

To: Clerk to Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting

November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Dear Sir/ Madam:

I am deeply concerned about the cessation of Digital Broadcast Corporation (DBC)'s radio service since approximately mid October of this year.

As a permanent resident of HK who have spent the earlier part of my career in radio broadcasting in a senior management role and understand the operational model and regulatory licensing regime of radio broadcasting in Canada, I am aggrieved by this situation and shun to think that the fate of DBC was "politically motivated". I am extremely concerned that Hong Kong's freedom of speech and expression has been dampened as exemplified by this incident.

After a meaningful career in broadcasting including management and operations, I started a career in the investment business. As a hedge fund professional who is also a contributing columnist to several print and electronic media with high circulation and penetration, I was invited by the then management of DBC to host a radio program called "Running the Race" (對沖人生路) in December of last year. "Running the Race" has a "soft talk and music format", whose main theme is to invite guests of various professions, background and life experience to share their views on "how to live life to the fullest". *The program has no political overtone whatsoever.*

When DBC was forced to go off air, obviously, "Running the Race 對沖人生路" also had to come to an end. Although I am not part of the management of DBC, I work very closely with them and my understanding was that disputes between the shareholders of DBC could not come to terms, and that the radio station ran out of cash to operate.

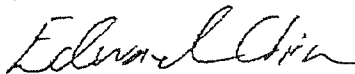
I have no affiliation with any political parties in Hong Kong. I am just saddened by the fact that the service of DBC has to come to an end. While the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development Mr. Greg So commented that this is just "commercial disputes between the

shareholders", I also believe that the government could "step in" earlier and take action, instead of letting DBC station's service to discontinue.

I would really want the HK SAR Government to explain to me, not as one of the hosts of a DBC radio show, but as an ordinary permanent resident of Hong Kong, the reason why DBC's "halt of service" does not warrant a full scale investigation? Why does the government turn a "blind eye" on the incident?

DBC ultimately is regulated by the HK SAR government, and when a "broadcasting service" came to a halt, "the public" is affected, the government "should have and could have" intervened before the matters became worse. Now that the DBC station is under "administration" from the Deloitte accountants, I believe it is unlikely that services can be resumed, at least in the foreseeable future. It is sad news also to realize that the majority of legislators rejected holding an inquiry into DBC's halting of service. To extrapolate my point further, I am also concerned about the "real reason" was of a political nature. Do people dare to "speak for justice" anymore, or choose to remain silent?

Lastly, I would like to attach an extract of my article that was published on 5 Nov 2012 in the HK Economic Journal together with this submission, thank you.



Edward Chin

撮錄自星期一

信報「金融圈內」2012年11月5日

錢志健

香港活在謊言中、不要做「裝睡的人」！

去到尾段，必須提及 DBC 數碼廣播：一個無聲電台的點點滴滴！當 DBC 作最後七天義播倒數時，我在美國西岸。透過 socrec.org，聽到看到數萬市民高呼「反被滅聲，還聲於民」。9 月份，我在美加東岸走了一趟，才剛教曉在多倫多居住的老媽如何在網上或用 App 收聽 DBC。時光「快閃」到今天，DBC 已銷聲匿迹，我也騙了老媽，no sound！原來一個持牌機構要「被停播」是那麼容易的！

日前去了 DBC 停播的「解穢酒」。碰到基督教《時代論壇》社長李錦洪，談了數分鐘，到最後，結論是我也不明白為何政府內一眾高官不少也是「上帝門徒」，為何沒有人會為 DBC 而「speak up」。我也問到我「老外教會」的牧師朋友，是否「上帝門徒」當了高官後，便要跟大隊做一個「裝睡的人」？

蘇錦樑局長、弟兄，請不要再做一個裝睡的人！在 DBC 問題上，我認為你真的沒有履行責任，也可說是假戲假做，讓一個數碼電台最終要「停播」；Greg 弟兄，請看《聖經·雅各書》第 1 章 24 節，或看英文你會更明白：True religion is one of compassion and mercy！我想知道，你還是愛主的人嗎？當有位 DBC 員工在政府總部絕食了過百小時，懇求和你握握手，你依然無動於衷：do you have an ounce of Christian mercy？

我們會繼續為你祈禱，希望你當官的，也要憑良知做人；願上帝給你邏輯與智慧作判斷！你老闆除了是梁特首，更大的老闆是上帝。阿 Greg，在 DBC 股東爭拗事情上，你的所謂不干預，最終卻是犧牲了無辜的聽眾群！真的是純商業糾紛那麼簡單？請不要繼續和你的團隊用語言偽術、一同說謊！別當上帝是傻瓜，請重返「真善美」的路道吧！請你不要為了那數百萬薪酬出賣上帝，更出賣你的良知！