

**For discussion
on 20 April 2010**

**Legislative Council
Panel on Commerce and Industry**

Report of the Hong Kong Council for Testing and Certification

PURPOSE

This paper seeks Members' views on the recommendations made by the Hong Kong Council for Testing and Certification (HKCTC) in its Report submitted to the Chief Executive on 31 March 2010.

BACKGROUND

2. Testing and certification has been identified by the Task Force on Economic Challenges as one of the six economic areas where Hong Kong enjoys clear advantages and has good potential for further development. In September 2009, the Government established HKCTC to spearhead the development of the industry.

3. HKCTC is chaired by Professor Ching Pak-chung, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Other members include practitioners from the industry, business sector, professional bodies as well as relevant public bodies and Government departments. The priority task of HKCTC was to work with the industry to formulate a three-year market-oriented development plan within six months of its establishment for submission to the Chief Executive.

4. On 31 March 2010, HKCTC submitted its Report to the Chief Executive for consideration. A copy of the Report was distributed to Members via the Legislative Council Secretariat on 1 April 2010. The softcopy of the Report can also be downloaded from HKCTC's website: www.hkctc.gov.hk.

THE REPORT

5. An Executive Summary is from Page i to Page xv of the Report. The main Report is divided into five parts:

(a) Part I – Background

This Part contains the background to the establishment of HKCTC and its work in formulating the three-year development plan for the industry;

(b) Part II – The Existing Situation

This Part presents the current situation of the industry, including its role and profile, and Government's role and existing support;

(c) Part III – Assessment

This Part sets out HKCTC's assessment of the strengths, challenges and factors of production of the industry;

(d) Part IV – Recommendations

This Part sets out HKCTC's vision, which is for Hong Kong to develop into a testing and certification hub in the region by reinforcing the branding of "Tested in Hong Kong, Certified in Hong Kong".

It also contains HKCTC's recommendations, including that Government should adopt a dual approach to the promotion of the industry, i.e. making general improvements to the accreditation service and factors of production, whilst at the same time focusing particular attention on specific trades with good potentials.

Recommendations on the promotion of Hong Kong's testing and certification services and wider recognition of Hong Kong's conformity assessment results (i.e. testing reports, inspection reports and certificates) have also been made; and

(e) Part V - Way Forward

This Part provides a summary of the recommendations made as well as contains proposals on the way forward to implement them.

IMPLEMENTATION

6. The recommendations contained in the Report will be implemented in the coming three years. Regular reviews will be conducted to take into account actual experience and any changes to the macro environment. We will regularly report back to Members on the progress of implementation.

ADVICE SOUGHT

7. Members' views on the recommendations in the Report are welcomed.

Innovation and Technology Commission
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