrs Rita Lau

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Commerce  
and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Date 20.3.2008



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)013**

Question Serial No.

0989

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcasting, Film Services and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

- Question:
- (a) With additional provision being allocated for promoting creative industries in 2008-09, how many committed and planned projects are there in this regard? How many of them are new projects? How many of them will be implemented outside Hong Kong so as to achieve the target of stepping up the promotion of our local brand names overseas and in the Mainland as stated in the Budget?
  - (b) It is stated in the Budget that there are now more than 170 000 people working in the creative industries, with total value-added exceeding \$53 billion a year. What is the amount of investment for each of the above promotional projects? Is there any assessment of the cost-effectiveness of the promotional projects in terms of the number of persons engaged and the total value-added?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

- Reply:
- (a) In 2008-09, we will join hands with our local creative industries to take part in various events held in the Mainland and overseas for promoting our creative industries and tapping new markets. Committed and planned projects include the participation in the 4th China (Shenzhen) International Cultural Industries Fair to be held in Shenzhen this May, and the organisation of roving exhibitions for the “Project 9707”, a local design project that marked the 10th anniversary of reunification of Hong Kong with China. The roving exhibitions will be staged in four cities in Europe and North America, i.e. Toronto, Canada; Milan, Italy; London, the United Kingdom and New York, the United States.

Apart from the above promotional activities to be held in the Mainland and overseas, we will also support various local activities in promoting our creative industries, such as the Entertainment Expo Hong Kong organised by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council to showcase the achievements of Hong Kong’s film, television, music and digital entertainment services. We will also provide support to the “Business of Design Week” organised by the Hong Kong Design Centre, which has become the largest annual design event in Asia. Moreover, we will organise a roving exhibition to showcase developments and achievements of our comics and animation sector. The exhibition will be held in various venues in Hong Kong during the year.

- (b) Regarding the various promotion activities for creative industries mentioned in part (a), some \$9.5 m will be allocated from the DesignSmart Initiative for staging roving exhibitions of the “Project 9707” in Europe and North America. Other activities are still under planning and an estimate is not available for the time being. In assessing

the effectiveness of the above activities, we will take into account the views of the local creative industries. Comments and feedback from participants will also be taken as reference indicators. Besides, we will examine the statistics related to our creative economy from time to time so as to help the Government draw up a strategy to drive the development of our creative industries.

Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Rita Lau</u>
Post Title	<u>Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Technology)</u>
Date	<u>20.3.2008</u>

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)014**

Question Serial No.

0990

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:            (1) Broadcasting, Film Services and Creative Industries

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    It is mentioned in the Budget that Hong Kong is applying to take part in the “Urban Best Practice Area” at the World Exposition 2010. How much provision is expected to be earmarked should the bid be successful? Will additional provision be required then? How will the manpower and other resources be deployed?

Asked by:    Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply:        Our application for participation in the “Urban Best Practices Area” exhibition at the World Exposition 2010 Shanghai China (World Expo 2010 Shanghai) is being assessed by the organiser of the World Expo 2010 Shanghai. A detailed estimate of the manpower and resources required for our participation in the exhibition will only be made after our application has been admitted. Such information is not yet available at this juncture.

Name in block letters      Mrs Rita Lau

Post Title                      Permanent Secretary for Commerce  
and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Date                                20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)015**

Question Serial No.

2131

Head: 55 – Government Secretariat : Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Communications and Technology Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Telecommunications

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: What will be the expenses incurred and resources allocated for monitoring the implementation of the Unsolicited Electronic Messages Ordinance and the Unsolicited Electronic Messages Regulations as well as other non-legislative anti-spamming measures. Please provide details on the concrete plan.

Asked by: Hon. YOUNG Howard

Reply: The Office of the Telecommunications Authority (“OFTA”) is the principal enforcement agency under the Unsolicited Electronic Messages Ordinance (“UEMO”) and the Unsolicited Electronic Messages Regulation (“UEMR”), with the Hong Kong Police Force (“HKPF”) enforcing those provisions relating to fraud and other illicit activities. OFTA is also responsible for implementation of non-legislative measures to combat the problem of spamming, such as cooperating with international organisations to counter spam and enhancing public awareness of the spam problem through various educational programmes. As OFTA is operated under trading fund, the cost incurred for enforcing the UEMO and the UEMR will be absorbed by OFTA Trading Fund. HKPF’s enforcement work will be absorbed within its existing provisions.

In addition, the Communications and Technology Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau provides secretariat service to the Unsolicited Electronic Messages (Enforcement Notices) Appeal Board (“Appeal Board”) established under the UEMO. We will deploy existing resources to support the operation of the Appeal Board.

An Anti-spamming Task Force (“Task Force”) with members drawn from the community and the related industries has been set up to monitor the implementation of the UEMO and to advise Government on other non-legislative measures to combat spamming. We will deploy existing resources to support the operation of the Task Force.

Name in block letters Mrs Rita Lau

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Commerce  
and Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)016**

Question Serial No.

1129

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: At present, how many premises in the three industrial estates (IEs) located at Tai Po, Yuen Long and Tseung Kwan O are really for industrial use? How many of them are for warehousing purpose? What are the respective vacancy rates of the three IEs? Can the Administration give a breakdown of the existing types of industrial activities carried out in the three IEs respectively?

Asked by: Hon. CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, Selina

Reply: The land of IEs is for lease to manufacturing and service industries with new or improved technology and processes which cannot operate in multi-storey factories or commercial buildings for industrial purpose. Currently, there are production-related warehousing activities carried out by companies operating in IEs. However, applications for warehousing purpose alone will not be accepted. If the original land use in the application for an industrial estate site is changed, the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation will take appropriate actions.

All the land of the Tai Po IE has been leased out. There is only one factory premises for leasing under tender. As for the Yuen Long IE, there are 1.4 hectares of land that have not yet been used for building factory, representing a vacancy rate of 2%, and 2 factories occupying an area of 5.6 hectares are available for lease. Moreover, there are about 25 hectares of usable land in the Tseung Kwan O IE. The unleased land accounts for about 33% of the total area.

The business conducted in IEs can be categorised under manufacturing industry (13 industry types) and service industry (four industry types). The industry types of the manufacturing industry include building materials, chemicals & gases, dyeing & finishing, electronic parts, food & beverages, machinery & parts, metal parts & products, paper packaging & other products, pharmaceutical products, plastics resins & plastic products, printing & publishing, other manufacturing (e.g. compact disc, optical fibre and lens), and supporting service. The industry types of the service industry include broadcasting, cargo handling and forwarding, data processing centre and transmitter installation.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)017**

Question Serial No.

0358

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and  
Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding the studies (including in-house studies or those commissioned to consultants) conducted by the Bureau for the purposes of formulating and assessing policies, please provide the relevant information in the following format:

- (1) For the projects with provision allocated for conducting consultancy studies in 2007-08, please provide information in the following format:

Name of Consultant (if any)	Content	Revised Estimate (\$)	Progress of Studies (under planning / in progress / completed)	Follow-up actions on the studies taken by the Administration and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been published to the public? If so, through which channels? If not, what are the reasons?

- (2) Is there any project for which provision has been allocated for conducting consultancy study in 2008-09? If so, please provide the following information:

Name of Consultant (if any)	Content	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of Studies (under planning / in progress / completed)	Will the studies be published to the public if they are expected to be completed in the 2008-09 financial year? If so, through which channels? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

(1) Projects that have reserved funds for conducting consultancy studies in 2007-08:

Name of Consultant (if any)	Content	Revised Estimate (\$)	Progress of Studies (under planning / in progress / completed)	The follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been released to the public? If yes, through which channels? If no, what are the reasons?
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology R and D Corporation Limited	To study the setting up of a viable mechanism for the collection and analysis of data relating to research and development (R&D) and innovation activities in Hong Kong and their impact on the local economy.	392,500	In progress	-	-

(2) Project that will reserve funds for conducting consultancy study in 2008-09:

Name of Consultant (if any)	Content	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of Studies (under planning / in progress / completed)	Will the studies be released to the public if they are expected to be completed in the 2008-09 financial year? If yes, through which channels? If no, what are the reasons?
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology R and D Corporation Limited	To study the setting up of a viable mechanism for the collection and analysis of data relating to R&D and innovation activities in Hong Kong and their impact on the local economy.	588,751	In progress	The study results will be used for the future collection of data so as to analyse the impact of R&D and innovation activities on the local economy.
Not available	Study on the biotechnology industry in the Pearl River Delta.	- (Note1)	Under planning	The study results will be used as an internal reference for the formulation of relevant strategies to promote the development of biotechnology industry in Hong Kong.

Name of Consultant (if any)	Content	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of Studies (under planning / in progress / completed)	Will the studies be released to the public if they are expected to be completed in the 2008-09 financial year? If yes, through which channels? If no, what are the reasons?
Not available	The development and demand of data centres in Hong Kong	- (Note2)	Under planning	The study results will be used as an internal reference for the formulation of relevant strategies to promote the development of data centres in Hong Kong.

Note 1: Tender exercise will be conducted and it is not appropriate to disclose the estimated expenditure.

Note 2: Tender exercise is in progress and it is not appropriate to disclose the estimated expenditure.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)018**

Question Serial No.

0209

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (4) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Compared with the original estimate in 2007-08, the estimated financial provision for 2008-09 will increase by 58.7%. In order to enhance technology co-operation with the Mainland, how will the relevant department use the provision on the work of the Mainland/Hong Kong Science and Technology Cooperation Committee, the Pan-PRD Joint Conference on Regional Cooperation in Science and Technology, the Guangdong/Hong Kong Expert Group on Cooperation in Innovation and Technology, and the Steering Group on Shenzhen/Hong Kong Co-operation in Innovation and Technology? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew

Reply: The majority of the increased provision under this Programme will be used to foster an innovation and technology culture, thereby promoting the long-term and sustainable development of innovation and technology. Over the years, the Innovation and Technology Commission has been organising a large variety of publicity and promotional activities with a view to enhancing the awareness and interest of the public on innovation, technology and design as well as nurturing more young creative talents. With the increased resources, we would be able to carry out the work in this regard in a more comprehensive manner.

As for the technology cooperation with the Mainland, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government has already established collaborative arrangements with the Mainland in different levels, including the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Information Industry, Guangdong Provincial Department of Science and Technology, the Shenzhen Municipal Government and various provinces in the Pan-PRD region.

Through the existing mechanisms, including various committees and expert groups, we will continue to formulate specific collaboration plans in the coming year to foster technology cooperation and exchange between Hong Kong and the Mainland. It is expected that the expenditure for organising the meetings and exchange activities is about \$450,000. Meanwhile, we will continue to support research and development projects approved under the Guangdong-Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme and the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme with funding from the Innovation and Technology Fund.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)019**

Question Serial No.

1112

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (4) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development  
    (5) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Concerning “Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision”, it is stated under Programme (4) that a 59.4% increase in the provision for 2008-09 is “mainly due to the increased provision for promoting a culture of innovation, technology and design in the community...”. Meanwhile, it is stated under Programme (5) that a 19% increase in the provision is due to “the increased cash flow requirement for a non-recurrent item (DesignSmart Initiative)”. Will the Administration advise what steps have been taken to ensure that the new DesignSmart initiative does not overlap with other government programmes?

Asked by: Hon. LI Kwok-po, David

Reply: For Programme (4), the activities are for promotion of a culture of innovation, technology and design in the community. In 2008-09, we will continue to organise activities such as roving exhibitions of technological developments, organising 3D animation competition, internship for young scientists, etc.

For Programme (5), the DesignSmart Initiative (DSI) aims to provide support to activities which are focused on design research, promotion of use of design among businesses, design professional continuing education and general support activities, nurturing of design talents through an incubation programme, and supporting the one-stop shop of InnoCentre.

The intended beneficiaries and the activities for Programmes (4) and (5) are very different. In addition, when applications for funding under DSI are to be considered by vetting panels, the Administration will ensure that there will be no overlap with other government programmes.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)020**

Question Serial No.

0751

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (7) Subvention: Hong Kong Productivity Council, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding the Automotive Parts and Accessory Systems R&D Centre, will the Innovation and Technology Commission inform this Committee:

- (a) The mode of collaboration with the industry, universities and technology institutes; and
- (b) What are the deliverables of the previous R&D projects?

Asked by: Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply: (a) Since its establishment in April 2006, the Automotive Parts and Accessory Systems R&D Centre (APAS) has been actively exploring different modes of collaboration with the industry, universities and research institutions to cope with the actual needs of the industry. At present, there are 3 main types of collaboration, namely platform technology projects, collaborative projects and contract research projects. Platform technology projects are aimed to benefit the industry or certain sector of industry in a general manner, with the industry partners contributing no less than 10% of the total project cost while the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) up to 90% of it. The intellectual property rights of the project deliverables will normally be owned by APAS. Collaborative projects are projects in which the industry or research/technology partners contribute no less than 30% of the total project costs for the research and development of specific products. If the industry partners contribute more than 50% of the total project costs, they will own the intellectual property rights of the project deliverables. Contract research projects are projects in which individual companies pay APAS the full costs of a specific project, and all the relevant intellectual property rights will be owned by the companies.

To facilitate the joint development of R&D projects and the sharing of research facilities, APAS has signed memorandum of understanding and agreements with universities, research institutes and automotive manufacturers. Regular communications, exchanges and visits will be conducted and expert seminars will also be jointly organised by both parties.

- (b) From its establishment in April 2006 to 1 March 2008, APAS has launched 11 R&D projects under 3 technology focus areas (including electronics and software, safety systems, and advanced materials and manufacturing technologies). These projects are still underway.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)022**

Question Serial No.

1508

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Fostering University-Industry Collaboration

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding the lukewarm response to the University-Industry Collaboration Programme, has the Administration conducted a review of the programme? If so, please advise the details. Apart from relaxing geographical restriction, what other measures will be introduced to further encourage cooperation between private sector and local universities in undertaking innovative research and development activities?

Asked by: Hon. SHEK Lai-him Abraham

Reply: To provide further impetus to the development of applied scientific research, the Administration is formulating a proposal to relax the geographical restriction of the University-Industry Collaboration Programme (UICP). The Administration is consulting concerned stakeholders and will consult the Legislative Council in due course.

In addition to the UICP, the Research and Development (R&D) Centres established in April 2006 have been promoting cooperation between private sector and local universities in undertaking innovative R&D activities. As at 9 March 2008, a total of 22 projects initiated by the R&D Centres and approved by Commissioner for Innovation and Technology involve the participation of the private sector and local universities.

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ Eddy CHAN

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)023**

Question Serial No.

0734

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Quality Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: During 2008-09, the Commission will participate in more projects on international comparison of standards and participate in international standardization activities. Please inform this Committee:

- (a) What projects and activities were undertaken in 2007-08 with regard to standardization issues? What is the expenditure involved?
- (b) What are the details of the projects and activities that the Administration will participate in? What are the focus areas that the Administration will work on? What is the expenditure involved?
- (c) Through the participation in these activities, what new measurement and/or calibration services will be developed and be provided by the Standards and Calibration Laboratory? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply: (a) In 2007-08, the Standards and Calibration Laboratory (SCL) participated in the following four projects on international comparison of measurement standards:

	<u>Organiser</u>	<u>Comparison</u>
(i)	International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) - Consultative Committee for Time and Frequency (CCTF)	Reference time scale UTC (Coordinated Universal Time) comparison 2007
(ii)	Asia Pacific Metrology Programme (APMP)	Step gauge comparison
(iii)	APMP	Attenuation comparison
(iv)	Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC)	Pressure comparison

SCL's participation was undertaken in Hong Kong by SCL's existing staff as part of their routine work in the maintenance of Hong Kong's existing reference measurement standards. No additional equipment, staff or expenditure was required.

In addition, Hong Kong participated in international standardisation activities. Hong Kong is a correspondent member of the International Standardisation Organisation (ISO) and participated in its annual meeting in 2007-08. Annual subscription for ISO membership is about \$160,000 and attending ISO annual meeting costs about \$20,000. We encourage and nominate local interested parties to participate in ISO technical committees (TCs) to take part in the development of international standards. There are currently over 40 local experts registered in over 30 ISO TCs as observers. The areas of standards development work include information technology, food products, safety of toys, textiles, building materials, quality and environmental management, nanotechnologies, and others. Participation in ISO TCs is on a voluntary basis by the experts and no government expenditure is involved. Moreover, we maintain a product standards library, and provide standards sales and free technical enquiry services to facilitate the access of manufacturers, exporters and institutional parties to international standards and compliance with them.

- (b) In 2008-09, SCL will likely participate in the following comparison projects:

	<u>Organiser</u>	<u>Comparison</u>
(i)	BIPM - CCTF	Reference timescale UTC (Coordinated Universal Time) comparison 2008
(ii)	APMP	Triple point of water comparison
(iii)	APMP	Force comparison
(iv)	APMP	Diameter standard comparison
(v)	APLAC	Volume comparison

The project details have yet to be finalised by the organisers. SCL will mainly engage in routine measurement work and no additional equipment, staff or expenditure will be required.

In 2008-09 we will continue our participation in ISO with a view to keeping up with international standards and standardisation development and continue our public service in relation to product standards. The expenditure in 2008-09 will be similar to that in 2007-08.

- (c) SCL's participation in comparison projects is part of its routine work to ensure harmonisation of Hong Kong's existing measurement standards with international standards for international recognition. It does not involve the development of new measurement standards/calibration services nor additional expenditure.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)024**

Question Serial No.

0735

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:            (6) Quality Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:      During 2008-09, the Commission will develop plans to extend accreditation services to other areas to support industry. Please inform this Committee:

- (a) What are the target new areas of the accreditation services?
- (b) As regards the estimated growth in cumulative accredited laboratories, certification bodies and inspection bodies, what are the industries and/or areas expected to be covered?

Asked by:      Hon. SIN Chung-kai

- Reply:
- (a) The new areas of accreditation services planned include medical genetics testing and proficiency testing.
  - (b) The estimated growth in cumulative accredited laboratories, certification bodies and inspection bodies are expected to cover toys and children's products testing, construction materials testing, medical testing, proficiency testing, quality management system and environmental management system certifications, and indoor air quality inspection.

Name in block letters      Eddy CHAN

Post Title      Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date      20.3.2008



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)025**

Question Serial No.

0736

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: During 2008-09, the Commission will continue to “organise the ‘Hong Kong Pavilion’ at the China Hi-Tech Fair 2008”. Please inform this Committee:

- (a) What are the details of the theme and contents of the Pavilion? What is the expenditure involved?
- (b) What was the effect/outcome of the “Hong Kong Pavilion” in 2007-08?
- (c) What was the effect/outcome of “Shenzhen-Hong Kong Innovation Circle Pavilion” organised in 2007-08? What is the expenditure involved?
- (d) Will the Administration look into organizing this Pavilion again to highlight the collaboration between Shenzhen and Hong Kong? Or, will the Administration organise “Collaborated Pavilion” between Hong Kong and other cities? If no, why? If yes, what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

- Reply:
- (a) The Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) will continue to organise the ‘Hong Kong Pavilion’ at the China Hi-Tech Fair to be held in October 2008 together with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and the Hong Kong Productivity Council. The estimated expenditure for venue rental, set up and promotion is around \$1 m. The Pavilion will showcase the research and development (R&D) achievements and technology products of the local research institutes, R&D Centres, technology support organisations and technology companies.
  - (b) The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, the R&D centres and 15 technology companies joined the Hong Kong Pavilion in 2007. The exhibitors made use of the opportunity to showcase their technological achievements and explore business opportunities with their Mainland and overseas counterparts.
  - (c) The ‘Shenzhen-Hong Kong Innovation Circle Pavilion’ introduced the latest state of technology cooperation between Hong Kong and Shenzhen and the vision of the two cities on consolidating their strengths to become a region with innovating capabilities. The cost incurred by ITC was \$0.35 m.
  - (d) ITC and the Shenzhen Science, Technology and Information Bureau are planning to set up a ‘Shenzhen-Hong Kong Innovation Circle Pavilion’ again at the 2008 China Hi-Tech Fair. The estimated cost to be incurred by ITC is \$0.4 m. We have no plan to organise other joint pavilion at this stage.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)026**

Question Serial No.

0737

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: During 2008-09, the Commission will continue to “promote innovation, technology and design culture to the general public and nurture more creative young talents”. Please inform this Committee:

- (a) What plans/programmes were done in 2007-08 to achieve this goal? What are the effects and outcome of the projects? What is the expenditure involved?
- (b) What new plans/programmes will be done to achieve this goal? What is the expenditure involved?
- (c) What particular projects
  - (i) Were undertaken during 2007-08; and
  - (ii) Will be undertaken during 2008-09, to “nurture more creative young talents” in the technology industry? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

- Reply:
- (a) In 2007-08, the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) organised a 10-week Innovation Festival, the Hong Kong Student Science Project Competition and programmes for members of Youth Innovation Club. These programmes were well received by the general public. For example, the Innovation Festival 2007 attracted over 80 000 participants for its programmes including a 5-day Innovation Expo, three roadshows, one design exhibition, 20 seminars and 140 DesignTech Workshops. The total expenditure involved was \$11 m.
  - (b) For 2008-09, except for the Innovation Expo which is held biennially, ITC will continue to organise the various activities set out in (a) above. In addition, we are planning to organise a 3D Animation Competition for students, summer internship programmes for talented students and some programmes to promote the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology. The total estimated expenditure is \$11 m.
  - (c) The Hong Kong Student Science Project Competition, the programmes organised for members of Youth Innovation Club, as well as many of the highlight events of the Innovation Festival 2007, such as the DesignTech Workshops and the robotic competitions, were targeted at nurturing more creative young talents. These programmes will continue in 2008-09. In addition, ITC will launch a 3D Animation Competition, line up summer internship opportunities for winners of Hong Kong Student Science Project Competition and members of Youth Innovation Club as well as organise educational programme on RFID technology. The total estimated expenditure for 2008-09 will be around \$7 m.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)027**

Question Serial No.

0738

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: During 2008-09, the Commission will continue to “participate in the APEC Industrial Science and Technology Working Group”. Please inform this Committee:

- (a) What has the Administration achieved in assisting the development of technology and IT industry in Hong Kong through the participation in this Working Group? What regional cooperation projects were made possible through the participation? What are the details and effects of these projects?
- (b) What projects/initiatives/plans does the Administration expect to arise out of this participation? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply: The APEC Industrial Science and Technology Working Group (ISTWG) aims to assist the development and application of industrial science and technology in the Asia-Pacific region. The ISTWG focuses on four priority areas: (1) human resources capacity building; (2) international science and technology networking; (3) connecting research and innovation; and (4) strengthening technological cooperation and strategic planning.

The ISTWG achieved its objectives through organizing various projects including training courses, workshops, seminars, forums, conferences and establishing technology centres. Project participants include government officials, science and technology institutes, SMEs and students from member economies. Some of the projects are more technical such as seminars on metrology while some provide platform for experience sharing and networking, and some aim at promoting science and technology among the youths. Some of the projects have become annual or regular events. Examples include the APEC Youth Science Festival, nano conferences, S&T management training programmes, etc. The Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) and other relevant government departments such as the Hong Kong Observatory and Education Bureau have participated in these projects. ITC has also invited relevant parties in Hong Kong such as representatives from universities, research and development institutes etc. to join the projects.

ITC will continue to participate actively in the ISTWG and the cost incurred will be largely absorbed by the existing resources. Participation by industry sectors will either be self-funded or funded by the project organizers.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)028**

Question Serial No.

0739

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (7) Subvention: Hong Kong Productivity Council, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: During 2008-09, HKPC will continue to assist Hong Kong companies and industries to leverage on the business opportunities arising from CEPA and enhance its support to Hong Kong enterprises operating in Pearl River Delta (PRD), through subsidiary consulting firms set up in Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Dongguan. Please inform this Committee:

- (a) What was the effect/outcome of these assistance and support programmes? How many firms have received assistance/support through these programmes? What kind of service was provided? Did the Administration seek to evaluate the effect of these programmes? In particular, has the Administration provided assistance/support to IT businesses operating in PRD?
- (b) Apart from the Pearl River Delta Region, will assistance be given to help expand business in other Mainland cities? If yes, what is the list of other Mainland cities? If no, why?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply: (a) Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) assists Hong Kong companies and industries to leverage on the business opportunities arising from CEPA by providing a wide range of services on manufacturing technologies, management systems, information technologies and environmental technologies. HKPC also enhances its support to Hong Kong enterprises operating in the Pearl River Delta (PRD) through its three subsidiary companies in Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Dongguan. The three subsidiary companies provide training, business consultancy and IT industry support services for their clients. A notable development in 2007 was the establishment of the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Productivity Foundation. The Foundation provides a new platform to enhance technology collaboration between Hong Kong and the Mainland, particularly on supporting our industry for product and technology innovation. The above support programmes have helped Hong Kong enterprises and industries increase their productivity as well as encouraged more efficient utilization of resources. Some 3 000 clients benefit from the services of HKPC and its subsidiary companies every year.

The Administration regularly monitored and evaluated the effects of the HKPC's programmes through participating in the Council's deliberations and reviewing its Annual Programme and Estimates.

On the IT front, HKPC has worked closely with the industry to promote IT adoption, explore market opportunities and enhance IT security. For example, HKPC set up the Hong Kong Open Source Software Centre in 2007 to assist the local software industry in tapping the open source software market in the Mainland.

- (b) HKPC currently focuses its support services in the PRD, where a large number of Hong Kong enterprises operate. Nevertheless, HKPC provides service support in other Mainland cities on an individual project basis as well.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)029**

Question Serial No.

1261

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: With regard to “assist the Ministry of Science and Technology in implementing the State Key Laboratory Scheme”, please inform this Committee:

- (a) What are the details of various plans/programmes to achieve this goal? What is the expenditure involved?
- (b) What are the areas of research under the Scheme? Will the Administration assist the participating laboratories in technology transfer for industrial application? If yes, what plans/programmes will be undertaken to achieve this goal? If not, why? And, what are the target industries that will benefit from this initiative? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply: Launched in 1984, the State Key Laboratory Scheme is one of the key national technology programmes in the Mainland. The main role of a State Key Laboratory is to embark on innovative studies in accordance with the directions of state technological development and strategic objectives. In 2007, the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) agreed to accept applications from Hong Kong universities and research institutions to set up State Key Laboratories in Hong Kong. The aim is to facilitate local universities and research institutions to participate in the key national technology programmes, thereby fostering closer technological collaboration between the Mainland and Hong Kong. The Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) is assisting MOST in coordinating the application exercise in Hong Kong.

Between October and December 2007, ITC received a total of 17 applications from local universities. There was no prescribed discipline, subject or technology area for this round of application. ITC is working closely with the Research Grants Council in carrying out initial assessments of the applications, and will submit a list of recommendations to MOST for consideration. Results are expected to be announced within 2008. The estimated expenditure for inviting and processing the applications is \$40,000.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)030**

Question Serial No.

1264

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: With regard to “enhance collaboration on research and development between Hong Kong and Guangdong”, please inform this Committee:

- (a) What are the details of various plans/programmes to achieve this goal? What is the expenditure involved?
- (b) Since the signing of the agreement on the “Shenzhen-Hong Kong Innovation Circle” last year, what plans/programmes:
  - (i) have been undertaken in 2007-08; and,
  - (ii) will be commenced in 2008-09?What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply: In 2003, the Guangdong Provincial Government and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government set up the “Guangdong/Hong Kong Expert Group on Cooperation in Innovation and Technology” to foster technological cooperation between the two places. The Expert Group has organized various activities, including visits and seminars, to encourage exchange and cooperation between research and development (R&D) institutions and industries in Guangdong and Hong Kong. Starting from 2004, the two sides have launched the “Guangdong/Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme” (the Scheme) on a yearly basis to support applied R&D projects in technology areas of mutual interest. From 2004 to 2006, the HKSAR Government provided funding support of around \$330 m through the Innovation and Technology Fund to a total of 85 R&D projects approved under the Scheme. These projects covered various technology areas such as information and communications, environmental protection and nanotechnology. The applications received under the 2007 Scheme are under consideration.

Since the signing of the agreement on “Shenzhen/Hong Kong Innovation Circle” in May 2007, the Shenzhen Municipal Government and the HKSAR Government have taken forward a number of initiatives, including jointly supporting R&D projects under the “Shenzhen/Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme” newly introduced in 2007 and setting up the “Shenzhen/Hong Kong Productivity Foundation” in Shenzhen. A “Shenzhen/Hong Kong Innovation Circle Pavilion” was set up at the China Hi-Tech Fair 2007 to introduce the latest state of technology cooperation between Hong Kong and Shenzhen and the vision of the two cities in consolidating their strengths to become a region with innovative capabilities. The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and the Shenzhen Hi-Tech Park have agreed to set up “Interactive Bases” at each other’s park to promote more cooperation between technology enterprises in the two parks. In the coming year, we will continue to implement the above initiatives, with a view to fostering a closer cooperation and sharing of technology resources between the two cities.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)031**

Question Serial No.

1544

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: With regard to “provision for 2008-09 is \$13.9 m (59.4%) higher than the revised estimates for 2007-08. This is mainly due to the increased provision for promoting a culture of innovation, technology and design in the community and cash flow requirement for a non-recurrent item (Consultancy studies on Hong Kong-Mainland technological collaboration)”. Please inform this Committee:

- (a) What are the details of the “consultancy studies”? What is the expenditure involved?
- (b) What are the details of the plans/programmes to follow up the “consultation studies”? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply: With closer technological collaboration between the Mainland and Hong Kong, we have reserved funds for conducting consultancy studies with a view to further exploring the future direction of cooperation and mapping out specific collaborative measures. We are now considering the scope and content of the consultancy studies and will discuss the relevant arrangements (e.g. budget and schedule of the studies) with our Mainland counterparts.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008



Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)032**

Question Serial No.

0808

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding the current development of the Hong Kong Science Park (HKSP), what is the amount of resources the Commission expected to allocate on HKSP for its healthy development?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply: The construction of Science Park Phase One was a Public Works Programme item undertaken by the Architectural Services Department. Phase One was completed in June 2004. The estimated expenditure in 2008-09 for finalisation of works contracts in Phase One is \$1 m.

The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) is responsible for the construction of Science Park Phase Two and the project will be completed in stages from 2007 to 2010. The Government has planned to provide a loan of \$348,737,000 for HKSTPC to conduct the relevant works in 2008-09.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)033**

Question Serial No.

0809

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Apart from assisting the Hong Kong Jockey Club Institute of Chinese Medicine Limited (HKJCICM) in developing research, has the Administration any plan to allocate provision to support other researches for the promotion of local Chinese medicine development? Will there be any support other than providing subventions to foster the research and development of Chinese medicines?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply: Apart from supporting the day-to-day operation of the HKJCICM, the Innovation and Technology Commission also funded 28 projects relating to Chinese medicine technology through the programmes under the Innovation and Technology Fund. As at the end of January 2008, the total funding for these projects is \$72.7 m.

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government is committed to promote the Mainland-Hong Kong collaboration on Chinese medicine. Established in 2004, the Mainland/Hong Kong Science and Technology Cooperation Committee selected Chinese medicine as one of the focus areas for technology cooperation. A working group was also set up to explore the modes of cooperation and coordinate relevant work. Substantial progress has been made and the two sides agreed that researches on the quality and safety of Chinese medicine as well as the development of Chinese medicine for critical diseases should be the priority areas of cooperation.

Besides, the Department of Health has been coordinating the work on the development of the Hong Kong Chinese Materia Medica Standards to establish safety and quality reference standards for herbs commonly used in Hong Kong. The project is carried out in three phases by local universities. In addition, the Government is setting up more public Chinese medicine clinics (CMCs) to promote the development of “evidence-based” Chinese medicine. Up to end March 2008, a total of 11 CMCs have been set up and the Government plans to have three more CMCs in 2008-09.

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ Eddy CHAN

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)034**

Question Serial No.

0810

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:            (6) Quality Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    Which international standardisation activities does the Innovation and Technology Commission plan to participate in 2008-09? What are the purposes? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by:    Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:        The Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) is a correspondent member of the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO). We will continue to participate in this organisation in 2008-09. Through ITC, local parties interested in the development of international standards can register as observers of ISO technical committees (TCs). There are currently over 40 persons in Hong Kong registered in over 30 ISO TC as observers. The areas of standards development work include information technology, food products, safety of toys, textiles, building materials, quality and environmental management system, and nanotechnologies. In 2008-09, we will continue to encourage relevant parties to participate proactively in TCs for the development of international standards. Moreover, we maintain a product standards library, and provide standards sales and free technical enquiry services to facilitate the access of manufacturers, exporters and institutional parties to international standards.

As for the expenditure, the SARG has to pay an annual subscription fee of about \$160,000 for ISO membership in 2008-09. Other parties' participation in ISO TCs is on a voluntary basis and no government expenditure is involved.

Name in block letters      Eddy CHAN

Post Title      Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date      20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)035**

Question Serial No.

1335

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (7) Subvention: Hong Kong Productivity Council, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: With the diminishing number of foundation industries in Hong Kong, for what reasons does the Commission put the main sectoral focus of support on the manufacturing industry? What are the resources involved?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply: Hong Kong's competitive advantage has shifted from low-wage and labour-intensive production to high value-added and knowledge-based activities. Therefore, it is vital to enhance the productivity of the various industry sectors including the manufacturing sector, to sustain their competitiveness in the market.

The Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) strives to enhance the productivity of Hong Kong enterprises through the provision of integrated support services. The service targets include the manufacturing industry. To facilitate the various industry sectors of Hong Kong to move up the value chain, HKPC will continue to focus on the four complementary areas of manufacturing technology, information technology, environmental technology, and management systems. Although the local manufacturing sector has been shrinking since the 1980s, the number of manufacturing establishments in Hong Kong still exceeded 14 800 in September 2007 and some 160 000 people were employed by the industry. Meanwhile, according to a survey publicized by the Federation of Hong Kong Industries in April 2007, the number of Hong Kong-funded factories in the Pearl River Delta reached 57 500, employing 9.6 m people. As the Mainland has also been promoting technology and productivity upgrading as well as environmental and energy conservation over the recent years, the services provided by HKPC are important for the local and Mainland manufactory industry.

Government plans to allocate a recurrent subvention of \$165.25 m to HKPC in 2008-09 to meet part of its operating costs. The rest will be borne by the services income generated by HKPC.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)036**

Question Serial No.

1336

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat:  
Innovation and Technology Commission

Subhead (No. & title): 700 - General non-  
recurrent

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: For the Total Non-Recurrent Expenditure, please explain why the revised estimate was \$13.795 m higher than the approved estimate in 2007-08? And why the estimate for 2008-09 was \$13.82 m higher than the revised estimate for 2007-08?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply: In 2007-08, the revised estimate of the Total Non-Recurrent Expenditure was higher than the approved estimate. It was mainly because a new non-recurrent item - Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC) was approved by the Legislative Council in May 2007 to support the operation of HKDC. Therefore, this non-recurrent item was not included in the approved estimate of the Total Non-Recurrent Expenditure for 2007-08 but was reflected in the revised estimate for 2007-08.

The estimate for 2008-09 was higher than the revised estimate for 2007-08. It was mainly due to a significant increase in the number of funding applications under the non-recurrent item - DesignSmart Initiative in the recent years. The Innovation and Technology Commission expected that the trend would continue and it was necessary to increase the estimate of the expenditure for 2008-09.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)037**

Question Serial No.

1017

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Support for Research and Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding the cooperation with the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute (ASTRI) and the Hong Kong Jockey Club Institute of Chinese Medicine (HKJCICM), how many research projects will be proposed and implemented in 2008? Besides, how many projects will be able to have their deliverables transferred to the industry? How much investment has already been made in the projects and what is the amount of provision involved this year?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: The focus of the research projects currently undertaken by ASTRI is on the information and communications technologies while Chinese medicine is not involved. These projects are mainly funded by the Innovation and Technology Fund. ASTRI planned to carry out 72 research projects in 2008-09, including 35 launched projects and 37 proposed new projects. The total amount of funding approved for the 35 launched projects was about \$274 m while the total expenditure for all the research projects in 2008-09 is about \$231 m. It is expected that ASTRI will carry out 45 technology transfers in 2008-09.

The HKJCICM, co-organised by the Hong Kong Jockey Club and ASTRI, aims to promote and support the modernisation and further development of Chinese medicine in Hong Kong. The research projects undertaken by the HKJCICM are funded by the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust and ASTRI is responsible for the general operation costs. It is expected that the HKJCICM will carry out 13 research projects in 2008-09, including 10 launched projects and 3 proposed new projects. The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust has approved funding amounting to about \$62 m for the 10 launched projects while the total expenditure for all the research projects in 2008-09 is about \$17 m. It is expected that the HKJCICM will carry out 2 to 4 technology transfers in 2008-09.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)038**

Question Serial No.

1018

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Fostering University-Industry Collaboration

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: The Budget proposes to allocate a provision of \$18 b to establish a Research Endowment Fund (REF), with part of it being used to finance appropriate research projects on specific themes. Will these researches be combined with those funded by the University-Industry Collaboration Programme (UICP)? What is the difference in nature between the researches under these two funding programmes?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: As mentioned in the Budget Speech by the Financial Secretary, the Research Endowment Fund (REF) and a major proportion of its investment earnings will replace the existing annual funding granted by the Government to the Research Grants Council of the University Grants Committee (UGC) to support research at UGC-funded institutions. In addition, part of the funds will be used to finance appropriate research projects on specific themes. The Education Bureau is discussing with the UGC the operational details of the REF and will provide the relevant information when seeking funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council at a later stage.

The University-Industry Collaboration Programme (UICP) under the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) aims to, through leveraging on universities' knowledge and resources, encourage private companies to co-operate with universities to undertake commercial research and development projects as well as support applied research and development activities that contribute to innovation and technology upgrading.

The Administration does not have any plans to combine the REF with the UICP at this stage.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)039**

Question Serial No.

1019

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Fostering University-Industry Collaboration

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: The Administration is planning to relax the geographical restriction of the University-Industry Collaboration Programme (UICP) in 2008. What is the initial proposal for that? How can the effectiveness of the programme be enhanced after the relaxation? Will additional provision be needed to support the proposal?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: We are considering to relax the geographical restriction of UICP. The initial proposal is to allow a higher proportion of the research and development work of the research projects under UICP to be conducted by non-local universities or outside Hong Kong. It is estimated that the proposal would further encourage industry participation in applied scientific research. We are consulting the concerned stakeholders and will consult the Legislative Council in due course. While it is difficult to have an accurate estimate of the financial implications at this stage, we estimate that the Innovation and Technology Fund should have sufficient funds to cover the additional funding in the next five years.

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ Eddy CHAN

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 20.3.2008



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)040**

Question Serial No.

1020

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: The provision for promoting a culture of innovation, technology and design this year is increased. What will the provision be mainly used for? How many programmes are confirmed and under planning? What are the details? How much provision does each programme need?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: The Innovation and Technology Commission will continue to promote innovation, technology and design culture to the general public. In particular, efforts will be made to nurture the interest of the youth in innovation, technology and design and encourage them to develop their potential.

We plan to organise the Innovation Festival in 2008-09 to promote the knowledge and culture of innovation and technology among the public through a wide range of activities, including exhibitions, workshops and seminars, etc. Besides, we will organise the Hong Kong Student Science Project Competition and the 3D Animation Competition, provide technology-related summer internship programmes to secondary students, and offer exchange and learning opportunities in technology institutions to members of the Hong Kong Youth Innovation Club with a view to developing and fostering the interest of the youth in innovation and technology. In addition, we are organising programmes to promote Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) and other technologies among the public. The total expenditure for the above activities is about \$11 m.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)041**

Question Serial No.

1021

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: What is the estimated total investment for the set up of the 'Hong Kong Pavilion' at the China Hi-Tech Fair (CHTF)? What is the purpose? What do we expected to achieve? How effective was Hong Kong's participation in previous CHTFs?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: The Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) will continue to organise the "Hong Kong Pavilion" (the Pavilion) with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and the Hong Kong Productivity Council at the China Hi-Tech Fair (CHTF) to be held in October 2008. The estimated total investment is \$1 m, including the rental of venue, set up cost and promotional and publicity expenses , etc. ITC will be responsible for about \$0.6 m.

The CHTF is a state-level international technology fair. The organisation of the Pavilion allows the R&D centres, technology support organisations and technology enterprises in Hong Kong to showcase their R&D results and technological products, establish network with the Mainland and overseas partners as well as explore business and technology collaboration opportunities.

Since the inception of the CHTF in 1999, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government has all along been responsible for coordinating the participation of local organisations in the event. Over the years, local exhibitors have generally considered that the CHTF can allow exhibitors and visitors from Mainland provinces and other places to understand the latest innovation and technology development in Hong Kong. This can help increase the opportunities for future business cooperation and enhance Hong Kong's status in innovation and technology development.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)042**

Question Serial No.

1022

Head: 155 – Government Secretariat : Innovation and Technology Commission      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Infrastructural Support

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: How would the positions and functions of the Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC), the InnoCentre developed for the design cluster, and the Design Support Programme be determined? How would they coordinate with each other? How much provision is needed for their operation respectively?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: HKDC is a non profit-making organisation formed by 5 design associations, with an aim to promote the development and the use of design. The Government has over the years provided support to the formation of HKDC and its subsequent activities. HKDC has developed into a major collaborating partner with the Government in promoting design.

In addition to supporting HKDC, the Government has been promoting design through the DesignSmart Initiative. The Initiative was launched in 2004 with an allocation of \$250 m. The Initiative includes the following elements -

- (a) To reserve \$45 m for HKDC to run the InnoCentre which is a building in Kowloon Tong made available by the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC). After modification works, the InnoCentre provided accommodation and one-stop support and service to design companies, tenants and incubatees for the creation of a design cluster;
- (b) To reserve \$25 m for HKSTPC to run a design incubation programme;
- (c) To reserve \$180 m for running 4 funding schemes to provide resource support for researches in design and branding-related areas, design/business collaboration, design professional continuing education, as well as fostering design culture.

In May 2007, the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved an allocation of \$100 m to support HKDC's operation over 5 years. The disbursement of funds began in July 2007 and about \$14 m uncommitted balance of the \$45 m under the Initiative were ploughed back for re-allocation to other funding schemes.

For 2008-09, the expenditure out of the \$100 m for HKDC is estimated to be \$21 m; and the expenditure out of the Initiative to be \$38.77 m (comprising around \$5 m for the design incubation programme and \$33.77 m for the four funding schemes).

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)043**

Question Serial No.

2726

Head: 708 – Capital Subventions and Major Systems and Equipment

Subhead (No. & title): 8070XV Replacement of 18 sets of computer room air-handling units and installation of related dual air-conditioning chilled water piping system at Standards and Calibration Laboratory, Immigration Tower

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: As announced in the Budget, the Government will “study the relocation of 3 government office buildings at the Wan Chai waterfront”. If the following project has not yet commenced, will the Innovation and Technology Commission consider suspending it so as to save the estimated expenditure in 2008-09 as follows?

Approved project	2008-09 Estimate (\$m)
Replacement of 18 sets of computer room air-handling units and installation of related dual air-conditioning chilled water piping system at Standards and Calibration Laboratory, Immigration Tower	2.30

If it has already been started, please inform this Committee of the relevant progress.

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply: The air-handling units and air-conditioning chilled water piping system must operate round-the-clock due to the operational needs of the Standards and Calibration Laboratory (SCL). However, the existing facilities have been used for more than 17 years and are seriously aged, with 20 breakdowns last year. According to a comprehensive assessment conducted by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, the system is at the end of its life span and beyond economic repair. Besides, some of the spare parts are now obsolete. If these parts break down, the calibration services provided to the public by SCL will be adversely affected. Therefore, SCL has a genuine need to replace the system to ensure that the service provided to the public will not be affected.

Currently, there is no timetable for the relocation of the three government office buildings (including the Immigration Tower) at the Wan Chai waterfront. The replacement work for the relevant system has not yet been started. To ensure cost-effectiveness, the Administration will certainly re-examine the scale of the project before its implementation.

Name in block letters Eddy CHAN

Post Title Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Date 20.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)044**

Question Serial No.

1850

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: With respect to supporting the disadvantaged youth, the Government will launch a pilot scheme to establish district cyber centres, please indicate the arrangements for the establishment of district cyber centres in detail, including timetable, number of centres, locations, facilities and manpower, management, functions of the centres and activities, etc. Please also indicate how this new measure will meet the target of supporting the disadvantaged youth.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply: To spearhead the establishment of district cyber centres, the Government will launch the pilot scheme in the first instance. Private sector sponsors and community organisations will be invited to join the pilot scheme as Government's partners to be responsible for equipping and managing the district cyber centres. We would shortly commence the expression of interest exercise.

Our plan is to set up three district cyber centres initially but the timetable and the exact number of centres to be set up would depend on the response to the expression of interest exercise. We will also assess the needs of individual districts in deciding on priorities. We intend to review their usage and mode of operation under the pilot scheme after a specified period (say 18 to 24 months) before considering whether and how to extend to other districts.

The free facilities/services that we plan to provide in the district cyber centre may vary but should include the following:

- (a) personal computers (PC) with Internet access;
- (b) assistive devices for people with special needs, such as screen magnifying software, screen reader software, voice synthesizer software and Braille display;
- (c) Wi-Fi connectivity;
- (d) training classes targeted primarily at the disadvantaged groups, including young people from low income families;
- (e) technical support on common PC issues, such as information security, healthy use of Internet resources, and hardware and software problems; and
- (f) notebook computers with Wi-Fi capability to be on loan to local residents.

The actual facilities/services, the manpower required for management and operation will depend on the outcome of discussions with prospective private sector sponsors and community organisations.

Through providing computing facilities, Internet connectivity and technical support, the district cyber centres will enable young people from low income families and other needy local residents to gain access to the rich pool of information/knowledge in the cyber space. The centres will also enhance social integration at the localities.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)045**

Question Serial No.

1131

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that cyber centres will be established in selected districts to enable young people from low-income families and needy persons to access and use information and digital technologies. Has the Government initially formulated specific implementation plan and schedule? How many cyber centres will be established in the future? What will be the locations?

Asked by: Hon. CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, Selina

Reply: To spearhead the establishment of district cyber centres, the Government will launch a pilot scheme in the first instance. Private sector sponsors and community organisations will be invited to join the pilot scheme as Government's partners to be responsible for equipping and managing the district cyber centres. We would shortly commence the expression of interest exercise. The implementation plan and schedule will depend on the response to the expression of interest exercise and the location of suitable premises.

Our plan is to set up three district cyber centres initially but the exact number of centres to be set up would depend on the response to the expression of interest exercise. We will also assess the needs of individual districts in deciding on priorities. We intend to review their usage and mode of operation under the pilot scheme after a specified period (say 18 to 24 months) before considering whether and how to extend to other districts.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)046**

Question Serial No.

**0490**

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding the “results of post-implementation reviews on completed IT projects”, about 40% of projects completed on schedule in 2006 and 2007, while the estimate for 2008 is 60%, please indicate:

- (a) For projects not completed on schedule, the percentage of slippage time over the estimated time of completion.
- (b) What are the reasons for projects not completed on schedule?
- (c) The 2008 estimate is only 60%, what are the reasons? Have procedures for implementing IT projects been reviewed? If yes, what are the details? What are the measures to enable more projects to be completed on schedule?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply: (a) The average percentage of the slippage time against the completion time is 52% and 44% in 2006 and 2007 respectively.

- (b) The major reasons for projects not completed on schedule are -
- (i) longer than expected time in finalising user requirements due to additional / changed user requirements;
  - (ii) longer than expected time in system implementation caused by
    - lead time in legislative amendment
    - delay in site preparation
    - delay in procurement of services / products
    - unacceptable deliverables; and
  - (iii) delay in user acceptance and sub-standard performance of contractor.
- (c) As to the 2008 estimate of 60%, it is our best estimate at this stage of the likely outturns from projects that will be measured in 2008. In any event, through our project governance mechanism, we will encourage bureaux/departments (B/Ds) to set more realistic live-run dates during project initiation and implementation stages and enhance their project monitoring with an aim to minimise slippage.

The procedure for implementing IT projects has been reviewed. The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) introduced an enhanced governance mechanism for Government IT projects in April 2006 to facilitate better monitoring of IT projects in the Government and assist B/Ds in better management of their IT projects by providing advice on project management practices and risk control. The new



mechanism focuses on the large scale, complex and high-risk projects and that OGCIO plays a more proactive role in such projects at an early stage. Various measures have been put in place to enhance the funding and progress reporting processes such that -

- (i) high risk projects will be identified when processing the funding applications;
- (ii) projects with actual or potential delays will be detected when assessing the project progress and expenditure updates submitted by B/Ds' monthly or quarterly;
- (iii) projects experiencing significant delays in achieving the major milestones will be investigated and closely monitored; and
- (iv) where project risk or progress warrants, OGCIO will participate in the project steering committee to provide advice.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)047**

Question Serial No.

0491

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding “continue to upkeep the IT security awareness of bureaux/departments and monitor their security compliance status”, please indicate:

- (a) Have there been follow-up actions taken on bureaux/departments not complying with the relevant requirements?
- (b) What measures have been taken for the related work? How effective are they? What is the expenditure involved?
- (c) Have new measures been formulated to continue the work? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply: To maintain IT security of bureaux/departments (B/Ds), both staff awareness training and compliance monitoring are essential.

- (a) Since May 2007, the Government has introduced the centrally managed security audit programme to ensure the compliance of B/Ds with Government's security risk assessment requirements as well as taking the necessary follow-up measures. All B/Ds are subject to the audit programme.
- (b) OGCIO issues circulars to B/Ds on information security matters as well as reminders to draw their attention to emerging software vulnerabilities, security threat alert notices, and tips and techniques in handling security threats and incidents. We are also enhancing our one-stop information security portal (<http://www.infosec.gov.hk>) to enrich the content. Moreover, briefings, seminars and workshops are organized throughout the year on different security related topics. The expenditures for B/Ds to enhance their systems to comply with security requirements are included as part of the individual system budgets. The expenditure for enriching the security portal is around \$1 m.
- (c) OGCIO will organize a series of IT security events and training courses for Government officers to promote staff awareness and enhance overall IT security standards. The cost will be met by existing resources. We will also complete the security audit for all B/Ds by mid-2009 at an expenditure of around \$9 m.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)048**

Question Serial No.

1393

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding “engaged in discussions with the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers on the feasibility of setting up a registration system for IT practitioners in the applicable disciplines”, please indicate:

- (a) In the 2007-08 financial year, what is the progress of discussions on the feasibility?
- (b) Will there be relevant follow-ups in the 2008-09 financial year? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

- Reply:
- (a) OGCIO has been keeping close liaison with the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) IT Division on the development of a registration system for IT practitioners in the applicable discipline, a subject coordinated by HKIE amongst various professional/industry bodies since 2003. HKIE has yet to come up with substantive proposals for discussion.
  - (b) In 2008-09 and under the 2008 Digital 21 Strategy, OGCIO will continue to engage the HKIE in pursuing the above scheme. Meanwhile, we stand ready to consider providing appropriate forms of support to worthwhile proposals undertaken by professional/industry bodies on initiatives that aim at enhancing the supply of quality IT manpower for Hong Kong.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)049**

Question Serial No.

1838

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding “continue to promote the awareness and adoption of Open Source Software (OSS) among small and medium enterprises (SMEs)”, please indicate:

- (a) What are the measures to promote the awareness and adoption in the 2007-08 financial year? What is the expenditure involved?
- (b) Since the publication of “2005 Survey on Application of Linux in Hong Kong” in 2005, have surveys been conducted on the adoption of OSS among the local SMEs? If yes, what are the details? Will relevant surveys be conducted regularly? If not, why?
- (c) Have new measures been formulated to carry out the relevant work? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

- Reply:
- (a) In 2007-08, the Government continued to take appropriate measures to promote the awareness and adoption of OSS among SMEs. The Interoperability Framework has been providing standards and interfaces for data sharing and systems/applications communication since 2002, thus reducing technical barriers for SMEs wishing to develop or adopt OSS-based solutions. The expenditure was subsumed under the relevant initiatives. Separately, we continued to promote e-business adoption among the business community through Sector-specific Programmes (SSP), under which projects would make available practical IT solutions, including but not limited to OSS, for enhancing the competitiveness of businesses and particularly the SMEs through beneficial adoption of IT.
  - (b) The Government has not conducted surveys on OSS adoption among the local SMEs since 2006. We have no plans to conduct such surveys regularly. However, we will continue to liaise with the industry, collect their comments and render appropriate support to help promote the adoption of OSS products where applicable.
  - (c) OGCIO has an internal working group that monitors the adoption of OSS (including Linux) in the Government and the wider community, including the SMEs. The group will identify measures in respect of awareness, promotion, interoperability standards, procurement and industry facilitation and will take them forward in the context of the respective ongoing work programmes. The expenditures involved form part of the programmes and are not separately budgeted for.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)050**

Question Serial No.

1839

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding “continue to sponsor worthwhile projects for driving e-business adoption among small and medium enterprises (SMEs)”, please indicate:

- (a) In the 2007-08 financial year, what are the numbers of sponsored projects by sector, the amount of sponsorship provided for various sectors and the average duration of the projects concerned by sector?
- (b) What are the criteria for approving sponsorship application? Will factors like the number of industry practitioners and benefits brought about to the industry by e-business be considered?
- (c) Are there sponsorship limits on individual projects and the entire programme? If yes, what are the limits?
- (d) What are the measures to promote the programme so as to encourage more associations from different sectors to plan projects for driving e-business?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

- Reply:
- (a) In 2007-08, we monitored the implementation of the 2006-07 Sector-specific Programme (SSP) for five sectors including trade, social service, watches and clocks, medical and health, and beauty service sectors. The sponsorship provided was between \$0.9 m and \$1.0 m for each project, while all of these projects were scheduled for completion in around two years. We have also awarded a sponsorship of \$2.1 m in 2007-08 for a project targeting the supply chain sector under the 2007-08 SSP. The project would be implemented in the second quarter of 2008 with anticipated completion date in mid-2009.
  - (b) The Government provides sponsorships only for meritorious projects that have demonstrated how genuine needs of the industry could be met as well as a strong case for sustainable impact. We have also publicised in the invitation for expression-of-interest (EOI) for SSP in late-2006 a list of important and desirable features for evaluation, of which the impact to the industry and the number of persons engaged are among those we will take into account.
  - (c) Since 2004-05, we have earmarked around \$2 m each year for the SSP. As for the sponsorship limits on individual projects, depending on the types of projects selected for support under SSP, we might specify in the invitation exercises the amount as an indication to guide the applicants. For example, we publicised in the invitation for EOI exercise for SSP in late-2006 that the maximum amount of sponsorship for each

project selected in the EOI exercise was \$1 m. The corresponding figure for the EOI exercise in mid-2005 was \$0.4 m.

- (d) The organisers for all ongoing SSP projects have set aside resources for promoting the outcomes of the project to their respective business communities so as to raise their awareness for using e-business. The Government will continue to collaborate with industry/professional bodies and non-government organisations in facilitating business sectors to exploit the full potential and benefits of IT.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)051**

Question Serial No.

1844

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding “work with the Food and Health Bureau (FHB), the healthcare professions and other stakeholders on the development of a territory-wide electronic health record sharing infrastructure in Hong Kong”, please indicate:

- (a) Who are the “other stakeholders”? What are the specific measures to co-ordinate various parties to participate in the development of the sharing infrastructure?
- (b) Have any relevant work schedules been devised? When will be the completion date of relevant sharing infrastructure?
- (c) Will resources for training purpose be allocated to healthcare practitioners in public and private sectors using the system?
- (d) What is the estimated expenditure involved in the project for additional hardware and software? What is the expenditure involved in maintaining the system?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

- Reply:
- (a) The Secretary for Food and Health has appointed a Steering Committee on Electronic Health Record (eHR) Sharing (the Steering Committee) to take forward the initiative to develop a territory-wide eHR sharing infrastructure. The Steering Committee is chaired by the Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Health) and comprises members from the healthcare professions in both the public and private sectors. The Steering Committee has set up three Working Groups to specifically address the fundamental issues relating to the development of an eHR sharing infrastructure, including its institutional set-up, the legal implications and privacy concerns, as well as technical standards etc. The Working Groups have co-opted members in both the public and private sectors including the IT sector with relevant experience or expertise in the subject matters.
  - (b) The development of the eHR sharing infrastructure is expected to be a continuous process. The Steering Committee has established three Working Groups with a view to putting together initial recommendations in 2008 for a roadmap and work programme for the development of eHR.
  - (c) The need for training of healthcare practitioners will be looked into as part of the work programme for the development of eHR.

- (d) Initial recommendations for a roadmap and work programme for the development of eHR are still being formulated. Thus we do not have any estimates on the expenditure for the procurement and maintenance of hardware and software at this stage.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)052**

Question Serial No.

1845

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding “advise bureaux/departments on the adoption of the Unified Identity Management Framework for their e-government services”, please indicate:

- (a) Has the Administration assessed the possible effects of the Management Framework with respect to privacy and information security? If yes, what are the findings?
- (b) What role will the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) play in implementing the Management Framework? Will the OGCIO co-ordinate bureaux/departments (B/Ds) and set work schedules or let B/Ds determine by themselves?
- (c) What is the estimated overall expenditure involved for B/Ds to implement the Management Framework?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply: In December 2007, the OGCIO promulgated the Unified Identity Management (UIDM) Framework to bureaux/departments (B/Ds) for their adoption.

- (a) OGCIO has studied the implications on data privacy and information security during the formulation of the UIDM Framework. There is no extra requirement for the sharing of personal data amongst B/Ds. Security risk assessment will continue to be conducted and the appropriate authentication measures implemented for all e-government services.
- (b) OGCIO will help B/Ds in their adoption of the UIDM Framework including providing them with the necessary guidelines and development tools to facilitate their implementation of e-government services. The UIDM Framework is applicable to new e-government services whereas for existing systems and those already in development, the UIDM Framework will apply during subsequent system enhancements/changes. B/Ds are responsible for setting schedules and implementing the framework in accordance with their IT plans and budgets.
- (c) Common facilities and provision of development tools to B/Ds will be implemented at an estimated expenditure of \$5.5 m. It is estimated that the cost for implementation of the UIDM Framework at B/Ds' end should not be significant and will be included as part of the development or enhancement cost of their e-government services.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)053**

Question Serial No.

1846

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding “started to implement the pilot e-procurement programme for low-value, high-volume purchases conducted at bureaux/departments’ level” in 2007-08 and “collaborate with bureaux/departments concerned in implementing the pilot e-procurement programme” in 2008-09, please indicate:

- (a) Which bureaux/departments have participated in the 2007-08 pilot programme? Will there be any changes to the bureaux/departments participating in the 2008-09 pilot programme?
- (b) What is the percentage of the amount of transactions completed through the 2007-08 pilot programme over the total procurement amount? What is the expenditure involved in the programme?
- (c) Have after-use surveys been conducted with the participating bureaux/departments and suppliers? If yes, what are the details?
- (d) What is the expenditure involved in the 2008-09 pilot programme? Have measures been formulated to promote the programme to suppliers for promoting e-commerce at the same time? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

- Reply:
- (a) Three bureaux/departments, namely the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer, the Immigration Department and the Environmental Protection Department, are participating in the pilot programme. The whole pilot programme will last for three years with e-Procurement initiatives progressively rolled-out from 2008 to 2009 and a review to be conducted six months after the full operation of the initiatives. There will be no change in the participating departments during the pilot period.
  - (b) As the e-Procurement initiatives are still under development, there is no transaction through the pilot programme yet. The Approved Project Estimate of the pilot programme is \$49.2 m.
  - (c) The core e-Procurement initiatives are still under development. We shall conduct a post-implementation review six months after the full operation of the e-Procurement initiatives with a view to gauging the financial and operational implications before deciding on the way forward for service-wide implementation.

- (d) The estimated expenditure in 2008-09 is \$20 m. Promotion and engagement programmes will be launched for the suppliers in raising their awareness and receptiveness in adopting e-Procurement. Appropriate training and on-going hotline support services will be provided to the suppliers concerned, in particular the small-sized suppliers. A series of change management programmes will also be undertaken to better prepare them in taking up e-commerce.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)054**

Question Serial No.

1847

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding “continue to enhance the Interoperability Framework to facilitate the development of e-government services”, please indicate:

- (a) The adoption status of Open Source Software (OSS) since the Government’s updating of the Interoperability Framework in 2002, including the number of bureaux/departments already adopted OSS and the percentage of the number of computers installed with OSS over the overall number of computers;
- (b) Has the Administration assessed the effects of OSS adoption on the operational efficiency of the Government and promoted it to the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with this experience? If yes, what are the details?
- (c) What are the specific measures to continue to enhance the Interoperability Framework in the 2008-09 financial year? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply: The Interoperability Framework facilitates the exchange of electronic data among government bureaux and departments (B/Ds) and the development of joined-up E-government systems. It contains guidance documents and specifications which are regularly reviewed and updated to keep in pace with the changes in technologies as well as business and user needs.

- (a) Since the release of the Interoperability Framework in 2002, the number of computers installed with OSS has increased from some 130 as of February 2002 to 4 300 as of December 2007. These OSS-based computers are currently installed in 50 B/Ds. Of the above-mentioned 4 300 computers, around 3 100 are desktops and 1 200 are servers. These represent about 4% of total number of desktops and 20% of total number of servers respectively.
- (b) We conduct regular assessment on the effectiveness of OSS adoption through post-implementation reviews. Based on the experience gained, we will continue to promote the awareness and adoption of OSS among SMEs. We have also launched the Sector-specific Programme to promote IT awareness and encourage the development of more affordable software solutions including OSS.
- (c) In 2008-09, we will take into account the latest development in technology specifications and data standards to enhance the Interoperability Framework. The cost to conduct the review exercise will be met by existing resources.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)055**

Question Serial No.

2051

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding “continue to co-ordinate with the Rating and Valuation Department (RVD) and the Land Registry (LR) in the implementation of the Property Information Hub (PIH)”, please indicate:

- (a) What are the differences between the information provided in the PIH and the information currently obtained from the RVD and the LR? Will value-added services be provided by the system? If yes, what are the details?
- (b) According to the RVD webpage, the preliminary stage of the PIH will provide services in mid-2008, what is the estimated time of completion for other stages?
- (c) What is the progress of work completed in the 2007-08 financial year? What is the expenditure involved?
- (d) If the preliminary stage of the PIH comes into service in 2008, what are the promotional measures to attract public use? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply: (a) At present, the Rating and Valuation Department (RVD) is providing some essential property information such as floor area, property age and permitted use through a 24-hour telephone system. The online property information system to be launched by RVD in 2008 can be seen as a preliminary stage towards the implementation of a Government Property Information Hub (PIH). As a result of the establishment of the new online infrastructure, RVD would be able to automate other service items which are now handled manually. Services being implemented include an online display of Valuation List and Government Rent Roll, online enquiry of rateable value and enquiry on rates and Government rent accounts. A new bilingual search engine and an address database are being developed. As part of the project development, RVD will also align its address records with those of the Land Registry (LR). With this alignment of address records as well as related application flow, the new service would help the public to search the corresponding land register records and land documents easily.

The LR plans to fully participate in PIH after completion of its priority work in relation to the Land Titles Ordinance. RVD and LR would then consider suitable private sector participation to provide value-added services. Details of such value-added services are to be identified in due course.

- (b) After the launch of the first phase of RVD's online property information system in the second half of 2008, more of RVD's service items as mentioned in reply (a) will be added to the system within the next 6-9 months.
- (c) So far, RVD has aligned more than half of the property records with those of the LR. The ultimate alignment work would cover about 2.5 million lots and property units. The application development and infrastructure set-up are also underway. The expenditure incurred up to March 2008 will be around \$2.68 m.
- (d) RVD has regular discussions with major users in the property industry through the Estate Agents Authority (EAA) and the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS). Initial publicity will be made through these organizations. The Department will also consider sending publicity leaflets together with the quarterly rate and Government rent demands to promote the new service to the public. Besides, the system will be accessible through the GovHK portal and other related web sites. The cost involved in publicity will not be significant and will be absorbed in RVD's expenditure envelope.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)056**

Question Serial No.

2052

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding “collaborate with the Lands Department (LandsD) in the delivery of geo-spatial information to the public through GovHK”, please indicate:

- (a) What are the details of the types of the relevant geo-spatial information?
- (b) Is there any work schedule? If yes, what are the details?
- (c) What is the estimated expenditure involved in implementing the programme?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

- Reply:
- (a) In the process of developing the GovHK portal ([www.gov.hk](http://www.gov.hk)), we are aware through user survey that citizens wish to have access to official digital maps and geo-spatial information. In collaboration with the LandsD, we plan to provide geo-spatial information services to the public through GovHK supported by a geo-spatial information hub. Our plan is to provide information on walks and trails, mobile network coverage in country parks, location of government offices, schools, libraries, leisure, cultural and sports facilities, hospitals, etc. The types and availability of information will be increased/enhanced in consultation with bureaux/departments.
  - (b) We will adopt an incremental approach in rolling out geo-spatial information in GovHK. We expect to roll out the first batch of geo-spatial information by phases starting in 2009.
  - (c) The LandsD will implement the geo-spatial information hub and services for the public at an estimated non-recurrent expenditure of \$ 9.988 m. The OGCIO will provide the infrastructure and support with funding already approved by the Finance Committee in March 2006 for enhancing the e-government infrastructure to support the new strategy for e-government service delivery.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)057**

Question Serial No.

2053

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding “continue to support and collaborate with Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS) in the administration of the Digital Solidarity Fund”, please indicate:

- (a) What is the provision for the Digital Solidarity Fund for the 2008-09 financial year?
- (b) Apart from the Digital Solidarity Fund, how much will the Government allocate to tackle the digital divide?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

- Reply:
- (a) The Government is considering the level of provision for the Digital Solidarity Fund (DSF) vis-à-vis the funding requirements of other digital inclusion programmes for the 2008-09 financial year.
  - (b) There is no separate budgetary item for tackling the digital divide. Nevertheless, we will make suitable provision within our allocated resources to promote digital inclusion and support relevant activities as part of our action plan to take forward the Digital 21 Strategy in the area of building an inclusive, knowledge-based society.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)058**

Question Serial No.

1351

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: What is the expenditure involved in the Government Wi-Fi programme? At what venues does the Government plan to provide Wi-Fi facilities at the present stage? What is the relevant timetable?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply: The budget for the Government Wi-Fi programme is \$217.6 m in non-recurrent expenditure, with estimated annual recurrent expenditure of \$19.2 m. The current implementation covers about 350 locations. The timetable for implementation is given below:

(a) By end June 2008:

	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Number</b>
1	Public Libraries	64
2	Public Enquiry Service Centres	20
3	Government Joint-User Buildings	18
4	Central Government Offices	5
5	Community Halls and Centres	8
6	Cultural and Recreational Centres	3
7	Victoria Park	1
8	Others (Statue Square)	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>

(b) By mid-2009:

	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Number</b>
1	Cultural, Recreational and Sports Centres	84
2	District Environmental Hygiene Offices	33
3	Community Halls and Centres	24
4	Job Centres	12
5	Visa Document Related Offices	12
6	Registration of Persons Offices	3
7	Transport Licensing and Examination Centres	6
8	Museums	8
9	Stadiums	2
10	Ferry Terminals	4
11	Integrated Family Service Centres of Social Welfare Department	2

	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Number</b>
12	Parks	3
13	Public Libraries	2
14	Others	35
	<b>Total</b>	<b>230</b>

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)059**

Question Serial No.

0851

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) IT Infrastructure and Standards

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: What measures or work plans will be introduced in accordance with the completed institutional review of Computer Emergency Response Centre services in Hong Kong? What are the estimated amounts of overall and detailed investments? How much is the one-off provision? How much is the recurrent expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: The Government has commenced an institutional review of Computer Emergency Response Centre (CERC) services in Hong Kong. Such services are currently provided by the Hong Kong Computer Emergency Response Team Coordination Centre (HKCERT) operated by the Hong Kong Productivity Council. The review will examine and propose the future scope of CERC services, the institutional arrangement including funding sources and mode of operation. Reference will also be made to similar establishments in other economies as well as the interest of the local Information and Communications Technology industry in providing such services. The investments and resource requirements for the future CERC services will form part of the outcome of the review. The review is estimated to be completed by mid-2008.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)060**

Question Serial No.

0852

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Use of IT in Government

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: With respect to enhancing the IT security of bureaux/departments, what are the specific plans for this year? What is the provision required? Will additional resources be allocated particularly to monitor their security implementation?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: Bureaux/departments (B/Ds) are responsible for ensuring their compliance with Government's security requirements for information systems including implementation of enhancement measures where applicable. A number of B/Ds will seek funding in 2008-09 to carry out security risk assessments according to their departmental work schedules.

OGCIO will organise a series of IT security events and training courses for Government officers to promote staff awareness and enhance overall IT security standards. We will also review and update the prevailing IT security related regulations, policies and guidelines in 2008-09 at an estimated expenditure of \$2.2 m in order to keep pace with the advancement of technology and the development of international/industry practices.

Since May 2007, the Government has introduced the centrally managed security audit programme to ensure the compliance of B/Ds with the Government's security risk assessment requirements as well as taking the necessary follow-up measures. We will complete the security audit for all B/Ds by mid-2009 at an expenditure of around \$9 m.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)061**

Question Serial No.

1064

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: What digital inclusion programmes will be implemented this year with reference to the strategies and initiatives formulated by the task force on digital inclusion? What is the provision required? What is the expected effectiveness?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: The Government has plans for the following digital inclusion programmes in 2008-09:

- (a) continue to support and collaborate with the Hong Kong Council of Social Service in the administration of the Digital Solidarity Fund;
- (b) develop a new series of radio education programmes on Information and Communications Technology (ICT) adoption;
- (c) support and collaborate with non-government organisations, the social welfare sector and the ICT industry to implement digital inclusion programmes, such as the e-Inclusion Campaign and the “Learning with Fun” project;
- (d) encourage the private sector to adopt barrier-free web designs;
- (e) promote the use of ICT through the IT Hong Kong Campaign;
- (f) encourage the development of ICT products and services that aim at raising public awareness of and enhancing digital inclusion through the Hong Kong ICT Awards Scheme; and
- (g) conduct a study to measure digital inclusiveness in Hong Kong.

The total estimated expenditure for programmes (a) to (g) in 2008-09 is about \$4.1 m.

In addition, the Government will spearhead a pilot scheme in setting up district cyber centres. Private sector sponsors and community organisations will be invited to join the scheme. The provision for the scheme will depend on the response of the private sector and community organisations to the expression of interest exercise that we would commence shortly.

It is expected that the implementation of the digital inclusion strategies and initiatives will help meet the needs of different segments of the community, in particular the disadvantaged groups, for learning and accessing ICT to improve their quality of life, and build a digitally inclusive society. The study that measures digital inclusiveness will gauge the effectiveness of the strategies and initiatives.

As mentioned in the 2008 Digital 21 Strategy, a task force on digital inclusion will be set up with the aim to further address the digital inclusion issues in Hong Kong in a more holistic manner. The task force may introduce new initiatives to be included in the digital inclusion programmes.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)062**

Question Serial No.

1065

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: With respect to promoting and supporting the development of the digital entertainment industry in Hong Kong, what are the amounts of investments and how effective are they in the past three years? Are there any new plans or projects this year?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: The OGCIO facilitates the development of the local digital entertainment industry by providing funding and other appropriate forms of support to worthwhile projects undertaken by the industry. In the past three years, in response to industry requests, we have provided about \$21 m in funding assistance to 28 initiatives undertaken by various industry bodies. Focus has mainly been placed on promoting excellence, nurturing the development of professional talents and enterprises, and facilitating access to Mainland and overseas markets. For example, digital entertainment productions from around 100 local companies were showcased in the Electronic Entertainment Expo 2005 (a trade fair for electronic games in the US) and the value of the business deals concluded was around \$40 m. Around 10 local companies showcased their products in the MIPCOM 2007 (a trade fair for animation in France) and generated \$9.75 m business. Forty-seven incubatee enterprises have been admitted to the Digital Entertainment Incubation-cum-Training Centre. Six of them have either attracted capital injection from investors, have been acquired by listed companies, or obtained licence agreement for their operation. More than 500 local animators were inspired by the internationally recognized animators and directors at the Cyberport Animation Camp 2006. The OGCIO will continue to work with industry support organisations and trade associations to identify developmental opportunities and provide appropriate forms of support to worthwhile projects initiated by the industries, subject to resource availability.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)063**

Question Serial No.

1066

Head: 47 – Government Secretariat : Office of the  
Government Chief Information Officer

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) IT in the Community

Controlling Officer: Government Chief Information Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: It is raised in the Budget that a pilot scheme will be launched to establish cyber centres in selected districts, how many districts will be involved? What are the provisions for the entire project and each district? How many people are expected to benefit? What is the recurrent expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: To spearhead the establishment of district cyber centres, the Government will launch the pilot scheme in the first instance. Private sector sponsors and community organisations will be invited to join the pilot scheme as Government's partners to be responsible for equipping and managing the district cyber centres. We would shortly commence the expression of interest exercise.

Our plan is to set up three district cyber centres initially but the exact number of centres to be set up would depend on the response to the expression of interest exercise. We will also assess the needs of individual districts in deciding on priorities. We intend to review their usage and mode of operation under the pilot scheme after a specified period (say 18 to 24 months) before considering whether and how to extend to other districts.

The provisions for the entire project and each district, number of beneficiaries and the recurrent expenditure will depend on the response to the expression of interest exercise to be initiated shortly.

Name in block letters Stephen Mak

Post Title Government Chief Information Officer (Acting)

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)064**

Question Serial No.

2198

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (1) Radio

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    The Administration has all along advocated the promotion of culture and thus there is the launching of West Kowloon cultural project. However, the output hours for Radio 5's elderly, cultural and education programmes were relatively low while its production cost was high in comparison with other programme strands. What are the reasons? Would RTHK increase the programme output of Radio 5?

Asked by:    Hon. CHAN FANG On-sang, Anson

Reply:        RTHK Radio 5 mainly provides programmes for the elderly, the children, and serves cultural and educational content, all of which require extensive research and detailed scriptwriting. These require extra resources and higher costs, compared to pop music or youth programmes.

By allocating its resources in a sensible way, RTHK is keen to raise the outputs of Radio 5 and other channels.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)065**

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2199

Programme:                    (1) Radio

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    In 2008-09, apart from vigorous promotion of Olympic events, Legislative Council Elections, promotion of national education, would more programmes of other genres be produced to provide more diversified programmes?

Asked by:    Hon. CHAN FANG On-sang, Anson

Reply:    As Hong Kong's Public Broadcaster, RTHK have been working at providing a most versatile programme to suit the various needs of the public. In 2008-09, besides actively promoting the Olympic Games, the Legislative Council Election, and programmes on National Education, we would also introduce information-oriented and service-oriented programmes and projects, such as the book programme *2007 Book Prize, HK Speak Properly, Talking to CEO (New Series)*, and we have also focused on the less privileged group and introduced the new programme, *Care for the Disabled*. We would also encourage the community's creativity. Apart from continuing with our Radio Commissioning Project, we would also introduce interactive elements in programmes for young people to take part and display their talents. News and public affairs programmes would also be enhanced.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)066**

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2200

Programme:                    (2) Public Affairs Television

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    At present, the cost per hour per television programme produced by RTHK ranges from \$200,000-odd to \$550,000, which is higher than that produced by commercial organizations, what are the reasons for it? Would other more economical means of production be employed to save costs?

Asked by:    Hon. CHAN FANG On-sang, Anson

Reply:        RTHK does not have the cost of production incurred by commercial television stations to compare directly with its own. As RTHK does not have its own television channel, most of its television programmes are transmitted by the two free-to-air terrestrial stations. As such, its programmes are usually presented as either standalone pieces of 30-minute or shorter duration. As this operation is different from that of ordinary commercial stations, a direct comparison of cost is not practical.

However, tenders submitted for our programme commissioning scheme over the past few years suggest to us that the average cost per hour incurred by RTHK is close to market average. Having said that, RTHK does review programme costs from time to time in order to maximize our efficiency without compromising programme quality.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)067**

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

0360

Programme:            (1) Radio  
                              (2) Public Affairs Television  
                              (3) School Educational Television Production  
                              (4) New Media

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:            Regarding the studies (including in-house studies or those commissioned to consultants) conducted by the Bureau for the purposes of formulating and assessing policies, please provide the relevant information in the following format:

- (1)    For the projects with provision allocated for conducting consultancy studies in 2007-08, please provide information in the following format:

Name of Consultant (if any)	Content	Revised Estimate (\$)	Progress of Studies (under planning / in progress / completed)	Follow-up actions on the studies taken by the Administration and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been published to the public? If so, through which channels? If not, what are the reasons?
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- (2)    Is there any project for which provision has been allocated for conducting consultancy study in 2008-09? If so, please provide the following information:

Name of Consultant (if any)	Content	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of Studies (under planning / in progress / completed)	Will the studies be published to the public if they are expected to be completed in the 2008-09 financial year? If so, through which channels? If not, what are the reasons?
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Asked by:            Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

- Reply:                (1)    In 2007-08, RTHK did not conduct consultancy studies for formulating and assessing policies.
- (2)    In 2008-09, RTHK does not reserve any provision for consultancy studies for formulating and assessing policies.



Name in block letters Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)068**

Question Serial No.

0201

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (2) Public Affairs Television

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    Regarding 'the production of programmes on the 2008 Legislative Council Election', please inform us:

- (1)    Details of the projects and the expenditure involved;
- (2)    The production cost for the 2004 Legislative Council Election programmes in 2004-05. Whether any evaluation has been made on the effectiveness of these programmes and what was the viewership of the programmes?

Asked by:    Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

- Reply:
- (1)    As in the past, RTHK will endeavour to produce quality programmes in respect of the 2008 Legislative Council Election. Apart from news, public and current affairs programmes providing coverage and analysis of the Election, special programmes such as *Candidates' Election Platform* and *Election Forum* will be produced to introduce candidates from the geographical direct elections and functional constituencies to voters. It is projected that the production scale and estimated expenditure for the 2008 Election will be comparable to that in 2004.
  - (2)    Direct expenditure in the production of special television programmes for the 2004 Legislative Council Election was \$4.5 m. Within those specials, the airtime for 35 episodes of *Candidates' Election Platform* and 10 episodes of *Election Forum* amounted to 18.5 hours. According to the viewership survey, 80% of the television audience has watched such programmes.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)069**

Question Serial No.

0202

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:            (1) Radio

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:            Regarding the launching of the 'second Radio Commissioning Project', please inform us:

- (1)    The reasons for the launching of the Commissioning Projects and its details;
- (2)    The expenditure involved and the effectiveness for the first and second launching respectively.

Asked by:            Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:                RTHK's Chinese Programme Service launched the first Radio Commissioning Project in 2005, with a view of selecting suitable programmes through open invitation and adjudication. The Project was aimed at attracting creative ideas and high quality productions. It also provided a platform for all parties who had an interest in the broadcasting industry, and to foster the development of creative talents in the local community.

Procedure: RTHK would first establish a main theme, and then advertise through local newspapers and our own radio channels. Winning contenders were required to conduct their production under the supervision of RTHK staff to ensure that public money was spent cost effectively and the final products could meet broadcasting standards

The main themes of the Commissioning in 2005 were 'The Ten Competitive Advantages of Hong Kong' and a radio version of 'Below the Lion Rock'. In 2007, the topic was 'My Radio Days'.

In 2005, a total of 30 programme proposals had been received. One of the themes was 'Below the Lion Rock (Radio Version)'. 20 episodes, each lasting 30 minutes were produced at a Commissioning fee of \$249,000. The programme was broadcast in 2006. The other production theme was 'The Ten Competitive Advantages of HK' but since the successful bidder failed to complete the production, we only paid the first-phase production fee of \$90,000 in accordance with our contractual commitment.

Our second Commissioning project in 2007 attracted 6 contenders. The theme was 'My Radio Days'. A total of 10 episodes, each lasting 15 minutes had been produced, with a fee totalling \$120,000. The programme has been scheduled for broadcast starting from April 2008.

Commissioning project provided a platform for all parties who had an interest in the broadcasting industry, and to foster the development of creative talents in the local community.

Name in block letters Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)070**

Question Serial No.

0203

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (2) Public Affairs Television

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    In relation to different programming strands, the proportion of arts and culture programmes has decreased year by year from 18.1% in 2006-07 to 16.5% in 2008-09. Please inform us:

- (1)    The reasons for the reduction of arts and culture programmes year by year;
- (2)    Whether the Administration has implemented other projects to promote arts and culture. If yes, what are the details and the expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by:    Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

- Reply:
- (1)    The proportion of arts and culture programmes in relation to other programming nature of television programmes increased from 14.8% in 2005-06 to 18.1% in 2006-07. In 2007-08, the proportion of arts and culture programmes was reduced to 17.2% due to increased output of programmes on the 10th Anniversary of the Establishment of the HKSAR and on the District Council Elections. In 2008-09, RTHK will produce special programmes on Olympics related events and Legislative Council Election, as a result of which, arts and culture programmes will proportionally be reduced slightly to 16.5%. This is only an initial estimation, as programme strands will be appropriately adjusted in line to meet community expectations.
  - (2)    The promotion of arts and culture has always been one of RTHK's major aims in serving the community. PATV has produced arts and culture programmes on a regular basis. We are also consistently looking for other cultural bodies as working partners to help promote relevant arts and cultural activities.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)071**

Question Serial No.

1093

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (1) Radio

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    In 2007-08, how many radio programmes aiming at promoting equality and harmony among races were produced? How much expenses were involved? In 2008-09, how many programmes on the subject matter will be produced and how much are expected to be spent?

Asked by:    Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply:    In 2007-08, Radio 2's *Made In Hong Kong* cooperated with the Equal Opportunities Commission to provide a weekly 30-minute programme called the 'Equal Opportunities Diversity Project'. Its theme was to promote racial equality and harmony. A direct cost of around \$100,000 was spent on the project in 2007-08. In the first half of 2008-09, the project was still being broadcast and its expenses are estimated to be similar to the previous year's. In addition, RTHK had quite a number of similar programmes promoting racial equality and respect, such as Radio 1's *Happy Daily* which conducted a 'Happy Maids' Contest'.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)072**

Question Serial No.

1094

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:            (1) Radio

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    In 2007-08, how many radio programmes targeting non-Chinese people whose mother tongue was not English were produced? How much expenses were involved? In 2008-09, how many programmes on the subject matter will be produced and how much are expected to be spent?

Asked by:    Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply:        In 2007-08, Radio 2's *Beautiful Sunday* produced two-hour programmes per week for 'non English-speaking ethnic groups'. At least one hour had been devoted to the Indonesian-speaking community. A total direct cost of \$200,000 was spent for this programme. In 2008-09, this programme will continue to be produced and the budget is expected to be the same as last year's.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)073**

Question Serial No.

1095

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (2) Public Affairs Television

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    In 2007-08, how many television programmes aiming at promoting equality and harmony among races were produced? How much expenses were involved? In 2008-09, how many programmes on the subject matter will be produced and how much are expected to be spent?

Asked by:    Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply:        Current affairs and documentary programmes account for 40% of the approximately 570 hours of annual television production by RTHK. We have discussed and examined themes related to equality and harmony among races in this line of programmes (such as *City Forum*, *Pentaprism*, *Hong Kong Connection* and *Legco Review* etc.) as appropriate. Meanwhile, we have also produced specials like *Equal Opportunities Special*, *New Vision*, *Hong Kong Stories* and others.

In 2008-09, RTHK and Equal Opportunities Commission will co-produce a new series of *Equal Opportunities Special*, the expenditure of which is still under discussion.

Name in block letters    Ms. Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)074**

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1096

Programme:                    (2) Public Affairs Television

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    In 2007-08, how many television programmes targeting non-Chinese people whose mother tongue was not English were produced? How much expenses were involved? In 2008-09, how many programmes on the subject matter will be produced and how much are expected to be spent?

Asked by:    Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply:        Current affairs and documentary programmes account for 40% of the approximately 570 hours of annual television production by RTHK. We have covered topics about non-Chinese people whose mother tongue is not English in this line of programmes as appropriate.

Meanwhile, we have also produced specials such as *New Vision* (which examined environmental protection and racial harmony issues in Turkey, Bhutan, the Philippines and Germany), *Travelogue 2007* (which looked into domestic issues in Honduras, France, Japan and Brazil), *ABU Children's Drama* (which covered stories of the young in Pakistan, Japan, the Czech Republic and the Netherlands), *Urban Visions* (which examined domestic issues and solutions in Italy, Japan, Norway and Chile). The total duration of these special programmes is 8.5 hours, and the average production cost per hour is \$380,000.

While we are obliged to reserve extra resources and time slots for productions related to the Beijing Olympic Games and the Legislative Council Election in 2008-09, RTHK remains ready to cover topics on non-Chinese whose mother tongue is not English as opportunities arise. Details of specific programming have to be further explored.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)075**

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

0789

Programme:                    (2) Public Affairs Television

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    Apart from coordination with the present work partners, would Radio Television Hong Kong launch its own channel with the developments of digital terrestrial television?

Asked by:    Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:        RTHK does not have a concrete plan to establish its own TV channel as this involves matters such as government policies, resources, and broadcasting bandwidths. RTHK will proactively take part in the public service broadcasting review and listen to public views on the setting up of a public broadcasting television channel.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)076**

Question Serial No.

0790

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) New Media

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: What are the reasons for a reduction of 9.8% in revised estimates for New Media to \$11 m in 2007-08?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply: Since some of the server machines and hardware purchased in 2006-07 are still in effective operation, equipment replacement plan can thus be postponed to 2008-09; and the market price of last year's Internet bandwidth is also lower as compared to 2006-07, hence the budget of New Media service in 2007-08 is downwardly adjusted.

Name in block letters Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)077**

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1301

Programme:            (1) Radio

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    Why was it that the actual proportion of minority audience in 2006-07 was higher as compared with those of the revised estimate of 2007-08 and the projected figure of 2008-09? What measures will be taken to boost the proportion of minority audience in overall audience?

Asked by:    Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:        Firstly, the indicator for 'Minority Audience Percentage' is calculated by adding the number of listeners of Radio 4, Radio 5, Radio 6 (BBC) and Putonghua Channel, compared with the total number of listeners of RTHK. According to the 2007-08 Radio Audience Survey, the number of radio listeners had dropped in general, though the audience size of channels predominantly financial was still showing signs of growth. The four 'minority' channels are no exception and their drop was great. It is plausible that the public's access to information has become versatile, especially in the wake of the emergence of net media, resulting in a significant drop in the minority audience of conventional radio listeners.

Addressing the issue of enlarging the listenership of minority groups, apart from enhancing programme quality, RTHK has been conducting engineering enhancement schemes to improve the reception quality of AM channels. At present, Radio 5, Radio 6 and Putonghua Channel are mainly transmitted by AM.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)078**

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1302

Programme:            (1) Radio

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    Please provide the total number of hours during which several channels offer merged service. During the year, how many hours and times will Radio 1 or Radio 2 provide merged service with other channels?

Asked by:    Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:        At present, RTHK provides 133 hours of merged broadcasting per week (Chinese Programme Service: 91 hours; English Programme Service: 42 hours), accounting for 11% of the total broadcasting hours. The majority of these merged programming falls in the evenings, the late nights, and the early morning hours. Radio 1 or Radio 2 provides totally 4 750 hours of merged programming annually that mainly fall in the late night hours.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)079**

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2067

Programme:            (1) Radio  
                              (2) Public Affairs Television  
                              (3) School Educational Television Production  
                              (4) New Media

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:            What is the percentage increase/decrease in total provision for 2008-09 as compared to that of 2007-08?

Asked by:            Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply:                The total provision of RTHK for 2008-09 is \$490.8 m, which is 7.6% higher than the original estimates of \$456.1 m for 2007-08.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)080**

Question Serial No.

2068

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:            (1) Radio  
                              (2) Public Affairs Television  
                              (3) School Educational Television Production  
                              (4) New Media

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:            What is the respective estimated expenditure for the forthcoming production of special programmes such as the Legislative Council Election, relay of the Olympic events and celebrations of 80 years of broadcasting in Hong Kong? Is additional provision required to meet the expenses?

Asked by:            Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply:                The estimated expenditures for the various special programmes to be produced in 2008-09 are as follows:

	Radio Division	Public Affairs Television Division
Programmes related to Legco Election	\$600,000	\$1,500,000
Relay of the Olympic events and related programmes	\$2,000,000	\$3,000,000
Celebration of the 80th anniversary of broadcasting in Hong Kong	\$120,000	\$1,000,000

The New Media Unit will also produce web sites to promote these special programmes. As all these expenditures are absorbed by reallocating existing resources, no additional provision is necessary.

Meanwhile, RTHK will also provide assistance to Home Affairs Bureau and Registration Electoral Office in the production of special programmes related to the relay of Olympic events and the Legislative Council Election, including the preparatory works and relay of the Olympic Torch Relay on 2 May, as well as the 'Legco Election Candidates' Platforms', 'Election Forums' for five geographical and 24 functional constituencies and related specials.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)081**

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2069

Programme:                    (2) Public Affairs Television

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    What is the programme plan for the promotion of national education in 2008-09? How much expenses will be involved? What are the estimated output hours and production cost per hour? What is the proportion of national education programmes in relation to the total output?

Asked by:    Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply:        Educational programmes account for 27% of the 570 hours of annual television production by RTHK in 2008-09. RTHK also plans to co-produce 139 school educational television programmes with the Education Bureau. RTHK will cover topics related to national education as appropriate in some of these programmes.

Meanwhile, RTHK will also produce specials, including *School Quiz on China Affairs*, *Olympic Rendezvous*, *Hong Kong Scientists – Mainland Exchange*, *The New China*, *Collage, On China*, *A Trip on China's Culture* and *Primary School Quiz*. The total duration of these special programmes is 19 hours, and the average production cost per hour is around \$430,000.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)082**

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2070

Programme:                    (2) Public Affairs Television

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    In 2007-08, how many programmes were produced under the programme commissioning scheme? What was the rating of these programmes? How were their production costs compared to those of television programmes produced by RTHK? In 2008-09, how many programmes will be commissioned and what is the estimated expenditure? What is the ratio between commissioned programmes and RTHK's own productions?

Asked by:    Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply:        In 2007-08, 35 programmes were produced and transmitted under the programme commissioning scheme. The average sizes of audience for those programmes are 1,003,000 (for those transmitted by TVB channel) and 330,000 (for those transmitted by ATV channel). The average direct cost per hour for the commissioned production is \$388,000, around 7% higher than RTHK's average production costs. The total direct costs for these programmes amounted to \$6.79 million.

It is estimated that in 2008-09, 34 programmes (18 hours in total) will be transmitted under the scheme, costing about \$8 million. These productions represent 7% of RTHK's prime-time output.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)083**

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2242

Programme:                    (4) New Media

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    How many RTHK ON INTERNET web content were licensed to mobile service operators last year?    Would more web content be licensed this year?

Asked by:    Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply:    In 2007-08, five programmes of RTHK web contents were being licensed to mobile service operators, including: Chinese Online News, e-Learning Channel's 'Chinese Colloquialism', 'Delicious DIY', 'One Minute's Cantonese Speaking' and 'Online One Minutes' Chinese'.

In 2008-09, RTHK will continue to enhance the website's content and service, but whether to license programmes shall depend on the demand of the mobile service operators.

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)084**

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong    Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2243

Programme:                    (4) New Media

Controlling Officer:    Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau:    Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:    Would the proportion of original web content in relation to total webcast output be increased? If no, what are the reasons? If yes, how much additional resources are required to meet the needs?

Asked by:    Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply:        In 2008-09 we mainly hope to further enrich the original web content's interactivity and deepen its subject dimension, the proportion of web content will remain as 65% (items related to radio and TV programmes) and 35% (original web content items).

Name in block letters    Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title    Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date    19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)085**

Question Serial No.

1998

Head: 180 Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority                      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                      (3) Film Classification and Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:     On the enforcement of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (COIAO), one of the Department's responsibilities is to conduct periodic public opinion surveys on the moral standards of members of the community. What was the latest survey finding? What were significant changes in the moral standards in the last five years?

Besides, the Department will assist the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau in reviewing the provisions of the COIAO. What are the details of the review?

Asked by:     Hon. CHAN Bernard

Reply:         The purpose of Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority (TELA) conducting public opinion surveys on the enforcement of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (COIAO) is to gauge public views on the COIAO in order to improve its operation and effectiveness.

The major findings of the latest public opinion survey conducted in end 2006/early 2007 are as follows –

- (a) The survey revealed that in respect of obscene articles, the classification standards of the respondents were generally in line with those of the Obscene Articles Tribunal (OAT);
- (b) The standards of the respondents were slightly stricter than those of the OAT for articles with indecent elements;
- (c) The respondents in general showed stricter standards than the OAT with regard to classifying materials as suitable for people of all ages. For the Class I (neither obscene nor indecent) articles shown to respondents, there were more respondents sorting them as Class II (indecent); and
- (d) Differences by gender and education attainment were observed. The female respondents were found to have a higher tendency to apply stricter standards than the male. As for education attainment, respondents with higher level of education were more lenient, in particular towards sorting articles as Class III (obscene).

No significant changes in the public classification standards were detected in the last five years. The findings of earlier surveys gave similar observation and analysis.

The Communications and Technology Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau and the TELA are conducting a comprehensive review of the provisions of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance. All issues of public concern will be covered in the review including the operation of the current classification system, whether and if so how obscene and indecent articles on the Internet should be regulated, enforcement action and priorities, etc. Our aim is to launch the public consultation in the second half of the year. We plan to conduct public discussion forums, focus group discussions, and will actively engage all stakeholders to seek their views.

Name in block letters Maisie CHENG

Post Title Commissioner for Television  
and Entertainment Licensing

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)086**

Head: 180 Television and  
Entertainment Licensing  
Authority

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

0362

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding the studies (including in-house studies or those commissioned to consultants) conducted by the Bureau for the purposes of formulating and assessing policies, please provide the relevant information in the following format:

- (1) For the projects with provision allocated for conducting consultancy studies in 2007-08, please provide information in the following format:

Name of Consultant (if any)	Content	Revised Estimate (\$)	Progress of Studies (under planning / in progress / completed)	Follow-up actions on the studies taken by the Administration and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been published to the public? If so, through which channels? If not, what are the reasons?

- (2) Is there any project for which provision has been allocated for conducting consultancy study in 2008-09? If so, please provide the following information:

Name of Consultant (if any)	Content	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of Studies (under planning / in progress / completed)	Will the studies be published to the public if they are expected to be completed in the 2008-09 financial year? If so, through which channels? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

- Reply:
- (1) In 2007-08, the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority (TELA) did not conduct any consultancy studies for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, and no financial provision was allocated for that purpose.
- (2) In 2008-09, TELA has not reserved funds for conducting consultancy studies for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies.

Name in block letters Maisie CHENG

Post Title Commissioner for Television  
and Entertainment Licensing

Date 13.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)087**

Question Serial No.

0889

Head: 180 Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Film Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: With regard to film services, the provision for 2008-09 is \$41.1 million higher than the revised estimate for 2007-08. This means a drastic increase of 112.6%. The Administration explains that this is due to the increased provision under the Film Development Fund to support projects and activities conducive to the long term development of the local film industry and to finance small-to-medium budget film productions. Please provide the following information:

- (a) How will the increased provision be used? What are the details of the projects and activities conducive to the long term development of the local film industry? How much is the estimated expenditure involved?
- (b) How much of the provision will be used to finance small-to-medium budget film productions? How many film productions will be involved?

Asked by: Hon. KWONG Chi-kin

Reply: With regard to film services under the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority (TELA), the estimated total expenditure for 2008-09 is \$41.1 million higher than the revised estimate for 2007-08, i.e. an increase of 112.6%. The increased provision will be used for the following projects:

- (1) Financing small-to-medium budget film productions. In July 2007, the Government injected \$300 million into the Film Development Fund and expanded its scope to finance the production of small-to-medium budget films. The scheme for financing film productions started to receive applications from the industry in late 2007. The estimated total expenditure for financing film productions in 2008-09 is \$36 million, which means an increased provision of \$34 million. It is estimated that the provision can finance the production of about 10 small-to-medium budget local films;
- (2) Providing support to programmes and activities that are conducive to the development of the local film industry. The provision is mainly used for financing large-scale projects related to film development, sponsoring Hong Kong films to take part in international film festivals, organising forums and workshops, training local film workers and promoting Hong Kong films in overseas market, etc. In 2008-09, the estimated total expenditure in this area is \$24.6 million, which represents an increased provision of \$6 million; and
- (3) Another \$1.1 million is used for paying the remunerations of the Secretary-General of the Film Development Council, a post approved by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in July 2007, to strengthen the support for the daily operations of the Film Development Council and the Film Services Office.



Name in block letters Maisie CHENG

Post Title Commissioner for Television  
and Entertainment Licensing

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)088**

Question Serial No.

1249

Head: 180 Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Film Classification and Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: The provision for 2008-09 in respect of film classification and the control of obscene and indecent articles is just \$0.5 million (1.8%) higher than the revised estimate for 2007-08. The additional provision is allocated for educational and publicity programmes to promote the ordinance concerned. Please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What is the amount of expenditure for the educational and publicity programmes to promote the ordinance concerned in 2007-08? What are the details? In which area will the additional provision be used?
- (b) In view of the rising disputes over the control of obscene and indecent articles in 2007-08, will the additional provision be sufficient? What are the criteria for drawing up the relevant estimate?

Asked by: Hon. KWONG Chi-kin

Reply: In 2007-08, an amount of \$2.2 million was spent on publicity and promotional activities for the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (COIAO). Major activities include:

- (a) holding the 2007 Meritorious Website Contest to promote surfing healthy websites among young people and to accord recognition to producers of such websites (about \$0.2 million);
- (b) organising various promotional activities in respective districts and producing different kinds of publicity materials (about \$0.6 million);
- (c) subsidising NGOs and schools to hold activities for enhancing the awareness of students on the provisions of the COIAO, as well as purchasing filtering software and producing the "Proper Use of the Internet" DVD-ROMs to be used in the promotional activities in 2008-09 (about \$1.4 million).

With regard to the promotional activities in 2008-09, emphasis will be accorded to the promotion of filtering software to parents, including the launch of the "Promoting the Use of Filtering Software" Subsidy Programme. Under this programme, schools in Hong Kong have been invited to apply for subsidy to organise talks and workshops, in which parents will be guided on how to properly handle the web surfing habit of their children and on the functions of filtering software. Parents will also learn about the detailed procedures for installing filtering software.

All along, publicity and public education activities for COIAO have been launched through a wide range of channels and networks. TELA will pay heed to the concern of the public with regard to the control of obscene and indecent articles. Where necessary, we shall redeploy our resources and work to organise public education activities that meet the needs of the community. The provision is made in accordance with the principle of prudent use of public funds.

Name in block letters Maisie CHENG

Post Title Commissioner for Television  
and Entertainment Licensing

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)089**

Question Serial No.

1618

Head: 180 Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcast Monitoring and Regulation

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: The revised estimate for 2007-08 is 10.3% higher than the original. What are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply: The revised estimate for 2007-08 is \$32 million, which is \$3 million (or 10.3%) higher than the original estimate at \$29 million. This is mainly due to the following unforeseen items which could not be provided for at the time of compiling the estimate:

- the litigation cost for the judicial review against the decision of the Broadcasting Authority on the television programme "Hong Kong Connection – Gay Lovers" (about \$2 million);
- upward adjustment of civil service pay in accordance with the 2007 Pay Trend Survey (\$0.6 million).

Name in block letters Maisie CHENG

Post Title Commissioner for Television  
and Entertainment Licensing

Date 18.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)090**

Question Serial No.

1619

Head: 180 Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Broadcast Monitoring and Regulation

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: What is the amount of expenditure and time involved in considering an application for sound or television broadcasting licence?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply: According to the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap.106) and the Broadcasting Ordinance (Cap. 562), any application for sound or television broadcasting licence shall be submitted to the Broadcasting Authority (BA). In the case of application for sound broadcasting licence and domestic free or domestic pay television programme service licence, the BA is required to make recommendations to the Chief Executive in Council, i.e. the licensing authority, in accordance with the Telecommunications Ordinance and the Broadcasting Ordinance, respectively. As regards application for Non-domestic Television Programme Service and Other Licensable Television Programme Service licences, the BA is the licensing authority under the Broadcasting Ordinance.

As the Secretariat for the BA, the Broadcasting Division of the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority (TELA) is responsible for assisting the BA in processing and assessing the applications. The expenditure involved is absorbed from within TELA's existing resources, and TELA does not have a breakdown of the expenditure for this item. Regarding the time needed to process an application, it is not possible to generalise the situation, as it depends on the adequacy of information furnished by the applicant and the complexity of individual applications.

Name in block letters Maisie CHENG

Post Title Commissioner for Television  
and Entertainment Licensing

Date 13.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)091**

Question Serial No.

1620

Head: 180 Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Film Classification and Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding the 15 counselling and guidance projects launched by the voluntary organisations and youth bodies with subsidies from the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority (TELA) in 2007, please provide the following information:

- (i) name of the subsidised organisations;
- (ii) date, time, number of sessions (if applicable);
- (iii) number of participants;
- (iv) objectives and contents of the projects;
- (v) evaluation of effectiveness;
- (vi) expenditure involved; and
- (vii) TELA's involvement and areas of work concerned

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply: The "Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance Related Publicity and Public Education Activities Subsidising Scheme" (Subsidising Scheme) provides subsidies to schools, registered charitable institutions and non-profit making organisations for holding publicity and public education activities that help to enhance public awareness of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (COIAO), especially among young people. The activities concerned can be of any format but most of the content of the project has to be related to the COIAO.

The objectives of the Subsidising Scheme are:

- (1) to promote awareness of the COIAO among young people and the community at large;
- (2) to alert participants to the negative impact of objectionable materials on young people; and
- (3) to help young people develop an independent frame of mind, better analytical ability, positive values and outlook on life with a view to helping them build up a stronger resistance to the possible harm from objectionable materials.

More than 58 000 people participated in the 15 projects under the Subsidising Scheme. In launching the public education activities for the COIAO, the staff resources, organising ability and expertise of the schools and frontline youth groups were utilised. In general, participants can meet objectives (1) and (2) right after joining the activities. In the long run, with enhanced understanding of the COIAO, the participants should be able to develop better judgment on the impact of objectionable materials.

In 2007-08, the 15 projects under TELA's Subsidising Scheme were held between July 2007 and January 2008. The expenditure involved was about \$0.47 million. Apart from providing subsidies, TELA was also involved in the following areas of work with regard to the projects:

- (1) Scrutinise and select the project proposals with members of the Vetting Committee and suggest improvements to the projects.
- (2) Arrange briefing sessions for the subsidised organisations so that the persons-in-charge of the respective projects will have a better understanding of the COIAO.
- (3) Help to check the promotional items of the activities and the teaching materials of the COIAO to ensure that information regarding the COIAO is correct.
- (4) Arrange seminars on the COIAO for 10 of the 15 projects.
- (5) Monitor the subsidised projects to ensure that they are conducted in line with the objectives and contents stated in their respective proposals.
- (6) Examine the activity reports and financial reports submitted by the organisations after the conclusion of the projects concerned.

Detailed information of the 15 projects is as follows:

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>No. of participants</b>	<b>Contents of the Project</b>
Sam Shui Natives Association School	1 560	exhibition, talk, slogan competition, logo design competition and booth games
Bravo Theatre	5 345	advertisement drama composing and presentation competition for secondary school students
Yan Chai Hospital Wong Wha San Secondary School	3 400	talk, poster design competition, creative story competition and bookmark design competition
TWGHs Lui Yun Choy Memorial College	3 518	including training of ambassadors, thematic exhibition, inter-school quiz and inter-school speech competition
The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong Ma On Shan East Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre	1 466	including talk and workshop for parents, day camp, talk for children, training camp, carnival etc.
Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong Tuen Mun Centre	5 167	including talk, workshop, essay competition, exhibition, fun day, prize presentation and variety shows etc.
Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong Tsuen Wan Centre	4 508	including drama script composing competition, drama workshop, talk, old-songs-new-lyrics composing competition, mobile phone slogan design competition, singing contest, workshop for parents, community education day, gala etc.

The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups Tsuen King Youth S.P.O.T.	870	including crossword puzzle, advertisement drama creation competition, creativity camp and presentation ceremony cum educational day camp
Caritas Youth and Community Services	9 769	including exhibition, news title election and commentary competition, day camp and media topic research competition, public release cum prize presentation ceremony etc.
HKYWCA Butterfly Bay Integrated Social Service Centre	447	including talk, small group training and carnival
Hong Kong PHAB Association	11 322	including workshop, exhibition, voluntary workers training, movie-taking training and competition, carnival cum prize presentation ceremony etc.
The Salvation Army Yaumatei Integrated Service	906	including young reporters and community education ambassadors training, day camp, civic education activity, camping, carnival etc.
Stage Professional	6 770	25 roving musical performances
BTCFS Yeung Yat Lam Memorial School	1 511	including exhibition, research workshop, students' opinion board, youth forum
The Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council Jockey Club Tai Po North Intergrated Children & Youth Services Centre	1 943	including opening ceremony, educational camp, workshop, drama group, group training cum educational day camp etc.
Total number of participants	58 502	

Name in block letters Maisie CHENG

Post Title Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Date 19.3.2008



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)092**

Question Serial No.

1621

Head: 180 Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Film Classification and Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding the periodic public opinion surveys on the moral standards of members of the community, please provide the following information:

- (i) expenditure incurred;
- (ii) questionnaires or questions set for 2006 and 2007;
- (iii) methodology of the surveys;
- (iv) sampling criteria and sources of the interviewees; and
- (v) time gap between the surveys.

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply: The Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority (TELA) conducted a public opinion survey on the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance and the Film Classification System in 2006 and 2007 respectively. Details of the two surveys are as follows:

(1) Public Opinion Survey on the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance

- (i) Expenditure incurred: about HK\$0.7 million;
- (ii) Questionnaire of the survey: the survey was conducted between 4 November 2006 and 7 January 2007. The questionnaire used is attached at Annex I;
- (iii)&(iv) Methodology of the survey, sampling criteria and sources of the interviewees:

The survey covered representative households from the entire population of Hong Kong, with respondents aged between 15 and 65 selected by a two-stage stratified sampling design based on the Register of Quarters and the Register of Segments in the Frame of Quarters as maintained by the Census and Statistics Department. Face-to-face interviews were conducted among the respondents using a pre-designed questionnaire. With regard to public views on moral standards, TELA presented to respondents aged 18 or above a total of 25 sample articles already printed on A4 cardboards (22 of the articles had been classified by the Obscene Articles Tribunal) and invited them to classify the articles based on their personal views; and

- (v) Time gap between the surveys: 2 to 3 years in general.

(2) Public Opinion Survey on Film Classification System

- (i) Expenditure incurred: about HK\$0.75 million;
- (ii) Questionnaire of the survey: the survey was completed at the end of 2007, and the consultancy company is now drafting the report. The questionnaire used is attached at Annex II;
- (iii)&(iv) Methodology of the survey, sampling criteria and sources of the interviewees:

The survey comprises two parts. For the main survey, the Frame of Quarters maintained by the Census and Statistics Department served as the sampling frame, from which persons aged 13 or above were randomly selected for a face-to-face interview using a pre-designed questionnaire. The second part of the survey was a supplementary survey in which interviewees aged 18 or above were asked to watch some film clips and then offer their views on film classification standards in the form of group discussions. The interviewees were drawn from the Hong Kong population in accordance with demographic factors, such as gender, age and the frequency of watching films, provided by the Census and Statistics Department; and

- (v) Time gap between the surveys: about 3 years.

Name in block letters Maisie CHENG

Post Title Commissioner for Television  
and Entertainment Licensing

Date 19.3.2008

## – The Questionnaire –

Sup:	SN:
Edit:	Check:

Name of respondent : \_\_\_\_\_ Contact No. of respondent : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of interviewer : \_\_\_\_\_ Date of interview : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Interviewer no. : \_\_\_\_\_ Time of interview : \_\_\_\_\_

**Introduction:** Hello! I am an interviewer from Consumer Search Hong Kong Limited. An invitation letter has been sent to you from the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority (i.e. TELA) recently, informing you that TELA has commissioned Consumer Search to carry out a household survey, with the objective to collect views of the public on the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (i.e. COIAO). Thank you for your cooperation! In order to conduct a representative survey, we need to randomly select a member in your household for the interview. All information provided during this survey will be kept strictly confidential and used for statistical analysis only. All questionnaires will be destroyed upon completion of the survey. How many members in your household are aged 15 to 65 and sleep here at least five nights a week? Starting with the eldest member of your household, could you please tell me their ages and their relationship with you?

No.	Household Member aged 15 – 65 (Rank from eldest member to youngest member.)		The Last Digit of Questionnaire no.										
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	
	Relationship	Age											
1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2			1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	2
3			2	1	3	1	3	1	2	3	2	1	
4			1	4	2	3	2	2	3	1	4	3	
5			2	3	5	4	1	3	4	1	2	5	
6			4	1	6	5	2	4	6	5	3	1	
7			3	7	4	2	5	1	3	2	6	4	
8			8	5	3	6	4	6	1	7	5	2	
9			6	3	1	7	9	5	2	4	7	8	
10			5	2	8	1	7	10	9	6	4	3	

**[Notes to Interviewer:]**

- 1) Please write down all household members aged 15 to 65 (Rank from the eldest to the youngest).
- 2) Please circle the last digit of questionnaire number. Scan downwards from this number.
- 3) Circle the corresponding number of the youngest member in this column.
- 4) Invite the household member with this number for interview.

I would like to conduct the interview with the household member aged \_\_\_\_\_

**[If the selected household member is not at home...]**

When do you expect he/ she will be back home? Can I have his/ her name?

Expected time at home: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the selected household member: \_\_\_\_\_

**[Please leave the household with contact number to encourage the selected household member to call back for arranging appointment.]**

**Part 1: Knowledge of the COIAO**

**[Ask all respondents.]**

Q1) Do you know there is an ordinance governing the control of obscene and indecent articles in Hong Kong?

- Yes, I do .....1
- No, I don't .....2 **[Skip to Q4.]**

Q2) **[Ask those who say yes in question 1.]** Do you know how many categories there are for classifying such articles as newspapers, magazines, VCDs or Internet contents in the ordinance?

- One .....1
- Two.....2
- Three.....3 **[Ask Q3.]**
- Don't know.....4
- Others .....5

Q3) **[Ask those who say “three” in question 2, others skip to Q4.]** Do you know which category of articles is only restricted to those aged 18 or above? **[Read out your choices.]**

- Class I: Neither obscene nor indecent .....1
- Class II: Indecent.....2
- Class III: Obscene.....3
- Don't know.....4
- Others .....5

**Part 2: Enforcement of the COIAO**

**[Ask all respondents.]**

Q4) Have you heard of the “Obscene Articles Tribunal” (OAT)?

- Yes.....1
- No .....2 **[Skip to Q6.]**

Q5) Do you know that the main duty of the OAT is to classify the articles to be read or looked at (such as newspapers, magazines, VCDs or Internet contents)?

- Yes, I do .....1
- No, I don't .....2

**[Ask all respondents]**

Q6) The OAT is an independent judicial body consisting of a presiding magistrate and a few members of the public. Do you think it is appropriate to involve members of the public in the classification of articles to be read or looked at?

- Appropriate.....1
- Not appropriate .....2 **[Ask Q6a.]**

Q6a) Why do you think it is not appropriate? **[Rotate]**

- Lacking relevant knowledge for correct classification .....1
- Education level insufficient for correct classification.....2
- Different people have different moral standards.....3
- Different people have different cultural backgrounds. ....4

**Others: [Please specify.] \_\_\_\_\_**

Q7) Have you heard of any convictions of publishing indecent articles in breach of the COIAO from newspapers or other media?

- Yes.....1
- No.....2

Q8) Are you aware of the penalties for these convictions?

- Yes.....1
- No.....2 **[Skip to Q13.]**

Q9) What are the penalties you are aware of? Any others? **[MA]** **[Please record the answer in the table below.]**

Q10a) Do you think those penalties are appropriate?

- Appropriate.....1
- Inappropriate.....2 **[Ask Q10b.]**

Q10b) Do you think the penalties are too lenient or too severe?

- Too lenient.....1
- Too severe.....2

**[Please ask according to the answers of Q9.]**

Q11) As far as you know, what is the maximum fine?

**[If the respondent mentions first or subsequent conviction, please get the respective answers, otherwise only record what has been mentioned.] [Please record answer(s) in the table.]**

Q12) As far as you know, what is the maximum period of imprisonment?

**[If the respondent mentions first or subsequent conviction, please get the respective answers, otherwise only record what was mentioned.] [Please record answer(s) in the table.]**

Q9 [MA]	Q11/Q12 Maximum penalty	
Fine.....1	11) (First conviction) \$_____ Don't know.....99	
	<b>(second or subsequent conviction)</b> \$_____ Don't know.....99	
Imprisonment...2	12) (First conviction) Year(s) Don't know.....99	
	<b>(second or subsequent conviction)</b> Year(s) Don't know.....99	
Don't Know...99 <b>[Skip to Q13.]</b>		

**[Ask all respondents.]**

Q13) The Obscene Articles Tribunal determines the classification of articles based on standards of morality, decency and propriety that are generally accepted by reasonable members of the community. Do you think such assessment is appropriate or not? (The standards of morality, decency and propriety that I am talking about is, for instance, women revealing their nipples in public or photos in newspapers or family magazines showing women revealing their nipples are not acceptable). [Probe] Is it appropriate or quite appropriate / is it quite inappropriate or inappropriate?

- Appropriate.....1 **[Skip to Q15.]**
- Quite Appropriate.....2 **[Skip to Q15.]**
- Quite Inappropriate.....3
- Inappropriate.....4

Q14) [Ask those answer “3” or “4” in question 13.] What factors do you think should be taken into consideration in determining the classification of articles? [MA] [Rotate and read out.]

- The dominant effect of an article as a whole ..... 1
- The persons to whom the article is published.....2
- Whether the publication of the article is related to science or art, or it is published purely as pornography .....3
- Others .....4[Ask for reason.]

Please specify the reasons: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 3: Publicity and Public Education Activities**

Q15) [Ask those who say “yes” in question 1.] Where did you learn about the COIAO? [Ask]: Which kind of media? Which activities? [MA]

**15a) Media**

**15b) Activity**

TV .....	1	Exhibitions.....	1
Radio .....	2	Talks and Seminars.....	2
Newspapers .....	3	Big promotional events such as Ten Healthy Websites Contest / Meritorious Website Contest.....	3
Magazines .....	4	Community events.....	4
Posters .....	5	School events.....	5
Promotional leaflets .....	6		
Internet .....	7		
Others (please specify):.....	8	Others (please specify): .....	6

**[Ask all respondents]**

Q16) Which of the following channels do you think the Government should use for effective publicity of the COIAO? [MA]

- TV / Radio .....1
- Newspapers / Magazines .....2
- Posters / Promotional leaflets .....3
- Internet.....4
- Exhibitions/ Talks and Seminars .....5
- Big promotional events such as Ten Healthy Websites Contest / Meritorious Website Contest .....6
- Subsidizing non-governmental organisations to hold district activities .....7
- Others (Please specify): .....8

**Part 4: Public Views of Moral Standards**

**[Ask only those aged 18 or above, others please skip to Part 5.]**

**[Please remind the respondent.]**

Some of the articles to be shown in this part of the survey are only suitable for persons aged 18 or above and some have been classified as not suitable for publication to any member of the public and are used for research purposes only. If you feel strongly disturbed and do not want to continue to view the articles, please let me know.

Q17) Now I will show you 25 articles for you to classify. Please note that there are no correct answers to this exercise. Just classify the articles as “Type A” (suitable for people of all ages) and “Type B” (all others) based on your personal standards.

**[After sorting]**

Of the articles that you have classified as Type B, please choose those that you will classify as “Type C” (not suitable for anyone to view).

**[Please record]**

17a) Type A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
17b) Type B	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
17c) Type C	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25

**[Please collect and check all 25 articles.]**

Q18) What are the reasons behind your decision to classify those articles as “Type B” (i.e. only suitable for people aged 18 or above) and not “Type A”? **[MA] [Rotate and Read out.]**

- To protect the under-aged ..... 1
- The articles may induce under-aged persons to commit crime..... 2
- The articles are against moral standards of the community..... 3
- The articles are sickening and disturbing..... 4
- Others (please specify) : ..... 5

Q19) What are the reasons behind your decision to classify those articles as “Type C” (i.e. not suitable for anyone to view) and not “Type B”? **[MA] [Rotate and Read out.]**

- The articles are severely against moral standards of the community..... 1
- The articles are extremely likely to induce readers/viewers to commit crime..... 2
- The articles are extremely sickening and disturbing..... 3
- Others (please specify) : ..... 4

### Part 5: Personal Particulars

**[Interviewer]:** Finally, I would like to get some of your personal particulars. All the information obtained will be kept strictly confidential and used for statistical analysis only.

C1) Record sex of the respondents

Male..... 1      Female ..... 2

C2) Which age group do you belong to?

15-17..... 1	40-44..... 7
18-19..... 2	45-49..... 8
20-24..... 3	50-54..... 9
25-29..... 4	55-59..... 10
30-34..... 5	60-65..... 11
35-39..... 6	

C3) Do you have any children? **[If yes, probe.]** Any children aged under 18?

No children ..... 1  
Have children aged under 18 ..... 2  
Have children aged 18 or above ..... 3

C4) What is your marital status?

Single..... 1      Others ..... 3  
Married ..... 2

C5) What is your place of birth?

Hong Kong ..... 1      Others: (Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_)..3[Ask C6.]  
the Mainland of China ..... 2 [Ask C6.]

C6) How long have you been living in Hong Kong? \_\_\_\_\_years

C7) What is your education level?

No formal schooling ..... 1	Matriculation ..... 5
Primary ..... 2	Tertiary (Higher Dip/ Associate degree, etc.)..... 6
Lower secondary (Form 1-3)..... 3	Degree (Bachelor degree or above)..... 7
Upper secondary (Form 4-5) ..... 4	

C8) What kind of housing are you living in?

Public Housing ..... 1      Private housing ..... 3  
Home Ownership Scheme ..... 2      Others: (Please specify : \_\_\_\_\_)..... 4



C9) What is your occupation?

Manager or administrator .....	1	Student .....	10
Professional .....	2	Housewife .....	11
Associate professional .....	3	Unemployed.....	12
Clerk .....	4	Retired.....	13
Service worker and shop salesman.....	5	Refuse to answer.....	14
Craft or related worker .....	6		
Plant/ machine operator or assembler.....	7		
Elementary occupation (unskilled blue collar) .....	8		
Others: _____ .....	9		

C10) Including all sources of income, what is the approximate range of your monthly household income? That includes all of your part-time or full-time wages, bonuses, allowances paid by relatives not living together, retirement pensions, all kinds of social welfare allowances (such as old age allowance/ comprehensive social security assistance payment/ housing allowance) [If respondent refuses to answer, probe] Is it higher than .....?

\$5,999 or below .....	1	\$20,000 – 24,999 .....	6
\$6,000 – 7,999 .....	2	\$25,000 – 29,999 .....	7
\$8,000 – 9,999 .....	3	\$30,000 – 39,999 .....	8
\$10,000 – 14,999 .....	4	\$40,000 – 59,999 .....	9
<span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">\$15,000</span> – 19,999.....	5	\$60,000 or above .....	10
.....		No income .....	11
.....		Refuse to answer.....	12

C11) Record Living District:

Central & Western District.....	1	Kwai Tsing District.....	10
Wan Chai District.....	2	Tsuen Wan District .....	11
Eastern District .....	3	Tuen Mun District.....	12
Southern District.....	4	Yuen Long District .....	13
Yau Tsim Mong District.....	5	North District .....	14
Sham Shui Po District .....	6	Tai Po District.....	15
Kowloon City District .....	7	Sha Tin District.....	16
Wong Tai Sin District.....	8	Sai Kung District .....	17
Kwun Tong District.....	9	Islands District.....	18

**[Read out]:** This is the end of the interview. Thank you for your participation! Here is a leaflet about the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance for your reference. In order to maintain a high level of quality of our survey, the Quality Control Department of Consumer Search or TELA may contact you for quality control back check. You may be selected for this quality assurance check. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

**RESTRICTED  
WHEN ENTERED WITH DATA**

## Public Opinion Survey on Film Classification System (2007) (Aged 18 or above)

Interviewer's Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Questionnaire Serial No. (QSN) \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewer's Number : \_\_\_\_\_ Quarters Serial No. (SSN) \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Visits	1	2	3	4	5	6	Willing to participate in focus group	
Date								
Start Time								Total Time
End Time								
Duration of Interview								(MIN)
Result								

<b>RESULT:</b>  <b>EN</b> = ENumerated <b>VAC</b> = VACant <b>PE</b> = Partially Enumerated <b>ABS</b> = ABSent <b>NC</b> = Non-Contact <b>DEM</b> = DEMolished <b>LGP</b> = Language Problem <b>NR</b> = Refusal <b>ND</b> = Non-Domestic Use <b>MER</b> = MERged	Final Enumeration
	Result
<b>REMARKS:</b> _____ _____	



A4. What is your occupation? [SA] [Show card 3]

- |   |   |    |  |
|---|---|----|--|
| 1 | Manager & administrator                 | 8  | Plant and machine operator and assembler |
| 2 | Professional                            | 9  | Elementary occupation                    |
| 3 | Associate professional                  | 10 | Student                                  |
| 4 | Clerk                                   | 11 | Homemaker                                |
| 5 | Services worker & shop sales worker     | 12 | Retiree                                  |
| 6 | Skilled agricultural and fishery worker | 13 | Unemployed                               |
| 7 | Craft and related worker                | 98 | Others (Please specify): _____           |
|   |   | 99 | Refused to answer                        |

A5. What is your martial status? [SA] [Show card 4]

- |   |                    |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1 | Single             | 3 | Widowed            |
| 2 | Married/Cohabiting | 4 | Divorced/Separated |
|   |                    | 9 | Refused to answer  |

A6. Do you have any children? [SA]

- |   |     |   |                                 |
|---|-----|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Yes | 2 | No [Skip to A10]                |
|   |     | 9 | Refused to answer [Skip to A10] |

A7. How many children aged 12 or below do you have?

A8. How many children aged 13 – 14 do you have?

A9. How many children aged 15 – 17 do you have?

A10. How many films have you watched in cinemas/at home in the past 12 months? [SA]

- |   |       |   |             |
|---|-------|---|-------------|
| 1 | 0     | 4 | 6 – 9       |
| 2 | 1 – 2 | 5 | 10 or above |
| 3 | 3 – 5 |   |             |

A11. How long have you been living in Hong Kong?

- |   |              |   |                   |
|---|--------------|---|-------------------|
| 1 | 0 – 3 years  | 4 | 11 years or above |
| 2 | 4 – 7 years  |   |                   |
| 3 | 8 – 10 years |   |                   |

### Part B – Knowledge and comments on the three tiers Film Classification System

B1. Are you aware of the three tiers Film Classification System? [SA]

- |   |     |   |                 |
|---|-----|---|-----------------|
| 1 | Yes | 2 | No [Skip to B3] |
|---|-----|---|-----------------|

B2. Which of the following three groups is the current three tiers Film Classification System? [SA] [Show card 5]

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | Category I—Suitable for all ages<br>Category II—Not suitable for children<br>Category III—Persons aged 18 or above only  |
| 2 | Category I—Suitable for all ages<br>Category IIA—Not suitable for children<br>Category IIB—Not suitable for young persons and children<br>Category III—Persons aged 18 or above only         |
| 3 | Category I—Suitable for all ages<br>Category IIA—Not suitable for persons aged under 12<br>Category IIB—Not suitable for persons aged under 15<br>Category III—Persons aged 18 or above only |
| 4 | Don't know   |

[If B1 = 2 “No” or B2 ≠ 2 , read out item 2 in Show card 5]

B3. On a 5-point scale with 1 being “strongly unacceptable” and 5 being “strongly acceptable”, do you think the current three tiers Film Classification System is acceptable? [Show card 6]

\_\_\_\_\_ [Fill in “9”, if the answer is “Don't know”]

B4. [Ask the respondent if B3 = 1 or 2] Why is it not acceptable? What else?

\_\_\_\_\_

B5. Do you think TELA's promotion of the three tiers Film Classification System is adequate? [SA]

1 Yes **[Skip to B7]**                      2 No    9 No comment **[Skip to B7]**

B6. Through which of the following medium/media do you think the three tiers Film Classification System can be effectively promoted? [MA]

1 Television  
2 Radio  
3 Newspaper  
4 Magazine  
5 Poster  
6 Multi Media on board  
7 Internet  
8 Trailers in cinemas  
98 Others (Please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

B7. When selecting a film, do you normally pay attention to its classification category? [SA]

1 Yes    2 No **[Skip to B12]**

B8. TELA has further classified the Category II films into two sub-categories, IIA as not suitable for children and IIB as not suitable for young persons and children. When selecting a Category II film, do you pay attention to whether it belongs to Category IIA or IIB? [SA]

1 Yes **[Skip to B10]**    2 No

B9. The reasons for not paying attention are? [MA]

1 Do not watch film with young persons and children, thus no need to consider the film's classification category                      4 Do not know Category II is subdivided into Categories IIA and IIB  
2 Not much difference in classification standards between Categories IIA and IIB films                      98 Others (Please specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
3 Do not understand the classification standards of Categories IIA and IIB films

B10. On a 5-point scale with 1 being "not helpful at all" and 5 being "very helpful", do you think the sub-division of Category II films into Categories IIA and IIB is helpful to parents in selecting films for their children? **[Show card 7]**

\_\_\_\_\_ **[Fill in "9", if the answer is "No comment"]**



**[If the respondent has children aged below 18, i.e. A7 + A8 + A9 >0, ask B19, otherwise skip to Part C]**

B19. Have you ever taken any action to prevent your children aged below 18 watching Category III films? [MA]

- |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Do not allow the children to watch Category III films   | 4 | Keep the Category III films in proper storage at home |
| 2 | Tell the children that the law does not allow persons aged below 18 to watch Category III films | 5 | Haven't taken any action                              |
| 3 | Tell the children not to rent Category III films from video shops                               | 6 | Others (Please specify): _____                        |

**Part C –Awareness of Television Entertainment Licensing Authority**

C1. You think the main responsibilities of TELA are to: [MA] **[Show card 8]**

- 1 Inspect cinemas
- 2 Arrange the release date of films
- 3 Examine and classify the category of films
- 4 Examine the packaging of Category III films (e.g. packaging of DVD/VCD)
- 5 Examine the advertising materials of Category III films (e.g. posters, film stills, flyers, etc.)
- 6 Prevent unauthorized reproduction of films
- 98 Others (Please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

C2. Have you ever visited the website of TELA? [SA]

- |   |     |   |    |
|---|-----|---|----|
| 1 | Yes | 2 | No |
|---|-----|---|----|

**[If “No” , please tell the respondent the website is [www.tela.gov.hk](http://www.tela.gov.hk)]**

C3. Are you aware that TELA has provided information on the classification of films for public exhibition on its website? [SA]

- |   |     |   |                        |
|---|-----|---|------------------------|
| 1 | Yes | 2 | No <b>[Skip to C5]</b> |
|---|-----|---|------------------------|

C4. Do you think such information is helpful for selecting films? [SA]

- |   |               |   |                    |
|---|---------------|---|--------------------|
| 1 | Very helpful  | 3 | Not helpful at all |
| 2 | Quite helpful | 9 | No comment         |

C5. Do you think it is appropriate for TELA to carry out film censorship and classification? [SA]

- |   |                                     |   |                 |   |                                    |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------|---|------------------------------------|
| 1 | Appropriate <b>[Skip to Part D]</b> | 2 | Not appropriate | 9 | No comment <b>[Skip to Part D]</b> |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------|---|------------------------------------|



C6. Which organization do you think should be responsible for film censorship and classification?  
 [MA] [Show card 9]

1	Organization from the film industry	3	Organization from the general public	9	No comment
2	Organization appointed by the Government	98	Others (Please specify): _____		

**Part D – Comments on the Classification Standards of the three tiers Film Classification System**

D1. On a 5-point scale with 1 being “strongly unacceptable” and 5 being “strongly acceptable”, do you think the current film classification standards are acceptable? [Show card 6]

\_\_\_\_\_ [Fill in “9”, if the answer is “Don’t know”]

D2. Overall speaking, do you think the current film classification standards are strict or lenient? [SA] [Show card 10]

1	Very lenient	4	A bit strict
2	A bit lenient	5	Very strict
3	Just right	9	No comment

D3. On a 5-point scale with 1 being “strongly unacceptable” and 5 being “strongly acceptable”, do you think the titles of the current films are acceptable? [Show card 6]

\_\_\_\_\_ [Fill in “9”, if the answer is “Don’t know”]

D4. [Ask the respondent if D3 = 1 or 2] Why is it not acceptable? What else?

\_\_\_\_\_

D5. On a 5-point scale with 1 being “strongly unacceptable” and 5 being “strongly acceptable”, do you think the advertising materials of the current Category III films (including poster, film stills, flyers, etc.) are acceptable? [Show card 6]

\_\_\_\_\_ [Fill in “9”, if the answer is “Don’t know”]

D6. [Ask the respondent if D5 = 1 or 2] Why is it not acceptable? What else?

\_\_\_\_\_

D7. Are you aware that the DVD / VCDs of the classified films on sale in Hong Kong are also subject to the three tiers Film Classification System? [SA]

1 Yes

2 No

D8. Do you think that the classification symbols and notices of such DVD / VCDs are clear enough? [SA]

1 Yes

2 No

D9. On a 5-point scale with 1 being “strongly unacceptable” and 5 being “strongly acceptable”, do you think the packaging of the current Category III films (e.g. packaging of DVD/VCD) is acceptable? [Show card 6]

\_\_\_\_\_

[Fill in “9”, if the answer is “Don’t know”]

D10. [Ask the respondent if D9 = 1 or 2] Why is it not acceptable? What else?

\_\_\_\_\_

D11-D30. Overall speaking, under the current Film Classification System, do you think the censorship standards applied to the following scenes or depictions in the films of each category are strict or lenient? [Show card 10]

	Very lenient	A bit lenient	Just right	A bit strict	Very strict	No comment
D11. Torture and violence in Category I films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D12. Horror and shock in Category I films	1	2	3	4	5	9
D13. Sex in Category I films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D14. Nudity in Category I films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D15. Objectionable language (including Cantonese, English and Putonghua) in Category I films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D16. Torture and violence in Category IIA films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D17. Horror and shock in Category IIA films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D18. Sex in Category IIA films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D19. Nudity in Category IIA films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D20. Objectionable language (including Cantonese, English and Putonghua) in Category IIA films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D21. Torture and violence in Category IIB films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D22. Horror and shock in Category IIB films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D23. Sex in Category IIB films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D24. Nudity in Category IIB films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D25. Objectionable language (including Cantonese, English and Putonghua) in Category IIB films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D26. Torture and violence in Category III films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D27. Horror and shock in Category III films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D28. Sex in Category III films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D29. Nudity in Category III films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D30. Objectionable language (including Cantonese, English and Putonghua) in Category III films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9

D31-D40. Do you think the following titles of the films are acceptable? [Show cards 11&12]

	<b>Acceptable</b>	<b>Barely acceptable</b>	<b>Unacceptable</b>	<b>No comment</b>
D31. 小妹任你強姦	1	2	3	9
D32. 豐乳同露	1	2	3	9
D33. 血紋身	1	2	3	9
D34. 肢解狂魔	1	2	3	9
D35. 有前有後扑濕罷就	1	2	3	9
D36. 龍周鳳股	1	2	3	9
D37. 校墓處	1	2	3	9
D38. 醜女大翻身	1	2	3	9
D39. Rape Me	1	2	3	9
D40. 亂交咁插	1	2	3	9

D41-D47. Do you think the following posters and advertising materials of Category III films are acceptable for open display? [Show card 13]

	<b>Acceptable for open display</b>	<b>Barely acceptable for open display</b>	<b>Unacceptable for open display</b>	<b>No comment</b>
D41. 活死人凶間	1	2	3	9
D42. 血色月亮	1	2	3	9
D43. 黑社會以和為貴	1	2	3	9
D44. 天邊一朵雲	1	2	3	9
D45. 新傾國傾城	1	2	3	9
D46. 娃鬼怪嬰	1	2	3	9
D47. 花與蛇 (官能遊戲)	1	2	3	9

D48-D55. Do you think the following packaging of Category III films is acceptable for open display in shops? [Show card 14]

	<b>Acceptable for open display</b>	<b>Barely acceptable for open display</b>	<b>Unacceptable for open display</b>	<b>No comment</b>
D48. 女人的秘密	1	2	3	9
D49. 恐怖蠟像館	1	2	3	9
D50. 情·慾·愛	1	2	3	9
D51. 愛的俘虜	1	2	3	9
D52. 降頭	1	2	3	9
D53. 血紋身	1	2	3	9
D54. 情慾九歌	1	2	3	9
D55. 黑社會	1	2	3	9

D56-D62. In general, what do you think is the acceptable classification category, Category I / Category IIA / Category IIB / Category III / Not suitable for exhibition, for films depicting the following themes? [If lower grade is acceptable, it is not necessary to ask about the higher grade.] [Show card 15]

	Category I Suitable for all ages	Category IIA Not suitable for children	Category IIB Not suitable for young persons & children	Category III Persons aged 18 or above only	Not suitable for exhibition	No comment
D56. Detailed or gratuitous depiction of a child who is under the age of 16 years engaging in sexual activity .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D57. Explicit or gratuitous depiction of sexual violence or sexual acts under coercion ...	1	2	3	4	5	9
D58. Depiction of exploitative incestuous behaviors..	1	2	3	4	5	9
D59. Depiction of abnormal sexual interest, (such as sadomasochism, fetish) .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D60. Depiction of necrophilia .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D61. Depiction of bestiality.....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D62. Detailed promotion, incitement or instruction on the use of dangerous drugs.....	1	2	3	4	5	9

May I have your daytime telephone number, so that the staff of our company can contact you later to clarify some questions when needed.

Respondent  
telephone  
number: \_\_\_\_\_

Respondent  
name: \_\_\_\_\_(Mr/Ms)

**Thank you for your interview!**



**RESTRICTED  
WHEN ENTERED WITH DATA**

## Public Opinion Survey on Film Classification System (2007) (Aged 13-17)

Interviewer's Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Questionnaire Serial No. (QSN) \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewer's Number : \_\_\_\_\_ Quarters Serial No. (SSN) \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Visits	1	2	3	4	5	6	<del>Willing to participate in focus group  Total Time  (MIN)</del>
Date							
Start Time							
End Time							
Duration of Interview							
Result							

<b>RESULT:</b>  <b>EN</b> = ENumerated <b>VAC</b> = VACant <b>PE</b> = Partially Enumerated <b>ABS</b> = ABSent <b>NC</b> = Non-Contact <b>DEM</b> = DEMolished <b>LGP</b> = Language Problem <b>NR</b> = Refusal <b>ND</b> = Non-Domestic Use <b>MER</b> = MERged	Final Enumeration
	Result
<b>REMARKS:</b> _____ _____	



A4. What is your occupation? [SA] [Show card 3]

- |   |   |    |  |
|---|---|----|--|
| 1 | Manager & administrator                 | 8  | Plant and machine operator and assembler |
| 2 | Professional                            | 9  | Elementary occupation                    |
| 3 | Associate professional                  | 10 | Student                                  |
| 4 | Clerk                                   | 11 | Homemaker                                |
| 5 | Services worker & shop sales worker     | 12 | Retiree                                  |
| 6 | Skilled agricultural and fishery worker | 13 | Unemployed                               |
| 7 | Craft and related worker                | 98 | Others (Please specify): _____           |
|   |   | 99 | Refused to answer                        |

A5. What is your martial status? [SA] [Show card 4]

- |   |                    |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1 | Single             | 3 | Widowed            |
| 2 | Married/Cohabiting | 4 | Divorced/Separated |
|   |                    | 9 | Refused to answer  |

A10. How many films have you watched in cinemas/at home in the past 12 months? [SA]

- |   |       |   |             |
|---|-------|---|-------------|
| 1 | 0     | 4 | 6 – 9       |
| 2 | 1 – 2 | 5 | 10 or above |
| 3 | 3 – 5 |   |             |

A11. How long have you been living in Hong Kong?

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| 1 | 0 – 3 years       |
| 2 | 4 – 7 years       |
| 3 | 8 – 10 years      |
| 5 | 11 years or above |

**Part B – Knowledge and comments on the three tiers Film Classification System**

B1. Are you aware of the three tiers Film Classification System? [SA]

1 Yes

2 No [Skip to B3]

B2. Which of the following three groups is the current three tiers Film Classification System? [SA] [Show card 5]

1 Category I— Suitable for all ages  
Category II— Not suitable for children  
Category III— Persons aged 18 or above only

2 Category I— Suitable for all ages  
Category IIA— Not suitable for children  
Category IIB— Not suitable for young persons and children  
Category III— Persons aged 18 or above only

3 Category I— Suitable for all ages  
Category IIA— Not suitable for persons aged under 12  
Category IIB— Not suitable for persons aged under 15  
Category III— Persons aged 18 or above only

4 Don't know

[If B1 = 2 “No” or B2 ≠ 2 , read out item 2 in Show card 5]

B3. On a 5-point scale with 1 being “strongly unacceptable” and 5 being “strongly acceptable”, do you think the current three tiers Film Classification System is acceptable? [Show card 6]

\_\_\_\_\_ [Fill in “9”, if the answer is “Don't know”]

B4. [Ask the respondent if B3 = 1 or 2] Why is it not acceptable? What else?

\_\_\_\_\_

B5. Do you think TELA's promotion of the three tiers Film Classification System is adequate? [SA]

1 Yes [Skip to B7]

2 No

9 No comment [Skip to B7]





**[If B22 = 2 or 3, ask B25, otherwise skip to part C]**

B25. Are these films or discs (DVD/VCD) provided by yourself, your family members/friends/classmates/relatives? [MA]

- |   |   |   |                               |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Self [ <b>Skip to B27</b> ]                       | 3 | Both                          |
| 2 | Family members / Friends / Classmates / Relatives | 4 | Others [ <b>Skip to B28</b> ] |

B26. Are any of these family members/friends/classmates/relatives aged below 18? [SA]

- |   |     |   |    |   |            |
|---|-----|---|----|---|------------|
| 1 | Yes | 2 | No | 9 | Don't know |
|---|-----|---|----|---|------------|

**[If B25 = 1 or 3 / B26 = 1, ask B27, otherwise, skip to part C]**

B27. Where do you or your family members/friends/classmates/relatives who are aged below 18 obtained these films or discs (DVD/VCD)? [MA]

- |                                      |   |   |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 1                                    | From video shops  | 4 | Parents (having knowledge of such acts) |
| 2                                    | From stores/ shops selling unauthorized discs (DVD/VCD) | 5 | Parents (no knowledge of such acts)     |
| 3                                    | Self-copied from discs (DVD/VCD)                        | 6 | Download from internet                  |
| 98 Others ( please specify ) : _____ |   |   |   |

B28. Are your parents or the parents of your family members/friends/classmates/relatives aware that you/they watch such types of films? [SA]

- |   |       |   |           |
|---|-------|---|-----------|
| 1 | Aware | 2 | Not aware |
|---|-------|---|-----------|

B29. Why do you watch Category III films: [MA]

- |                                      |  |   |   |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| 1                                    | Out of curiosity   | 3 | Think that contents of these films can broaden young persons' view and enrich their knowledge |
| 2                                    | Think that contents of these films can help young persons gain knowledge of the reality of the adult's world | 4 | Think that contents of these films will not have any bad influence on young persons           |
| 98 Others ( Please specify ) : _____ |  |   |   |





**Part D – Comments on the Classification Standards of the three tiers Film Classification System**

D1. On a 5-point scale with 1 being “strongly unacceptable” and 5 being “strongly acceptable”, do you think the current film classification standards are acceptable? **[Show card 6]**

\_\_\_\_\_ **[Fill in “9”, if the answer is “Don’t know”]**

D2. Overall speaking, do you think the current film classification standards are strict or lenient? **[SA] [Show card 10]**

- |   |               |   |              |
|---|---------------|---|--------------|
| 1 | Very lenient  | 4 | A bit strict |
| 2 | A bit lenient | 5 | Very strict  |
| 3 | Just right    | 9 | No comment   |

D3. On a 5-point scale with 1 being “strongly unacceptable” and 5 being “strongly acceptable”, do you think the titles of the current films are acceptable? **[Show card 6]**

\_\_\_\_\_ **[Fill in “9”, if the answer is “Don’t know”]**

D4. **[Ask the respondent if D3 = 1 or 2]** Why is it not acceptable? What else?

\_\_\_\_\_

D5. On a 5-point scale with 1 being “strongly unacceptable” and 5 being “strongly acceptable”, do you think the advertising materials of the current Category III films (including poster, film stills, flyers, etc.) are acceptable? **[Show card 6]**

\_\_\_\_\_ **[Fill in “9”, if the answer is “Don’t know”]**

D6. **[Ask the respondent if D5 = 1 or 2]** Why is it not acceptable? What else?

\_\_\_\_\_

D7. Are you aware that the DVD/VCDs of the classified films on sale in Hong Kong are also subject to the three tiers Film Classification System? **[SA]**

- |   |     |   |    |
|---|-----|---|----|
| 1 | Yes | 2 | No |
|---|-----|---|----|

D8. Do you think that the classification symbols and notices of such DVD/VCDs are clear enough? **[SA]**

- |   |     |   |    |
|---|-----|---|----|
| 1 | Yes | 2 | No |
|---|-----|---|----|

D9. On a 5-point scale with 1 being “strongly unacceptable” and 5 being “strongly acceptable”, do you think the packaging of the current Category III films (e.g. packaging of DVD/VCD) is acceptable? [Show card 6]

\_\_\_\_\_ [Fill in “9”, if the answer is “Don’t know”]

D10. [Ask the respondent if D9 = 1 or 2] Why is it not acceptable? What else?

\_\_\_\_\_

D11-D25. Overall speaking, under the current Film Classification System, do you think the censorship standards applied to the following scenes or depictions in the films of each category are strict or lenient? [SA] [Show card 10]

	Very lenient	A bit lenient	Just right	A bit strict	Very strict	No comment
D11. Torture and violence in Category I films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D12. Horror and shock in Category I films	1	2	3	4	5	9
D13. Sex in Category I films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D14. Nudity in Category I films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D15. Objectionable language (including Cantonese, English and Putonghua) in Category I films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D16. Torture and violence in Category IIA films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D17. Horror and shock in Category IIA films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D18. Sex in Category IIA films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D19. Nudity in Category IIA films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D20. Objectionable language (including Cantonese, English and Putonghua) in Category IIA films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D21. Torture and violence in Category IIB films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D22. Horror and shock in Category IIB films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D23. Sex in Category IIB films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D24. Nudity in Category IIB films .....	1	2	3	4	5	9
D25. Objectionable language (including Cantonese, English and Putonghua) in Category IIB .....	1	2	3	4	5	9

May I have your daytime telephone number, so that the staff of our company can contact you later to clarify some questions when needed?

Respondent  
telephone  
number: \_\_\_\_\_

Respondent  
name: \_\_\_\_\_(Mr/Ms)

**Thank you for your interview!**

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)093**

Question Serial No.

2258

Head: 180 Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Film Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: What is the estimated increase of manpower for the expanded scope of the Film Development Fund to finance small-to-medium budget film productions? What is the amount of expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: At its meeting on 6 July 2007, the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved an injection of \$300 million into the Film Development Fund and expanded its scope to finance small-to-medium budget film productions. To tie in with the launch of the new financing scheme for film productions, the Finance Committee also approved at the meeting the creation of a non-civil service post of Secretary-General of the Film Development Council at the equivalent rank of D2. To strengthen its services, the Film Services Office of the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority has also created two permanent civil service posts, viz., one Senior Executive Officer and one Personal Secretary I. The additional staff assumed office in 2007-08, and the required annual amount of expenditure is about \$2.72 million which has been included in the estimate for 2008-09.

Name in block letters Maisie CHENG

Post Title Commissioner for Television  
and Entertainment Licensing

Date 13.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)094**

Question Serial No.

2259

Head: 180 Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Film Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: What are the specific work plans in 2008-09 for promoting Hong Kong as a major film production services centre in the Asia-Pacific Region? What resources will be required for this purpose?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: The Film Services Office (FSO) of the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority attends overseas global expos for filming locations and organises location expos in Hong Kong on a regular basis. In attending and organising these locations events, the FSO aims to attract overseas producers to choose Hong Kong as a shooting place for their films, television programmes, advertisements or video productions and encourage them to make use of the FSO's one-stop facilitation service for location filming.

In 2008-09, apart from joining the "AFCI Locations Trade Show 2008" in Los Angeles, USA, the FSO will stage the "Locations World Asia" Pavilion at "FILMART 2009" in collaboration with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council. In these two exhibitions, the FSO will promote Hong Kong as an ideal place for location filming in Asia and showcase the production support and facilities of Hong Kong so as to maintain its status as the major film production services centre in the Asia-Pacific Region. The former location trade show targets at European and American production companies whilst the latter focuses on production companies of the Asia-Pacific Region.

In addition to the aforesaid events, the FSO will publish promotional pamphlets, produce a short video for publicity, and update its websites from time to time so that overseas filmmakers will have an easy access to information about film shooting in Hong Kong.

The budget for the promotional activities is \$1.2 million and no additional manpower is required.

Name in block letters Maisie CHENG

Post Title Commissioner for Television  
and Entertainment Licensing

Date 18.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)095**

Question Serial No.

2260

Head: 180 Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Film Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: What was the amount of investment in the "Entertainment Expo Hong Kong" for the past 3 years? What economic benefits did the event bring to Hong Kong and how did the industry respond to it? What is the estimated provision for 2008-09? How will the provision be used?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: Coordinated by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, the "Entertainment Expo Hong Kong" (the Expo) is a conglomeration of spectacular showbiz events running concurrently to gain momentum by different organisations. The events include the Hong Kong International Film Festival, the Hong Kong Film Awards, the Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum, the Asian Film Awards, the FILMART, the Digital Entertainment Leadership Forum, the IFPI Hong Kong Top Sales Music Award, the Hong Kong Independent Short Film & Video Awards and the Hong Kong Music Fair. Funds for the events are raised by the organisers through different channels.

Apart from sponsoring two events of the Expo, viz., the Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum and the Hong Kong Film Awards, the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority (TELA) also finances part of the expenses of the Expo. The total amount of provision used for sponsoring the Expo over the past 3 years was \$16.38 million. Details of the sponsorship are as follows:

The Entertainment Expo Hong Kong	:	\$3.74 million
The Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum	:	\$6.49 million
The Hong Kong Film Awards	:	\$6.15 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>\$16.38 million</b>

Over the years, the total number of visitors to the Expo has risen steadily from 90 000 in 2005 to 150 000 in 2007 while the number of journalists attending the events has increased from over 300 in 2006 to over 500 in 2007, and the articles covering the Expo exceeds 1 500. Besides, there has also been a significant increase in the number of guests officiating at the opening ceremonies. The Expo has successfully built up an effective commercial platform for exchanges between local entertainment representatives and their counterparts from all over the world. Through global and local media coverage, the remarkable achievements of Hong Kong's entertainment industry are further promoted, thus strengthening the status of Hong Kong as Asia's film production and distribution hub. The local film industry attaches great importance to this annual Expo as it amalgamates a rich array of events for synergy effect, showcasing the accomplishments of film industry as well as bringing in business opportunities.



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)096**

Question Serial No.

2261

Head: 180 Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Film Classification and Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: At present, how many staff members are responsible for conducting inspections under the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance? What are the grades and ranks of the staff concerned? What is the annual expenditure on emoluments? How many retail outlets will each of them inspect daily?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: There are currently 36 staff members under the Newspapers Registration Section of the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority responsible for the inspection work of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance, including 8 Overseers who are responsible for planning inspections and enforcing the legislation, 10 Senior Foremen and 18 Inspection Assistants who are responsible for carrying out inspections. The annual expenditure on personal emoluments is about \$7.6 million. On average, each of the staff responsible for carrying out inspections visits about 10 to 12 retail outlets each day.

Name in block letters Maisie CHENG

Post Title Commissioner for Television  
and Entertainment Licensing

Date 19.3.2008



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CT)097**

Question Serial No.

2262

Head: 180 Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Film Classification and Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: In 2008-09, is there any plan to step up regulation on online transmission of obscene and indecent articles? Will it involve additional manpower and resources? How much financial provision is required?

Asked by: Hon. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper

Reply: Given its vast volume and transient nature, it is impractical to actively monitor information on the Internet. In view of this, the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority (TELA) will continue to adopt a complaint-driven approach. It will work closely with the Hong Kong Internet Service Providers Association (HKISPA) in dealing with indecent Internet content, and also join forces with the Police to handle complaints against obscene materials on the Internet. To facilitate compliance with the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (COIAO) among the industry and the public, we are now exploring measures with HKISPA and the IT sector to strengthen the self-regulatory regime for the industry and to enhance public education. The above work will be absorbed by TELA's existing manpower and resources.

In addition, the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau and TELA are now reviewing the operation of the COIAO, including ways to improve the existing regulatory system for the Internet. We shall consult the public and the industry in this respect.

Name in block letters Maisie CHENG

Post Title Commissioner for Television  
and Entertainment Licensing

Date 19.3.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**CEDB(CT)098**

Question Serial No.

2004

Head: 180 Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Film Classification and Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: There is an increased provision of \$0.5 million for the education and publicity programmes to promote the various provisions of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (COIAO). Please provide full details of and the resources allocated to these programmes.

Asked by: Hon. YOUNG Howard

Reply: TELA has reserved about \$2.7 million for publicity and public education programmes to promote public knowledge and understanding of the COIAO in 2008-09. Major activities planned include:

- (a) 2008 Meritorious Website Contest to promote surfing website of healthy content (about \$0.2 million);
- (b) holding district promotional activities and production of publicity materials (about \$0.9 million); and
- (c) funding NGOs and schools to hold activities to educate students on the provisions of the COIAO and inviting schools to organise talks and workshops for parents to promote the use of filtering software to reduce the chance of youngsters gaining access to indecent/obscene materials on the Internet (about \$1.6 million).

The additional provision of \$0.5 million will mainly be used to enhance the funding of the initiatives in items (b) and (c) above.

Name in block letters Maisie CHENG

Post Title Commissioner for Television and  
Entertainment Licensing

Date 19.3.2008