

Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting

List of outstanding items for discussion

(position as at 11 February 2011)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

1. Annual report on Cyberport

The Administration and the Cyberport management will report to the Panel the progress of the Cyberport Project.

14 March 2011

2. Progress report on digital inclusion

The Administration will report to the Panel the latest development of the various major digital inclusion initiatives, including the Internet Learning Support Programme, undertaken by the Government since the last update on 12 April 2010.

14 March 2011

3. Next Generation Government Wi-Fi Programme

The Government Wi-Fi Programme was launched in 2007 to provide free Wi-Fi Internet services at about 390 Government premises of high public patronage. The current programme covers 5 years, and related service contract will expire by December 2012. The Administration is making preparations for the Next Generation Government Wi-Fi programme to succeed the present one. The new programme will adopt forward-looking technologies and enhance the delivery of government information and electronic services. The Administration will brief and seek the Panel's support on the proposed programme with a view to submitting a financial proposal to the Finance Committee in May 2011 for approval.

11 April 2011

4. Result of Sound Broadcasting Licences Mid-term Review

The Administration will brief the Panel on the result of the sound broadcasting licences mid-term review.

11 April 2011
(tentative)

5. Report on Film Development Fund and Retention of the Non-Civil Service Position of Secretary-General of the Film Development Council

The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress of the Film Development Fund and the proposal to retain the non-civil service position of Secretary-General of the Film Development Council for a period of two years after the expiry of the current term in November 2011.

9 May 2011

6. Progress report on the work of Hong Kong Design Centre

The Administration will report to the Panel the progress of the work of the Hong Kong Design Centre and the relevant initiatives taken to promote design and innovation.

9 May 2011

7. Proposed creation of new civil service grade in Office of the Telecommunications Authority (OFTA)

The Administration will brief the Panel on OFTA's proposal to create a new civil service grade in order to meet the long term service needs for regulatory staff in the required professional fields to perform the multifarious regulatory work of the telecommunications sector.

9 May 2011

8. Progress update on the E-Government development

The Administration will update the Panel on the latest progress of E-government development.

13 June 2011

9. Extension of existing Digital Entertainment Incubation-cum-Training (Incu-Train) Programme

The Administration and The Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited will brief the Panel on the proposed extension of the Incu-Train Programme into a third phase.

13 June 2011

10. Information security

The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress of Government's information security enhancement initiatives since the last update on 12 July 2010.

11 July 2011

11. Facilitating a digital economy, and promoting technological innovation, cooperation and trade

The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress of the initiatives that facilitate a digital economy, and promote technological innovation, cooperation and trade.

11 July 2011

12. Customer Complaint Settlement Scheme

At the Panel meeting held on 14 June 2010, the Panel was briefed on the outcome of the 18-month pilot programme for the Customer Complaint Settlement Scheme (CCSS) administered by OFTA. The Administration will propose a way forward for the CCSS with reference to the views collected in the public consultation and brief the Panel in due course.

To be confirmed

13. Review of Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance – second round of public consultation

The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress of the review of Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance.

To be confirmed

14. Review on regulation of person-to-person telemarketing calls

At the Panel meeting on 9 November 2009, the Administration briefed members on the findings of the two opinion surveys commissioned by the OFTA in respect of person-to-person (P2P) telemarketing calls and the actions to be taken in the light of the information collected from the surveys. Some members doubted whether voluntary self-regulation by the industry by way of the Code of Practice (CoP) would be effective in tackling the problems caused by P2P telemarketing calls and considered it necessary to introduce legislation to regulate such calls.

To be confirmed

After consultation with the industry, OFTA has finalised a benchmark CoP and circulated it to industry associations and major telecommunications operators in February 2010. The benchmark CoP includes guidelines requesting telemarketers to

disclose identity and calling line identification information when making such calls. Telemarketers are also requested to maintain an in-house unsubscribe list for the public to make unsubscribe request.

According to the Administration, industry associations of four business sectors, namely finance, insurance, telecommunications service and call centre, have pledged support for the voluntary self-regulation scheme. Up to end January 2011, the industry associations of insurance companies, banks, restricted licence banks and deposit-taking companies; three major telecommunications operators; and two telemarketing industry associations have implemented their own CoP. A major telecommunications industry association will promulgate its CoP in early 2011. The Administration will update the Panel on the progress of the implementation of the voluntary CoP after it has operated for some time.

15. Spectrum trading

OFTA has appointed a consultant to study the feasibility of introducing radio spectrum trading in Hong Kong for facilitating economic and technically efficient use of this scarce public resource. The Administration is examining the recommendations made by the consultant. If it is considered justifiable to pursue the initiative, the Administration will draw up an implementation framework and consult the public. The Administration will brief the Panel on the subject when necessary.

To be confirmed

16. Sponsored programme and advertising of a political nature on radio

At the Panel meeting held on 14 June 2010, the Panel was briefed on the current regulatory regime governing advertisement of a political nature and sponsoring of programmes on radio. Subsequent to the Broadcasting Authority's ruling on the sponsorship of a radio programme by a certain political party and a paid radio announcement by a Legislative Council Member, Hon Emily LAU requested that a Panel meeting be held with the Administration, relevant statutory bodies and deputations to discuss the matter.

To be confirmed

17. Mobile data charges

In view of the increasing public concern about the rising problem of exorbitant mobile data charges, and the cap on mobile data charges that came into force recently in the European Union to protect consumers from "bill shock", members suggested that a Panel meeting should be held with the Administration to discuss the matter with a view to drawing up a long-term policy and time-table to regulate mobile data charges. At the Panel's request, the Research Division undertook to provide an information note on the preventive measures of mobile bill shock implemented in the European Union. The information note was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)1195/10-11 on 31 January 2011.

To be confirmed

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